



# Northwest Italian News

PUBLISHED BY ORDER SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF ITALY IN AMERICA\* — GRAND LODGE OF THE NORTHWEST

USPS 397-200, VOLUME XLIV, NO.2, February, 2024

## From the Office of State President Linda Buccini Anderson

### Coming Events!

Saturday, February, 10, 2024  
Grand Lodge Crab Dinner  
Holy Family Church, Auburn  
Contact: Debbie Sonstelie  
Sonstelie4@hotmail.com

Saturday, February 17, 2024  
Amerigo Vespucci Lodge #1814  
Valentine Day Spaghetti Dinner  
Contact: Joe "Chiacchieri" Chicano  
360-581-1072  
cjchicano@comcast.com

Sunday, March 10th, 2024  
Seattle Fedele Lodge #1390  
Wine Tasting Event  
Our Lady of Mt Virgin Church  
Contact: Laura Salle  
lsalle@comcast.net

Saturday, March 16, 2024  
Cle Elum Lodge #1968  
Spaghetti Dinner/Raffle/Auction  
Centennial Center (same as last 2 years)  
Ticket price: \$20  
Contact: Kathi Butorac 360-280-4206  
kbutorac1\_elma@hotmail.com

Saturday, April 6 \*Updated\*  
Tacoma Lodge Presents:  
"TEXAS HOLD 'EM POKER  
TOURNAMENT"  
Slavonian Hall 2306 N 30th St, Tacoma,  
WA 98403  
Contact: David Madrid  
Cell: 253-961-6526  
Email: dsjrmadrid@gmail.com

Saturday, April 20  
Bellevue Lodge Wine Tasting  
6:30-8:30pm  
Unity of Bellevue Church  
Tickets - Linda Jacobin lindalkitten@  
gmail.com

Events continued on back...



February brings two major events. Happy Valentine's Day AND Happy Sons and Daughters of Italy Election Month. They both should be exciting and fun opportunities to show how much you care. One for that special someone, the other for how much the lodge means to you by volunteering to be a lodge officer. Remember, you are not alone when you take on a lodge board position. Current lodge officers are there to help you in the transition to taking on the lodge position. The key to helping

members see the benefits of wanting to become a lodge officer is they know there is someone there to help and guide them, "A mentor." That is your outgoing officer's as well as others who have been in those positions, responsibility.

I hope everyone has had a chance to get a ticket to the Grand Lodge Crab Dinner, on Saturday, Feb. 10. If not, please connect with Debbie Sonstelie (253) 797-9515 Sonstelie4@hotmail.com and see if there is room. I want to thank all the lodges for donating a raffle prize for this event as well as individuals. Remember, the funds earned from helping the Grand Lodge are actually helping the lodges themselves.

The Grand Lodge Scholarship application details are now in this NWIN as well as on our website [www.glnw.org](http://www.glnw.org). Grand Lodge Vice President, Lenny Folino is chair. Any Questions: (206) 696-5800 [lennyfolino@yahoo.com](mailto:lennyfolino@yahoo.com).

The iMembersDb database program is getting traction within all the lodges with the lodge officers. Training has been provided, recordings of that training are available, and more training will be forthcoming. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns. This data program has been given to the Grand Lodge and to all lodges at no cost to us. Like anything new, there will be struggles. However, I really believe it will be an easier, more useful resource for all our lodges. The basic program being focused upon is ensuring our membership rosters are accurate. Once that is in place, there are many other opportunities to benefit from this data program. However, that is up to each lodge. How much they want to utilize the programs, other than for basic roster management is each lodge's choice. We urge you to use the entire program as it will help you...this is the National Lodge helping us!

The Dorothy & Mario Santelli Ambassador Award will be given out this summer. It is named after them because of who they were & what they did for our Grand Lodge. The recipient(s) is an individual or individuals that have positively represented the Sons and Daughters of Italy beyond their own lodge. This award is given in the off years of the Grand Lodge convention. Our first recipient was Past Grand Lodge President Diane Scillo. We will have a picnic fundraiser this summer for this event and present the award to this year's recipient(s). Funds raised will help support the Scholarship and Charities programs. The inaugural event in 2022 time was lots of fun. More information will be provided later.

