



# Le Notizie

A Publication of Roma Lodge #1573

May-2015

## Roma Lodge Celebrates 85th Anniversary

Nearly 135 members and guests attended Roma Lodge's 85th Anniversary Celebration at the T.D.E.S. Hall in Tulare. State President **Lynn-Lawrence Murphy** was in attendance and assisted Roma Lodge President **David De-Paoli** in handing out membership pins to 25, 35 and 50 year members.



**Frances Della** was the lodge's honoree for all the hard work and dedication she has given the lodge for the past 46 years. A special thank you to all the committee members who assisted in putting on such a great event to honor those who started the lodge back in 1930.

Pictures of the event can be seen on the Roma Lodge website at [romalodge1573.org](http://romalodge1573.org) if you are interested in viewing pictures of the celebration. You can also see them on Shutterfly and order the prints you would like. Go to site below.

<https://romalodge1573.shutterfly.com/>

May Meeting  
Monday, May 4th!  
6:30 p.m.  
WAE Social Hall

## Scholarship Night Moved To May Meeting!

To benefit our Roma Lodge scholarship recipients we have moved our recognition of them to our May meeting. Our scholarship winners in their own words:

### **Demi Danell**

My Italian heritage originated on my mother's side of the family. My grandparents, Emelio Minoletti and Pierina Girado were born in America, and my other Grandfather, Pete Girado was born in Italy. I had the pleasure of visiting my great-grandmother's birthplace, Albonico, Italy, in May of 2014. While there I discovered how hard my family had to work through the years and how even during the hard times they were still able to enjoy the life that God blessed them with. I believe that their work ethic and their spirit have helped shape me into the young lady that I am today. My experiences growing up as an athlete have made me a very determined person. I always finish what I start, and try to go at it wholeheartedly. My plan for college is to major in animal husbandry with a minor in special education. Eventually I would like to establish my own facility that would benefit special need children through animal therapy. I would also like to continue my volunteer work within the community. Growing up in a Christian Community I was taught many different attributes, such a patience, kindness and to always love God and one another. As I grow older, and have a family of my own, I would like to raise my children with an awareness of their Italian traditions.



### **Alex Galvan**

My ultimate goal after graduating high school is to go to College of the Sequoias and obtain a Bachelor's degree in Technical Theater. After that, I have considered two possible choices: Attend University of Las Vegas and receive a Masters in Technical Engineering or apply to the Walt Disney Parks. After either option, I plan on working at Disneyland doing technical theater operations, ideally running spotlight for Fantasmic. After I have had my fun in the parks, I would like to go and work on one of the



Disney Cruise ships doing lighting for their onboard shows. Once I have finished working with Disney, I would like to return back to the Central Valley and work in the Laurence James Williams Theater until I can retire from there.

## Ashlee Clark

Life is full of ups and downs, achievements and failures, dreams, goals, adventures, let-downs and wishes, which is what makes life so great. I was born in Visalia, California to two very loving and supportive parents, Cris and Julie Clark. I was told stories over the years of my great-grandparents, Bert and Mary Berra who started their life together in Porterville, California and worked very hard over the years to create a happy and successful life with the love and support of the Italian society around them. The stories helped me to realize how important it is to work hard in order to have a successful outcome.

Throughout my school years, my parents always reminded me to do my best in school, and stressed the importance to get good grades and to go to college in order to pursue a career I am interested in, whatever it may be. I have maintained my good grades along with a 3.4 GPA throughout my high school career as well as lettering in academics, and it has been worth it. Once I graduate, I plan to start the new chapter of my life at Pikes Peak Community College, where I will focus on my general education classes. Once I have finished my general education, I am considering attending the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs where I will work to pursue a career as an elementary school teacher. A class I am currently taking at my high school gives an insight on what it is like to teach at the elementary level, and my job allows me to occasionally interact with children as well. I have been very fortunate to have several wonderful teachers, who have been willing to help me learn as well as inspire me to become a great teacher just like them.

I believe that I am a worthy student for the Sons of Italy-Roma Lodge Scholarship because I am a hard working student who has achieved respectable academics since freshman year. This scholarship will financially help with attending college in order to practice my future career, and to become successful in the future.



## Carly Yribarren

I was born in Visalia and spent most of my childhood on an almond ranch in Tipton, CA. I now live in Tulare. Growing up in Tipton, my family lived next to my Nona, Mary Louise Yribarren. She is Italian and has been involved with the Roma Lodge for over thirty years. My parents are also members of the Lodge.

At school, I have been very involved in clubs, sports, and community service events. I love to be involved, and it has made a huge impact on my life. Throughout my high & hoot years, I have also held various positions in clubs, along with being active in my community. So far, I have maintained a total GPA of a 4.21 from my freshman to senior year.

After high school, I plan to attend a four-year university. I am not sure where I will be attending this next fall, but I plan to pursue a major in Business. I enjoy staying in touch with the world around me, helping others, and community; therefore, I plan on fulfilling a career that does all of these things. I am a very motivated student, and I always try to succeed in whatever I put my mind to. I have made the best of my high school years, and I am looking forward to college and what the future has to offer.

## Cydne Anderson

My great, great uncle Paul Negra was born in Sicily. He migrated to the United States with his family and worked as a sheep rancher in Los Banos. He often spoke of going on a daily trip to sell vegetables with his father when he was a child and meeting Joaquin Murrieta on the highway. Paul and his father thought they were going to be robbed, but instead, Joaquin bought vegetables from them with a gold piece and then became regular customer. Paul frequently shared this story along with his love for Italy and for his culture. That love has been handed down in my family to this day.

