



Le Notizie

A Publication of Roma Lodge #1573

May-2020

2020 Scholarship Recipients!

Gianna Benedetti

It is difficult to find an "A" on Gianna Benedetti's transcript. That is because most of her grades are "A+" with no "B's" or any other grades. That is why she has a **4.83 GPA and is ranked #1 in her class!**

In one of her letters of recommendations it is stated, **"Gianna is a natural born leader. She is trustworthy and considerate of others while not compromising her core beliefs."** Gianna is a senior at Tulare Western High School and will be attending Cal Poly in the fall majoring in Architectural Engineering.

Her list of school activities, sports, club memberships and volunteer work has been exceptional during her secondary education.

Gianna is our Roma Lodge Queen and represented the lodge as "Miss California" at the Grand Lodge Convention. She states in her essay, **"It feels unique, and I am blessed to be surrounded by people in an organization who genuinely care about one another's wellbeing and reestablishing their Italian culture. I am proud third-generation member because we have created a lasting family with our Italian blood."** Gianna is the daughter of Louie and Tiffany Benedetti.

Caleb Curti

Caleb Curti is an 8-year member of Roma Lodge. In his essay he writes, **"Being a member of Roma Lodge has influenced by Italian culture so much. If I never became a member, I would have missed out on learning so much about my culture and heritage."** Caleb reflects on his years as a member in helping his grandfather Ken Curti cook at a variety of Roma Lodge events from the annual Christmas party, ravioli dinner, farm show and other lodge activities. His teachers often comment on his work ethic, motivation to get to work as soon as he enters the classroom and his dedication to fulfilling



his career goal in agriculture someday. Caleb is the son of Roma Lodge member [Clint Curti](#).

Gianna Haener

The director of the Paramount Childcare Center comments, **"Gianna Haener is pleasant to work with, proactive in seeing what needs to be done and making sure the task is complete, she takes on responsibility with a sense of ownership and pride, and is patient and caring with all of our little ones."** These are impressive accolades for a 17-year-old student who juggles a very busy work, school and sports schedule while maintaining a 3.7 GPA at Centennial High School in Boise, Idaho.

Gianna is an all-star volleyball player who plans to attend the University of Idaho next fall and major in pre-med to become a Physician's Assistant. Her volleyball coach states, **"when I think of Gianna, I think of natural leadership."** Gianna is the daughter of Roma Lodge member [Kristin Haener](#) and husband Tom and granddaughter of Gary and Dawn Dutto.

Delaney Shaw

Her FFA Meats Judging Team coach describes Delaney Shaw this way, **"I've been fortunate to watch this energetic young lady mature into the confident individual she is today."** Delaney is a senior at Central Valley Christian School and plans to attend Kansas State University in the fall to major in Animal Science. She played softball and is active in the FFA and other leadership activities while maintaining a 3.7 GPA. In her essay, Delaney documents her trip to Italy where she visited the small town of Albonico overlooking Lake Como. She was impressed to see where her Italian ancestors had come from in Italy. She is the daughter of Roma Lodge members [Jason and Lisa Shaw](#) and the granddaughter of [Carol and Dennis Burner](#). She is the great-great granddaughter of [Lorenzo Raviscioni](#) who served as president of the lodge in 1934-36 and great granddaughter of [Pierina Raviscioni Minoletti](#) who was a long-time historian of the lodge.



Merit Scholarships

Barrett (Bear) Nunley

When Ersilia Gropetti traveled through the harbor at Ellis Island, as one of 3 million immigrants from Italy, in the early 1900's she could not have envisioned having a great-great grandson who would be a 3-year captain of not only his football but his wrestling team as well at Tulare Joint Union High School. Bear Nunley is an outstanding athlete playing football, wrestling and golf. Getting EYL All League recognition in football, MVP in Wrestling or advancing to the valley championship in golf makes him an exceptional athlete. By the way, he also excels in academics being a CSF Lifetime member, has a 4.2 GPA, a leader in student government, FFA and has already completed 45 semester units of college coursework while still in high school! He still found time to volunteer service hours to Toys for Tots, canned food drives, gifts and food to the Lighthouse Rescue Mission and delivered Soled Out for Kids Program. He plans to attend UCLA in the fall. I bet they hope he does! His parents are [Greg](#) and [Michelle Nunley](#).