The upcoming Grand Council, on April 27, 2024, will be held at the Embassy Suites in Lynwood. Lodge Presidents, Deputies, and Grand Lodge officers will be attending. Remember, any member is welcome to attend. More details will be in the March 2024 NWIN.

In the last few months, we have lost many long-time members. This is so heartbreaking. They were staunch supporters and several founders of their lodges. We all feel the loss. Being a member was an important part of their lives. In their memory, I ask that you be an active and staunch supporter of the Sons and Daughters of Italy within your lodge and Grand Lodge to honor these members.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Buccini Anderson, 253-225-2483, [linda@glnw.org](mailto:linda@glnw.org)

# Is Your VISION To Own A Home In Italy?



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- ITALIAN RESIDENT & EXPAT COACH
- FOUNDER OF "ALL ROADS LEAD TO ITALY"



**Anthony Venturi**

- REAL ESTATE MANAGING BROKER
- GENERAL CONTRACTOR
- FOUNDER OF "VISION ACCOMPLISHED"



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(253) 303-9039

## American-Italian Club

#2172 Spokane WA

Ciao amici, Spokane is in the process of thawing out from negative double digits. We are currently at a "balmy" 29 degrees with freezing rain in the forecast. Father Frost has arrived. Given severe weather alerts our members bundled up and bravely gathered for a very busy and productive January meeting. We started off the New Year with our "Family History Program". Tina Santorsola provided us with a detailed and descriptive map of Italy, which will enable members to "pinpoint" and designate their family



roots. Carr Mancini, our Vice President, was our first presenter sharing with us his Calabrian family history. His Grandparents were from Malito and Grimaldi Italy, before meeting in the United States in the 1920's. Carr told us that Mancini is a common name in that region of Italy. Interestingly, after reading a post on our club's Facebook page about our January meeting, Carr received a message about a possible Familia connection.....to be continued.



Also, on the agenda was the Nomination of Officers. Candidates were nominated for Board positions for the new two-year term. Elections will be held at our February 7th meeting, with the Installation of Officers at our March 13th meeting. Club member, Susie Prusch, demonstrated another recipe for us. This one was a quick



and simple grape dessert. Lucky for us she made enough for sharing at our Potluck dinner. Our Social Night for January 17th, at Spencer's for Steaks & Chops, in downtown Spokane was canceled due to extreme weather conditions snow, snow, snow. We will reschedule when the weather permits. Our next meeting will be on February 14th. Wishing you all a Happy Valentine's Day. L'amore vince sempre. Love conquers all. Respectfully submitted, Linda Marcus, Recording Secretary #2172 linda-amarcus@hotmail.com

## Amerigo Vespucci

#1814 Aberdeen, WA

Buon Festa di San Valentino to all Son and Daughters of Italy from the members of the Amerigo Vespucci Lodge. Hopefully the groundhog won't see his shadow this year and we'll have an early Spring. Aberdeen SDOI Lodge #1814 held it's January meeting on January 18, 2024, at ST Mary's Parish Hall. A big "Thank you!" to all the members who provided delicious food for the Potluck dinner!

The drawing for a \$25 Safeway gift card for members who paid their dues by December 31, 2023, took place at the meeting, "And the winner is," Dennis Rogers!! Congratulations!

Final arrangements for the Valentine's Day Spaghetti and Meatballs Dinner, on February 17, 2024, at St. Mary's Parish Hall were presented by chairperson, Mary Jane Rogers. To go meals will be available for pick up from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Doors will open for seating at 5 p.m. and the Valentine Dinner start serving at 5:30 p.m. Contact Mark Percini if you would like tickets to the purchase dinner tickets at (360) 532-1983. There will be raffle items as well as the Wheelbarrow raffle. Tickets for the wheelbarrow are \$5.00, or 6 for \$20.00. All other raffle items are \$1.00, or 6 for \$5.00. There will also be a yummy array of bake sale items available at the dinner.

President Joe Chicano reminded members about the GLNW Crab Dinner in Auburn on February 10, 2024. Members will carpool to the event. Amerigo Vespucci Lodge will donate a basket for the raffle.

