



Le Notizie

A Publication of Roma Lodge #1573

June-2016

Scholarships Awarded!

Frances Della did an outstanding job chairing the work of the Roma Lodge scholarship committee. Working with her committee, she screen applications, prepared certificates, organized the scholarship night and ensured the lodge was well represented at the high school scholarship awards presentations. **Great Job Frances and her committee!**



Picture Caption-Roma Lodge scholarship chair **Frances Della** presented scholarships to area high school students. (l-r) **Alexa Romanazzi-Tulare Western, Madalyn Vieira-Tulare Western, Nickolas Griesbach-Tulare Western, Lauren Costa-Reedley High School, Ashlyn Della-Harmony Magnet School, Darian Roeber-Hanford High. Unable to attend was Keegan Dutto, LeGrande High, LeGrande, Oregon.**



GREAT FOOD!

Nick and Kathy Canata did a great job in changing up the menu for the May Scholarship Night meeting on May

2nd. Bringing some new ideas from the cookbook they prepared a great meal of baked chicken which everyone enjoyed.

Moving the scholarship night to May from the

August meeting has also been very successful. Over 80 members and guests attended the meeting which is a record attendance for scholarship night.

It was a great evening to listen to Frances Della talk about the long list of achievements Roma Lodge scholarship recipients had accomplished and what their future educational and career goals are.

Roma Lodge members can take great pride in continuing to offer scholarships to lodge members and area high school graduates who are of Italian Descent. Italians who have immigrated to this country in the late 1800's understood the importance of getting an education and lodges on the local, state and national levels continue to offer scholarships to assist in that effort.



**Meeting
Monday
June 6, 2015
6:30 P.M.
Louie Benedetti & Tina Sparlin
Refreshment Chairs**

There is an old saying when trying to describe an event to someone else, **“I guess you had to be there”** suffices when one does not want to explain everything that went on without having to go into great detail. For the first time in 25 years I was not at the 82 annual ravioli dinner so I have to rely on hearsay from others who were there to assess the success of the event.

There are those who have remarked that **“everything went great”**, others who say the **“the food was great”** while some indicate **“we didn’t have enough help”** and finally **“we served less than 185 inside and about 500 outside.”**

Once again it is time to assess, evaluate and formulate new action plans for the 83rd dinner. In order to do that we need to detail our revenue and expenses and decide how plan for next years event. Like any good news reporter the 5 W’s need to be addressed. Who, What, When, Where and Why?

Let’s start with:

WHY?

- Do we want to continue to the ravioli dinner as the main fundraiser for the lodge? If not what would we replace it with? Is the main reason to continue is to carry on an over 80 year tradition?

WHERE?

- Do we want to continue to hold the event at the TDES Hall? With only 180 people served inside is it worth the expense and should we just rent the kitchen and bar and do strictly take outs? Should we move it to the farm show social hall and have a drive through take out?

WHEN?

- Based on the fact of all the weddings, proms, and other events should we move it off of Mother’s Day weekend? We had several members who had other events to attend and could not help with the dinner. Should we do it earlier or later in the year?

WHAT?

- What should the ticket price be? Is \$25 too

much for a takeout dinner? Should we have two different prices, one for a takeout dinner and another if you eat inside? It is a ravioli dinner so should we get rid of the spaghetti? What does it cost and is it really needed?

WHO?

- Finally, who has benefited from the annual ravioli dinner for the past 80+ years? Is it a social event highlighting what Roma Lodge has meant to the community all these years? Does it benefit the people who buy tickets and enjoy coming to the event versus having a takeout? We have lost several old timers who used to sell dozens of tickets and are no longer with us? Have we reduced the number of people who can afford to attend because of the increase in price? How many tickets are sold versus how many dinners are served either inside or takeout?

The time to ask these questions is now and not wait until April of next year because we need to plan on any major changes we may make. We need to research our revenue and expenses and decide if the primary reason for the dinner is to make money for our other charitable projects then we need to maximize our profits as best we can. I understand it is not all about the money, however, we need to get our facts and make sound decisions for the future of the event. Please plan to attend the June meeting to discuss these important issues.

Go to the Roma Lodge website, <http://www.romalodge1573.org/> and check out some great pictures taken by **Melissa Watkins!**



MISS CALIFORNIA

Roma Lodge Queen **Gabrielle Benedetti** finished fourth in the Grand Lodge Queen Contest and will represent the Grand Lodge as Miss California. Thanks to all of the members who supported our queen.