Sophia Mauck

Sophia Mauck attends Harmony Magnet School in Strathmore. Sophia's ancestors came from Italy in the mid-20th century and settled in New York where they were in the meat butchering business. Years later their son decided to move to California and opened the Buckaroo Inn in Three Rivers. This is where Sophia gets her love of cooking Italian food. Her focus at Harmony was in dance, which gave her instructor to provide these observations of Sophia, ***"Her focus, ability to learn quickly, diverse talents, strong academic skills, ability to work with others, positive attitude, professionalism, tenacity, motivation, incredible leadership skills, diplomacy, communication skills and desire to help others will help her to be successful in college and beyond."*** Her 4.2 GPA and love of cooking has her focused on a college education and someday studying cooking in Italy to develop talents and love of Italian food. Her parents are [Anthony](#) and [Lynn Mauck](#).



Macie Movsesian

Whether you want a milkshake from Top of the Morn' Milk Shack or your picture taken by someone who has done it professionally Macie Movsesian is the person for you. A student at Tulare Western High School she has a long list of accomplishments in and out of the classroom. She has maintained a 3.83 GPA while being active on the yearbook staff, volleyball team, student government and a variety of other clubs and activities. Her resume lists over 120 hours of volunteer work and she plans to attend Hawaii Pacific University in the fall. One of her recommendations sited, ***"She is very trustworthy, hones, compassionate and hard-working young lady."*** Her parents are Michael and Anna Clinkenbeard.



Jasmine Sanchez

The University of California at Irvine is where Jasmin Sanchez will be attending school in the fall majoring in psychology. She is currently a senior at Mission Oak High School where she has excelled in sports playing volleyball, cross country, soccer and competing in track and field. She is a member of the California Scholastic Federation and has maintained a 4.1 GPA. Beside her extensive sports activities she also is active in student government and the Tulare County Sheriff's Office Police Explorers. One of her letter of recommendations states, ***"I admire her for her intelligence, sincerity, honest, and integrity."*** Jasmin's parents are David and Maria Sanchez.



Roma Lodge would like to thank our scholarship committee chair [Melissa Watkins](#) and members [Karen DeGroot](#), [Leslie DePaoli](#) and [Anthony and Richelle Chiamonte](#) for their work in the application and selection process. With the pandemic these seniors may not be able to hold graduation ceremonies and other senior activities which is unfortunate. We wish them all the best in their college careers.

With Gods grace, on July 17, 2020 **Agnes Pelous**, Roma Lodge's most senior member will turn 98. Agnes is a 56 year member of the lodge joined in 1964. Unfortunately, she celebrates her birthday in July when the lodge usually does not have a meeting. Maybe this year we will.

Agnes was born in 1922 just after the 1918 Spanish Flu pandemic that infected 500 million people worldwide and killed over 50 million with 675,000 dying in the united states alone. The influenza lasted from 1918-1920 and caused devastation throughout the world.



Fast forward 100 years and the world is now suffering through another pandemic COVID-19, the corona virus. Roma Lodge has 45 members who were born in 1945 or earlier. That means these members have survived the Great Depression of the 1930's, World War II, Korean, Vietnam, Persian Gulf, Iraq Wars and the War on Terrorism.

This edition of the **LeNotizie** features our Roma Lodge scholarship recipients. With schools closed, our hearts go out to them, and other seniors, as they are facing the possibility of not being able to go back to school for the remainder of the school year. Teachers, students and parents are trying to adjust to switching instruction to an online format, sending home work assignments for students to complete and hoping to bring some type of closure to this school year.

It is especially difficult for the seniors who will be missing proms, graduation, Grad Nite trips and other activities associated with being in the **Class of 2020**.



We have already canceled our April and May meetings and hope to honor graduates at our June meeting if our country can get back to some resemblance of normal before then. The Grand Lodge of California has canceled the convention until 2021 as well.