New officer nominations were presented for election in February by Mary Jane Rogers, Nominated are: President- Joe Chicano, Vice President- David Aldrich, Past President- Richard Luzzi, Orator\ Chaplain- Judith Braddon, Financial Secretary- Kristine Finazzo, Treasurer- Patty Percini, Recording Secretary- Connie Chicano, Trustees: Eva To, Sylvia Percini, Mark Percini, Joe Cornell, and Kameron Covall, Master and Mistress of Ceremony-Ron and Kerin Covall, Sentinel- Ted Daniels, Member Ambassador- Mary Jane Rogers, and Deputy- Sophia Risorto.

Judith Braddon will email Valentine Dinner flyers and scholarship application to Amerigo Vespucci members. Scholarship applications are due by May 1, 2024.

Don't forget to pay your dues! Kristine Finazzo, Financial Secretary, sent out reminders to those who hadn't paid yet. Aberdeen SDOI next meeting will be Thursday, February 15, 2024, at St, Mary's Parish Hall. Social time begins at 5:30 p.m. with appetizers. Meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. as members will be working on Valentine Dinner preparations Friday and Saturday. Hope you have a fun filled February and will join us for our Valentine Dinner.

Judith Braddon, reporter.

## Auburn

#1955 Auburn, WA

Auburn Lodge began our January meeting by celebrating the memory of 3 recently departed members. Theresa Payne (member since 1955 and past President of Auburn Lodge), Joe Ficele, and Janis Perry were honored with a moment of silence and will be dearly missed. We then turned toward the future, inducting a new member Ella Podeszwa, 17. Ella joins her parents, Melissa and Ty Podeszwa, at the Auburn Lodge. Ella's induction prompted discussion about the



Melissa, Ella, and Ty Podeszwa

Auburn scholarship fund. The fund was started in 1995 under President Salvatore Cascone, and through the hard work of past members, David Muir and Ronnie Beyersdorf have helped so many

further their education. Member Tony Roletto pledged to both cover Ella's dues and donate to the scholarship fund. Member Yolanda Trout likewise donated to the scholarship fund.

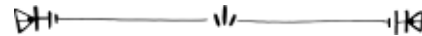
President John Partridge discussed the need to replace our chest freezer, which had recently bit the dust. What followed was an outpouring of support for our beloved kitchen crew, and within minutes, a total of \$1,050 was collected. This is easy enough for a new replacement. Huge thanks to those who donated: Angela and Richard Artura, Dot and Dan Chicketti, Linda Jacobin, Shirley and John Partridge, Melissa and Ty Podeszwa, Tony Roletto, and Natale Stella.

Rosetta Beyersdorf presented a special recognition to Angela and Richard Artura for contributing the amazing decorations for Auburn Lodge's 75th Anniversary Gala. Their handmade table decorations, balloon arches, and flower arrangements gave the event a touch of beauty and class befitting the occasion, and we are grateful for their contributions.



Rosetta Beyersdorf presenting Angela and Richard Artura with their service award

Upcoming events: Our next meeting will be on February 8th, as we return to the usual "second Thursday" schedule. Elections will be held at this meeting. Auburn will also be hosting the Grand Lodge Crab Dinner on February 10th. In closing, I was overwhelmed by the generosity, love, and sense of family that filled the hall that night. It. Was. Awesome. This is exactly what Our Beloved Order is about. We were a community caring for each other, celebrating the past, and welcoming the future. Thank all of you for making this community such a special and wonderful celebration of our shared culture. Sincerely,  
Francesco Ortenzo, Immediate Past President



### Bella Vita

#2285, Olympia, WA

Buon Anno alla Bella Vita! Happy New Year to Bella Vita! We had a great New Year Lodge Meeting this January! It was wonderful to see everyone after our Christmas Holidays! We also had the pleasure of meeting our visitors from Tacoma, guests Bob and Charlotte D'Onofrio. Their goal is to visit every Lodge in the Northwest! We hope they come back and share their lodge travel stories. Thanks to Dianne Stefanini and Amber Dahl for baking our main meals of Ham and Meatballs! UPDATE regarding our Dinners: We have decided to no longer request a main course for our meetings, instead everyone is to bring a side dish or dessert they would like to share! Congratulations

### 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

**Judy Anselmo, President**

509-496-0031 [judyVandyke@hotmail.com](mailto:judyVandyke@hotmail.com)

**Linda Marcus, Recording Secretary**

509-891-0916 [linda-amarcus@hotmail.com](mailto:linda-amarcus@hotmail.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](mailto:cjchicano@comcast.com)

