



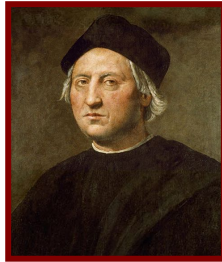
Le Notizie

A Publication of Roma Lodge #1573

November-2018

Columbus Day

Roma Lodge celebrated Columbus Day on October 7th with a luncheon and bocce tournament at the WAE park in Tulare. The weather was perfect, the food outstanding and the bocce tournament exciting and fiercely competitive.



Several members came together to organize the event. President **David DePaoli** and **First Lady Giovanna DePaoli** organized the event since we did not have anyone who wanted to be the chair. There were about 35 members and guests present and special thanks goes to **Pam Sola** who conducted junior member activities and the bounce house, **Janis Curti** who organized the dessert contest, **Joanne Beecher** for conducting the raffle, **Ben Curti** for organizing the bocce tournament and **Charlie Pitigliano** who took care of the facility arrangements.



2018 Bocce Champs!

(l-r) **Ben Curti-Tournament Director, Al Ybarra, Giovanna and David DePaoli and Charlie Pitigliano.**

Dessert Contest Winners



Louise Silacci, Adelyn Watkins, Jackie Giacomazzi, Giovanna DePaoli, Joann Beecher, Giulia Watkins and Harper DePaoli were all big winners in the dessert contest organized by **Janis Curti**. Special thanks to all the members who made desserts, brought salads or specialty dishes or helped out with all the great food enjoyed by all.



2018 Bocce Consolation Winners!

(l-r) **Elisabeth & Ben Curti, Jackie Giacomazzi and Louise Silacci.**

Rotten Bananas

Heralds Message

I read the other day a person was lamenting the fact she spends \$80 per year on bananas only to see them get brown, stale and rotten forcing her to throw them away.



It is estimated Americans throw away over 40% of the food we purchase. Sixty-eight percent of Americans believe that throwing away food once its expiration date passes lowers their chances of getting sick from it.

Are we getting stale as an organization?

I found this picture of a lodge float members constructed in 1992 for the Visalia Columbus Day Parade. It depicted one of the Christopher Columbus ships used in the discovery of America in 1492. At this year's Columbus Day Celebration we could not find a member to chair the event, had only 28 adult members attend and it would be difficult to find any connection of the activity to Christopher Columbus.

We have 302 members of Roma Lodge and we only had 28 of our adult members attend! *After 526 years has Columbus lost his importance for Roma Lodge?*

We have had a constant barrage from groups who want to do away with the Columbus Day holiday in favor of a Indigenous Peoples day. In fact the city of Columbus, Ohio just did away with their holiday citing budget cuts. *Really? No Columbus Holiday in Columbus, Ohio! Go Figure!*

Granted this year we had increased competition with other community events such as the Fatima Celebration and the International Agri-Center Harvest Festival on the weekends we had to celebrate Columbus Day. So maybe it is time we did something different to increase participation for the event. *As they say, if you do what you have*

always done, the event will be what it has always been! In this case it is becoming less and less of an event each year.

Maybe it is time we took a look at what we are doing as an organization and make some changes for the future. As we elect a new slate of officers we need to develop our program of meetings and activities to determine what we keep, what needs to be modified and what we no longer do.

There are those who may say our members are getting too old and we just can't do what we used to do. Our lodge demographics show that we have 28 of our members who are 80 years of age or older, 38 age 70 to 79, 40 age 60-69 and 66 age 40 to 59. Therefore, over half of our membership (170 members) are 40 years of age or older. That leaves 132 under the age of 40. They could provide a powerful force for our organization if we could get them involved and attend lodge activities.



We need to listen to our younger members and solicit their input as to how we can get more of their generation involved in lodge activities. For those of us who attended the Columbus Day event we all had a great time, the food was great and the bocce tournament was a lot of fun. Maybe we need to pick a different time, date or venue for the event. Let's ask their advice in how we can get more of them involved.

We have a good start with our junior members now that Pam Sola is providing leadership for them. Perhaps we need to provide more activities for our juniors such as trips or activities just for junior members.

In January you will again be asked to pay your annual dues. *Will you pay your \$75 and like those bananas allow your membership in Roma Lodge to become stale and just throw those dollars away?* Or will you benefit from your membership by attending meetings and lodge activities and becoming an active member of the lodge. We are asking for your input on how the lodge can reorganize itself to get more members involved. *The choice is yours!*

Wedding Time!

Several Roma Lodge members were married in recent weeks. Congratulations to all!

Sally Berra and Joe Scalia were married on September 29th in Visalia. Sally is the daughter of **Dr. Albert and Linda Berra** who are 46 year members of the lodge.



Former Roma Lodge Queen **Morgan Sparlin** was married to **Jonathan Benson** on October 7th in Fresno. Morgan is the daughter of **Dave and Tina Sparlin** and granddaughter of **Dolly and Cedric Klienhans**. She is a registered nurse at the Veterans Hospital in Fresno. Congratulations!

Lodge member **Kory Briano and Elizabeth Guerrero** were married on October 13th in Visalia. Kory is the son of lodge members **Albert and Belinda Briano** and the grandson of **Lena Briano**.



It Was So Good!

Vince and Pam Sola stepped forward at the October meeting by preparing some great food for refreshments for the meeting. They made a delicious meal for everyone to enjoy. Don't miss November's meeting where we will have polenta and stew.



Polenta Dinner and Meeting
Monday, November 5th, 2018
Agri-Center Social Hall
Last Month's Drawing Selection Was
John McLafferty Who Was Not Present
6:30 PM

Members Tripping Out!

Karen and Ron Pedroncelli on their trip to Washington DC which included a visit to George Washington's Estate in Virginia.



Leslie, Michael and Harper DePaoli celebrating Harper's birthday at Disneyland.

The Buck Stops Here!

Roma lodge member **Daniel Daramy** with his recent catch in New Mexico hunting Elk.

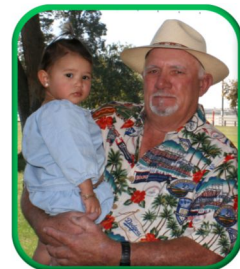


New Citizen

Congratulations to member **Navin Curti** who just received her American Citizenship.

Sunshine News!

Philip Curti is recovering from his recent hospital stay and **Ron Pedroncelli** was also in the hospital after a recent fall. Roma Lodge members wish them both a rapid recovery.





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

Below is our nominations for the slate of officers for the 2019-2020 terms. We still have not determined someone willing to hold the office of president so we will need to discuss at our November meeting. New officer nominees are highlighted in red, incumbents in blue.

President	??????????????
Vice President	Louie Benedetti
Past President	David DePaoli
Treasurer	Karen Pedroncelli
Recording Secretary	Kathryn Gomes
Financial Secretary	Pam Sola
Orator	Gary Dutto
Historian	Melissa Watkins
Guard	Ken Bertorelli
Chaplain	Nicole Taylor
Trustee	Dominic Pitigliano
Trustee	Daniel Dutto
Trustee	Mike Saltzman
Trustee	Rob Pinkerton
Trustee	Matt Watkins-Chair
Junior Members	Pam Sola
Herald	Larry Dutto

Mistress of Ceremonies

Toni Saltzman
Frances Della

State Deputy

Lilia Giacomazzi

Polenta Dinner
Monday, November 5th, 2018
6:30 PM-World Ag Expo
Social Hall
Michael DePaoli-Refreshment Chair
November Birthdays
Bring Desserts



Nick Serafin, Josh Pitigliano and Michael DePaoli cook polenta.