



# Le Notizie

A Publication of Roma Lodge #1573

July-2023

## 2023 Grand Lodge Convention Report!

As a member of Roma Lodge #1573 you maybe unaware the OSDIA Grand Lodge of California was holding its convention in Reno, Nevada June 21st to the 25th.

You may think the \$75 you pay for your dues each year goes to Roma Lodge, which is not the case.

Roma Lodge only gets \$.25 cents with the rest going to the OSDIA and the Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge gets \$53.23 of the dues you pay. This is why it is important to be represented at the Grand Lodge convention to ensure your dues are being used in your best interest!

**Tina Sparlin** and I represented Roma Lodge at the convention. Our lodge is allotted 5 delegates. The cost to send each delegate is about \$1,200 so we saved the lodge about \$3,600 and with our bylaw change from last year removing fines we are money ahead.

**Pam Ricci** of the Cristoforo Colombo Lodge #1534 and her committee served as hosts for the convention at the Silver Legacy Hotel and Casino in downtown Reno. The accommodations, food and venue were outstanding and everyone who attended enjoyed their stay in Reno.

Past-President, **Lynn Lawrence-Murphy**, serves as the convention organizer and did a wonderful job in making sure everyone at the convention enjoyed themselves. The 2024 convention is to be held in the Central District at a site to be determined. Special thanks goes to outgoing president **Barbara Wisniewski** and the rest of the Grand Council for their leadership and volunteerism on behalf of the Order.



Arlene Nunziati  
Grand Lodge  
President



## Tina Sparlin-Roma Lodge State Trustee Central District

The most exciting action coming out of the Grand Lodge convention was the election of our own **Tina Sparlin** as the State Trustee from the Central District.

Tina was installed on Saturday at the final business session and joins **Alan Spano**-3rd Vice-Vice President from Visalia and **Carol Esposito** of the C. Colombo Lodge of Antioch, CA. **Pam Buldo** of Visalia was also selected as a trustee from the south so the Central Valley has great representation on the new Grand Council.

The highlight of each convention is the annual scholarship night. **Mark Rossi**, CAO of the Western Foundation does an outstanding job in presenting over \$40,000 in scholarships along with local lodges who donate to a variety of charities at the Saturday morning session.

We will have a report at our August 7th meeting if you have any questions about the convention.



# Green Soap!

Presidents Message

**L**ast year I was able to celebrate my 75th birthday with family and friends on my mom and dad's patio where I had so many birthday parties as a kid. The house was built by my dad and his brother **John Dutto Jr.** who learned construction in his high school woodshop class. The house was originally built on the dairy site owned by my grandfather John Dutto who immigrated from Italy in the early 1900's. When my mom and dad purchased the adjacent 40-acres the house was pulled across the field by our neighbors tractor crawler.



Birthdays were always special with my aunt **Anna Dutto (The best cake maker ever!)** baking my favorite German chocolate cake with pecan frosting. Those were special times!



Today, I'm at the farm and often sit under the patio thinking about those early days. Now, I'm out spraying weeds in the almonds and I always go into my parents garage, where we used to make homemade Italian Sausage, and wash my hands at the sink where my dad did for over 40 years. Still sitting on the soap tray is a bar of **green soap** I use to wash my hands, just as he did for so many years.

I have often said the reason I have taken a leadership role in Roma Lodge is because I'm trying to preserve their memory and so many other great Italian-Americans and American-Italians of this community.



My grandfather, **John Dutto Sr.** was president of the lodge in 1943-44 and my dad **Laurence Dutto** was lodge

president in 1948-49. If you look in our lodge directory you will find all the names of the Italians of this community who have preserved our heritage and culture for almost 95-years. When you attend the Grand



Lodge convention you will find countless others who are trying to do the same thing. If we do nothing else, we need to acknowledge those who have come before us and honor their sacrifices.

In 1999 there were 72 lodges at the Grand Lodge convention and 285 officers and delegates. In 2023 there were 107 officers and delegates and only 38 lodges with 6 lodges without representation. Something has to change or there will no longer be a Grand Lodge.



