



Le Notizie

A Publication of Roma Lodge #1573

April-2018

88th Anniversary Lodge Celebration!

Roma Lodge will celebrate its 88th anniversary at the April 2nd meeting with a traditional meal of Italian sausage and risotto. *Joann Beecher, Michael DePaoli and Joseph Goni* will share cooking duties. Members with April birthdays need to bring their raffle gifts and assist co-chairs with the dinner.

As part of the anniversary celebration members who are marking milestone years of membership will be honored and those members who are marking anniversary years recognized by the Grand Lodge will be awarded their pins and certificates. Make plans to attend.

These members are celebrating membership milestones this year:

5 Year Members

Elisabeth Curti, Daniel Daramy,
Austin Gentry,
Adelyn Watkins, Giulia Watkins

10 Year Members

Belinda Briano, Kory Briano, AJ Briano,
Madison Dutto, Jordyn Dutto,
Marilyn Madrigal, Rob Pinkerton

15 Year Members

Krista Borba, John McLafferty
Brian Milanesio

20 Year Members

Shurene Curti
Joey Costa
Nicole Taylor

25 Year Members

Aaron Dutto, Anica Gentry
John Parreira

35 Year Members

Michele Burner

40 Year Member

Stacy Galvan

45 Year Members

David DePaoli, Gary Giraudi, Nick Milanesio,
Angie Milanesio, Ed Milanesio

50 Year Members

Philip Curti, William Fusco
Wallace Gordon

51 Year Members

Dennis Burner, James Costa
Carol McLafferty

52 Year Members

Cliff Cleek, Clarence Costa
John Greco, Mary Ann Luis

53 Year Members

Marlene Peterson
Mary Jean Kronbetter

54 Year Members

Agnes Pelous
Rosalie Milanesio

55 Year Member

Leroy Beecher

56 Year Member

Judy Paggi

57 Year Member

Richard Atkinson

60 Years

Connie Spagnuolo
Catherina Romero

61 Year Members

Ronnie Pedroncelli

62 Year Members

Carole Burner, Janet Cabral,
Johnnie Kaye Costa,
Betty Pratt, Lorraine Cleek,
George Rinaldi, Angela Guerra

64 Year Members

Sharon Barreto, Joann Beecher,
Gary Dutto, Barbara Maraist

65 Year Members

Lillian Cotta, Sylvia Signorelli

69 Year Member

Catherine Atkinson

77 Year Member

Oswald DaRos

82 Year Member

Joe Signorelli

Lilia Giacomazzi

Grand Lodge Deputy

***Meeting &
Anniversary Celebration
Monday, April 2, 2018
Farm Show Social Hall
6:30 P.M.***

Did I do enough?

Heralds Message

We often question ourselves about the effort we put forth on a particular task when we are finished. In school, it may have been, if I had only studied a little longer I might have gotten an A instead of an A-. In sports, if I had practiced more on my free throws we may have won the game had I made just one more of my shots. In my career, if I had been better prepared for that interview, I would have answered a key question more completely and gotten the job. *Once again, we must ask ourselves did I do enough to be more successful?*

In a few short weeks the Roma Lodge Queen, **Gianna Benedetti** will have to turn in all of her ticket sales, money from recycle, garage sale and other donations she has accepted in her quest to become Grand Lodge Queen. Gianna follows in the footsteps of her two sisters, **Isabella and Gabrielle** who both were crowned Miss California at the Grand Lodge Convention.



Lena Briano taking donations at the garage sale.

60, **Connie Spagnuolo**.

Gianna is our 31st Roma Lodge Queen in our nearly 90 year history. I wish I could say that our queens, who were not selected as state queen, were not quite as beautiful, nor just didn't have enough talent, could not speak as well as the winner or didn't look as graceful walking down the runway at the convention. *Unfortunately, for all these young ladies, it's all about the money!*

Take a look at the 2016 Grand Lodge Convention book and you will notice that the queen contest for 2016 was the second largest (Dues and Fees were first) **profit center** for the organization with a net income of \$19,525. The proposed Grand Lodge 2018 budget shows only a \$12,772 projected net income, for the

entire organization, which makes it pretty evident that the queen contest is keeping the Grand Lodge afloat.

I find it a bit ironic that now the OSIA has decided to change the name to **"Order of the Sons and Daughters of Italy"** where now we have two young men running for what is now deemed **"The Royal Court"** at the convention. *Go Figure!*

It is time for the Grand Lodge to figure out their own finances and not depend on our young people to continue to be their second highest profit center for the organization. As I have said before let's make this an educational and leadership activity for our young people and make it something other than the money raised selling tickets. I have other ideas and will share them in future messages.