### AUBURN LODGE NO. 1955 Auburn, WA

[www.auburnsonsofitaly.org](http://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](mailto:jpartridge427@gmail.com)

253-350-4922



to those who received their Merit Award: Aaron Smith, Amber Dahl, George Stefanini, and Mathew Williams! Thanks to all of you! You deserve this award as you have been helpful in keeping our lodge lively and on track! Prayers and Healing thoughts are sent to Pam Daudet who underwent surgery in December and is now at home recuperating. She is doing well, keeping strong, and hopes to return to our lodge very soon. Jim Vettori is feeling stronger but wishes he had more energy and stamina so he could get rid of his cane. We wish him more strength this year. Mathew Williams



continues to rehab following knee surgery. Soon he will begin his travels. Also well wishes to

Tony Anderson as he continues to heal his back. Tony and Linda are traveling this month to Florida, then a cruise in the Caribbean ending in South Carolina to visit family. We wish them safe travels. Vera Kay is visiting her daughter in Arizona from December until... either Spring arrives in the Northwest or Arizona gets too hot! She has no set return date and is doing exactly what she intended to do: relaxing in the warm sun and enjoying her daughter's company! Grand Lodge Crab Dinner is on February 10 at Holy Family Church in Auburn. Please join this event and support our Grand Lodge! The cost is \$60. Contact Debbie Sonstlele to purchase tickets: [sonstlele4@hotmail.com](mailto:sonstlele4@hotmail.com)

After much discussion amongst our members, Bella Vita has come up with the 2024-2026 Nomination of officers: President: Aaron Smith, Vice President: Shirley Garrison, Secretary: Amber Dahl, Financial, Secretary: Mathew Williams, Treasurer: Dianne Stefanini, Trustees: Ludi Cristofaro, George Stefanini, Pam Daudet, Donna Cristofaro, and Maria Marabella, Sergeant of Arms: Jim Vettori and Gary Haney Great to see excited members volunteering their time and love to Bella Vita! We appreciate your service to our Lodge! Next month we will have our "official" elections then these fine Bella Vita members will bring some new excitement to Bella Vita! Wishing everyone a Safe, Healthy, and Happy 2024! Buon Anno!



## Bellevue

#2377, Bellevue, WA

Hello Friends, On January 4th the Bellevue Lodge observed our tradition of starting the New Year with lentil soup. The lentils represent coins for prosperity, but the soup is so much more. It's the perfect meal to warm you up on a cold, dark, rainy, Pacific Northwest winter's night. Along with the soup we had salad made by Mary DeMatteo Sangalang and Michele Guerrini, and Laura Cosacchi brought the croissants. Linda Jacobin brought three types of cookies: chocolate chip, oatmeal, and peanut butter. Wine was provided by Linda Caputo and Pete Edgar and appetizers were brought by Greg Osgood. It was all very delicious and after dinner, we received a visit from La Befana.

A lot of people must have been enticed by the dinner to come to our Lodge meeting because 25 people attended including several new people and two people who decided to join our Lodge: Brandee Le Barbara and Vito Romano. The Lodge voted to accept them as members and will initiate them at a later date. In Lodge news, our Lodge Christmas Party had a final count of 40 people including two children: 2 ½ years old and 7 months old. The Lodge lost a bit of money

### 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

**Sophia Risorto, President**  
760-333-7964 [bellavitalodge@gmail.com](mailto:bellavitalodge@gmail.com)

**Vera DiGiulio Kay, Vice President**  
(360) 581-9856

**Shirley Delauranti Garrison,**  
**Recording Secretary**  
253-677-8420 [shirleygarrison46@gmail.com](mailto:shirleygarrison46@gmail.com)

