



Northern Solano Lodge #2534

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MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Please note an important change in our lodge's monthly meeting date for March. Due to room unavailability, we will meet one week later on Thursday, March 27th, at our regular time of 6:00 p.m. Those planning to attend, please contact Laretta Graham at lgraham@aol.com or 707-365-1818.

We welcomed several guests and two new members at the February meeting. If you know anyone who would like to come check us out, please invite them as our guest! Monthly meetings usually draw about 50-55 members. It would be awesome if more members attended with guests! We have it on good authority that Lasagna is on the menu for March 27!

Our annual crab feed in January was a great success, and we're now looking forward to providing food and servers as a fundraiser for the Adult Recreation Center. ARC's annual "Luck of the Irish" luncheon will be held on Tuesday, March 13th, at the Adult Recreation Center, with proceeds going back to them as a thank you for allowing our Lodge Meetings at their facility. Thank you to all the Lodge members who help with the "Luck of the Irish" event.

"Winner Every Day" tickets are now available to support our scholarship program. Each ticket is \$10 and allows the chance to win multiple times. Tickets are drawn daily in May, and winning tickets are put back in the pot to maybe win again! Daily wins are \$25, with larger prize money on Mother's Day and Memorial Day! It's a lot of fun for a good cause. Tickets will be available at the meeting on March 27th or by contacting Laretta Graham at [lgraham@aol](mailto:lgraham@aol.com) or 707-365-1818. This is a wonderful opportunity to support the Lodge and our scholarship program.

On the subject of scholarships, please note that the applications for this year's scholarships are available by contacting Laure DiVincenzi-Nichols at 707-760-4176. Give her a call for full information.

Our lodge is always busy with activities! The monthly meetings are great with a delicious meal and fun raffle, Who Am I, etc... but there's also Lunch Bunch, Card Night, Book Club, Bocce, volunteering at the Food Bank, etc... In February, the first "Soup Night" in several years was held at the Mossa home. The soups and desserts were delicious. The evening was filled with warm conversation and camaraderie, as are all the activities! Just pick your favorite and join the fun!

See you on Thursday, March 27! Remember the monthly meeting is changed from March 20 to March 27! As someone who almost missed a dental appointment today.... please mark your calendar

Buon Compleanno di Marzo

Frank Rossi 4th
Sharon Anaclerio 15th
Steven Nadeau 16th
Marguerite Boyd 17th



Don Raina 25th
Robert Baffico 27th
Mario Roberto 30th

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.

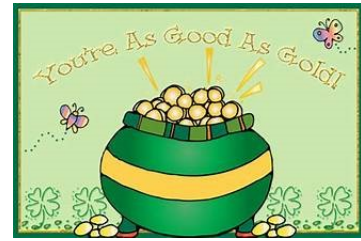
Attivita di Marzo

- Mar 14th** Card night will be at the Fairfield Adult Recreation Center from 4 PM to 8 PM. For more information please contact Juanita at 707-422-1921 or email her at juanita5230@sbcglobal.com. Everyone brings food to share before we play cards. If you like to play cards, please join us for a fun evening with food, drink, and good fun
- Mar 24th** Please RSVP by Mar 24th for 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.
- Mar 25th** Food Bank. For more information please contact Joy Bruno at 707-422-3391
- Mar 26th** The Book Club will meet at Louise Rossi's home at 1 p.m. The book this month is "Redeeming Love" by Francine Rivers. New members are welcome. For more information call Louise at 707-425-2621.
- Mar 27th** Our regular lodge meeting will be held at the Adult Recreation Center starting at 6:00 p.m. with dinner being served at 6:30 p.m. 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 March is Kay Locatelli and Linda Feins.



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.

2025 SCHOLARSHIPS

The Order of Sons and Daughters of Italy in America, Northern Solano Lodge #2534 is excited to announce that Assist-A-Grad is now offering our (four) 4 Italian scholarships:

- Rose Simon Memorial Scholarship
- Anselmo Canova Memorial Scholarship
- Sue Bell Memorial Scholarship
- Rodney F. Neubert Memorial Scholarship

Important dates:

- Application Deadline: Monday, March 3, 2025
- Interview Period: April 1, 2025 - April 25, 2025



An applicant can find the full scholarship guide and application instructions on the website at www.assist-a-grad.org/2024-2025-scholarships

Should any lodge member know of a family member applicant, then please notify Laure DeVincenzi-Nichols at MissLaure03@gmail.com of that applicant's name and high school. Laure will notify Assist-A-Grad of that applicant and will ask Assist-A-Grad to allow OUR scholarship committee to vet the applicant.

Also, should that applicant have concerns, questions, etc then please direct him or her to Laure at MissLaure03@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Northern Solano Lodge #2534 Scholarship Committee

“Winner Every Day”

Tickets are now available to support our scholarship program. Each ticket is \$10 and allows the chance to win multiple times. Tickets are drawn daily in May, and winning tickets are put back in the pot to maybe win again! Daily wins are \$25, with larger prize money on Mother's Day and Memorial Day! It's a lot of fun for a good cause. Tickets will be available at the meeting on March 27th or by contacting Laretta Graham at lgraham@aol or 707-365-1818. This is a wonderful opportunity to support the Lodge and our scholarship program.



