

LA VOCE



Febbraio 2024

Northern Solano Lodge #2534

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ciao Fratelli e Sorelle del Northern Solano Lodge,

Fantastico! Is an excellent description of the Crab Feed event that our lodge hosted on Saturday evening. The evening ran incredibly smoothly as we served and entertained over 170 guests. This was our largest event since COVID. This was truly a team effort and much of the work began months before the actual event. Thank you to all our members who sold tickets and all the members who worked behind the scenes to make this a successful and memorable event!

Reminder to all parents and grandparents that the applications for our lodge scholarships are now available. You can find the application on-line at: <https://www.assist-a-grad.org/>. The submission deadline is March 8th. Please contact Laure' Devincenzi-Nichols if you have any questions. (760) 525-6530 or misslaure03@gmail.com. There are also Scholarships available from the Grand Lodge of California. Details and application can be found at <http://osiaca.org/Scholarships/How-To-Apply>.

Sometime in February we will begin our scholarship fundraising for 2025. I believe we will be holding a Winner Everyday drawing in May. Look for more details on this very soon.

In March, Northern Solano Lodge will be hosting the Adult Recreation Center fundraiser the Luck O' the Irish Dinner. The dinner will be held on Thursday, March 14th. This is a service project for our lodge that helps support the ARC. We will need members to help with cooking, decorations and serving. Please see the sign-up sheet at our February meeting.

Northern Solano Board Members will be meeting on February 7th at 5 PM to debrief on the Crab Feed, discuss Scholarships and upcoming events. If you have ever wanted to look under the hood to see what keeps our lodge ticking or have an interest in being a Board Member, this would be a great meeting to attend. Current Board Members are in place through December 2024. We will be nominating and electing new Board Members in October.

I hope you enjoy the return of the Postcard from Italy. The Postcard is written by my cousins Agnese Del Gamba who lives in Arezzo, Italy and Alessandra Innocenti who lives in Torino, but is currently living and working in Brazil.

Special shout out to Brenda Mossa as she recovers from surgery. Please keep Brenda and Frank in your thoughts and prayers. Godspeed to Brenda's recovery.

Mark

Buon Compleanno di Febbraio

Eloise Reed 1st
Lori Rossi 1st
Lisa Hambright 3rd
Francesca Bruno 4th



Noah Rossi 15th
Raymond Simonds 18th
Marlene Parr 21st

Buon Anniversario

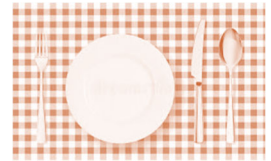
Happy Anniversary to all members who are celebrating this month. Please let Mark know about your special occasion so we can share with your Lodge Brothers and Sisters.

Attivita di Febbraio

- Feb 8th The Book Club will meet at Hannelore Baffico's home at 1 p.m. The book this month is "Magic Hour" by Kristin Hannah. New members are welcome. For more information call Hannelore at 707-422-9840.
- Feb 12th Card night will be at Caroline Abughazaleh's home at 6 p.m. For more information please contact Caroline at 707-425-8242 or email her at caroline.abughazaleh@gmail.com
- Feb 12th Please RSVP by Feb 19th for our monthly meeting so our kitchen crew will know how much food to prepare. Please RSVP by calling 707-365-1818 or emailing Laretta Graham at lgraham457@aol.com.
- Feb 13th Food Bank. For more information please contact Joy Bruno at 707-422-3391
- Feb 15th Our regular Lodge meeting will be held at the Adult Recreation Center starting at 6:00 pm with dinner being served at 6:30 pm followed by a short business meeting. Don't forget to bring a raffle prize. The proceeds from the raffle offset the cost of the meal.



TABLE DECORATIONS FOR LODGE MEETINGS



The decoration team for the month of February Rose Marie Archer and Gloria Terry .



SUNSHINE

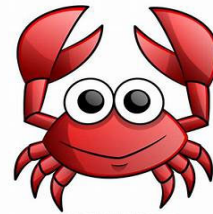
Please remember to contact Joy Bruno if you know of any member that might need to be sent a card. Call Joy Bruno at 707-422-3391 and leave a message or email her at joy.b@comcast.net.

Get Well cards to Helen Barker and Brenda Mossa

2024 NORTHERN SOLANO CRAB FEED FUNDRAISER SPONSERS

Special Thanks to our Business Sponsor who helped make the event successful!

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Golden State Warriors
Dave's Giant Hamburgers
McCune Garden Chapel



The winner of the monthly free membership drawing was Frank Mossa. Congratulations Frank.

TE AMO



I was born in Highland Hospital in Oakland, California. My grandparents and their 6 children (including my father) resided in Yosemite Valley. At some point, all 6 children were placed for adoption. My father was adopted and I am still close to his adoptive sister. Towards the end of WWI, my father enlisted in the U. S. Army. He was stationed in Japan during the Occupation where he met my mother (Nobuko or Kay in English). My mother was a Japanese national and worked as a PBX operator while pursuing a college education. They married and returned to the United States to raise their two daughters in the East Bay. They divorced when I was a toddler and my mother remarried a Navy serviceman. My stepfather served two years at the U. S. Naval Base in Subic Bay in the Philippine Islands. Our family returned to San Francisco at the end of his tour and settled in Vallejo, California.

