

Iorthwest Italian News PUBLISHED BY ORDER SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF ITALY IN AMERICA* - GRAND LODGE OF THE NORTHWEST

VOLUME XLIV, NO.5, USPS 397-200, May, 2024

From the Office of State President Linda Buccini Anderson

Coming Events!

Saturday, May 11, Starts at 6:00pm Auburn lodge annual Wine Tasting Holy Family Church

505 17th St. S.E. Price \$35.00 per person No one under 21 years of age John Partridge 253-350-4922 partridge427@gmail.com

May 11th- The SILK ROAD **EXPO 74-50TH ANNIVERSARY** Riverfront Park, Spokane Contact: Linda Marcus linda-amarcus@hotmail.com

Friday thru Sunday June 7-9th Sorticulture 2024 Mille Cugini #2659

Plants, Garden, and Food Booth Downtown Everett Contact: Paula Jacoby olycot@gmail.com

TUES. JUNE 11, 2024 Italian night at the Mariners Contact Mariners ticket office

June 15th- Tour of Europe **EXPO 74-50TH ANNIVERSARY** Riverfront Park, Spokane Contact: Linda Marcus linda-amarcus@hotmail.com

Saturday July 20, 2024 Santelli Awards Celebration Tacoma, Wa. \$30 Contact: Linda Buccini Anderson linda@glnw.org 253 225-2483



Events continued on back cover.

Buona Festa Della Mamma or Felice Festa Della



Mamma or Happy Mother's Day. The Grand Council met on April 27. We addressed much business; ideas were shared to help build and strengthen membership. The Grand Lodge webpage has many ideas to help lodges. Go to www.glnw.org and look under Member Resource.

As always, the best ways to build and strengthen our membership are having fun, sharing your love of our Italian culture, and connecting with one another.

This month, National 4th Vice President- Tony Bisceglia Anderson and Past Grand Lodge President Rosetta Beyersdorf and I will be attending the National Education and Leadership Awards-NELA representing the Grand Lodge of the Northwest. The National presents scholarships to outstanding young men and women from around the USA. More to report next month on NELA> As always, look over the coming events and support your lodge as well as other lodges. Along with being a lot of fun, these events help support your lodge and your fellow lodges. Remember, we are all volunteers. So, get involved. We all know everyone wishes they were Italian. So let us all pitch in and make everything The Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America is doing what people want to be a part of. Ciao

Linda Buccini Anderson President-Grand Lodge of the Northwest linda@glnw.org





American-Italian Club #2172 Spokane WA

Spokane is buzzing. As the season changes Spokane is alive with the vibrant color of new blooms and spirited events. Our club is part of this vibration as club interest is generating new memberships! We have welcomed new guests to the past several meetings and that is exciting to see! The agenda for the April General Meeting was a full schedule. Our Heritage Program is very popular. For April, Donna Clark was our presenter. Donna gave a very impressive account of her family starting with their roots in Germaldi Costuza, Calabria Citra. Her grandfather departed from Naples in 1910, arriving in Spokane around 1919. Donna's family pictures and delightful anecdotes provided us with a very interesting report. President Kim Asay has added a new segment to our meetings Italian Language Moment! Complete with a diagramed handout this month's lesson was the table place setting. It was well received, and Kim says there will be a test next month.

EXPO 74-50th Anniversary Spokane is keeping our Events Planning Committee – a dedicated group of 10 members- very busy. We are very honored to be part of the Opening Ceremonies on May 4th. We will be participating in the Pillar Procession, which is our very own version of the Olympic Opening Ceremonies. There are five (5) pillars representing the themes of EXPO 74 and our Spokane commitment. Our Pillar is Arts & Culture. Carr Mancini, our Vice President will be leading our group dressed as Marco Polo, followed by our Italian flag and the very dedicated Event Planning Committee. That will be the beginning! We also have been invited to participate in The Silk Road, on May 11th, an event that is a memorial to the once vibrant International Trading District of Spokane. At this event, Marco Polo, aka, Carr Mancini will wander amongst the crowds encouraging people to take selfies with him and then presenting their photo at the AIC booth for a prize. Our booth would include an Information/ recruitment table, a bake sale table along with the sales of Italian tchotchkes and much more. Along with The Silk Road, we are planning to duplicate that footprint on June 15th. It is yet to be determined if we will be with The Tour of Europe or at the Vendor Village. Either or, Marco Polo will be a presence encouraging patrons to visit our booth. Once there we plan to entice them with our homemade baked goods and entertain their children with Italian games and puzzles. At our information table along with Membership pamphlets and applications, we hope to have a display of our club history here in Spokane. So much to do! We are all

very excited. On May 12th, we celebrate Mother's Day. They have laughed with us in the best of times and stuck with us through the worst of times. "Amore di madre, amore senza limiti" ~ Mothers love, love without limits. Wishing my Fraternal sisters Buona della Festa Mama and Thank you for all that you do.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Marcus, Assistant Recording Secretary #2172 linda-amarcus@hotmail.com

Amerigo Vespucci #1814 Aberdeen, WA

Amerigo Vespucci Lodge hopes that everyone is enjoying our beautiful Spring weather. Hopefully, May will be as nice.