GRAND LODGE OPEN HOUSE

The Grand Lodge is holding an Open House March 23, 2025 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. to celebrate our new home in Orangevale, CA. Light appetizers, soda and wine will be served. Please RSVP to the Grand Lodge at email sonsofitaly ca@aol.com or 916-270-2114.

SACRAMENTO LODGE 1354 BOCCE AND PICNIC

Sign up for the Sacramento Lodges Bocce and Picnic on Saturday, April 26th. \$30 for Lunch and Bocce or \$10 for just lunch. Contact Danny Marinelli at 916-698-2928 for more information.

LUCK OF THE IRISH LUNCHEON

Our lodge is hosting an Irish luncheon for the Fairfield Adult Recreation Center on March 13th at 12 p.m. Tickets are available for \$10 in advance at the front desk of the center. The deadline to purchase tickets is March 6th.

Servers and help in the kitchen is needed. For more information please contact Don Craddock or Mark Rossi.



SHRIMP FEED

Sacramento Lodge #1352 is having a Shrimp Feed Saturday, October 25, 2025. Tickets are available by contacting Danny Marinelli at 916-698-2928. Tickets for the Feed are \$60.00 and includes Clam Chowder, Pasta, Shrimp, Salad and Dessert.



The January Who Am I winner was Linda Feins identifying the mystery candidate Kay Locatelli.

The winner of the monthly free membership drawing was Bobbi Martinez. Unfortunately Bobbie was not present to win.

Cannoli Recipe

(Served at February 2025 Lodge meeting)

An important part of the recipe is draining the ricotta cheese:

1. Place the ricotta cheese into a fine mesh strainer lined with cheesecloth, Place the strainer over a bowl. Place it covered, in the fridge to drain for at least 6 hours and up to 24 hours.

Ingredients for 12 cannoli:

30.5 oz. drained container of whole milk ricotta cheese

1 – 1.5 cups of confectioner sugar

2-3 tsp vanilla extract

Large dash of cinnamon, or to taste

About 1-1.5 cups mini semi-sweet chocolate chips, divided.

If more sugar is needed, add to taste.

2. Mix drained ricotta, confectioner sugar, vanilla extract, cinnamon, and about 1 cup chocolate chips. We let it sit for several hours to meld the flavors.

3. Fill the shells using a spoon or pastry bag with a tip. Dip the ends of the cannoli with chocolate chips and dust with confectioner sugar.

Fill the shells shortly before serving. The cream keeps for several days.

Shells can be easily purchased at World Market in Vacaville. The package contains 12 medium shells. \$5.99 for 12 shells.



PALISADES WILDFIRE RELIEF EFFORTS

Our lodge donated \$500 to the Sons and Daughters of Italy in America disaster Relief Fund to help support the Palisades Wildfire Relief Efforts.. Individual members who wish to contribute on their own may do so by mailing checks to

“Sons of Italy Foundation”
Disaster Relief

219 E Street, NE

Washington DC 20002





“Wishing you a pot o’ gold and all the joy your heart can hold.” — Anonymous

I was born 85 years ago in Vacaville, California. My Italian heritage is strong as all four of my grandparents and my father were born in the Tuscany and Calabria regions of Italy. I am the youngest of five siblings and the only boy in the family. All five of us were born at home.

Growing up in a rural area, where my father owned 40 acres of fruit trees, I learned how to prune, graft and bud fruit trees. I have passed that knowledge on many times when I taught grafting classes to Master Gardeners, the Mare Island Garden Club and at Solano Community College. I was the only person to be awarded the Honorary Master Gardener designation in Solano County.

In my working days, I was a printer for 27 years at the big daily newspapers. About five years before retiring, I was the night foreman at the Vallejo Times Herald. After that I worked at Vacaville Honda where I was promoted to Finance and Insurance Manager. I also served six years in the army National Guard.

I have been married for 64 years to the girl I luckily met in high school. We have two grown sons and a granddaughter. Vacaville is our long time home. In my lifetime, I have moved eight times — all within Solano County. I like the weather and the proximity to the coast and mountains.

I have been a member of Sons and Daughters of Italy (SOI) for about 35 years. I have served as master of ceremonies, trustee, vice president and president. I was also the cook for SOI for several years. I enjoy going for walks with my dog and playing bocce. I am the captain of a Thursday bocce team and served a three year term as president of the bocce club.

As far as traveling, I love to take short trips up the California coast to Mendocino and Fort Bragg. I have vacationed at Cancun several times and taken many cruises. I have visited Italy twice. On one trip, I looked up my father’s birth place and I met a cousin who actually owns the house my father was born in. That was an unbelievable stroke of luck! As a final bit of Irish luck, this Italian cook will be cooking the Irish luncheon at the Senior Center this year.

Do you know who I am?

Hint #1: If you are planning to visit Florence, be sure to visit the Uffizi Museum to see Michelangelo’s 17-foot sculpture, _____. The statue and I share the same first name.

Hint #2: If art is not your thing, in the Bible there was a confrontation between _____ and Goliath.

Hint #3: The Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization or _____ Act of 1970 was passed to help battle organized crime. If you know its acronym, you will know my last name.

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Garibaldi-Meucci Museum
Order Sons & Daughters of Italy in America

Order Sons & Daughters of Italy
in America
Grand Lodge of California



Joy Bruno
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**FOR INFORMATION PLACING
YOUR AD PLEASE CONTACT**

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