My family traveled abroad for U. S. military duty for about 5 years. The first travel abroad was to Okinawa, Japan where my father was stationed at a U. S. Naval base. I entered the first grade while we were stationed in Okinawa. Nearly every summer during those years, we traveled to mainland Japan for vacation. I have been in California for about 54 years.

After being in small classes abroad, I enjoyed larger public school classes in elementary, junior and high school in Vallejo. I graduated in 1973 from Vallejo Senior High School. After high school I attended several colleges and universities and completed two Associate of Science Certificates from Solano Community College. While studying at Solano Community College I worked for the U. S. Department of Defense at Mare Island Naval Shipyard as a Personnel Clerk Typist. Later I completed a Marine Electrician Apprenticeship Program in the Shop 5 electronic/electrical trade. From Vallejo, I moved to San Francisco where I worked for Pacific Bell as a Special Services Test Desk Technician. While in San Francisco, I worked for temporary agencies, small businesses, banks, brokerage houses and the International Trade Commission. I also had a career in telecommunications. For a 10-year period, I moved to Bellevue, Washington where I worked marketing remodeling and additions of kitchens, baths, security systems, doors, windows, rain drainage systems, exterior siding and more.

In San Francisco I was married but received a no-fault divorce and an annulment from the Roman Catholic Church. I have not remarried and do not have any children. I have a biological sister, two nieces, four stepsisters and a step-brother.

I have been a member of Sons and Daughters of Italy (SOI) for five months. I enjoy the special interests of the SOI, both as a local and national organization and in furthering the Italian heritage and charitable activities. I especially admire the promotion of goodwill, ideals and its contributions to society. I find the content of meetings and events to be effective and pleasant. I enjoy volunteering and look forward to doing more with SOI.

Other than my 5 years overseas as a child, I have traveled to New York City, toured a lot of Washington State, vacationed in Hawaii, enjoyed a European trip to Paris, Nice, Monte Carlo, Monaco, Belgium and London and love going to my favorite places in Southern California – Disneyland and Universal Studios.

My favorite hobbies are traditional scrapbooking and sewing and fashion design, including alterations. A favorite past time is screening cinema and DVDs. At the Fairfield Adult Recreation Center, I belong to the Ceramics Club and the Leisure Years Card Club. I also enjoy the healthy food provided weekly by Meals on Wheels. Learning Artificial Intelligence digital artwork and photography are on my bucket list. I enjoy reading books and the prospect of writing is fascinating to me . . . Do you know who I am?

Hint #1: I have a three syllable first name. From Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, "A ____ by any other name would smell as sweet." is the first syllable. For the second half of my first name, what's the name of the sister who was never an official member of the Osmonds? Here's a little added hint – She has a successful career and hosted a variety show with her brother, Donny.

Hint #2: Famous ones are William Tell, Robin Hood, Apollo and Genghis Khan. Fill in the blank in this sentence to know their skill – "An _____ uses a bow and arrow to hit a target." and my last name.

January Who Am I winner was Linda Feins identifying as the mystery candidate George Locatelli.



2024 Crab Feed Fundraiser

POST CARDS FROM ITALY

Carissimi, è iniziato un nuovo anno!

Anzitutto mi scuso per il ritardo, non sono riuscita a tradurre la nuova cartolina ideata da Agnese in tempo... Ci siamo proposte di rimediare dandovi alcune informazioni congiunte sui mesi di Gennaio e Febbraio e sulle usanze e credenze, bizzarre e banali, che ci sono venute in mente!

Dear members, a new year has begun!

First of all, I apologize for the delay, I was unable to translate the new postcard designed by Agnese in time... We intend to make it up to you by giving you some information on both the months of January and February and on the customs and beliefs, bizarre and banal, that we could find!



Il primo mese dell'anno Gennaio. Il nome trae origine dalla divinità bicefala romana Giano, con due volti: uno dietro la testa da vecchio e uno davanti con i tratti di un bel giovane, il passato e il futuro. Protettore delle porte e dei ponti, ne custodiva l'entrata e l'uscita e portava in mano, come i portinai, una chiave e un bastone.

First of all, the beginning of the year is identified with the two-headed Roman deity Janus, with two faces: one behind his head as an old man and one in front with the features of a handsome young man, representing the past and the future. Protector of doors and bridges: he guarded the entrance and exit and carried in his hand, like doorkeepers, a key and a stick.



POST CARDS PAGE 2

Inoltre in occasione dell'Epifania, i bambini italiani attendono con ansia la Befana, vecchina brutta e mal vestita, che in groppa ad una scopa volante omaggia nella notte, senza farsi vedere tutti i piccolo. In ogni casa vengono attaccate a mensole o a rami dell'abete delle calze vuote. I bambini durante la notte sperano che il loro buon comportamento durante l'anno passato verrà ripagato con caramelle e cioccolato. Temuto è il carbone nero (fatto di dolce zucchero), dimostrazione che il bambino non è stato propriamente bravo. Come se riceve patate, carote, aglio o altre verdure (un triste minestrone!).