**Mike Leoni, Louise Silacci, Tina Sparlin, Jackie Giacomazzi and Larry Dutto at the Grand Lodge Black and White Ball!**

There are some wonderful people who have given of their time and resources to preserve our Italian Heritage and make the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy strong. We need to work with them to make changes which will turnaround the trend of losing lodges and membership statewide.

Last year, National President, **Robert Bianchi**, reminded us that young people are our future and we need to keep them engaged and involved in the organization if we are going to have a future. We are fortunate in Roma Lodge we have 65 junior members and a great advisor in **Pam Sola**. We need to keep them engaged so there they can carry on the traditions our parents and grandparents passed on to us.

## Special Birthdays!

Roma Lodge members *An-gie Milanesio and Frances Della* celebrated their birthdays at the June meeting. They are both doing great and it was a special night with everyone enjoying birthday cake.



*Agnes Pelous* will be celebrating her 101st birthday on July 17th. She is our most senior member and has been in the lodge for 59 years. These members are our role models and we need to remember their contributions to our lodge for so many years.

## Welcome Back!

Former Roma Lodge Queen and Miss California *Isabella Benedetti* and daughter Paige visited the June lodge meeting all the way from Nebraska. Isabella will be moving with her husband, who is in the military, to Alaska in the coming months.



## Great Food!



(l-r) *Eva Gomes, Sophia Gomes, Kathryn Gomes, Vince and Pam Sola* along with *Frances Della* provided a great meal for our June meeting. It is great to have families step forward and provide meals at our meetings.

## Ambassador Program

It has been two years since the Grand Lodge has had a queen contest, now called the Royal Pageant. The future of the program is uncertain at this time and the Grand Lodge is looking for new ways to encourage leadership opportunities for our Junior members.



Stepping forward to lead this endeavor is, *Louise Silacci* of the Hanford Lodge. Louise was a candidate for the presidency of the Grand Lodge this year. Instead of giving up and quitting she has decided to work with the Grand Council in developing a statewide ambassador leadership program for local lodges to participate.

She has offered her services to the GC and has proposed several ideas to increase participation at the local, regional and statewide levels. She is providing them with an outline for their September GC meeting when they will act upon her ideas.

Louise will attend our Junior Member night at the August

meeting to get our input on how we can participate. Roma Lodge has the largest number of junior members in



the state. *Pam Sola* already does an outstanding job with our juniors at each meeting and the ambassador program will take us to the next level.

With Louise's motivation, ambition and leadership this is one of the most exciting ideas to ever come out of the Grand Lodge Convention. **Stay tuned!**

## Sunshine News!

*Phillip Curti* had a recent stay in the hospital. He is now out and doing well. *Louie Benedetti* is also doing well and waiting for his next round of treatments. 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.





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

*If you have news about our Roma Lodge members (graduations, sports activities, school news or other items you would like to share in the LeNotizie, please email them to [larrydutto@yahoo.com](mailto:larrydutto@yahoo.com) or text to 559-901-4683 by the 20th of the month prior to the next month's meeting.*

