



# Le Notizie

A Publication of Roma Lodge #1573

June-2018

## 2018 Scholarships Recipients!



2018 Roma Lodge Scholarships  
*Julia Galvan* and *Conner Entenman* are presented their scholarship certificates by chair *Frances Della*. *Mary Grace Yribarren* from Arroyo Grande High School was unable to attend.

Frances Della presented the 2018 Roma Lodge scholarships to worthy recipients at the May meeting. Her committee gave a \$1,000 scholarship to member Julia Galvan and two \$500 scholarships to Conner Entenman and Mary Grace Yribarren who applied and are not members.

**June Meeting**  
**Monday**  
**June 4, 2018**  
**6:30 P.M.**

## It Was So Good!

Roma Lodge scholarship recipients and their parents were treated to a delicious meal prepared by *Nick and Kathy Canata* refreshment chairs for the meeting. The Canatas put on a great meal complete with salami and cheese, homemade soup with all the trimmings. It was great to showcase the lodge for our visitors especially when they get a great meal.



*Lodge members enjoying the great food at the May meeting.*

## Keeping Tradition

Roma Lodge queen *Gianna Benedetti* has been crowned "Miss California" for the 2018 Royal Court which will be held during the Grand Lodge convention in June. Gianna follows in the footsteps of her two sisters, *Gabrielle and Isabella* who also held the Miss California titles when they were lodge queens. Proud dad *Louie Benedetti* has completed his run as Roma Lodge queen dad with having all three of his daughters serve as the queen. He now joins the ranks with *Ben Curti* in having three daughters who have been queens.



# Signup or Show up?

Heralds Message

**If** you were at the May meeting and looked at the signup sheet for the ravioli dinner there were a lot of blank spaces on the board. ***I guess there is that fear factor that if you signup then you may have to show up!***

I can think of few organizations that could come together to feed nearly 900 people and have only eight or ten people on the signup sheet. I guess after 80 plus years of doing this the lodge has figured out how to make it all come together.

**Kenny Curti, Cathy Mederos and Charlie Pitigliano** have been chairing the event for a long time. It has evolved over the years and now is a drive-through that our customers seem to enjoy and always complement the quality and quantity of the food we serve.

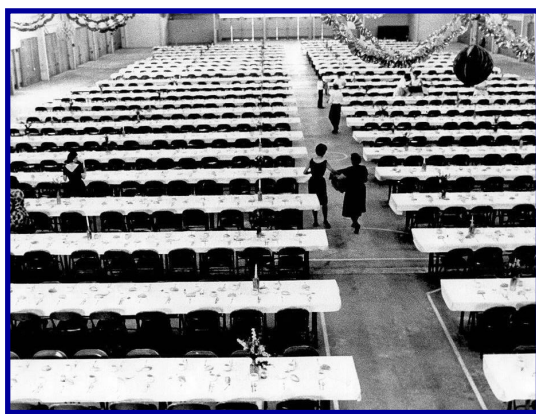
Of course there are a few who would prefer a sit down indoor experience and maybe someday we can bring that back to some extent.



takes a lot of people behind the scenes to pull off such an event. A few members have to do a lot of work prior to and after the event. Just making the 65 gallons of sauce is an all day event where several members have to continually monitor and stir the sauce from morning until serving time.



**Dominic Pitigliano** was there all day and into the evening cleaning up and mopping the floor. It takes members like Dominic to make all of us look good when we put on a great dinner.



It is hard to imagine, looking at the picture on the left where we used to serve 1,200 people in the old Elliott Auditorium at the Tulare Fair

Grounds. That type of venue we probably won't ever see again.

We had 1/3 the members back then that we have now and it took just about everyone to pull off the dinner which was considered by many the social event of the year for Tulare.

If you are a lodge member and did your part by purchasing tickets and utilizing the drive through everything appeared to be functioning as planned. What you didn't see was the fact that it

Remember as lodge members we can appreciate when the lodge does such a great community event. Unfortunately, if something were to happen where one of our customers was upset about the dinner then we all have to share in that responsibility.