Furthermore, on the occasion of the Epiphany, Italian children anxiously await the Befana, an ugly and poorly dressed old lady, who on the back of a flying broom pays homage in the night, without being seen by all the children. In every house, empty stockings are attached to shelves or fir branches. Good behavior will be rewarded with sweets and chocolate. Instead black coal (made of sweet sugar) is feared, demonstrating that the child has not been exactly good. Same if the child receives potatoes, carrots, garlic and other vegetables (a very sad minestrone!).

Non so da voi ma qua in Italia fa insolitamente caldo, tanto che anche le nuotate in mare, fatte prima da pochi audaci nuotatori per il primo giorno dell'anno, ora raccolgono gruppi sempre più nutriti di persone.

Gli ultimi tre giorni del mese per sperare nell'arrivo di un vero e salutare freddo: i cosiddetti "giorni della Merla". Esistono numerose leggende.

Secondo una di queste la merla, che un tempo aveva un piumaggio bianco, andò a cercare riparo dal freddo all'interno di un camino. Il suo manto da candido diventò grigio a causa della fuliggine.

Sempre secondo le tradizioni popolari, se i giorni della merla sono freddi, la primavera sarà bella. Se al contrario sono caldi, la primavera tarderà ad arrivare.

I don't know about you but here in Italy it is unusually hot, to the point that even swimming in the sea, previously done by a few daring swimmers for the first day of the year, now brings together increasingly large groups of people. We wait for the last three days of the month to hope for the arrival of a real and healthy cold: the so-called "Merla days". There are numerous legends.

According to one of these, the blackbird, which once had white plumage, went to seek shelter from the cold inside a fireplace. Its white coat became gray due to the soot.

Again according to popular traditions, if the blackbird's days are cold, spring will be beautiful. If, on the other hand, they are warm, spring will be late in arriving.



POST CARDS PAGE 3

A cavallo tra i mesi di gennaio e febbraio invece troviamo le tradizioni della danza delle spade. Al contrario delle moresche o delle danze a catena, non richiamano un atteggiamento bellicoso. Intendono celebrare l'avvicinarsi delle stagioni, con l'inverno che lascia posto alla primavera che compare radiosa nei ricchi vestiti e cappelli indossati dai contendenti, straripanti di fiori coloratissimi. Le spade vengono agitate in aria e poggiate a terra tra i vari passi di danza, a indicare la fecondazione della terra che torna ad accogliere i sementi e la vita della nuova stagione.

Between the two months we find also the traditions of the sword dance. Unlike Moorish or chain dances, they do not evoke a belligerent attitude. They intend to celebrate the changing of the seasons, with winter giving way to spring which appears radiant in the rich clothes and hats worn by the contenders, overflowing with colorful flowers. The swords are waved in the air and placed on the ground between the various dance steps, indicating the fertilization of the earth which returns to welcome the seeds and life of the new season.



Vi salutiamo e vi auguriamo un sereno e felice 2024!

We greet you and wish you a peaceful and happy 2024!

Agnese and Alessandra



Feb 17, 2024

AN ITALIAN GALA

YOUR INVITATION
TO A FAMILY-STYLE
CELEBRATION

Menu antipasti ♦ clam chowder in bread bowls
Caesar salad ♦ penne pasta w meat sauce
Italian sausage ♦ baguettes ♦ tiramisu



No Outside Beverages

Venue Napa Elks Lodge ♦ 2840 Soscol Ave

Fundraising Live & silent auctions & raffle opportunities. To support or donate items, contact **Marisa Silva Miller (707) 477-5538.**



Tickets \$65 purchased in 2023 or \$75 purchased in 2024
VIP table for 8 w perks: \$750 purchased in 2023
\$800 purchased in 2024

Music dance elevation featuring DJ Z



More Info www.napasonsanddaughtersofitaly.com/fundraiser





YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO
THE SONS & DAUGHTERS OF ITALY'S
CORNELIA-VITA NUOVA LODGE "FUN" DRAISING

POLENTA & SAUSAGE DINNER
ON SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 2024

At the San Francisco Italian Athletic Club
1630 Stockton Street, San Francisco

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NO-HOST COCKTAILS at 6:00 P.M. with DINNER at 7:00 P.M.

The menu consists of Antipasto, Salad, Polenta and Sausages,  
Wine, Coffee, and Dessert.

Price for this fundraiser is \$48 per person and Club space is limited to 200.  
No payments will be accepted at the door – payment must be received with reservation.

Deadline for Reservations is Friday, February 23, 2024.  
Please call Maria at 415-370-3956, or Linda at 415-235-5974  
for information and reservations.

We hope to see you there, and thank you for supporting our Lodge!



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| <b>1/3 PAGE</b>      | <b>\$100.00</b> | <b>12 ISSUES</b> |
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**FOR INFORMATION PLACING  
YOUR AD PLEASE CONTACT**

**LINDA FEINS AT  
lfeins@sbcglobal.net**



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