Roma Lodge has postponed the 90th Anniversary celebration, ravioli dinner and will have to find a new dates to conduct these activities.

If you were born after 1945, like I was, then I guess it was inevitable that we would have to live through a pandemic as well. Hopefully, everyone stays safe as we will get through this like the many generations before us have done. It is important to get the country moving again, kids back in school and people working again. Let's all pray the virus is controlled and a vaccine is developed to keep it from coming back.

Garden of Innocence



Back in November, Roma Lodge members were introduced to the **Garden of Innocence** program at the Visalia Cemetery. The program was in need of urns, blankets and small toys for their ceremonies at the Visalia Cemetery.

Roma Lodge members **Frank Marinelli and wife Renee took** on the challenge. What started as a shop project for his students, ended when the pandemic closed school. Frank took the initiative to go in on his own and finish the construction of the urns, decorated them with religious symbols and painted them.

Renee made all the individual blankets and they provided the small toys to go into each urn. They will be presented to the Visalia Cemetery on behalf of Roma Lodge. Frank and Renee have donated all the materials and time for this great cause. If you see them tell them thanks.

If you would like to know more about the program you can go to their website <https://www.gardenofinnocence.org/> to find out how you can help.

Julietta Jane Stornetta Courtney and Matt

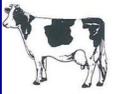
Stornetta welcomed into the world **Julietta Jane Stornetta** on March 15th. She weighted 7 pounds, 3 ounces and was 19 inches long. Julietta joins brother **Elio Patrick Stornetta** who was born in 2018. She is the granddaughter of Roma Lodge members **Ben and Elisabeth Curti**.





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

LeNotizie Sponsors

 <p>Vincent 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</p>	<p>Pine Pedroncelli & Aguilar Inc. 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: 559-784-9090 Fax: 559-784-9092 karen@pinecpas.com www.pinecpas.com</p> <p>Certified Public Accountants</p>
 <p>11588 Avenue 120 • P. O. Box 9 Tipton, California 93272</p> <p>CHARLIE PITIGLIANO Off: (559) 752-4319 FAX: (559) 752-3230 Mobile: (559) 284-6797 Res: (559) 752-4633</p>	 <p>Sparlin Hoof Trimming Brent Sparlin Owner and Operator Specializing in Dairy Animal Hoof Care</p> <p>Over 30 years experience 559-287-8279 559-685-8857 TSHOOFIN@aol.com</p>
 <p>Bassett Farms, Inc. Pistachios & Almonds Jon Bassett</p> <p>P. O. Box 6069 Visalia, CA 93290 bfarmsinc@yahoo.com</p> <p>Cell: 559-972-5716 Office: 559-635-8776 Fax: 559-739-8402</p>	 <p>Ken Curti Owner Mobile 559.288.2144 Office 559.688.0444 Fax 559.688.0448 kcurti@curti-ent.net Mailing Address 2349 W. Elroy Visalia, California 93291 Physical Address 6656 Avenue 132 Tulare, California 93274</p> <p>CURTI TERRA INC. DIVERSIFIED FARMING</p>
<p>INGLEBY</p> <p>Nick Canata Agronomist</p> <p>INGLEBY UNITED STATES Mob +1 559 690 1482 njc@inglebyfarms.com</p>	 <p>MSOR MEDEROS, SOARES, ORMONDE & RASCON ATTORNEYS AT LAW</p>
 <p>Benjamin (Ben) Curti Cell (559)288-0387 Personal Email bacurti@aol.com</p> <p>18337 Road 24 Tulare, California 93274 Business Email: bencurtifarms@yahoo.com Phone: (559)992-5866 Fax: (559)992-4842</p>	 <p>BANK OF THE SIERRA</p> <p>Director: LARRY DUTTO, PH.D.</p> <p>86 N. Main Street Porterville, CA 93257 559.791.4900 559.901.4683 c</p>

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	Anthony Chiamonte (217-4055)
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)

May Meeting Has been Canceled

Next Meeting
June 1, 2020
Scholarship Night



Become a member of the Roma Lodge
 Facebook Group
 Get your newsletter online
 Email
larrydutto@yahoo.com