President Joe Chicano thanks the past officers for all their hard work and welcomes aboard our new officers for the 2024-2026 year.

Amerigo Vespucci Lodge held its April meeting on April 18, 2024, at St. Mary's Parish Hall. Members brought tasty sides, salads, and desserts to accompany the spaghetti and meatballs provided by President Joe Chicano. Three scholarship applications have been received for the Scholarship Committee to review. Scholarships will be presented at the May meeting. President Joe Chicano will be attending the GLNW Conference in Lynnwood. The Mariners' Italian Heritage Night will be on June 11, 2024. Joe Chicano will purchase tickets. Those wanting to attend the game. can contact Joe Chicano at (360) 581-1072, or cjchicano@comcast.com.

Joe and Connie Chicano attended a Mariners' Spring training game in Arizona in March while visiting family. Richard Luzzi and Judie Braddon attended the 100th Anniversary celebration for the SDOI Eureka, CA Lodge on March 23, 2024. Richard was a past president and State Trustee while a member of the Eureka Lodge prior to moving to Washington and joining Amerigo Vespucci Lodge. Amerigo Vespucci Lodge was honored to have Recording Secretary Gina Natucci attend our April meeting. Thank you to State President Linda Anderson and 2nd Vice President Lenny Folino for attending and assisting in the installation of Amerigo Vespucci's new officers at the March meeting. The Lodge's next meeting will be on May 16, 2024, Thursday, at St. Mary's Parish Hall. Bill Haberstock from Cataldo Lodge #2280 will be making cannolis to sell for Cataldo Lodge's fundraisers at the May meeting, Have a festive Cinco de Mayo, and don't forget Mother's Day! Judith Braddon, reporter

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Auburn #1955 Auburn, WA

It is my extreme pleasure to announce that in our April meeting, the Auburn Lodge initiated seven new members! Please welcome to the Auburn family: Linda Banks, Kathy Borges (dual member with Bella Vita), Linda Black, David Bradley, Tricia Bradley, Charlotte D'Onofrio, and Bob D'Onofrio. It warms my heart to see our little club grow! Our annual Wine Tasting will be on Saturday, May 11th at 6 pm. Tickets are \$35. In addition to being our one major fundraiser, this event is always a ton of fun! Eat, drink, be merry! We welcome you to have a good time in good company with us. If you would like to earn some medals like our own Signor Bocce, Salvatore Cascone, you are invited to the bocce courts at Les Gove park every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon. The Auburn Scholarship (as well as the Grand Lodge's) was due on April 15th. The scholarship committee will have their announcement ready soon! Likewise, the Auburn Clean Sweep event was on April 20th (after this was written, but before it was printed). I'll have a full report for you next month, and I hope you were able to attend. What an awesome opportunity to serve and to give back to the community! Before I close, I wanted to talk a bit about membership. This month, Auburn dropped members for non-payment. This is never undertaken lightly. Our lodge pays a per capita tax for each member which is impossible to meet

without your dues. We are a family, a community of Italians, and our loved ones. We're here for each other, for our city, and for camaraderie. If you or someone you know was dropped, reinstatement is an easy thing. If you would like to be a member, but finances are difficult, please reach out. Even if you can't make the meetings, if you would like to support our cause, and you would like to support the Italian community, then what better way than to be a member, or to gift membership to a friend. Heck, if you can make it to 2 dinners, you've already recouped your \$35!

Sincerely, Francesco Ortenzo, Immediate Past President

Photo: Auburn President: John (right), with Past President: Nick and VP: Dave (left) welcoming a whopping -seven- new members!

Bella Vita #2285, Olympia, WA

Ciao a tutti! On April 4th, Bella Vita had its monthly event, a "Spring Fling Festa". It's always a "festa" at Bella Vita! Members & guests enjoyed chicken cacciatore as a main dish and members brought appetizers, sides, salads, & desserts. We had so much amazing food! Add to that some wine and Italian music and some spontaneous dancing even took place. President

AMERICAN-ITALIAN CLUB NO. 2172 Spokane, WA

Meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:00 PM ST ALOYSIUS CHURCH, O'MALLEY HALL 330 E Boone Ave Spokane, WA 99202 509-487-8552

Kimberley Asay, President Americanitalianclubspokane@gmail.com Marilee Reagor, Recording Secretary Americanitalianclubspokane@gmail.com

AMERIGO VESPUCCI LODGE NO. 1814 Aberdeen, WA

Meets the 3rd Thursday of each month 5:30 PM Social, 6:00 Dinner, 6:30 PM Meeting

ST. MARY'S PARISH CENTER 306 East 3rd, Aberdeen, WA President Joe "Chiacchieri" Chicano 360-581-1072 cjchicano@comcast.com

AUBURN LODGE NO. 1955 Auburn, WA

www.auburnsonsofitaly.org

Meets the 2nd Thursday of each month Doors Open at 6PM for Social Hour Meeting at 7:00PM Dinner and Raffle following **HOLY FAMILY CHURCH HALL** 505 17th Street SE - Auburn, WA. 98002

