



Le Notizie

A Publication of Roma Lodge #1573

January-2015

Cathy Mederos once again performed her magic with a lot of help from some dedicated members in putting

on another great Roma Lodge XMAS party. The food was great, the decorations were lovely, the talent was good and the deserts, made

by members were outstanding.

Nearly 80 members and guests of Roma Lodge were on hand for the annual Christmas party at the social hall at the Agri-Center. Santa Clause (A.K.A. as *Dennis Mederos*) was on hand to handout XMAS candy stockings put together by *Joann Beecher* and everyone had a great time.



It is important that Roma Lodge members come together each December to celebrate the spirit of the holidays with great food and fellowship. Our thoughts and prayers are with our members who may not have been able to attend because of health issues. We understand you willingness to attend, however, your health does not allow for you to attend. We wish you well during the holiday season.



(l-r) Anna Dutto, Dolly Kleinhans, Maryann Luis, Faye Taylor, Joann Beecher and Amanda Luis enjoy the Roma Lodge XMAS party.



Lilia Giacomazzi explains to Santa that she has been good all year long and deserves many, many wonderful presents under the tree.



*January Meeting
Monday
January 5, 2015
6:00 PM (Note Time Change)*

It was a typical Thursday morning starting with a text to my golfing buddies **Ben Curti and Nick Martinez** about getting a starting time for the upcoming Saturday and a round of golf at Valley Oaks. Both responded positively with the usual **"bring cash"** comments so I got online and reserved a time for 8:22 a.m. bright and early because Ben said he could not play before 8 a.m. We were all set and looking forward to spending some fun time together on the golf course.

In life things don't always go as planned. As it turned out, I spent two visits in the emergency room and the next week getting over a very serious infection and the flu missing golf and the lodge XMAS party for the first time in nearly 25 years. While I was in the doctors office on Monday, my golfing buddy, **Ben Curti** was involved in a horrific traffic accident in one of the worst foggy days of the year. At this writing he is still in the hospital and will be going through a long recovery process. All lodge members wish Ben a rapid and successful recovery and wish him the best. Few members are more dedicated to the success of the lodge than Ben and our thoughts and prayers are with him, Elisabeth and his family.



For the past several years, **Lena Briano** has assisted with peeling the sweet potatoes for the XMAS party. With the unexpected passing of her daughter Dena, she was unable to attend the event this year. Sometimes lodge activities appear to be the same over and over again. Ho Hum! Well, I for one have a new appreciation for being able to attend because we never know when life throws us a curve and we cannot attend.

It's Just a Poinsettia!

If you attended the Roma Lodge XMAS party you noticed that the red table cloths, neatly wrapped silverware, decorated placemats and lovely poinsettias that graced each table. One may have thought that these decorations suddenly appear the day of the event without preplanning or all the work to make an inexpensive poinsettia purchased in the store look like a million bucks.



Kathy Briano spends countless hours cutting paper, making bows and wrapping each plant as though she was giving each one to a very special person. Each plant takes time to decorate to ensure it represents the best that Roma Lodge can offer. They also provide a source of revenue to the lodge to offset the costs of a wonderful XMAS party. Next time you see Kathy thank her for all the hard work she puts forth in making sure the lodge XMAS party is adorned with beautiful decorations.

Special thanks always goes to our cooks for the XMAS party. **Charlie and Dominic Pitigliano and Ken and Ben**

Curti have to come early, bring all the equipment in, get things



organized, cooked and then have to cleanup after the event. These unsung members do so at each and every activity of the lodge and need to be thanked for going above and beyond the call of duty to ensure that each lodge activity has a great meal to share with members. **Great job and thanks for all you help.**

Installation of Officers!

The January meeting will feature the installation of officers for the 2015-16 term. Our slate of officers include:

President	David DePaoli
Vice President	Michael DePaoli
Past President	Nick Canata
Treasurer	Karen Pedroncelli
Recording Secretary	Giovanna DePaoli
Financial Secretary	Cathy Mederos
Orator	Gary Dutto
Historian	Elisabeth Curti
Guard	Ken Bertorelli
Chaplain	Pam Sola
Herald	Larry Dutto
Trustee	Dominic Pitigliano
Trustee	Daniel Dutto
Trustee	Mike Saltzman
Trustee	Rob Pinkerton
Trustee	Matt Watkins-Chair

Mistress of Ceremonies

Kathy Canata

Frances Della

State Deputy

Lilia Giacomazzi

Members in the News!

Roma Lodge member **Matt Watkins** was recently recognized by the California Farm Bureau as the Young Farmer and Rancher Excellence in Agriculture recipient. Matt is a farm manager for **Bee Sweet Citrus** based in Fowler, CA. He oversees over 9,000 acres of citrus throughout California. A 2005 Cal Poly graduate Matt along with wife Melissa have two children pictured above Adelyn and Giulia. As the state winner he receives a \$4,000 cash prize and will represent California on the National level at the American Farm Bureau Federation Convention in San Diego early next year.



New Baby!

Roma Lodge members **Amber and Danny Dutto** are the proud parents of **Amelia Anne Dutto**. Amelia



was born on Monday, December 8th at Kaweah Delta Hospital and weighed in at 7 pounds, 9 ounces and was 20 inches long. She is the granddaughter of **Dawn and Gary Dutto** and the Great Granddaughter of **Anna Dutto**. Baby and parents are doing great. Congratulations from all the Roma Lodge members to the family.

Lodge Directory

Changes to the 2015-16 Roma Lodge directory are taking place in the next month or so. If you have moved, changed your phone number or been recently married get your changes to Cathy Mederos so they can be included in the next directory.

85th Anniversary

Roma Lodge will be celebrating its 85th Anniversary on **Saturday, April 11, 2015** at the TDES Hall in Tulare. If you would like to serve on the committee contact new president David DePaoli and get involved.

Membership Dues

*Your lodge dues are due on **January 1, 2015**. Regular member dues are **\$75** with the mortuary (\$60 without) per year. Social members are the same. 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***



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 5, 2015
6:00 Social Hall



Menu
Chairman's Choice
David and Giovanna
DePaoli
Refreshment Chairs