Let's face it. This is not about our queens, this is about raising money for the Grand Lodge, which brings me to my next point. The most important part of the term **"Roma Lodge Queen"** is the Roma Lodge part. Our queen can and will only be successful if we as lodge members do our part.

Gianna, her mother **Tiffany** and father **Louie** have done a lot of work so that Roma Lodge will be properly represented at the Grand Lodge Convention. As the second largest lodge in the state we should be well represented. We certainly

want to thank all the members who donated items for the garage sale. We also want to thank the members who came on Saturday and spent most of the day unpacking items, hanging up clothes and working with visitors who wanted to purchase items.

Time is running short for the lodge to support our queen so she and the Lodge can be in the top five at the pageant. So ask yourself, have I purchased raffle tickets, donated to the garage sale, purchased items at the sale, saved recyclables for the queen, or personally helped her with her fundraising efforts. If you are wondering if you have done enough to support our queen and the answer is not enough, then maybe you ought to buy a few more tickets, save some plastic bottles and bring them to the meeting or contact the queen and ask how you could help.

*Hopefully, when **Gianna** walks down the runway as one of the top five in the Royal Pageant, Roma Lodge members can say, we did enough!*



Members in the News

Roma Lodge 49 year member **Ben Curti** was honored with the prestigious **2018 California Cultivator Award** at the Ag Council's 99th Annual Meeting in Napa, California. *"Ben has served both his industry and community tirelessly by serving actively on several boards,"* said **Emily Rooney**, president of Ag Council. *"He's not a board member who just 'fills a seat,' but rather he can be counted on when there are critical decisions that need to be made."*



La Piazza Ristorante Italiano

Roma Lodge member **Melina Maack** and husband Chef **Camillo Danh** owners of La Piazza in Tulare show off their special dish of spinach gnocchi for St. Patrick's Day at their outstanding restaurant they opened 13 years ago. They were featured in the Visalia Times Delta and Tulare Advance Register.



Madison Dutto is following in her great-grandmother's shoes, **Anna Dutto**, with the Grand Champion cake decorating entry at the 4-H Favorite Foods Day. She also had a Reserve Grand Champion for her Place Setting. **Great Job Madison!**



Austin Gentry along with brother **Aiden Gentry (right)** entered their cakes at their Boy Scout cake decorating contest with help from mom **Anica Gentry**.



If you have items for **"Members in the News"** send them to larrydutto@yahoo.com by the 20th of the preceding month.

Last Call For Scholarships

Roma Lodge scholarship applications are due **April 1, 2018**. Late applications will not be accepted. **Contact Frances Della, Scholarship Chair, at 559-308-6591** if you have questions.

Applications can be found on the Roma Lodge website linked below.
<http://www.romalodge1573.org/#!/scholarships/c1ojo>



83rd Annual Ravioli Dinner

The 83rd annual ravioli dinner to be held on **Saturday, May 12th at the TDES Hall in Tulare.**

Last year the lodge converted the dinner to a drive through only and it was a big success. Ticket prices will be the same \$20 and will be available at the April meeting from co-chair **Cathy Mederos**. We will still need a lot of help cooking and staffing the takeout food lines so make plans to assist. Get your tickets and sell them to make the dinner a success.



Great Food!

David DePaoli, Joann and Leroy Beecher attended the United Lodges meeting hosted by the Hanford Lodge at the Kings County First Church Historical Site. The lodge put on a great meal for everyone who attended.





Roma Lodge
PO Box 1337
Tulare, California 93275
www.romalodge1573.org

Your Roma Lodge Officers

President	David DePaoli (804-5443)
Vice President	Michael DePaoli (730-1168)
Treasurer	Karen Pedroncelli (732-1591)
Recording Sec.	Giovanna DePaoli (361-0640)
Financial Sec.	Pam Sola (901-1781)
Orator	Gary Dutto (686-6201)
Historian	Melissa Watkins (361-0811)
Guard	Ken Bertorelli (788-8496)
Past President	Nick Canata (661-978-9331)
Chaplain	Kathy Canata (281-5294)

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)

88th Anniversary Celebration

April 2, 2018
6:30 PM-Dinner
Risotto & Sausage



**Dennis Burner & Carol McLafferty with
their 50 year certificates at last years
87th Anniversary Celebration**