> President John Partridge jpartridge427@gmail.com 253-350-4922



Aaron Smith & Deputy Mary Jane Rogers officiated the initiation of 5 new members: Jacob, Colton, & Gabriella Smith, Ben Cassio, & Kyrsten Kolar. We are very excited to see a new generation of members getting involved! We're a big, happy family and were also joined by canine guests: Choriza, Maxi, Sunny, & Snowflake. Members supported Pam Daudet by purchasing her



local, farm fresh, eggs, honey, jams, & sauerkraut. It was a great time and pictures are on Facebook thanks to former President Sophia Risorto who has become our "Facebook Guru" and has completely revitalized our FB postings and is keeping everyone connected. Sergeant-At-Arms, Jim Vettori, 91, was admitted to the hospital on March 19th and later moved to Mother Joseph's. We are very happy to say that he is home and

BELLA VITA LODGE No. 2285 Olympia, WA

Meets the 1st Thursday of each month Social at 5:30 pm, Dinner at 6:00 pm Meeting starts at 6:30pm McLane Grange 931 Delphi Rd SW, Olympia 98512

Aaron Smith, President 253-227-6432 gutterman@comcast.net

Shirley Delauranti Garrison, Vice President 253-677-8420 <u>shirleygarrison46@gmail.com</u>

Amber Dahl, Recording Secretary



recovering now. Thank you to so many of our Bella Vita famiglia who took the time to visit and encourage him! Our eldest member, Cathy Pearsall-Stipek, turned 92 yesterday. Happy Birthday Cathy! We love you! On May 2nd, we will be having our next monthly event. We are having a Cinco de Mayo

theme and calling it "Festa del Cinque Maggio". We are all looking forward to another fun-filled night. Too bad Ludy won't be there to make margaritas this year as he & Donna will be in California. I am currently seeking another volunteer but Ludy will be hard to beat. Bella Vita...a beautiful life!

Amber Dahl, Recording Secretary

Bellevue #2377, Bellevue, WA

Hello Friends, our Lodge meeting on April 4th started with a delicious dinner. The main course was Nello's tuna pasta. It's actually called Pasta al Sugo di Tonne e Pomodore, but I call it Nello's tuna pasta because it's Nello's recipe. Nello used to make it for our Lodge about once a year and it was always everyone's favorite. We haven't had it at a Lodge meeting for a long time so having it at our last meeting was like returning home after a long time away and having dinner with family. Cathy Mettler and Michele Guerrini helped Nello prepare the main course and salad. Joan Carson and Doug Warne brought appetizers. Linda Jacobin and Antoinette Folino brought desserts. It was a great meal surrounded by friends.

The time that we set aside for a social hour went a little longer than an hour, but what else would you expect from a bunch of Italians, after all, that's why we get together. To make up for it the business meeting wasn't very long, but we talked about some important things.

BELLEVUE LODGE NO. 2377 Bellevue, WA Meets the 1st Thursday

of each month / Social: 5:30 PM Dinner at 6:30 PM / Meeting to Follow

> UNITY CHURCH 16330 Northeast 4th Street Bellevue, WA 98008

Greg Osgood, President osgood_g@msn.com 206-669-4312 Michele Guerrini, Recording Sec. (206) 979-9147 / guerrini@aol.com

BLACK DIAMOND LODGE NO. 1809 Black Diamond, WA

Meets the 2nd Friday of each month Social Hour 6:30 p.m. • Dinner 7 p.m. Meeting 8 p.m. and Raffle following

> BLACK DIAMOND COMMUNITY CENTER 31605 Third Ave (SR 169) Black Diamond, WA 98010

Janice Malvesti-Cole, President 360.463.4671 jmalvesticole@gmail.com

First off, the Bellevue Lodge is going to send a Bocce team to compete in the Auburn Bocce tournament. There was some confusion about changes to the tournament, but all that got straightened out and we have a team who's enthusiastic to compete and we wish them well.

New Lodge president Greg Osgood also talked about some changes that will be occurring in our Lodge. One change he talked about is using iMembers to help with communications within the Lodge. He is already using iMembers to send meeting planning and notification e-mails. There were some questions so there will continue to be a discussion about how we can best use iMembers to help the Lodge.

In sunshine news, past President Mary DeMatteo Sangalang missed our Lodge meeting because she wasn't feeling well, Rachelle Edgar was also under the weather and couldn't make the meeting, and Linda Jacobin has scheduled her knee replacement. I am saddened to report that former member Lou Fontana passed away recently. Lou was 98 years old. He had been a very active member of our Lodge for a long time, always helping out at Lodge meetings and fund-raisers. We will miss Lou dearly and our deepest sympathies go out to his family.

By the time you read this, we will have held our annual Bellevue Lodge Wine Tasting, but since I'm writing this before the event I will report on it in next month's column. At our next meeting, we will be announcing the winner of the Bellevue Lodge scholarship. It will be the first scholarship that Bellevue has announced in many years.

