



# LA VOCE

*Aprile 2021*

**Northern Solano Lodge #2534**

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<b>EDITOR</b>	<b>LINDA FEINS</b>

## **PRESIDENTS MESSAGE**

Ciao a tutti.

On Thursday, March 25 Frank Rossi, Lori Rossi and Carol Urban worked their magic and prepared a delicious meal of Roasted Pork Loin, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Franks special Green Beans, Bread and Dessert. With the support of members, we sold 90 dinners and quite a few extra raffle tickets making this fundraiser a success. Our food delivery team of Lynn and Ken Gallagher, Laretta Graham, Caroline Abughazaleh, Jeanne Craddock and myself enjoyed handing out meals and visiting with our guests. Angie Caserza did an amazing job of sprucing up the beautiful baskets we raffled off. In all my times working our fundraisers this was by far the easiest and well run and I have to thank one of our newest members Laretta Graham for that. Laretta handled all the reservations and scheduling of pickup times as well as writing names on each and every basket raffle ticket sold. As we wrapped up the final delivery, I thanked Laretta for all she did and her reply was "What are we doing next, I'm ready?"

Speaking of what are we doing next, a lot depends on the opening up of our state to some form of normalcy. We may have another drive by dinner (Frank's thinking of Pasta and Chicken with all the trimmings) or possibly even being able to hold an in-person meeting at the Adult Recreation Center. Talking to manager of the Center we were told that if the county goes into the covid designation Orange we could hold a Lodge Meeting with a maximum number of 60 brothers and sisters getting together. Hopefully this will not be too far in the future and of course we will have to work out the logistics of reservations and social distancing. We will keep you posted.

For those who missed our last Zoom Lodge meeting Shirley Firpo read the list of nominees for State Delegates and Alternates and due to the candidates running unopposed the positions were deemed filled. State Delegates are Don Craddock, Jeanne Craddock and Joy Bruno. Sue Cahan requested to fill the 1st Alternate State Delegate position. The 2nd and 3rd Alternate Delegate positions will be filled at a later date.

We are going to restart our Who Am I this month thanks to Laure DeVincenzi Nichols who volunteered to take on this portion of the La Voce. Please make an effort to guess who it is and maybe win the prize!

Tim Smithson, where were you???? Your name was picked for our Membership Drawing and unfortunately, we missed you. Remember to win you must attend. Looking forward to seeing some new faces on April 15th at our next and hopefully last Zoom meeting.

Don Craddock

## Happy April Birthdays

Louise Rossi	4th		Susan Bell	13th
Tami Dennis-Pisani	5th		Helen Barker	14th
Mark Rossi	6th		Frank Berardi	15th
Vincent Scoccia	6th		Rod Neubert	16th
Louis Varvello	7th		Dave Rico	16th
Alex Hanbright	8th		James Allen	20th
Joanne Beltran	10th		Maria Frugoli	20th
Lauretta Graham	10th			

### Buon Anniversario



Happy Anniversary to all members who are celebrating this month. Please let Don know of your special occasion so we can share with your Lodge Brothers and Sisters. Hey Brothers and Sisters, since most of us forget (occasionally) this would be the perfect opportunity for you to surprise your loved one by showing you remembered. All you have to do is call Don at 707-372-5151

### SAVE THE DATE

April 15 <sup>th</sup>	Lodge meeting via ZOOM
April 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Food Bank
May 8-10 <sup>th</sup>	Dixon May Fair (Being optimistic!)

### FOOD BANK



Even with the pandemic Our Food Bank volunteers continue to amaze all. Last month we welcomed Ken and Lynn Gallegaher, Bob Pendleton and Lauretta Graham to the group. Despite missing our fearless leader Joy, the team carried on and packed 197 boxes for a total of 3151 pounds of food. This month we will be meeting on April 22<sup>nd</sup> and will be in the Contra Costa Food Banks' new facility. The address is 2379 North Watney Way in Fairfield and is right across the street from the old location. Remember the saying "Many hands make light work" so why not plan on joining us this month. As a bonus, Joy always brings coffee and donuts and those who would like may even be able to go out to lunch after we are done. Call Joy at 707-322-5623 or email [joy.b@comcast.net](mailto:joy.b@comcast.net).

