



Le Notizie

A Publication of Roma Lodge #1573

January-2023

Best Ever!

Nearly 150 Roma Lodge members and guests came together to celebrate their annual Christmas party on December 4th. It was a great event chaired by **Leslie DePaoli** and all of her committee who provided the attendees with a New York strip steak, salad, green beans, pasta and all the trimmings.



Over 50 junior members were on hand to enjoy a great meal, talent show, organized by **Pam Sola**, junior member chair, and of course a visit by Santa Claus.



January Meeting-Cancelled
Next Meeting
February 6, 2023

Great Desserts!

Joyce Hofstee went above and beyond the call of duty by making all of the desserts for the lodge party. She made a variety of delicious Italian favorites which must have took her hours and hours in the kitchen. Everyone enjoyed a great meal followed by wonderful desserts. **Thanks Joyce!**



If a great meal and wonderful desserts was not enough, **Melissa Watkins and Karen DeGroot** worked diligently in the kitchen making some wonderful anti-pasto consisting

of olives, dry salami and cheese for the guests to enjoy prior to lunch.

Helping with the cooking is **Maci Daramy** along with one of our newest members **Mila Daramy** as they prepared some wonderful green beans. Head chef Michael DePaoli organized the cooks which included **Daniel Daramy, Josh Pitigliano,**



and Charlie Pitigliano. **Giovanna and David DePaoli** helped on the serving and line and we want to thank all the members who came together to put on the best party ever!

Best Ever!

President's Message



Farewell Sister Sharon!

Roma Lodge members were saddened with the passing of 68 year member **Sharon Costa Barreto** who passed away on



December 8th. She was the lodge's first queen in 1955-56 and represented the lodge at the Grand Lodge Convention. She was a regular at our annual ravioli dinners, polen-stew meetings, Christmas party and anniversary celebrations. Our thoughts and prayers are with her husband **Gilbert** and children **Michael and Alaine** and the rest of the Barreto family.

Farewell Sister Sharon, May you Rest in Peace!

January 9th meeting cancelled!

Your Roma Lodge officers have decided to cancel our January meeting. The meeting scheduled for the 9th of January was done for several reasons. First, it would be the second Monday of the month (because January 2nd is the observed New Year's holiday) and attendance is usually lower when we have to go to the second Monday of the month. The World Ag Expo starts on February 14th, allowing us to have a February meeting on the 6th. The cold, foggy weather in January always makes it difficult for travel. Finally, the lodge will save about \$550 (rent and refreshments) for the month.



We plan to have our installation of officers, discuss dues, the farm show booth and other important matters at the meeting in February.

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!

Check out the Roma Lodge website at to see some great pictures of the Christmas Party!
[Home | roma-lodge \(romalodge1573.org\)](http://roma-lodge.com)

Sunshine News

Roger Maraist is still recovering from a recent illness and is at the Westgate facility in Visalia. **James Costa** is recovering from a recent hospital stay. If you know someone who is having health issues or involved in some type of accident, contact **Joann Beecher at 688-8380** so she can send them a card from the lodge.

In Due Time!

It has been 7 years since the Grand Lodge of California increased their dues by \$10 forcing Roma Lodge to increase their dues to \$75 in 2015. January is the time we all have to make a decision as to whether or not we are going to continue to be Roma Lodge members for the upcoming year. The chart below shows where your \$75 goes.

Roma Lodge Dues	2024
Grand Lodge Per Capita	\$ 32.51
Supreme Lodge Per Capita	\$ 21.52
Il Leone	\$ 4.98
Scholarship Assessment	\$ 0.74
Life Insurance	\$ 15.00
Local Dues \$0.25 Cents	\$ 0.25
Total	\$ 75.00
Junior Member-Insurance	\$ 6.36

With the sale of the Grand Lodge building it appears that the Grand Lodge is solvent and will not be increasing their dues anytime soon. As a lodge we voted last April we would only be sending 3 delegates (allocated 6 based on membership) with no alternates to the 2022 convention in Anaheim. We notified the Grand Lodge of our decision in May so they had plenty time to adjust their convention budget and numbers to reflect our decision. At the convention our bylaw change to do away with fines passed.

In November we received a letter indicating the Grand Lodge would be fining us \$1,800 for only having 3 delegates. We have asked whether or not the 8 lodges with no representation and countless other lodges with partial representation were also fined. We are awaiting notification.

Financially, Roma Lodge remains solvent, however, without our major ravioli dinner, as a fundraiser, we have been in deficit spending the last 3 years since the pandemic. We have two options. Either raise our dues or put on more fundraising activities to show a positive cashflow at the end of the year.

Bring your checks for your dues to the February meeting, however, leave them blank until we decide what our 2023 dues will be. We will make a decision at the February 6th meeting. **Stay tuned!**



Roma Lodge
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LeNotizie Sponsors

<p>Vincent Sola Partnership Farming & Farm Management</p> <p>Office (559) 688-0606 Cell (559) 901-1780 Fax (559) 688-0266 Email farmernvs@aol.com P.O. Box 190 • Tipton, CA 93272</p> 	<p>Pine PPA Pedroncelli & Aguilar Inc.</p> <p>Karen C. Pedroncelli, CPA 3924 W. Caldwell Avenue, Ste. B P.O. Box 5100 Visalia, CA 93278 Tel: 559-625-9800 Fax: 559-625-9812 625 N. Main Street Porterville, CA 93257 Tel: 559-784-9090 Fax: 559-784-9092 karen@pinecpas.com www.pinecpas.com</p> <p>Certified Public Accountants</p>
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<p>Benjamin (Ben) Curti Cell (559)288-0587 Personal Email bacurti@aol.com</p>  <p>18337 Road 24 Tulare, California 93274 Business Email: bencurtifarms@yahoo.com</p> <p>Phone (559)992-5866 Fax (559)992-4849</p>	<p>BANK OF THE SIERRA</p> <p>LARRY DUTTO, PH.D. Director</p> <p>ldutto@bankofthesierra.com</p> <p>86 N. Main Street Porterville, CA 93257 559-791-4900 559-901-4683 c</p>

Your Roma Lodge Officers 2023-2024

President	Larry Dutto (901-4683)
Vice President	Justin Curti (906-9109)
Treasurer	Karen Pedroncelli (732-1591)
Recording Sec.	Renee Marinelli (732-8258)
Financial Sec.	Tina Sparlin (741-3642)
Orator	Anthony Chiamonte (217-4055)
Historian	Melissa Watkins (361-0811)
Guard	Frank Marinelli (802-0611)
Past President	David DePaoli (804-5443)
Chaplain	Nicole Taylor (804-7056)
Junior Members	Pam Sola (901-1781)

Trustees

Matt Watkins-Chair	(647-7161)
Louis Benedetti	(827-1492)
Mike Saltzman	(686-4340)
Dominic Pitigliano	(359-1907)
Michael DePaoli	(730-1168)

Mistress of Ceremony

Joann Beecher (260-4156)

No January Meeting
Next Meeting
February 6, 2023

6:30 PM

RSVP

Email- larrydutto@yahoo.com

Text- 559-901-4683

Call-559-901-4683

By February 3rd!



Joyce Hofstee & Karen DeGroot
Refreshment Chairs