



Le Notizie

A Publication of Roma Lodge #1573

October-2019

Chicken Pot Heaven!

Kathy and Nick Canata stepped to the plate for the September meeting by cooking up some delicious Chicken Pot Pies. They also had some great French bread, salad and all the fixings. **It was so good!**



It was a special night for **Adelyn Watkins** who celebrated her birthday on lodge night. Everyone enjoyed the delicious cake as the lodge celebrated all the September birthdays.

Columbus Day Celebration Sunday, October 13, 2019!

Roma Lodge will celebrate Columbus Day on **Sunday, October 13th** at the World Ag Expo Park. We hope that you will be able to join us on the 13th as we celebrate Columbus Day!

Tentative Schedule of events:

- 11:30 AM-Setup/Cooking
- 12:00 PM-Registration/Bocce Team Signup*
- 12:30 PM-Bocce Tournament Starts
- 1:00 PM-Lunch is Served
- 1:30 PM-Dessert Judging/Serving
- 2:00 PM-Raffle
- 2:30 PM-Bocce Championships
- 3:00 PM-Cleanup

*Teams who would like to participate in a team buyout will put in \$20 per team. High team gets 50%, 2nd 30% and 3rd 10% of the pot!

Cost-Members Free-Guests-\$5

What the Lodge Supplies

Main Dish BBQ, Paper products, water and all the trimmings.

What to Bring

- ◆ Side dish
- ◆ Make something for the dessert contest.
- ◆ Raffle Prize
- ◆ Additional beverages if wanted

Prizes will be given to the best 3 desserts. **Joanne Beecher** will chair the raffle and **Janis Curti** will chair the dessert contest. **Giovanna DePaoli** will supply the paper products. **Pam Sola** will have a Bounce House and special bocce tournament for the kids to have fun!

Roma Lodge is inviting members of the United Lodges to join us for Columbus Day festivities.

Earthquake Help!

Nick Notarnicola of the Visalia Lodge addresses the membership at the September meeting. Roma Lodge donated \$500 toward his efforts for the earthquake victims in Trona, California who were affected by the recent earthquake. Nick traveled to Trona and helped cook a great meal for the residents of Trona and thanked the Roma Lodge membership for their generosity. **Great Job Nick!**



“This is not a beauty contest”

Presidents Message

“This is not a beauty contest. It is a monetary achievement contest where lodges have the opportunity through a benefit to obtain certain positions” as stated in item #22 of the **Grand Lodge Royal Pageant Contest Rules!**



I can hear **Bert Parks** singing it now. There she is, Miss Monetary Achievement...Uh?

I have received the official announcement and contest rules for the Grand Lodge Royal Pageant Contest for

2019-2020.

The contest officially begins on September 30th so we will have to decide if Roma Lodge plans to participate in this years contest at our October meeting.

To give you a Cliff Notes synopsis of the contest a local lodge representative would have to have a minimum of \$2,000 in ticket sales to participate. The Grand Lodge gets 25% of the **net** proceeds of which the Junior Members activities get 5%. The top 5 contestants get 10%, 8%, 6%, 4% and 2% respectively and in 2018 local lodges received 51.680% of the net proceeds.

Total ticket sales were \$94,855 of which \$57,208 (60.3%) came from three lodges in the Central Valley (**Visalia, Hanford and Tulare**). If you purchased a ticket you had a 1 in 113,822 chance to win from 1 to 10 cash prizes.

The Grand Lodge netted \$15, 515.21, the top five contestants received a total of \$5,669.50 and participating lodges received a total of \$48,992.07 of the net proceeds of \$65,327.20.

Now, before we run out and solicit a queen/king for the Royal Pageant **“monetary achievement contest”** we must ask ourselves what does Roma Lodge get out of the pageant?

In the 2018 contest our queen had \$11,822 in ticket sales. The lodge accomplished this by her efforts, selling tickets, having garage sales, raffles and a variety of other activities to support our queen.

The lodge chose to invest \$5,911 of the total and we received a **net** return for our efforts of **\$198.61**. What? Less than \$200 for a Miss California Title in the **“monetary achievement con-**

test”. That is a 1.6% return on our investment.

Our beautiful Roma Lodge Queen, **Gianna Benedetti**, has represented the lodge for the past two years as her sisters **Isabella** and **Gabrielle** did before her. All three held the **Miss California** Title for the Grand Lodge.

As I mentioned in my convention report let's make our Royal Pageant contest something our members can be proud of. Judge contestants on personality, intelligence, speaking ability, cognitive skills and if you still have to have raffle tickets only make that a small portion of the scorecard.

Get three community judges from the site of the convention to do the judging, have final interview questions at the Black and White Ball and select your winners.

During the convention have several workshops on speaking, makeup, dress and other self-esteem builders. How many of our young people would not become a queen contestant because they had to sell tickets?

We are doing a disservice to our junior members, who may want to be our queen/king, by having them sell tickets and being part of the **“monetary achievement contest”** so they can raise money for the Grand Lodge. There is something wrong with having a local lodge “buy” a Grand Lodge Title.

These comments have nothing to do with the outstanding young people who have competed in the past. They have all been well qualified and deserving as representatives of the local and Grand Lodge.

As an organization we can do a lot better in making this a learning experience to improve self-esteem, speaking abilities, cognitive skills and a contest that relies more on ability rather than selling raffle tickets!