## SUNSHINE

Hello to everyone, cards were sent to:

Rod Neubert	Thinking of You
Dee Dee Carrasco	Get Well
Richard Barker	Get Well



Please remember to contact Sue if you have knowledge of a member that might need to be sent a card. Hugs, Sue Petty 707--448-7848.

Getting closer to normal!! Laure has taken on the task of writing the WHO AM I section of our newsletter. This is a great way to learn a little about your fellow brothers and sisters. As in the past you will have a couple of "Clues or Hints" inserted and it may take a little work on your part to figure out the answer. You can check out the membership roster sent out today to find first and or last names to help get the correct answer. We will award a cash prize of \$25 to our lucky winner. Contact Laure at 760-525-6530 or email at [misslaure03@gmail.com](mailto:misslaure03@gmail.com) and she will put your entry on a ticket and will draw a winner from all entries. If you are having difficulty guessing you can even call Laure for help in figuring out the clues and hints. Have fun.

## WHO AM I?

I am from the Midwest; born in Valparaiso, Indiana, but raised in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Though I haven't lived in Wisconsin in 25 years, I still call it home. Most of my friends and family still reside in Wisconsin. I have an identical twin brother (older than me by five minutes) who is a Kenosha police officer. And yes, I am a huge Green Bay Packer fan.

My Italian heritage (paternal) immigrated from Calabria, Italy to the United States. I am married to an Italian-American (her family is predominately from Liguria, Italy). I have two children; fraternal twins (son and daughter).

It was the United States Marine Corps (USMC) which took me out of the Midwest and after serving 22 years, I retired as a 'Mustang' (term for an officer who was prior enlisted). Courtesy of USMC, I have traveled to 23 countries (whether lived, visited, or deployed) and have traveled to most of the United States. I currently work for the State of California as an HR Investigator for the State Compensation Insurance Fund (Workers Comp).

I have been a member of the Sons and Daughters of Italy, Northern Solano Lodge for two years and currently hold the position of 'Guard' (as an enlisted Marine, I served three years as a Marine Security Guard at the American embassy in Tokyo, Japan and at the American embassy in Moscow, Russia - and here I am standing 'guard' for our lodge). I enjoy woodworking and microbrew beer. An interesting fact about me is that I come from a family (paternal side) of seven (7) sets of twins though my brother and I are the only identical set.

## HINTS

I share the first name of that of an American actor who mostly appeared in western and military movies of the 1950s/1960s, and had a supporting role in the movie *How to Marry a Millionaire* as the character Eben. My last name is that of the chemical element **Ni**. DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?

The following information was shared with lodge members at our most recent lodge “zoom” meeting of March 18th. Lodge member, Laure` DeVincenzi-Nichols, has submitted her email (as an individual) to this newly created website in hopes of receiving vital communications, information, etc. If you are interested, then please feel free to submit your email as an individual as well. Please know that our Board of Directors will monitor its movements as it moves forward and plan to discuss it at our next Board Meeting.

### **National Italian American Summit Meeting**

On February 20, 2021, the first ever National Italian American Summit Meeting occurred; as 354 Italian-American organizations, lodges, groups, and clubs from throughout the United States participated in the first ever summit meeting.

The meeting was initiated by Italian Sons & Daughters of America (ISDA) President Basil Russo and sponsored by the Conference of Presidents of Major Italian American Organizations.

Russo began the meeting by telling all of the group presidents participating, “Whether your group strives to uphold our heritage, celebrate our customs, perpetuate our language, educate our youth, provide for those in need, or fight discrimination, the more connected we are to one another, the greater our likelihood of success. Let us remember that we are on a mission to do something that has never been done before. We are on a mission to unite Italian Americans throughout our country.”

The purpose of this summit meeting was to discuss and to begin to find solutions to the following topics:

A Fragmented Italian America

Connecting to Our Younger Generations

The Fight for Columbus

The most important result of the meeting was to announce the creation of a new Italian American website called: [italianamericaonline.com](http://italianamericaonline.com).