### 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

**Mary DeMatteo Sangalang, President**  
(425) 649-2250 / [collectingroots@msn.com](mailto:collectingroots@msn.com)

**Michele Guerrini, Recording Sec.**  
(425) 746-2487 / [guerrini@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:jmalvesticole@gmail.com)

at the party, but everyone had a great time. Hopefully next year we can plan a little better. We're planning on having our annual Lodge wine tasting in the Spring. We're still trying to finalize a date and should have that finalized soon. It's always a really fun event so I'm looking forward to it. The Lodge voted to continue our Meetup subscription for another six months because it seems to be a good way for people to find out about our club. We have sent out applications and instructions to our members for our Lodge Scholarship. There is one \$1000 scholarship available for eligible applicants: children and grandchildren of members who will be attending college or vocational school. The applications need to be sent in no later than February 29th, 2020, and one scholarship for \$1000 will be awarded in May 2024. In sunshine news, Mary May's son Kenneth Paul Myers passed away unexpectedly on November 30th in Rancho Bernardo California. He was 69 years old, a former Marine Colonel, a marathon runner, and by all accounts in good health. Our deepest sympathies go out to Mary and her family. On top of all that, Mary was trying to hang some Christmas decorations and fell and broke her leg. We wish Mary a speedy recovery. Nick Wheeler was ill and was not able to attend our Christmas party. Get well soon Nick, we hope to see you at the next Lodge meeting. Michele Guerrini had COVID last month which caused her to miss our Christmas party, but was able to attend our meeting, and we were glad to have her back. Linda Jacobin found out recently that she will need to have knee replacement surgery. Linda, we all hope that everything goes well for you. Ron Sangalang's car caught on fire in early December and was severely damaged, but fortunately, Ron was able to get a new car the day after Christmas. The car dealer even put a big bow on the car. Sometimes the best Christmas presents come a bit late. And finally, both Anna Montalvo and Tessa Floreano from our Lodge won in the Grand Lodge Calendar Raffle, so congratulations to them. Our next Lodge meeting will be February 1st 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

  
**Black Diamond**

#1809, Black Diamond, WA

The dangerous icy conditions of Black Diamond in the Cascade Foothills encouraged us to conduct our January meeting via Zoom. It was comforting to know that our members were secure and safe from commuting long distances to our nucleus Black Diamond. The Nomination Committee has received at least one nominee for each of the offices that we will be electing and installing at our March meeting. Additional nominations will be accepted during the election process. The dues (\$40 per year) received to date are sincerely appreciated; we remind you that dues must be paid before voting in March.

My heartfelt appreciation to the 30+ families and members who have enriched our Black Diamond articles with their family stories. I am the wife of first-generation Italian American Michele Vito Francesco Palazzo. Several National and local OSDIA friends have asked when we will relate our story in our Lodge article. Thus, this month I would like to introduce you to my story, "Becoming an American ITALIAN!"

The year 2024 marks the 60th year since the United States Department of Agriculture selected me to represent the United States of America in a program that originated in 1948 to connect multicultural populations for the distinct purpose of avoiding a third world war. My 14 years as a 4-H member, including two years in the WSU Crimson Clover 4-H Club, and my extensive leadership in many organizations qualified me to be selected as a Cultural Ambassador to share and learn protocols with another nation. I was confident that my one semester of German at WSU would influence my country assignment. Well, Italy is physically located near Germany!

I was privileged to travel from New York to LeHavre,

**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 / [habpal@hotmail.com](mailto:habpal@hotmail.com)

**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/

[mbuttonac\\_cabin@hotmail.com](mailto:mbuttonac_cabin@hotmail.com)

Mailing Address: PO Box 361

South Cle Elum, WA 98943-0361

**MILLE CUGINI LODGE NO. 2659**

**Marysville, WA**

**MARYSVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM**

6805 Armar Rd, Marysville, WA

**Patrick Jacoby, President**

(425) 478-0757 [patrick@glmw.org](mailto:patrick@glmw.org)

**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

France, on the U.S. Rotterdam; however, I was ghastly seasick the entire seven days! Nonetheless, the weight loss was delightfully recovered during the luxurious business luncheons with province officials and delicious home-cooked meals prepared by my 12 host families. Before departure, I was oriented in Washington, DC, to always maintain professional comportment and to be prepared to share agricultural information about Washington State, such as bushels of wheat harvested per acre. During my first meeting with province officials (ten men and one woman), at a formal six-course luncheon in a luxurious Modena restaurant, my first question was, "Do you like Italian men?"