What is important is that as members we ***“show up”*** to help with these types of events. If you do we will find something for you to do. I know those who were there would have welcomed more help or just some break time when things got hectic with people picking up 30 dinners at one time. We need your input as to how we can improve on what we have been doing for over 80 years to make next years even better.

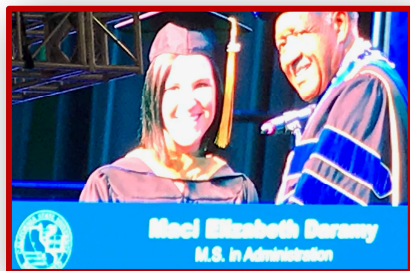


## Former Roma Lodge and Grand Lodge Queen Earns Masters Degree!

**Maci DePaoli-**

**Daramy** received her Master Degree in Business Administration from California State University-Bakersfield. Maci along with husband **Daniel** and

daughters **Giana and Isabel** live in Bakersfield where she is employed by Dryer's Ice Cream in the product development division. Dryer's is owned by food giant Nestles.



**Editors Note-We know it is graduation season and if you have someone graduating you would like to share in the LeNotizie, send me a picture and caption to [larrydutto@yahoo.com](mailto:larrydutto@yahoo.com) and we will list them in the August edition.**

## SUNSHINE NEWS

Roma Lodge members and cousins **Ben Curti and Ken Curti** had recent stays in the hospital for surgery and illnesses. We wish them a speedy and complete recovery.

## Grand lodge Resolution

At the May meeting Roma Lodge President, David DePaoli, shared with the members a resolution being circulated by filial lodges to be presented at the Grand Lodge convention in June. Representatives from the Hanford, Visalia and Tulare Lodges met to discuss the direction of the Grand Lodge of California.

The Grand Lodge will probably be under 4,000 in membership this year with three more lodges closing their doors. Membership in the state continues to decline and it won't be long before more lodges will close and to maintain services dues **may** have to be raised.

As discussed at the meeting one of the main topics for discussion is the Grand Lodge Building located at 5051 Mission Street in San Francisco. Established in 1952 the building is estimated to be worth \$3-5 million dollars and projected in the budget to only generate a profit this year of \$2,500. There has been a lot of back and forth going on at the Grand Lodge conventions about the potential sale of the building which has been discussed ad nauseum for the past several years.

There have been committees appointed, real estate estimates, concerns over American Disability Act (ADA) upgrades, etc., etc. and it appears nothing is being accomplished.

As Roma Lodge members what happens at the Grand Lodge or in San Francisco for

that matter seem to have little effect on the local level. However, we must understand that \$74.25 of your \$75 dues goes to the Grand and Supreme Lodges. If those organizations have fiscal problems they must raise their dues and then we must raise ours!

In the groups resolution to the Grand Lodge the following suggestions were given to help reduce costs at the Grand Lodge:

- Achieve a minimum of a 2% return on investment each year for the Grand Lodge building through rentals or leases or sell the building.
- Reduce the number of delegates required to be at Grand Lodge conventions by utilizing the two voting delegates per filial lodge system, including the elimination of the per diem expense reimbursement for past state presidents attending.
- Reduce the number of days of Grand Lodge conventions.
- Relocate the Grand Lodge office to another location to reduce costs.
- Hold Grand Lodge conventions on a biennial basis.
- Hold Grand Lodge conventions at locations other than expensive hotels and change the focus to a business rather than a social event.
- Research options to increase revenue or reduce costs for the Ileone to make it a breakeven or profit center for the organization.
- Research options to decrease per diem travel expenses by requiring fewer meetings or by researching other options for teleconferencing.
- Reduce or combine the number of committees in the organization to save costs.
- Eliminate the three area Vice Presidents.
- Hold elections for the State President and President elect at the same time with the assumption that the President elect would become the new president.
- A Grand Lodge Officer could not serve as the office manager for the Grand Lodge building and establish a consistent hours of operation for the building.
- For those members who would like the Ileone sent to them electronically could have that option to reduce postage and printing costs.