LeNotizie Sponsors	
<b>Vincent Sola Partnership</b> Farming & Farm Management Office (559) 688-0606 Cell (559) 901-1780 Fax (559) 688-0266 Email <a href="mailto:farmersvs@aol.com">farmersvs@aol.com</a> P.O. Box 190 • Tipton, CA 93272	<b>Pine PDA Pedroncelli &amp; Aguilari Inc.</b> 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: 559-784-9000 Fax: 559-784-9002 karen@pinecpas.com www.pinecpas.com Certified Public Accountants
<b>Prigiliano Farms</b> 11586 Avenue 120 • P. O. Box 9 Tipton, California 93272 CHARLIE PRIGILIANO Off: (559) 752-4319 FAX: (559) 752-3230 Mobile: (559) 284-6797 Res: (559) 752-4630	<b>Sparlin Hoof Trimming</b> Brent Sparlin Owner and Operator Specializing in Dairy Animal Hoof Care Over 30 years experience 559-287-8279 559-688-8857 TSHOOFIN@aol.com
<b>Bassett Farms, Inc.</b> Pistachios & Almonds Jon Bassett P. O. Box 6069 Visalia, CA 93290 bfarmsinc@yahoo.com Cell: 559-972-5716 Office: 559-635-8776 Fax: 559-739-8402	<b>Ken Curti</b> Owner Mobile: 559-288-2144 Office: 559-688-3444 Fax: 559-688-3448 kcurti@scglobe.net Mailing Address Visalia, CA 93278 Physical Address 6256 Avenue 122 Tulare, California 93278
<b>INGLEBY</b> Nick Canata inglenormet INGLEBY UNITED STATES Mob +1 559 690 1482 <a href="http://nc@inglebyfarms.com">nc@inglebyfarms.com</a>	<b>DAMCO Investments</b> Dennis Mederos
<b>BENJAMIN (BEN) CURTI</b> Cell (559) 288-0587 Personal Email: <a href="mailto:bacurti@aol.com">bacurti@aol.com</a> 18327 Road 24 Tulare, California 93274 Business Email: <a href="mailto:bencurtifarms@yahoo.com">bencurtifarms@yahoo.com</a> Phone (559) 992-5866 Fax (559) 992-4842	<b>BANK OF THE SIERRA</b> LARRY DUTTO, PH.D. Director 86 N. Main Street Porterville, CA 93257 559-791-4900 559-901-4683

*There are many lodges throughout the state who will be hosting Italian events in the upcoming months. First is the Bob Moresco Memorial BBQ hosted by the Watsonville Lodge. If you want to get out of the valley heat, Watsonville is a cool place in the summer time. The Cornelia-Vita Nuova Lodge will be hosting their 100 anniversary on November*

	<b>SONS OF ITALY—WATSONVILLE LODGE #2016</b> PH: (831) 722-7958 FAX: (831) 722-7924 <a href="mailto:sonsofitalywateronville@yahoo.com">sonsofitalywateronville@yahoo.com</a> <a href="http://www.watsonvillesonsofitaly.org">www.watsonvillesonsofitaly.org</a>
<b>BOB MORESCO MEMORIAL BARBECUE</b> To get your tickets call Janey Leonardich, (831) 722-7958, or any Sons of Italy member. <b>HURRY! Attendance is limited to 300!</b>	
<b>SUNDAY, JULY 16, 2023</b> 12:00—4:00 P.M. Serving 1:00—2:30 PM <b>NO TAKE OUT DINNERS</b> <b>CORRALITOS PADRES HALL</b> 35 Browns Valley Road, Corralitos (Off Corralitos Rd. @ Hames Rd.) Tickets: Adults \$40 (before June 30) \$45 (after July 7) Children 7-12 yrs \$15 Children under 6 - free <b>LAST DAY TO PURCHASE TICKET JULY 10, 2023</b>	Vive bene, ridi spesso! (Live well, laugh often!) Watch for our directional signs!
Meet Our 2023 Scholarship Recipients! Win Great prizes in Our Drawing! Accordion Music	<b>MENU</b> ½ BBQ Chicken Deep Fried Calamari Ravioli Salad Bread & Butter Desserts Beverages Available for Purchase

**THIS IS HOW WE DO IT**

**CORNELIA - VITA NUOVA LODGE**  
 invites you to join us in celebrating our 100th anniversary 1923 - 2023  
 Saturday, November 4th, 2023 at 6 o'clock  
 San Francisco Italian Athletic Club - 1630 Stockton St, SF  
 Let's dust off our party clothes and do what we do best: eat, drink, laugh and talk real loud  
 \$85 / \$35 for a kids meal  
 rsvp by October 1st to Jennifer De Palma Chandler  
[ladonnadepalma@gmail.com](mailto:ladonnadepalma@gmail.com)  
 venmo to @italianasf or send checks to:  
 Cornelia-Vita Nuova Lodge, 195 Beaumont Ave, SF, CA 94118

TRADITIONAL ITALIAN FOOD • 100 YEARS OF PHOTOS • EPIC RAFFLE  
 LIVE MUSIC • GOOD LOOKING ITALIANS • MULTI-GENERATIONAL FAMILIES  
 SURPRISES • SPUMANTE & SPUMONE • TRIBUTES