Our next Lodge meeting will be May 2nd at Unity Church, 16330 NE 4th Street, Bellevue WA: 5:30 Social Hour with wine and appetizers, 6:30 Dinner (\$10), 7:15 Meeting, and Raffle (please bring something to donate for the raffle table if you can) Tickets 6/\$5 or \$1 each. Buon Cannoli!

Greg Osgood

CATALDO LODGE NO. 2280 Bremerton, WA

Meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month — Social-5:30 p.m./ Potluck-6:00 p.m./Meeting-7:30 p.m.

> VFW HALL 190 S. Dora, Bremerton, WA MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Box 4243 Bremerton, WA 98312-0243

Bill Haberstock, President (360) 373-4341 / <u>habpal@hotmail.com</u>

Black Diamond #1809, Black Diamond, WA

These sunny spring days are invigorating and welcoming to the celebration of Buona Festa delle Donne and Happy Mother's Day! We invite you to watch for the announcement of our Lodge Scholarship awardee and upcoming events in the June edition.



We are delighted to share the colorful and loving history of one of our 1937 charter member families. Gladys and Diodato Vernarelli with daughters Virginia and Donna lived in Morganville, a

lower section of the town of Black Diamond. They were a very happy family with lots of laughs, good English, and Italian cooking, and many stories of the old country. Some of the most memorable dishes were chicken cacciatore, rich spaghetti sauce over homemade noodles, roast pork, and Yorkshire pudding. Both had a deep commitment to raising their two daughters with a good life.

Mother and Dad were on vacation in Hawaii in 1967. They thoroughly enjoyed their two-week trip and visit with Virginia, Homer, and the boys. Mother was 63 and Dad was 66 at this time. Even as they aged, they were spry and went to many places and visited most of Virginia's friends that she had acquired while Homer was stationed in Hawaii with the Air Force. Mother loved a good cup of tea and toast with jam on it. I believe she loved the Guava jam in Hawaii. Dad loved a good cup of coffee. I hope he drank plenty of Kona coffee there.

Diodato Vernarelli (1901-1982) was born in the

MILLE CUGINI LODGE NO. 2659 Marysville, WA

Marysville Historical Society Museum 6805 Armar Rd, Marysville, WA Patrick Jacoby, President

(425) 478-0757 <u>patrick@glnw.org</u>

Rebecca Helling, Recording Secretary (425) 422-7434 txt

Meets the 2nd **Thursday** of each Month Doors open at 6:00, Dinner is at 6:30 7:00 Meeting

South Cle Elum, WA 98943-0361 Northwest Italian News, May, 2024

CLE ELUM LODGE NO. 1968

Meets the 2nd Sunday

of Each Month

Potluck Dinner 5:00 p.m.

Meeting and Raffle follows

CLE ELUM

COMMUNITY CHURCH

201 East 3rd Street

Cle Elum, WA

Michael Butorac, President

(509) 674-2940/

mbutorac cabin@hotmail.com

Mailing Address: PO Box 361



Province of Abruzzo, Italy. Dad came to Black Diamond in 1904. The house the family bought is behind the current Black Diamond Bakery. Dad loved to garden and after trying his hand at working in the mines (and knowing that they were very dangerous) turned to the business of truck farming. Dad, known as Duda, to all around was a "character." A character in a good way. He was always friendly, kind, and generous with his produce customers and people in town.

Gladys Mary Towers Vernarelli (1904-1970) was born in the County of Washington, England. Mother was a kind and loving mother and wife. As a girl, she had bright red hair which turned to a light brown as she aged. She had a nice smile, and was small in stature, but had a big heart.

"Duda's Produce Truck" (Quoted from "Mining the Memories" interview of Duda Vernarelli) "The men went on strike. I stayed around working and helping in the garden. Lucky we had the garden then cause we couldn't get no job. We were black-balled. 'Nope! No Job:' So I got a job at the Lake Sawyer lumber mill—\$3.15, eight hours. Worked. Oh, geez. I worked behind the edger. They only used to last one month. I lasted ten months there. Then I told my dad I'm going to buy a little truck. My dad say, 'Okay, go buy truck. You quit, we go sell vegetables.' We had lots of fun—just me and my dad."

Duda then sold produce goods from the truck, driving all around town. Best produce ever! His dad's name

was Stefano, but everyone called him Steve. He and his family mined here for years, until the strike of 1921. About his dad, Duda said, "My dad was a gardener. He was gardening for the monks in Italy. Boy, they knew a lot as far as gardening. My dad was the first here I can remember to raise tomatoes. And celery, nobody raised like my dad."

Daughter Virginia Close Cataldo Lodge 2280 Member

Cataldo #2280, Bremerton, WA

Hello to everyone as members are looking forward to another wonderful meeting of Cataldo Lodge.

A great idea was suggested to respect other members so that everyone can hear what is coinciding. The older we are it becomes a little more difficult to hear, It is nice for everyone to be aware of this as it affects us all. We have a great lodge and lots of support from everyone.