In the four-month preparation period after receiving my destination country, I learned several Italian words (but no verbs to connect them), how to count to 20, and the translation of "Yes" (Si) and "No" (No). With caution to maintain the professionalism of a Cultural Ambassador and not to offend my hosts, I responded, "Si." The second question was, "Would you like to marry one?" In response to my overt embarrassment, the entire table roared in laughter . . . and, thus, the tremendous Italian sense of humor (always pointed at self, not others) began my seduction by Italy, as quoted from the book jacket of Dianne Hales's "La Passione".

Attending Catholic services with the families imparted the spiritual birthrights of the Italians and influenced my conversion to Catholicism four years after my return to the States. My life in Italy was immersed in families that accepted me as their offspring, many of whom traveled to visit me at subsequent locations. I was honored to learn about the varied traditions, foods, agriculture, and architecture throughout 10 of the 20 Italian regions. I was not able to learn the dialects between towns, but my fluency in standard Italian (originating from the dialect of Florence) progressed adequately to converse and share our love of humor.

As I shared presentations throughout Washington State upon my return home, it was my sincere goal to reciprocate the respect, love, and appreciation given to me as a U.S. Cultural Ambassador to Italy. I still have contact with province officials and my host families. I



have made more than 14 returns to the land of innumerable historical proportions and the families who continue to share their unconditional familial love with me. Please anticipate the culmination of how I became an American ITALIAN when I incorporated my husband Michele into the March article.

Dr. Marlene M. Palazzo, Immediate Past President  
Former GLNW National Trustee

### *Cataldo*

#2280, Bremerton, WA

Good morning to everyone. We hope that all is well and everyone is staying warm and cozy. welcome to members, friends, families, and guests.

Our dinner was served by Bill and Jackie for a meal of macaroni and cheese with tomatoes. Others brought sides to complement our dinner. Dues are still \$40.00 per member. Payment can be made at the meeting or through the mail sent to the P.O. box address which is VFW Post #239, 190 Dora Street, Bremerton, WA 98312. This month we have officer nominations and the lodge would appreciate the participation. Every office is available!!! We are in the process of electing our new officers for the coming year and it appears that most positions will be running for a second term. Five guests which included 2 couples and one lady from Facebook. The one couple was from Gig Harbor who was Marie's grammar school friend. I submitted an application, for Diane Mahony. She will be installed in February! It is great to see new members and we look forward to meeting you It was also great to see Linda and Tony Anderson as well. Jackie and Bill will be in Port Angeles this Sunday. 1/21/2024 depending on the weather. Birthday wishes to Frank Lara, Gina Natucci, Gabe Herndon, and Tommy Thompson for January. Also, February birthdays include Carolyn Crabtree, Steven Haberstock, Antonia Lebeda, Joseph Maggi, Matti Maggi, and Nick Wancowicz.

Sincerely Diane Clementi

#### **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](mailto: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

Laura Salle  
[Lsalle@comcast.net](mailto:Lsalle@comcast.net)  
206-371-1662

#### **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](mailto:motherlodge@yahoo.com)

## Cle Elum

#1968, Cle Elum, WA

Cle Elum Lodge will be holding our meeting on Sunday, January 21st at 5 pm, a week later than usual, due to inclement weather and difficult driving conditions.

In March we will hold our Annual Spaghetti Dinner and Scholarship Auction. The date is Saturday the 16th from 4 pm to 7 pm at the Upper Kittitas County Senior Center/Centennial Center at 719 E. 3rd St., in Cle Elum. This event supports scholastic and vocational scholarship opportunities for graduating students in Upper Kittitas County.

Also, coming up in August, the Lodge will again co-host with the Roslyn, Ronald, and Cle Elum Heritage Club a Bocce Tournament in Upper Kittitas County.

Watch this space for date and location.

Being January, dues of \$40 are due, and weather-wise, snow has arrived in the Cascades. Drive safe and take your time! Respectfully submitted,  
Rich Grillo, grillogo1@msn.com



## Mille Cugini

#2659, Marysville, WA

Hello to everyone from Mille Cugini Lodge in Marysville. We hope your new year is off to a good start.

Sunshine notes have been sent to several members.

We're hoping for much healing for all those who are dealing with sickness and injuries, both emotional and physical.

Despite illnesses, icy roads, and snow for some, we still had a productive meeting with only five members. Blanca Moreno was our guest. We paid tribute to our founding President, Louise Branch who passed away in November.

