



Le Notizie

A Publication of Roma Lodge #1573

January-2014

Roma Lodge celebrated Christmas 2013 with a great party on Sunday, December 8th. Nearly 80 members and guests of Roma Lodge were on hand for the annual Christmas party at the social hall at the Agri-Center. **Cathy Mederos** once again did an outstanding job of organizing the event. Special thanks to all the lodge members who brought items for the **Ronald McDonald House** and who made all of the delicious pies for dessert. **Great Job Everyone!**



Santa Claus (A.K.A. Dennis Mederos) once again did a great job giving the junior members their candy filled stockings at the Roma Lodge XMAS party. One of our newest members Giulia Watkins is not too sure about that.

January Meeting
Monday
January 6, 2014
6:30 PM



If you were able to join other Roma Lodge members and guests at the 2013 Christmas party you were treated to some great food, fun entertainment and an opportunity to spend a little time with Santa Claus. For those who arrived at 1 p.m., enjoyed a great meal, helped yourself to some wonderful homemade desserts, had a child get to sit on Santa's lap and get a stocking full of candy or took a meal home, it was a great day. All of us should be thankful that the lodge carries on such a great tradition.



What we really need to be thankful for are all the members who helped put on such a great event for all of us to enjoy. First there is **Cathy Mederos**, our chair, who got back from a school board convention the night before the event. I'm sure there was a lot of scrambling on her part to get all the food on site for our cooks to prepare.

Next was **Charlie Pitigliano**, our resident farm show connection, who had to reserve the hall, arrive three hours early, help setup and move the tables and chairs and wait until everyone was gone to lock the



place up.

At my house three weeks before the event there was ribbon to order, bows to make, poinsettia's and utensils to wrap by our decorations chair **Kathy Briano**.



Long before that **Joann Beecher** had to order the candy

stockings, get the candy and stuff each bag so

that the kids would have a great time getting stockings from Santa while they sang jingle bells.

At every lodge function the most important thing is the food so we cannot forget about our devoted cooks. **Ken Curti, Ben Curti, Charlie Pitigliano, Michael DePaoli, Lena Briano, Nick Canata, David DePaoli, Nancy Pitigliano and Dominic Pitigliano** did an outstanding job in preparing the sweet potatoes,



ham, rigatonis, salad and green beans. The food was delicious and enjoyed by all.

Last, but certainly not least, was **Dennis Mederos** (A.K.A. Santa) who took time from watching his favorite 49er team playing one of the biggest games of the regular season to dress up, handout stockings and being the highlight of the day for all of the kids who attended. It takes a special member to purchase their own suit and make the kids have their eyes wide open in such anticipation of the coming of Christmas.



Finally special thanks to all the members who took time to make such wonderful desserts that were enjoyed by everyone. There was a lot of time, efforts and love that went into each and every pie, cookie or other dessert enjoyed by everyone who attended.

In this time of holiday cheer and all the reasons for each of us to give thanks for our blessings, let us all give a special thanks to those members who step forward at each and every lodge activity who work **behind the scenes** to make it a success!

Queen's Fundraiser Postponed!

The takeout spaghetti fundraiser for Roma Lodge Queen, **Isabella Benedetti**, has been postponed. It has been discovered that another spaghetti dinner fundraiser is occurring across the street on the same day.



The lodge will decide at the January meeting as to how best to proceed. Either select another date or provide some other type of fundraiser to support our queen candidate. Isabella has her Grand Lodge raffle tickets and is currently selling them for \$1 each. Each lodge, who has a queen for the state contest is expected to sell \$2,000 worth of tickets and all Roma Lodge members need to show their support of our queen by purchasing tickets at the upcoming meetings.

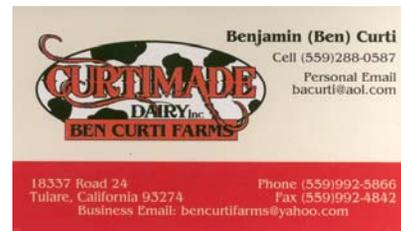
It is unfortunate that the lodge did not know about the other fundraiser but will do everything it can to support our lodge queen. Stay tuned for more news!