As Roma Lodge members we must decide what type of experience we want our young people to have as a representative of our lodge. We shall see!



Farewell Brother Cliff

Clifton Lee Cleek passed away on September 5th after suffering a heart attack on August 24th. Cliff was a 53 year member of Roma Lodge joining the lodge after he married **Lorraine Dutto** in 1965.



Cliff worked for Southern California Edison for over 40 years and was known by his coworkers as a dedicated hardworking person who was called upon to repair electrical equipment to get the power back on.

His busy work schedule prevented him from attending many lodge activities and once he retired he was stricken with dementia. At his request private family services were held with the lodge funeral ritual being provided. **Farewell Brother Cliff!**

Hanford Celebrates 90th Anniversary

Hanford Lodge #1543 celebrated its 90th Anniversary at the Wyndham Hotel in Visalia on September 21st. **Louise Silacci and Jackie Giacomazzi** did a lot of work to make the event a success. **Congratulations to all the Hanford Lodge members for 90 years of preserving the Italian Culture.**



They have some great recipes in their new cookbook for only \$20. If you want one call **Louise at 559-639-9800** and she will bring them to our October meeting.



The **Enrico Caruso Lodge #1463** will be holding a combination 92nd anniversary and Columbus Celebration on Sunday, October 20th from 1-5 p.m. at their new remodeled building entitled **Belo Vita Venue**. The event is \$50 per person Call or text your reservations to **559-804-9024**.



Give till it hurts!

Ken Curti gave blood on 9/11 as part of the Tulare Blood Drive.

The Tradition Continues!

Miro Curti was president of Roma Lodge in 1936. For over 100 years the Curti Family has been an integral part of the Tulare-Waukena community. The family have been long time supporters of the Tulare County Fair which celebrated its 100th Anniversary this year. **Justin and Philip Curti** of **Curti Family Farms, Inc. and Curti Family Farms** sponsored the Livestock Show Ring at the fair and purchased animals from 4-H and FFA members during the fair. Roma Lodge can be proud of the many Italian Families in Tulare County who support their community.



Quantum Leap

Roma Lodge junior members (l-r) **Nolan Saltzman, Giulia Watkins, Giada Pitigliano, Adelyn Watkins and Kate Watkins**



enjoyed the Roma Lodge sponsorship of a junior activity at Quantum Leap in Visalia. Special thanks to **Melissa Watkins and Aime Pitigliano** for organizing and supervising the event.

Sunshine News

Get well wishes are extended to **Lena Briano** who spent some time in the hospital recently. We want to give our best to all of our members who may be having health issues. **Contact Joann Beecher at 559-260-4156 so she can send them a card from the lodge.**





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

LeNotizie Sponsors

Vincant Sola Partnership
 Farming & Farm Management

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

Pine P&A Pedroncelli & Aguilar Inc.

Karen C. Pedroncelli, CPA
 3924 W. Caldwell Avenue, Ste. B
 P.O. Box 5180
 Visalia, CA 93278
 Tel: 559-625-9800
 Fax: 559-625-9812

625 N. Main Street
 Porterville, CA 93257
 Tel: 559-784-9090
 Fax: 559-784-9092

karen@pincpas.com
www.pincpas.com

Certified Public Accountants

Pitigliano Farms

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

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

Mobile: (559) 284-6797
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bfarmsinc@yahoo.com

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 Office: 559-635-8776
 Fax: 559-739-8402

CURTICO ENT.

Ken Curti
 Owner

Mobile 559-288-2144
 Office 559-688-0444
 Fax 559-688-0448
kcurti@sbcglobal.net

Mailing Address
 6845 W. Elovins
 Visalia, California 93291

Physical Address
 6656 Avenue 192
 Tulare, California 93274

CURTI TERRA INC.
 DIVERSIFIED FARMING

INGLEBY

Nick Canata
 Agronomist

INGLEBY UNITED STATES
 Mob +1 559 690 1482
njc@inglebyfarms.com

MSOR

MEDEROS, SOARES, ORMONDE & RASCON
 ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Benjamin (Ben) Curti
 Cell (559)288-0587
 Personal Email
bcurti@aol.com

18337 Road 24
 Tulare, California 93274
 Phone (559)992-5866
 Fax (559)992-4842
 Business Email: bencurtifarms@yahoo.com

BANK OF THE SIERRA

LARRY DUTTO, PH.D.
 Director

86 N. Main Street
 Porterville, CA 93257
 559-791-4900
 559-901-4633 c

Your Roma Lodge Officers 2019-2020

President	Larry Dutto (901-4683)
Vice President	Louie Benedetti (827-1492)
Treasurer	Karen Pedroncelli (732-1591)
Recording Sec.	Kathryn Gomes (331-0025)
Financial Sec.	Pam Sola (901-1781)
Orator	Gary Dutto (686-6201)
Historian	Melissa Watkins (361-0811)
Guard	Ken Bertorelli (788-8496)
Past President	David DePaoli (804-5443)
Chaplain	Nicole Taylor (804-7056)

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)

October Meeting
October 7, 2019
 6:30 PM-Dinner
**Janis and Philip
 Curti Family**



Dinner Chairs

**We Want To Thank All Those Families Who
 Have Stepped Forward This Year To Provide Our
 Membership With Great Meals!**