



# Le Notizie

A Publication of Roma Lodge #1573

October-2024

## Ravioli Dinner Drive-Thru October 12, 2024

For nearly 95 years Roma Lodge has been active in Tulare County highlighting our Italian Culture. For over 85 of those years we have held our annual ravioli dinner. Dating back to the 1950's, when the event hosted over 1,200 people at the Tulare Fair Grounds it was the social event of the year for the community.



Over the years the interest for indoor dining waned and after several years, where take out dinners exceeded those for dining inside, the lodge moved to a drive-thru only format.

This year we will be holding the dinner on **Columbus Day** weekend to reach out to the community and make them aware of the importance of our Italian Heritage in Tulare County. We want the community to bring back the importance of **Christopher Columbus** to our country.

You can support this effort by selling tickets, showing up the day to help cook, serve or help with the drive-thru. **We hope to see you there!**

**October Meeting**  
**Monday October 7, 2024**  
**Dinner @ 6 p.m.**  
**Justin & Navin Curti Family**  
**Dinner Hosts**

## Happy Birthday!

Roma Lodge members want to wish **Rose Della Frank** a Happy 97<sup>th</sup> Birthday on October 12<sup>th</sup> during Columbus Day Weekend. She is a 50-year member of the Lodge. As shown in the picture, on her 95<sup>th</sup> birthday, she still uses all this equipment throughout the year —

even in the valley heat — to keep her place looking nice. She has done all the yard work and housework by herself since she was widowed in 1983. She is in great shape and enjoys every day. The only thing that has slowed her down is Macular Degeneration which keeps her from driving so she is unable to attend our monthly meetings.



## Buon Compleanno

**Al Berra** celebrated his 84<sup>th</sup> birthday in Italy on September 15<sup>th</sup>. Al is a 52 year member of the lodge. Al along with daughter **Sally Berra-Scalia** and other family members visited Normandy where he was able to lay a wreath on the memorial of D-Day. They visited the town of **Mondovi** where his father **Bert Berra's** family immigrated from and the town of **Villafalletto** where his mom's **Mary Ferrero-Berra** came from.



# Every Lodge Needs One!

## Presidents Message

I had the opportunity to attend the Hanford Lodge #1543, 95th Anniversary at the Kings Country Club on September 14th. Roma Lodge was well represented by **Joann Beecher, Kathy Briano, and Tina Sparlin** who also represented the Grand Lodge as our Central Region Trustee.

For those of you who may not know, **Rosa Di Italia Lodge #1543 of Hanford** was the sponsor of Roma Lodge on May 25th, 1930 at our first meeting when **Mario Bruno**, our first president, was installed at the Tulare Women's Clubhouse on Tulare Avenue in Tulare. They donated \$15 to help establish the lodge and have continued to carry on the Italian Culture in Kings County for over 95 years!

It was a lovely event, with great food, a table of memorabilia of the history of the lodge, beautiful setting at the golf course and an opportunity to remember those who have come before us as members of the Order.

We all know these types of events don't just happen. I'm sure all the members of the Hanford Lodge realize just about all their activities would not take place without **Jackie Giacomazzi**. We know Jackie as our **State Deputy**, who replaced her mother-in-law **Lilia Giacomazzi**, when she passed away in 2018.



Jackie secured the venue for the anniversary, with the help of her daughters, designed and distributed the invitations, designed the programs, presented the history of the lodge, took pictures, developed the table decorations, the backdrop for the speakers podium and helped cleanup after the event! **WOW!**

If your lodge does not have a Jackie Giacomazzi, you probably will not have a lodge much longer when people are not around to take on these responsibilities. As lodge members get older, have poor health or can no longer get things done, it becomes more difficult to have these types of activities. This is why we need a strong junior member program and younger adults in our lodges.

As members of Roma Lodge we all need to remember those who have come before us and honor the sacrifices they have made on our behalf. We need to remind ourselves how difficult it was for our ancestors to come together and form Roma Lodge back in 1930.

Driving through Tulare you can see the old **Tulare Woman's Clubhouse** all boarded up and no longer in use. Just recently the old two story brick building, that used to house the Elks Lodge above the Oasis Café, has been demolished. This is where Roma Lodge used to meet upstairs.



Jackie reminded us all that lodge meetings used to meet at 8 p.m. followed by dinner and recreational activities not ending until midnight in many cases. Now, if our meetings are not over by 7:30 p.m. everyone is ready to go home!