Membership Dues

Your lodge dues were due on **January 1, 2014**. Regular member dues are **\$65 per year**. Associate members are **\$45** and Social members are **\$35 per year** and juniors with benefits are **\$6.36**. Junior members who choose not to select the benefit option are free. College students up to the age of 26 are also free if they verify they are in college by sending a letter to the lodge. Mail your dues to **Cathy Mederos, Roma Lodge, PO Box 1337, Tulare, California 93275**.

Members in the News!

Long time Roma Lodge Member, **Ben Curti**, owner and operator of Curtimade Dairy, was recognized by the Environmental Protection Agency as part of EPA's Pacific Southwest Region's 2013 environmental awards. The dairy was recognized for installing one of the largest dairy solar units in the U.S. The unit will be capable of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 27,000 tons over the next 25 years.



Congratulations are also extended to Ben and member **Elisabeth Ferreira** who recently announced their engagement to be married.

Letters Home From A Fallen Hero!

Roma Lodge member and author **Roger William Maraist** never knew his father, Lt. Roger Jamison, or until recently, the remarkable story of his service as a B-25 pilot. Out of respect for the man that raised him, it seemed the natural course of things for Roger to take the surname of his stepfather, Air Force B-29 pilot, Lt. Col. James Maraist. Still, for the self-described "Air Force Brat", having lived on military bases around the globe, something was missing. Roger went on to get his education and establish himself in a career, retiring years later from the Southern California Edison Company as a Regional Manager in the San Joaquin Valley. Roger is an advocate for veteran's programs and is also the Editor of the 82nd Bomb Squadron Newsletter, devoted to veterans and families of the 12th Bomb Group "Earthquakers". Roger and his wife Barbara divide spare time between their children, 13 grandchildren, their vacation home at the coast and drives through the California wine country.



You can purchase a copy of the book at Amazon by going to the following website:

<http://www.amazon.com/>

Do a book search for:

Letters Home From A Fallen Hero



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

Dinner Menus

January-Chairman's Choice
February-Stew & Polenta
March-Rigatoni
April-Italian Sausage and Risotto
May-Pizza
June-Chairman's Choice
July-No Meeting
August-Hotdogs/Hamburgers
September-Potluck
October-Chairman's Choice
November-Polenta and Stew
December-Ham & Yams-XMAS Party

Your Roma Lodge Officers

President	Nick Canata (661-978-9331)
Vice President	David DePaoli (804-5443)
Treasurer	Karen Pedroncelli (732-1591)
Recording Sec.	Tina Sparlin (685-8857)
Financial Sec.	Cathy Mederos (687-1112)
Orator	Gary Dutto (686-6201)
Historian	Carole Burner (686-8419)
Guard	Ken Bertorelli (788-8496)
Past President	Ken Curti (288-2144)

Trustees

Danny Dutto	(686-1348)
Mike Saltzman	(686-4340)
Matt Watkins	(635-1699)
Dominic Pitigliano	(359-1907)
Michael DePaoli	(730-1168)

Mistress of Ceremony

Frances Della	(784-7653)
Shurene Curti	(740-0184)

January Meeting
Monday
January 6, 2014
6:30 Social Hall



Menu
Chairman's Choice
David and Giovanna
DePaoli
Refreshment Chairs

Roma Lodge #1573

Meeting

January 6, 2014

6:30 p.m.

Place: Ag Center Social Hall, So. Laspina Rd.

Bring Your Raffle Prizes

January 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 James Vener	2 David DePaoli Johnnie Kay Costa	3	4
5 Janis Curti Mark Ashworth Julie Clark	6 William Fusco	7 Kim Yribarren	8 Jacqueline Curti Albert Briano	9 Jason Shaw Kathryn Cleek Emily Gray Mary Louise Yribarren	10	11 Kim Solari Jeanette Freitas
12 Shurene Curti	13 Mike Saltzman Kathryn Gomes Chloe Cushing Richard Atkinson	14 Isabella Benedetti Aiden Gentry	15	16	17 Catherine Atkinson	18 Brenda Curti
19	20	21	22 Helen Rasenti	23	24 Jim Chavez Ben Curti Kari Saltzman	25 Linda Della Randy Parreira
26 Richard Atkinson	27 Sherry Reinart	28	29 Vincent Sola	30 Anica Gentry	31 Dawn Dutto Katrina Rainey	



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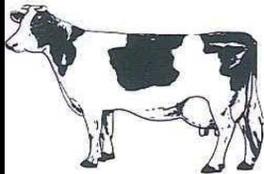
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