Everyone enjoyed a nice meatball dinner cooked by our President Patrick Jacoby. Robert Jacoby presented the idea of a possible new fundraiser that could take place at a Silvertips game sometime in the future.

We've been invited back to Sorticulture, Everett's Garden Arts Festival in early June. We plan to vote on participating in it at our next meeting, which is Thursday, February 8th.

More information will be shared in future newsletters as we learn more. A basket for the Grand Lodge Crab Dinner raffle is forming. See "Coming Events" on the front page for ticket information. Maybe a carpool could be formed like we did last year! Except for our treasurer, our slate of officers remains the same with all positions open to qualifying members. Please consider nominating yourself or someone you know for any position. Voting will happen at the February meeting. New people with new skills are always welcome. Come and be our guest. We love to see new faces as we enter the new year. May your life reflect the season of love that we are in. Respectfully Submitted  
Mille Cugini Reporter Paula (Dellino) Jacoby



## Olympic Peninsula

#2733, Port Angeles, WA

Hello from the beautiful Olympic Peninsula. We send warm greetings to everyone for a wonderful and joyous 2024. Our first meeting of the year treated us to another feast for the eyes and belly. Such great Italian dish offerings. And the many beautiful desserts topped



off a splendid meal. We are so grateful to our members for bringing these cultural offerings. It is a great opportunity to expand our individual Italian food experience. We enjoy celebrating birthdays each month, and for January, our Vice President, Luigi Nicoloso (pictured) was the sole honoree. We wish Luigi a healthy and prosperous coming year. Before satisfying our taste buds, we did get to work first with a meeting

and discussion of events for 2024. We look forward to Spring not just for warm weather, but we are excited to try out our new bocce ball initiative. We will be playing at the Sequim city park, and are encouraging our members to attend and invite a friend or two. Hopefully, we will be able to build an ongoing event for our

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Social/Dinner 5:30 pm

Meeting follows at 7:00 pm

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### VANCOUVER LODGE NO. 2690 Vancouver, WA

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### YAKIMA LODGE NO. 2732 Yakima, WA

Meets the  
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of each month at 5:30 PM

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Lodge. Another new event coming in March, member Peni Cenedella will host an afternoon of Italian card games at her house. This will be an opportunity for our members to get together outside of monthly meetings while learning card games and having great fellowship. Thanks, Peni, for your hospitality. We look forward to other Lodge events on the horizon and you can be sure more details will be coming on those. We did miss a few of our members who couldn't make the meeting due to colder weather, but hopefully, we will see them back in February. It was a nice surprise to have long-time member and Trustee Ray Barbieri attend. On a personal note, I want to thank Paula Muggia for taking pen in hand and submitting our Lodge article for the January issue of the Northwest Italian News for me while we were in Italy (it was a fabulous trip)... if you missed Paula's article, go dig up your Jan newsletter and read it. She did a great job!! And a special thanks to Judy D'Amico for filling in on Secretary duties for me for 2 months. She just slipped back into that role she held for so many years. Ok well that's all the news from here at Lodge 2733, so we leave you with this-remember Life is Beautiful.Ciao for now! Yvonne Schipani, Recording Secretary



### Seattle Fedele

#1390, Seattle, WA

Hello all! I am typing the article again, and Chris has sent me the information for what to tell you, so we are "together" writing this article. During our last meeting, we had a beautiful celebration for our beloved member, Joe Salle. We wish to thank Bonnie Birch, on her accordion, and her friend, Geoff (sorry I have



forgotten his last name), on the mandolin, playing beautiful music to set the mood and strengthen our emotions. The cooks, for their way of honoring him, made the winter vegetable medley that he (and Ken