October is **Italian Heritage Month and Columbus Day** as we celebrate our Italian ancestry. It would be great if each of us stepped forward like **Jackie Giacomazzi** has done for the Hanford Lodge. In looking at the list of past-presidents of the lodge Jackie has never served in that capacity. Her husband Don, father-in-law Fred and mother-in-law Lilia all were presidents of the lodge. However, Jackie has served the lodge in so many other ways it would be difficult to have the success they have had without her.

She is not only is the secretary for the lodge, but also holds that position for our United Lodges organization. She keeps everyone informed, is an advocate for our Italian Heritage and continues to make the effort to encourage members to participate in lodge activities.

Every lodge needs a **Jackie Giacomazzi** to continue to promote our heritage. As members of the Order we need to do our part in participating in lodge activities. We all need to do our part in preserving the history of our lodge. Remember, every lodge needs at least one person to promote our Order. **Will you be the one!**



## Wow!

September meetings are usually difficult for members to attend because it is Fair week, Labor Day and the meeting is not on our usual first Monday of the



month. However, those who were able to attend were treated to an outstanding meal prepared by the **Pam and Sal Chiamonte Family**. A great meal of rigatoni, meatballs and Italian sausage was delicious. Thanks to the Chiamonte Family for providing lodge members with a fantastic meal.

## ICYMI

Roma Lodge member **Joyce Hofstee** retired her 17 year old multiple champion winner horse from competition.

**Giada Pitigliano** exhibited



**Camilla Pitigliano** with her blue ribbon at the Tulare County Fair. She won the Pee Wee showmanship division.



the 4-H Champion Steer and the dress she made was declared best of show for the **Tulare County Fair!**



**Taylor Dutto** competed in a cross-country meet at **Bakersfield College** placing 11th out of 69 runners. She attends the Paul L. Cato middle school and this is her first year of competition.

## Sunshine News

Get well wishes are sent to **Ken Bertorelli** who suffered a fall and is in rehab in Porterville. **Dane Rainey** hurt his shoulder in football practice and had surgery at Valley Children's Hospital. If you know someone who is dealing with health problems contact **Joann Beecher at 559-260-4156**.



## Dinner Details

**Louise Silacci** of the Hanford Lodge picks up her ravioli dinner at last years dinner. We have made a few changes for the dinner this year. It will be 1-ticket per



meal, price is \$25 per ticket and the meal will feature

ravioli, chicken, green beans, salad, bread, butter and biscotti for dessert. **Serving time will be from 4-6 p.m. on Saturday, October 12th at the International Agri-Center Social Hall.** Tickets are available from several members including our biggest seller last year **Ken Curti** who is on pace to repeat this year. Kenny Sold 140 dinners last year!



## Support Hanford Lodge!

Hanford Fraternal Hall  
SPAGHETTI/MEATBALL DINNER-SAUCE  
Drive-Thru-Sunday, October 27th

Contact

[jackiegiacomazzi@gmail.com](mailto:jackiegiacomazzi@gmail.com)


559-584-7433 or 559-816-0707



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If you have a birthday in October remember to bring a raffle item to the meeting for the raffle! Last months winners of the 50/50 raffle was **Bill Benedetti**, who donated it back and **Nick Nortanicola** who won the monthly drawing and donated it back for ice cream for an upcoming meeting.

## Your Roma Lodge Officers 2023-2024

President	Larry Dutto (901-4683)
Vice President	Justin Curti (906-9109)
Treasurer	Karen Pedroncelli (732-1591)
Recording Sec.	Renee Marinelli (732-8258)
Financial Sec.	Tina Sparlin (741-3642)
Orator	Anthony Chiaramonte (217-4055)
Historian	Melissa Watkins (361-0811)
Guard	Frank Marinelli (802-0611)
Past President	David DePaoli (804-5443)
Chaplain	Nicole Taylor (804-7056)
Junior Members	Pam Sola (901-1781)

### Trustees

Matt Watkins-Chair	(647-7161)
Louis Benedetti	(827-1492)
Mike Saltzman	(686-4340)
Dominic Pitigliano	(359-1907)
Michael DePaoli	(730-1168)

### Mistress of Ceremony

Joann Beecher	(260-4156)
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**October Meeting**  
**Monday**  
**October 7th, 2024**  
**Dinner Starts @ 6 p.m.**



**Navin & Justin Curti Family**  
 Will be our dinner chairs!