



# Le Notizie

A Publication of Roma Lodge #1573

December-2021

## Behind the Scenes!

If you attended the Roma Lodge polenta/stew dinner and meeting in on November 1st you were treated to some delicious polenta cooked to perfection with and full of butter and cheese.

The stew was delicious with copious quantities of rich tender beef and vegetables. The **DePaoli Family** has taken over for Frank Goni, Charlie Pitigliano and Ken Curti for the last several years.

**Michael DePaoli** has taken the lead as head chef with, **Melissa Watkins and Maci Daramy** sharing in cooking and serving a great meal. They want to thank **Joseph Goni, Josh Pitigliano and Ben Curti** who also assisted with cooking chores.

It takes a lot of time and effort to gather all the ingredients, cook and prepare the polenta and stew and then clean-up afterwards. We need to thank the DePaoli Family for all their hard work in putting on a great meal for everyone who attended.



**Maci DePaoli Daramy** and **Michael DePaoli** take a break from cooking chores at the polenta dinner.



## “Dinner for Two”

**Melissa Watkins and Dominic Pitigliano**

have stepped forward to coordinate a fundraiser for the lodge. It has been over two years since we had any activities to raise funds for our charitable contributions.



The **“Dinner for Two”** will feature delicious *ravioli, homemade sauce, BBQ chicken, rigatoni, green beans, salad, bread and bottle of wine*. Tickets are only \$50 for **two** dinners and all will be placed in a Roma Lodge plastic carry bag with all the trimmings.

**Tickets are on sale now and can be obtained from Kathy Briano-303-4171 and tickets must be paid for or returned by December 29th. There will not be any ticket sales the day of the dinner.**

The drive-thru will be held on Sunday, December 5th from 2-5 p.m. immediately following the Roma Lodge Christmas party at the Agri-Center Social Hall. *If you have questions please feel to call Melissa at 559-361-0811.*

If you are a member of Roma Lodge you can attend the Christmas Party at noon for ham and yams and pickup your ravioli dinner for two at 2 p.m. to take home. The ravioli dinner has been \$20 (per person) since 2004 so an increase of \$5 is warranted since you are getting a bottle of wine in addition to a

**Christmas Party-December 5th**

**11:30 AM**

**“Dinner for Two”**

**Drive-Thru**

**2-5 pm**

**Agri-Center Social Hall**

**RSVP by December 1st**

**Email-[larrydutto@yahoo.com](mailto:larrydutto@yahoo.com)**

**Text-901-4683**

# Time to Reflect!

President's Message

**It** will not be long and Roma Lodge members and their families will be celebrating the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. With each of these holidays it is always a good time to reflect back on our lives for the past year and this year, the past two years, as we are dealing with the COVID pandemic. Little did we know at our 2019 Christmas party we were headed into a pandemic that would result in over 46.8 million people having contracted COVID with over 750,000 deaths in America alone. Even now with the vaccines we have a divided country with those who have and have not gotten vaccinated.



Thanks to **Kenny, Caleb and Clint Curti**, lodge members enjoyed a great meal of ham, yams, green beans and rigatoni as a drive-thru event was held and enjoyed by all.



I'm also amazed we have over 30 members of the lodge over the age of 80. None more impressive than **Agnes Pelous** who will celebrate her 100th birthday next July. It is incredible that she was born the year after the countries last flu pandemic in 1918-1920 when about 500 million people were infected worldwide (One-third of the world's population) with over 50 million deaths. To be born right after the flu pandemic and still live through the COVID pandemic a hundred years later is testament to the longevity of many of our members of Italian descent.

Our December Christmas party also gives us an opportunity to remember those members of the lodge who have passed away during the year.

On November 19th Roma Lodge members will gather to bid their final farewell to **Lillian Pedroncelli-Cotta** who passed away on November 7th at the age of 96. Lillian was a member of the lodge for 68 years.



Lillian was married to **Enrico Pedroncelli** in 1945 and they lived in Waukena. Enrico was a member of the lodge and she joined in 1953. She married **Lawrence Cotta** in 1968 and was married for 49 years before his death.