There is a cannoli fundraiser on Saturday, 11th May 2024 from 9 AM until 3 p.m. while they last. There is a \$5.00 donation (cash or checks only) which benefits The Order Son's & daughters of Italy in America and

OLYMPIC PENINSULA LODGE NO. 2733 Port Angeles/Sequim, WA Meets 3rd Sunday of each Month Social begins at 12:30pm Meeting begins at 1:00pm Bethany Pentecostal Church 508 S. Francis St, Port Angeles WA 98362 Armando Muggia, President muggiaac@gmail.com 360-461-5574 SEATTLE FEDELE LODGE NO. 1390 Seattle, WA Meets 3rd Thursday of each Month Dinner at 6:15 PM Meeting Follows at 7:00 PM

Our Lady of Mt. Virgin Church Hall 2800 S Massachusetts St Seattle, WA 98144

Michael Croce <u>crocem@pacificfoodimporters.com</u> 206-391-1122 TACOMA LODGE NO. 1175 "The Mother Lodge of the Northwest" Tacoma, WA

> Meets the 1st Wednesday Social 5:30, Meeting 6:30 Dinner Follows ~7:15 TOTEM YACHT CLUB 5045 Highlands St Ruston, WA 98407

David Madrid, President (253) 961-6526 motherlodge@yahoo.com

87 local area food banks. The Crossroads Church at 7555 Old Military Road NE, Bremerton. Keep an eye out for the Italian Flags and Banners! To everyone who was interested, we had children and adults who were learning to fill Cannoli shells. It was quite a nice thing to watch and everyone learned! Members did the cannoli filling into pate choux puffs.

Joyia Rubenes provided polenta with beef and sausage stew. As announced Joyia Rubenes pointed out that past Cataldo President, Louis Mentor was also known to make the same Polenta with Beef and Sausage Stew as well.



Welcome to Vicki Hartson. She is one of our new members and we are so excited to get to know her.! Paulet was here today and we were pleased to meet her. She is the second wife of Louie Menter. It was very nice to meet her and talk with her. The St. Michael Foundation Collection is on its way. We are collecting items for the foundation for the next 2 months. Items can include puzzle books, coloring books, word

TRE CITTÀ LODGE #2881 TRI-CITIES, WA

Meets the 1st Tuesday of the month Social/Dinner 5:30 pm Meeting follows at 7:00 pm **Bella Italia Restaurant** 7000 W. Okanogan PI., Kennewick, WA **Jack Barnaby**, President 509 735-2163 <u>jabarnaby@charter.net.</u> **John Cacioppo**, Recording Secretary 360-509-8287 <u>john.cacioppo2@gmail.com</u> VANCOUVER LODGE NO. 2690 Vancouver, WA Meets the 2nd Thursday of each month FAMILY OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH 3500 N.W. 129th Street Vancouver, WA 98685 6:30 p.m. Dinner Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Barbara Blair, President (360)253-7984 <u>blairbjb@comcast.net</u>

searches, playing cards, crayons, colored pencils, sudoku books, and personal items such as combs, nail files, hair brushes, and hair ties. I'm sure everyone will be generous. Also, we were treated to the history behind the Gnocchi. The lady who had the sparkling top on explained about her Gnocchi board. It was quite nice and she has had it in her family for many years and she still uses it to this day. The lady's name was Rose Marie and she is also Nicole's mother. What a treat to hear her story, it was quite nice! Joseph Davis, who is married to Nicole, had a DNA test and he found out that he is part Italian and had not known until recently. That also makes the children with Italian heritage as well! Nick Wancowicz is still under the weather. His wife Josey has been helping Nick as much as is possible but then Josey lost family members who passed away. Nick is still in rehab and is in need of lots of interactions with other members. Joe and I travel a distance back and forth to and from our lodge. If you could give us an address perhaps we can hook up while we are there to see you. We miss you very much and enjoy being with you. Please let us know when, and when are good times to come by to visit. We will also keep you in our prayers. Birthdays for May, include Jake Lebeda, Maryann Freeman, and Jack Fortner. Buon Compleanno Diane Clementi

Cle Elum #1968, Cle Elum, WA

Members and guests of Cle Elum Lodge gathered at Cle Elum Community Church on Sunday, April 14th in friendship and fraternity to discuss the business of the Lodge and enjoy a spaghetti and meatball dinner. Members Mike and Kathi Butorac put together the leftover sauce and meatballs from our annual Spaghetti Dinner and Scholarship Auction to create a wonderful repeat of this worldwide favorite dish. Everyone else brought side dishes to accompany the main course with this reporter zeroing in on all the homemade salads, garlic breads, and desserts.