After I graduate from high school, my future aspiration is to attend BIOLA University and to thoroughly develop my speaking skills so that I can be successful in my career. After college, I plan on using my major in communications to become an aid to a congressman or to do public relations work for a non-profit organization. If I work for a congressman, my goal is to complete an internship with Devin Nunes and then





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become his permanent assistant so that I can promote legislation that will help the citizens of the central valley. I would like to become the public relations specialist for a non-profit organization such as UNICEF. As the public relations representative, my goal would be to travel and to educate others about the importance of providing impoverished children with a quality education and proper healthcare.

## Claire Buzzelli

It's Eurovision season: my favorite time of the year. My Greek friend and I watch our respective heritages face off in musical form. Somehow the conversation always ends with her reminding me that the Romans' greatest innovations were stolen from the Greeks, to which I respond that they never would have worked had we not improved upon them. She usually throws in an "At least you're not Turkish" before capitulating.

I was raised with a very strong Italian identity, as my family is extremely proud of the heritage; my mother calls her children her "bambini". I may have not inherited my mother's olive-toned skin, but I'm always eager to tell my friends exactly where it came from.

My parents took me to public lectures at our local community college every once in a while when I was in primary school. It took me some time to build up the tolerance required to sit still and focus on a single topic for hours at a stretch, but I grew to appreciate lectures and concerts rather quickly. And when I first began attending summer semester courses at that community college after my sophomore year in high school, I was struck by the overwhelming realization that I love academia, (especially) lectures and all.

I will be a chemical engineering major, a branch of science devoted to the efficient use of materials and energy, which are issues I feel very strongly about. Chemical engineering would position me to work towards solutions to our increased use of scarce materials and production of undesirable byproducts and pollutants. I would prefer to spend more of my early career in a research lab rather than an engineering firm. Eventually, however, I want to return to academia as a professor. For this reason, I plan to pursue my doctorate.



## Luke Buzzelli

My Italian heritage is a large part of who I am today. My grandfather had only one son, who in turn, had only one daughter. Given all things traditional, the Buzzelli name would have died. My mom believing, so strongly in her heritage, asked my father to take her last name, so our family name would remain Buzzelli.

My great-grandmother Matilda returned to Italy to help rebuild her village, which was destroyed in a fire. On the return voyage back to America, Matilda's sister died. This is one of many family stories that remind me of the sacrifice my ancestors endured to become Americans.

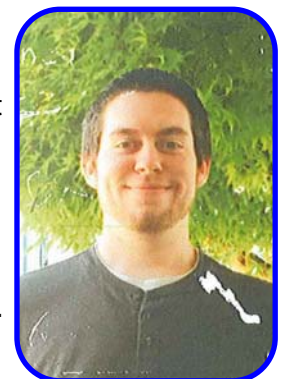
My community service started when I was very young. I was so small I had to stand on a chair in the church kitchen to help prepare meals for the homeless. As I have grown in the Cadet program, my service scope has extended to my state and country. I am the first student from Porterville to earn a State Headquarters officer position. Last year was my first year as a state staff officer, as well as the Commander of the 3rd Brigade. This year, I am continuing my responsibilities with my local command while also taking the extra duties of Executive Officer for the State of California.

It is my dream to attend West Point & obtain a graduate degree in science to work for United States Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID). If I'm not bestowed the honor of attending West Point, I will obtain my degrees, carry out my mission of joining our Army, and still work for USAMRJJ. Many Americans are placing their lives on the line to keep America safe; I will join them to protect our great country whether my instrument is a microscope or riflescope.



## Matthew Rhea

Palermo Sicily was the birthplace of Phillip Cancilla my great grandfather. Born around the year of 1914 he struggled to live during the harsh conditions of World War I. He was poor and fought to find work later in life. He immigrated to New York City. He met and married my Irish great grandmother Alice O'Brien and they moved to Port Hope,



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Ontario, Canada. He worked in the mines until he passed away.

My Italian heritage has meant a lot to me and I perceive parts of my own life. My great grandfather instilled in me the hope that despite many hardships you can succeed. With this in mind, I too strive to become successful regardless of my family's adversity. I plan to study science at UC Santa Cruz and work towards a degree in physics and math. Someday I would like to do research and I'm thankful that a scholarship from Roma Lodge would help me achieve my goals.

## 80th Ravioli Dinner Set

**T**he 80th annual Roma Lodge ravioli dinner will be **Saturday, May 16th** at the TDES Hall in Tulare. Plan to be at the May meeting to get all the details and signup to help. **Ken and Shurene Curtis, Charlie Pitigliano, along with Cathy Mederos** are chairing the event this year and everyone needs to assist in keeping such a great meal and tradition for the lodge and members of the community.

Make sure you get your tickets to sell from **Cathy Mederos** ASAP. Tickets are only \$25 per person.

## Sunshine News

President **David DePaoli** and **Rosalie Milanesio** are both recovering from recent surgery. Condolences are also being offered to David DePaoli and the family with the passing of his father **Albert DePaoli**.

## United Lodges Meeting

United Lodges will be honoring Danny Dattola the immediate past president of the United Lodges on Sunday, May 17th at the Enrico Caruso Hall in Visalia. Appetizers will be available at 12:30 p.m. with lunch at 1 p.m. The cost is \$15 per person and you can reserve your spot by calling Donna Grist at 768-8124 or by email at [gristd124@comcast.net](mailto:gristd124@comcast.net)

**May Meeting  
Refreshment Chairs  
Rob Pinkerton and  
Mike Saltzman**

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

**Meeting**

**May 4, 2015  
6:30 PM-Dinner  
Scholarship Night  
Ravioli Dinner Planning Meeting  
Signup For  
Dinner Duties  
Drawing \$95  
Last Month's Name Drawn  
Camryn Berra  
Not Present**