This website will allow the Italian American community to create a national databank of individual and organization emails, which will unite our community throughout the country by providing us with the ability to communicate with one another quickly and effectively.

### **FINAL DRAFT OF SOIA MEMBERSHIP ROSTER**

Please check the attached draft of the Lodges’ membership roster to verify your name, address, phone number and email (if included) is correct.

**Contact Kathy Castillo at [lucats4u@aol.com](mailto:luvcats4u@aol.com) with any changes.**



Joel and Linda Feins are proud to announce that their granddaughter Molly Feins has chosen Cal Poly after making the difficult decision with several college selections. We are so happy for her.

## DRIVE BY DINNER

Here are some pictures of the latest dinner put on by our Lodge. Thanks to all who participated and helped make this a success.



## BUONA PASQUA!

Apart from Christmas, Easter is the most important date in the Italian year. It is celebrated as a religious and family occasion in much the same way that American families celebrate Thanksgiving.

During the holy week throughout Italy, people celebrate Easter with rituals, processions, and... with more than 3,000 passion plays on Good Friday! On Easter Sunday, after the long Lent period, people celebrate the resurrection. The day after, on Easter Monday (called Pasquetta – the little Easter) is generally dedicated to outdoor trips or picnics, with friends or the family.

The Good Friday marks the day of mourning and sorrow. The towns host the traditional procession, the Via Crucis ( Way of Grief), where people participate in the commemoration of Jesus Christ's painful way to the crucifixion. This rite is always suggestive, as hundreds of torches illuminate the streets. On Easter Eve, the Holy Saturday, Italians use to celebrate the Easter Vigil at the stroke of midnight Sunday. After the lent, they can enjoy the traditional colomba, a dove-shaped dessert with candies.

### Northern Italy

In Friuli Venezia-Giulia, North-East of Italy, a village named Cividale del Friuli gets the prize for the most curious Easter tradition. Indeed, the cividalesi play the “gioco del truc”. This game is about sliding some colored chicken eggs in a sand bucket in order to strike the egg of your opponent. Spectacular are also the bonfires started in the countryside of Bolzano and Rimini. Finally we should not forget the float parade held in Bormio, Lombardy, and “La Paquerette”, the artisanal fair organized in the French-speaking region of Val d'Aosta.

### Central Italy

In the central Piazza del Duomo of Florence, Tuscany, every year there is the famous Scoppio del Carro (Explosion of the Float). There, the Archbishop sets fire to a float full of fireworks, starting an incredible pyrotechnic display. Instead, if you are visiting Rome, don't miss the incredible mix of Roman architecture and Christian rituals by taking part to the Via Crucis in front of the Colosseum. On the other side of the Apennines, in Abruzzo, they use to soak the exquisite food with the holy water.

### Southern Italy

In Southern Italy the religious tradition is stronger, so locals take part to the ritual processions and start bonfires as a sign of devotion. For example, in the Tyrrhenian island of Procida, Campania, and in Taranto, Apulia, the faithful march in pointed hoods with eye-holes in these famous processions. While, if you are in Calabria, you have the chance to listen folk songs in the local Albanian communities' dialect .



AIR LAND & SEA



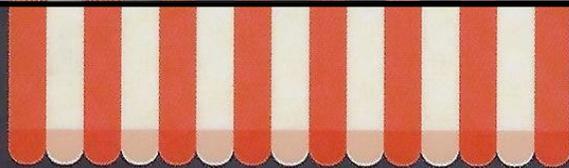
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<b>BUSINESS CARD</b>	<b>\$ 60.00</b>	<b>12 ISSUES</b>
<b>1/3 PAGE</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>	<b>12 ISSUES</b>
<b>1/2 PAGE</b>	<b>\$120.00</b>	<b>12 ISSUES</b>
<b>FULL PAGE</b>	<b>\$160.00</b>	<b>12 ISSUES</b>

**FOR INFORMATION PLACING  
YOUR ADD PLEASE CONTACT**

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