YAKIMA LODGE NO. 2732 Yakima, WA

Meets the 3rd Thursday of each month at 5:30 PM

HARMAN CENTER 101 North 65th Avenue Yakima, Washington 98908

Robin Costanzo-Miller, President (509) 452-5389 e-mail c/o gmawidner@yahoo.com

With everyone satiated following our "to dream for" meal, President Mike Butorac gaveled the assembly in order to conduct our Lodge business and welcome our guest, Bob Bullock, spouse of lodge member Linda. Bob is a regular visitor to our meetings, but what this reporter did not know was that he is a very good cook. He brought a spicy, buttery, mushroom dish that was heavenly. Perhaps he should be a member??? Recording Secretary Kathi Butorac brought everyone up to date on current activities and membership. Financial Secretary Joe Saldin and Treasurer Rich Grillo discussed with the membership our options for how to use our funds to benefit our community and the goals of our Lodge. Motions from the floor included making donations to the Community Church for our use of their building for our meetings, and to the student Interact Club at Walter Strom Middle School for their volunteering to work as servers for our annual dinner. These young students and their adult faculty have been helping us for several years now and are a treasure of maturity and work ethic.

Scholarship Committee Chair Quannee Eilers explained to the members how the committee will conduct the process of awarding scholarships to students at Cle Elum/Roslyn High School and Easton Schools. They will be working with the counselors at the schools making sure that students receive and complete the applications from the committee. Once the applications are returned, the committee will review them and determine those students who are eligible and deserving of our scholarships.

Additional discussion included our May meeting as it relates to Mother's Day (TBD), our annual Picnic in June (TBD), and our Cle Elum Pioneer Days Queen/King Mushroom Contest. Specific dates and locations will be discussed before and at our May meeting.

This reporter has been writing the Cle Elum Lodge #1968 Northwest Italian News submission for a dozen years or more. It has been a pleasure. Starting in May, Cle Elum Lodge member Dee Saldin will assume the



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reporting duties for Cle Elum Lodge and Upper Kittitas County. Thank you to Dee for taking over this position and to all those readers in the GLNW and OSDIA. Ciao! Sincerely and respectfully submitted, Rich Grillo; grillogo1@msn.com

Mille Cugini #2659, Marysville, WA

Cioa Cugini! Felice Primavera! Here in the great white (with red and green) north, we're gearing up for our annual fundraiser. We are returning to Sorticulture,



Everett's FREE weekend Garden Arts Festival! June 7, 8 & 9th. https://www.visiteverett.com/1400/Sorticulture Each day starts at 10:00 and ends at 7:00, 6:00 and 4:00 respectively. We will have 2 booths again. We'll be serving sausage and peppers sandwiches in our food booth. Our garden booth will feature garden-themed raffle baskets, and all sorts of plants, and this year our resident artist, Judy Price, will be doing face painting from 12-3 each day! Our members are already preparing raffle baskets and procuring donations from local businesses. Park at the Everpark Garage located at 2815 Hoyt Ave and follow the crowd! Master gardener Ciscoe Morris will be speaking at 1:00 on Saturday. Schack Art Center is offering gardening classes. They'll even have 2 locations to securely stash your goodies while you shop. Visit their website for more information. If you can't visit us there and you wish to donate, please use this Venmo QR code. No amount is too small. On

Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America®

Tony Bisceglia Anderson National 4th Vice President



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another note, we sadly have many members of our lodge suffering from health problems, some of which prevent them from attending our meetings and dineouts. We have 40 people on our roster but typically see 15-20 members at our meetings. Cheryl Petruccelli, our Sunshine gal, has been busy sending cards to let them know we miss them and are wishing them well. If you know them, please take a minute to give them a call to let them know you care. A FEW FUN FACTS ABOUT ITALY: 1) All three of Europe's active volcanoes are in Italy. 2) The Italian police force uses Lamborghinis. 3) The average Italian consumes 25kg of pasta per year. Paula (Dellino) Jacoby, Reporter

Olympic Peninsula #2733, Port Angeles, WA

Spring Greetings from the beautiful Olympic Peninsula. We send best regards and well wishes to all. See you in the June NWIN.

Seattle Fedele #1390, Seattle, WA

Happy May Day! It's probably after the first of May, but it is the only way I thought of for starting this article. It will be a short one because I am getting it in late and it is late in the evening. So, here goes:

Our meeting in April was on the 18th and it was jumpin'! We had the pleasure of welcoming a new member. His name is Art Buonamia. What I have assessed of him is that he has a great sense of humor and a smile that lights up his face. So glad he is part of our lodge and organization. Come and welcome him to the lodge.

We want to thank the cook(s) for the wonderful appetizers before dinner and for the dinner of pasta, sauce, meatballs, salad, and the softest and freshest rolls I think I have had in a long time! Dessert was two cakes celebrating Sylvia Croce Zappoli's and Daniel Volpone's birthdays. We had a rousing chorus of Happy Birthday and then on to Tante Aguri. Okay, I admit I had two small pieces of cake (chocolate and white). I left most



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4102 NW Anderson Hill Rd. Silverdale, WA 98383 | www.alloy-cap.com Securities offered through Raymond James Financial Services, Inc. member FINRA/SIPC. Investment advisory services offered through Raymond James Financial Services Advisors, Inc. Alloy Capital is not a registered broker dealer. of the frosting because it was really thick (I think it was one of the balloons decorating the cake). We had three winners in the attendance raffle - but I didn't get to see who they were, so I can't name them. Congrats! I am going to have to talk about what exciting things happened at the Annual Banquet held on the 27th of April in next month's article, because as of the time of this writing, it hasn't happened! I think I am done - I don't have my sorella maggiore to ask if I have forgotten anything, so I am done.