MEMBER MILESTONES



Long time Roma Lodge member **David Milanesio** was married to **Didia Costa** on May 20th. The reception was held at the home of **Charlie and Nancy Pitigliano**. Congratulations to both.

Former Roma Lodge Queen **Morgan Sparlin** is pictured with **Dr. Joseph Castro** as she is graduating with honors from Fresno State. She has completed all of her general education requirements and will complete her nursing requirements and officially graduate in December. She is currently working at the Veterans Hospital in Fresno in the operating room as part of their Valor Student Program.



UC Merced Grad

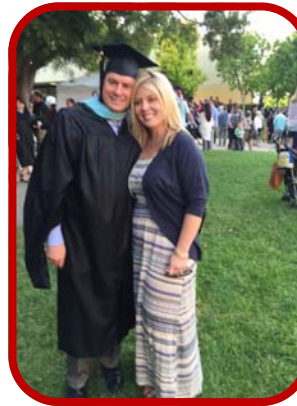
Roma Lodge member John McLafferty was part of the 11th graduating class of UC Merced on May 14th. Pictured with his mother **Carol McLafferty** and sisters (l-r) **Angela-UC Irvine, Francesca-Chapman University** and **Anna Lisa-**



UC Santa Barbara completes the family with all four graduating from universities. They are the children of the late Superior Court Judge of Santa Barbara **Bill McLafferty**.

TEACHER OF THE YEAR!

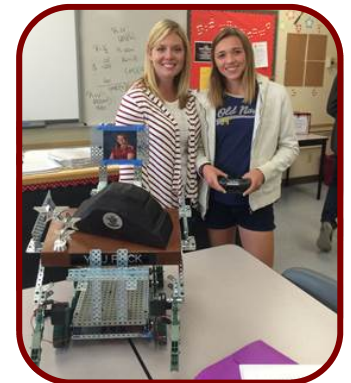
Roma Lodge member **Anica Gentry** was selected by the McFarland School District as Teacher of the Year at Browning Road primary school where she is the Transitional Kindergarten teacher. Anica has been at Browning Road for the past 17 years and will be moving next year to the new Horizon Elementary School in McFarland. Anica is pictured above with McFarland Superintendent **Victor Hopper** and Principal **Mona Aguilar**.



Aaron Dutto, North High History teacher, received his Master's Degree from Concordia University at the UC Irvine Bren Center on May 7th. Aaron and wife Megan are both teachers at the Bakersfield High School and Roma Lodge members.

YOU ROCK AWARD

Megan Dutto received the "You Rock Award" at North High as part of her work with **Project Lead The Way** program where she had her first graduating group of students in the PLTW engineering program.



MORE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Kelsey Pitigliano has graduated from COS and will be attending Fresno State in the fall. **Delaney Shaw** is graduating from the 8th grade at Central Valley Christian and has been active in volleyball, soccer, basketball and softball. She is also in 4-H and has completed over 200 hours of volunteer work. **RJ Danell** is graduating from CVC where he played football, baseball and maintained a 3.5 GPA. He will attend Sonoma State. **Demi Danell** has just completed her first year at Cuesta College and was selected as the MVP as a pitcher of the softball team.



Roma Lodge
PO Box 1337
Tulare, California 93275
www.romalodge1573.org

Your Roma Lodge Officers

| | |
|----------------|------------------------------|
| President | David DePaoli (804-5443) |
| Vice President | Michael DePaoli(730-1168) |
| Treasurer | Karen Pedroncelli (732-1591) |
| Recording Sec. | Giovanna DePaoli (361-0640) |
| Financial Sec. | Cathy Mederos (687-1112) |
| Orator | Gary Dutto (686-6201) |
| Historian | Elisabeth Curti (553-3151) |
| Guard | Ken Bertorelli (788-8496) |
| Past President | Nick Canata (661-978-9331) |

Trustees

| | |
|--------------------|------------|
| Danny Dutto | (686-1348) |
| Mike Saltzman | (686-4340) |
| Matt Watkins-Chair | (647-7161) |
| Dominic Pitigliano | (359-1907) |
| Rob Pinkerton | (331-3183) |

Mistress of Ceremony

| | |
|---------------|------------|
| Frances Della | (784-7653) |
| Kathy Canata | (281-5294) |

Meeting

June 6, 2016
6:30 PM-Dinner

May Dinner
RECAP
Grand Lodge
Convention

Refreshment Chairs
Tina Sparlin
Louie Benedetti

Members having birthdays
in June should call them and
see how you can help and
don't forget your raffle prizes.

Vince Sola Was The May
Drawing Winner