**Roma Lodge President David DePaoli along with lodge delegates will present the resolution at the convention in June.** The resolution has support from five lodges already and the list is growing. Hopefully, the Grand Lodge will institute these changes and help hold our local dues at the current level.





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

## Special Thanks To Our LeNotizie Sponsors for 2018

**Pam Pires Chiaramonte**  
Loan Officer - NMLS #310357



140 North "J" Street  
Tulare, CA 93274

Cell: 559-799-0088  
Office: 559-687-1700  
Fax: 559-687-1777

[pam@idasdirectmortgage.com](mailto:pam@idasdirectmortgage.com)

**INGLEBY**

Nick Canata  
Agronomist

INGLEBY UNITED STATES

Mob +1 559 690 1482  
[njc@inglebyfarms.com](mailto:njc@inglebyfarms.com)




**Chiaramonte Construction and Plumbing**

Pat Chiaramonte  
Owner

(559) 467-5801  
Call Us For Any Size Job!

ic # 452656 [chiaramonteconstruction@gmail.com](mailto:chiaramonteconstruction@gmail.com) Tulare, Ca



**Benjamin (Ben) Curti**  
Cell (559)288-0587  
Personal Email  
[bacurti@aol.com](mailto:bacurti@aol.com)

18337 Road 24  
Tulare, California 93274  
Business Email: [bencurtifarms@yahoo.com](mailto:bencurtifarms@yahoo.com)

Phone (559)992-5866  
Fax (559)992-4842

**CURTICO ENT.**



**CURTI TERRA INC.**  
DIVERSIFIED FARMING

**Ken Curti**  
Owner

Mobile 559.288.2144  
Office 559.688.0444  
Fax 559.688.0448  
[kcurti@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kcurti@sbcglobal.net)

Mailing Address  
5849 W. Elwin  
Visalia, California 93291

Physical Address  
6656 Avenue 192  
Tulare, California 93274



**LAW OFFICE**  
HORSWILL, MEDEROS & SOARES

Ph: 559-686-3861  
[www.TulareEsq.com](http://www.TulareEsq.com)

**ATTORNEYS AT LAW**

791 N. Cherry St.  
Tulare, CA 93274

**Pine PPA**  
**Pedroncelli & Aguilar Inc.**

Karen C. Pedroncelli, CPA

3500 West Orchard Court  
P.O. Box 5100  
Visalia, CA 93278  
Tel: 559-625-9800  
Fax: 559-625-9812

311 North 2nd Street  
Porterville, CA 93257  
Tel: 559-784-9090  
Fax: 559-781-9154

[karen@pinecpas.com](mailto:karen@pinecpas.com)  
[www.pinecpas.com](http://www.pinecpas.com)

Certified Public Accountants



**Sparlin Hoof Trimming**  
Brent Sparlin  
Owner and Operator

Specializing in Dairy Animal Hoof Care

559-287-8279  
559-685-8857  
[TSHOOFIN@aol.com](mailto:TSHOOFIN@aol.com)

Over 30 years experience



11586 Avenue 120 • P. O. Box 9  
Tipton, California 93272

**CHARLIE PITIGLIANO**  
Off: (559) 752-4319  
FAX: (559) 752-3230

Mobile: (559) 284-6797  
Res: (559) 752-4633

**Vincent Sola Partnership**  
Farming & Farm Management

Office (559) 688-0606  
Cell (559) 901-1780  
Fax (559) 688-0266  
Email [farmervs@aol.com](mailto:farmervs@aol.com)  
P.O. Box 190 • Tipton, CA 93272






**Bassett Farms, Inc.**  
Pistachios & Almonds

**Jon Bassett**

P. O. Box 6069  
Visalia, CA 93290  
[bfarmsinc@yahoo.com](mailto:bfarmsinc@yahoo.com)

Cell: 559-972-5716  
Office: 559-635-8776  
Fax: 559-739-8402



**BANK OF THE SIERRA**

[ldutto@bankofthesierra.com](mailto:ldutto@bankofthesierra.com)

**LARRY DUTTO, PH.D.**  
Director

86 N. Main Street  
Porterville, CA 93257

559-791-4900  
559-901-4683 c