Have a wonderful month and enjoy the weather! Ciao, Sorelle pazze,

Elaine Volpone and Christina Volpone Gerling

Tacoma #1175, Tacoma, WA

Well, we are getting ready for our first ever All you can eat crab feed dinner and dance, featuring the incomparable Mary Marchese Band on November 2nd at The Slavonian Hall in Old Town Tacoma. Tickets are limited and availability will be starting in June. We will have an incredible silent auction, and everyone will have a blast, we promise. For our April dinner, we decided to have it catered by the wonderful Italian company from Kirkland Washington featuring their famous Costcoeli Pizza ha ha ha. This month we are having a pasta sauce contest, with some great prizes for the winners. Hope everyone is enjoying spring and we would love to see you at our dinner party oops I mean meeting. God Bless All of You President David

Tre Cittá #2881, Tri-Cities, WA

The Tre-Citta Lodge held our April meeting at the Bella Italia Restaurant on the 2nd of April. Jack Barnaby, Scholarship Chairperson, announced the 2024 scholarship winners. This year the Lodge awarded three \$1000 scholarships. The winners were: Nevaeh Hiatt from Kennewick. Nevaeh maintained a 4.0 GPA with all honors classes and her goal is to be a doctor



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in an emergency department. Tyler Baerlocher from Pasco. Tyler maintained a 3.994 GPA with all honors classes and his goal is to be an aerospace engineer with NASA or Space X. Stella Comfort from Pasco. Stella maintained a 3.994 GPA with all honors classes and her goal is to be a doctor either in radiology or emergency medicine.

Discussions continued with the members about looking forward to next year and the possibility of increasing the number and/or the value of the scholarships. This will depend on the success of our fundraiser in November. A few years back, the Lodge established a charity fund. Monies for this fund come from the raffle of items brought by our members to each monthly meeting. These items include wines, Italian plates, candies, pastas, etc. The charities we support must be local charities. At the April meeting, the Lodge chose two local charities and they will each receive a \$500 donation. First is Cork's Place Kid's Grief Center. The Center provides grief support to children who are grieving the death of a loved one. The second one is the Safe Harbor Support Center. The Center is committed to the prevention of child abuse and neglect by providing a safe and nurturing environment for children when there are no other alternatives.

Nine of our members are in the initial planning stage of a trip to Italy. This trip will be in mid-August this year. They will be going as a group (not a tour group) and will fly into Rome and then head south. I am sure that there will be stories and pictures galore in the October meeting.

Finally, the Lodge will be appointing a Search Committee to investigate and search out other venues to have our monthly meetings. There is nothing concrete, but we may be looking for a new place in the future. Jack Barnaby, reporter

Vancouver USA #2690, Vancouver, WA

All officers and members are invited to a Budget Meeting at Barbara Blair's home on Monday, May 6th at



- Near VA Hospital
- Pre-Arrangements

Memorials



2:00 PM. Please RSVP if you plan to attend at (360)253-7984 or blairbjb@comcast.net.

To celebrate Mother's Day this month, we will be sharing "I Remember Mama" stories. My mom was the best storyteller. She immigrated at age 10 in 1919 from Cremia, Italy. We children always wanted her to tell us stories about "when she was a little girl in the Old Country". It was our favorite bedtime story. So many wonderful stories of a different way and times.



What memory do you have of your mother or a special person growing up? Please come and share with us. We will be having DESSERT ONLY at our Thursday, May 9th meeting beginning at 6:30 PM. At Family of Christ Lutheran Church, 3500 NW 129th St., Vancouver WA 98685. This is an Italian Dessert Potluck so please RSVP to Louise Ramunno-Johnson at alramunno@gmail.

Bocce Play Tues & Thurs 2pm to 6pm Weather permitting

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com or (360)281-0915 with your choice of dessert. Coffee and soft drinks will be served. No charge as it is a potluck. Please bring a prize for the raffle tonight. OUR LOCAL CHARITY is the Clark County Veterans Assistance Center in downtown Vancouver. We help



them throughout the year. In May, we will be collecting "t-shirts for men" for the vets. This is strictly voluntary. If you wish to participate, please

bring your donation to our meeting.

BOCCE IS BACK!! Paul Zanobelli and friends have started playing bocce at our courts at the Vancouver Elks Lodge #823, 11605 SE McGillivray Blvd. Vancouver. Every Wednesday at 5:30 PM weather permitting. The courts are behind the main building. Invite your friends and come join the fun!! Any questions, please contact Paul at (360)521-5584. WHITE ELEPHANT BINGO will be on Tuesday, May 7th at 7:00 PM at Barbara Blair's house. You can RSVP at (360)253-7984 or blairbjb@ comcast.net. Please bring a white elephant prize in a paper bag and \$1.00 to participate in a Cinco de Mayo celebration.