Lillian enjoyed attending Roma Lodge activities over the many years she was a member. She often joined son **Ronnie and daughter-in-law Karen Pedroncelli** at our annual ravioli dinner or Christmas party. **Farewell Sister Lillian may you rest in peace.**

We would also like to remember our other lodge members who passed away in 2021.



**Joe Signorelli Sr.-85 years**



**Linda Berra-49 years**



**Dolly Klienmans-9 years**



**James Vener-31 years**

# Christmas Party!

Roma Lodge will resume its traditional Christmas party on **Sunday, December 5th** at the Agri-Center Social Hall. **Doors will open at 11:30 a.m.** with the traditional lunch of ham, yams, green beans, salad, bread and pumpkin pie for dessert served at noon.



We will follow lunch with our traditional junior member talent show and Santa will be there to hand out candy filled stocking to all the kids. We want to thank the following members who have stepped forward to assist with the event.

**Giovanna DePaoli-Kathy Briano-Decorations**  
**Karen DeGroot-Joyce Hofstee-Cooking**  
**Renee Marinelli-Dessert**  
**Joann Beecher-Candy Christmas Stockings**  
**Ben Curti-Frank Marinelli-Cooking**

**RSVP by December 1st to reserve your dinner and stockings for junior members.**

Please contact **Larry Dutto** by one of the following methods:

**Text-559-901-4683**

**Call-559-901-4683**

**Email-[larrydutto@yahoo.com](mailto:larrydutto@yahoo.com)**

## Donations

Because of the pandemic we will not be asking members to bring toiletries and cleaning supplies for the Lighthouse Mission this year.



Your office team is recommending, if you choose to do so, make a check payable to **Central Valley Honor Flights** and bring them to the Christmas party. If you would like to learn more about the program you can go to the following websites:

[Donate Now! - Donate to Central Valley Honor Flight \(cvhonorflight.org\)](https://cvhonorflight.org)

[Honor Flight send Tulare County veterans to Capitol \(visaliatimesdelta.com\)](https://visaliatimesdelta.com)

## Members in the News!

Roma Lodge member Tessa Hall's children put out flags at the Tulare Cemetery commemorating Veterans Day on November 11th. **Charlotte, Ethan and Emmeline** will always remember their contributions in remembering our veterans for their contributions to protecting our great country.



**Austin and Aidan Gentry** join the rest of their Scout Troop in celebrating Veterans Day in Bakersfield. They worked over 6 hours with the local Rotary Club in serving over 1,000 meals to veterans and their families.



**Anica Gentry** teaches Transitional Kindergarten at Horizon Elementary School in McFarland which was recognized by the U.S. News and World Report as the best elementary school in California!



**Kayleigh Berra** married Clayson Erickson on October 23rd in Los Olivas, California. Kayleigh is the daughter of Tony Berra and granddaughter of **Dr. Albert Berra** of Porterville.



**If you didn't see your family in the LeNotizie, just text me a picture and the information to 559-901-4683 and I will be glad to include it in the next issue!**



Roma Lodge  
PO Box 1337  
Tulare, California 93275  
[www.romalodge1573.org](http://www.romalodge1573.org)

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## Your Roma Lodge Officers 2021-2022

President	Larry Dutto (901-4683)
Vice President	Louie Benedetti (827-1492)
Treasurer	Karen Pedroncelli (732-1591)
Recording Sec.	Renee Marinelli (732-8258)
Financial Sec.	Pam Sola (901-1781)
Orator	Anthony Chiamonte (217-4055)
Historian	Melissa Watkins (361-0811)
Guard	Ken Bertorelli (788-8496)
Past President	David DePaoli (804-5443)
Chaplain	Nicole Taylor (804-7056)

### 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)
Toni Pinkerton	(331-3183)

**Christmas Party**  
**Sunday**  
**December 5, 2021**  
**11:30 AM**

**RSVP**

**Email- [larrydutto@yahoo.com](mailto:larrydutto@yahoo.com)**  
**Text- 559-901-4683**  
**Call-559-901-4683**

**By December 1st!**  
**“Dinner for Two”**  
**Drive-Thru**  
**2-5 PM-December 5th!**

**Purchase Tickets by November 29th!**  
**No Tickets At the Event**  
**Call Melissa at 559-361-0811 for**  
**More Information**