ITALIAN BOOK CLUB Our selection is Bitter Taste of Murder by author Camilla Trinchieri. This is the second book in her mystery series. We will meet on Monday, May 20th at Starbucks in Barnes & Noble, 7700 E Fourth Plain Blvd at 2:00 PM on that date for discussion. The book is available at Barnes & Noble and Amazon. DINE OUT will be lunch at Grassa, 780 Waterfront Way, Vancouver 98660 (360)360-4687 on Tuesday, May 21st at 1:30 PM. This is a casual dining restaurant serving handcrafted pasta, salads, appetizers, and beverages. RSVP to Barbara Blair at (360)253-7984 or blairbjb@ comcast.net no later than Sunday, May 19th. Let's check out this new Italian restaurant on the Vancouver Waterfront.

CLUB NEWS: Donna Covi has traveled to catch the "total eclipse of the sun" with friends in Texas. Then

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returned for a few days and was off touring Ireland. Patti and Jim Borden were in Spain participating in a religious pilgrimage with their church. Dee Newbern, after moving into a new home, is taking some R&R in California. Buon compleanno to our May birthdays!! SUNSHINE COMMITTEE: Get outside and enjoy the sunshine. Rosann Grzesiowski continues to improve



from surgery. Please keep all our members in your thoughts and prayers. Viva la Mama!! Barbara Blair *Yakima #2732, Yakima, WA* The Yakima Lodge met at the Harman Senior Center on April 18 and enjoyed a wonderful meal from our amazing Italian cooks. We are happy to

report that the Fancuillo's are improving and Jan is back working part-time. We have had a sad loss in April. Marty Borello's beautiful wife Connie passed away on March 24th. Connie was born in Aberdeen, WA, and moved to the Yakima Valley as a teenager. Connie moved to Seattle after graduation and was hired as a dental assistant even though she had no experience. She learned quickly on the job and throughout her career she worked in Seattle, Yakima, and Selah. Marty and Connie married in 1966 and had 2 sons Michael and Kenneth. Michael passed away in 2023. Connie was a loving, caring person and will be missed. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Marty and his family. It was good to see Marty at our April meeting.

Good news reports included: President Robin Costanzo Miller is a grandmother again to granddaughter Jaelynn Rose. Jaelynn has 3 brothers so they were all excited to greet a baby girl! Robin also has a grandson making his first Communion.

Mike and Kathi Butorac have 2 grandchildren receiving their First Communion in April. Mike Butorac will be



giving a talk on the history of Italians in the Cle Elum area on June 20 for the Cle Elum Historical Society. His talk will take place at the museum.

Our Master Gardener Sarah Judd tells us it is time to plant cold-weather vegetables like sweet peas and radishes. Her garlic that was planted in the fall is up, as are the fava beans that she planted in February. Nancy Carle tells us there is a restaurant in Verona Italy that has a box for voluntarily leaving cell phones while eating and in turn the diner will be given a bottle of wine. Hmm, maybe that could catch on in the USA? Jeanne Fasano gave information on unique ways to keep fruit and vegetables fresh longer. One interesting suggestion was placing a piece of scotch tape over the stem hole of tomatoes. This keeps humidity in and the tomato stays fresh for up to 2 weeks. Jeanne's is still fresh at 5 days and counting.

The May meeting is May 16 and we will be honored to have Linda Anderson as a guest. We will also have an installation of our newest member Connie Blanchard. Watch your email for more information. Raffle items are always welcome to cover rental costs. Respectfully Submitted, Jeanne Fasano

-Dario Brancato

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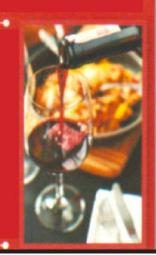
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Northwest Italian News, May, 2024

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Coming Events!

July 21st 3-7:00PM Annual Club #2172 Family Picnic

Manito Park, Spokane Contact: Linda Marcus linda-amarcus@hotmail.com Sunday, Aug4, 2024 **Rainier baseball** Tony Anderson Osdia1957@gmail.com

Sunday, August 18, 2024 11-5pm **All Italian Picnic** Royal Arch Park, Maple Valley Contact: Holly Cochran (206)779-8863

Sunday August 25, 12-4:30 pm Cataldo Lodge Annual Picnic Elks Picnic Shelter 4131 Pine Road, Bremerton Contact Bill Haberstock 360 373-4341

Monday, September 2, 2024 Vancouver USA Lodge #2690 Annual Labor Day Picnic Lewisville Park, Battle Ground, WA Contact: Barbara Blair (360)253-7984 blairbjb@comcast.

Sept. 28 & 29, 2024 Festa Italiana, Seattle Center Contact: Dennis C. (206) 282-0627 Saturday Oct. 5, 2024 **Fall Grand Council** Embassy Suites Lynnwood, Wa. Contact: Tony Anderson Osdia1957@gmail.com

May 16-18, 2025 **GLNW-CONVENTION** Embassy Suites-Lynwood Contact: Linda Buccini Anderson (253) 225-2483

Be sure to check with the event contact person to verify times and dates.



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