Volpone) had discussed having at this meeting, and it was delicious! We need to have that again at another meeting. During the meeting, we held the SDOI Memorial Ceremony for Joe. It left us with the thought "that we need to just get along". We held the installation of five new members - all women – good thing it is now Sons/Daughters of Italian Americans - ..... a couple of them have already been helping at the meeting by selling raffle tickets and bringing great cookies for dessert. Calling all homemade wine makers!!!! On Sunday, March 10th (correction from last month's article) at Our Lady of Mount Virgin Hall, Noon to 4:00 pm or so(?). The judging will be at 3:30 pm. Tickets are \$25.00 at the door. \$15.00 with a 1-gallon homemade wine entry. Come all and have a great afternoon. Dues need to be paid by or at the February 15th meeting to have your vote counted or run for office (hint, hint). You can mail your check, made out to Seattle Fedele Lodge #1390, c/o Christina Gerling, 5608 - 238th St. S.W., Mountlake Terrace, WA, 98043. The February Meeting is on February 15th at Our Lady of Mount Virgin Hall. We will be voting for officers. We would like to see everyone at the meeting. All offices are open. If you want to jump in, we need you. Our Annual Banquet is at the end of April, on the 27th, at Kennedy High School, so please save the date! More information regarding purchasing tickets will be out shortly. Ciao for now! The Crazy Sorrelle Elaine Volpone and Christina Volpone Gerling



### Tacoma

#1175, Tacoma, WA

Hello from the Mother Lodge of the Northwest. We have got through the first few storms so far, and we are

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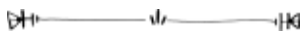
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holding on knowing that all storms in weather and life come to a sunny end. We had a fairly somber meeting last month but we were able to get some unfinished business taken care of including initiating two new members and welcoming Michael Marcelli and Sheli Foster. We would like to give a BIG Thank YOU to Thomas Huff and Tony Camoroda, for giving up two Saturdays in a row, to build our new cabinets and install electronic locks. GREAT JOB GUYS.

We are really gearing up for our First Texas Holdem Tournament on April 6. We have hired a professional poker tournament company, complete with dealers, tables, and all the necessary equipment to hold a first-class poker tournament. For an entry fee of \$75 dollars, you get Five Thousand Tournament (T) dollars in chips, plus food, two drinks, and a chance at the many CASH prizes including a \$1500 CASH prize. More information will be coming soon feel free to contact David Madrid at 253-961-6526.

Respectfully submitted by President David Madrid



### *Tre Città*

#2881, Tri-Cities, WA

Our Lodge held our first meeting of this year on January 2nd at Bella Italia restaurant in Kennewick. We had a total of eighteen members and visitors in attendance. Our membership ended this past year with fifty-three members. We discussed the general results of our Annual Pasta Dinner and Basket Raffle at this meeting. This important fundraising event for our lodge was held at the Richland Community Center on Saturday, Oct. 14, 2023. We had just over one hundred guests and it was an immense success! We had twelve beautiful baskets for the raffle and added one more raffle item donated by our Grand Lodge President, Linda Buccini Anderson. Table service was provided by students and able servers from Tri-City Prep Catholic High School, and we were entertained with live background music provided by Lori Taylor. Our net profit for this event this past year was \$3345 which will support our three \$1,000 scholarships that we plan to award in the coming year.

At the end of our meeting, we had our monthly raffle, as we usually do, for items of various kinds donated by lodge members. With the generosity of members,

we were able to raise \$123 from the raffle. Our charity fund has continued to grow, and we agreed to donate to another worthy local cause. We are looking for a new donation to a local cause in our upcoming meeting. Our next social event will be a visit to a local Italian bakery, Layered Cake Artistry, which will be held at 10:30 am on Saturday, Feb. 10th. This bakery, which is located at 117 W Kennewick Ave in Kennewick, is owned by the daughters of one of the members, Maria Gulluni. They have pastries, bread, focaccia, etc. that are amazing!!! Please RSVP to Jackie Valentino if you plan to attend to jacklrv@hotmail.com.

We continue to be delighted that our members and the public can follow us on Facebook for some wonderful content on Italian food, culture, people, travel destinations, holidays, and other topics on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/OSDIAtrecitta>. We schedule our monthly meetings for the first Tuesday of each month. Our next regular monthly meeting will not be held until next year on Tuesday, Feb. 7th, 2024, at the Bella Italia restaurant located at 7000 W. Okanogan Place in Kennewick, WA. If you ever find yourselves in the Tri-Cities at that time of the month, please come and join us. We would love to have you. Ciao for Now...

Marcel P. Bergeron, President, Tre Citta Lodge 2881



### *Vancouver USA*

#2690, Vancouver, WA

COME JOIN A PRE SUPER BOWL PARTY at our meeting on Thursday, February 8th beginning at 6:30 PM. This will be a potluck of appetizers and/or finger foods. So be sure to bring your favorite item to share with the group. Fun activities to follow our regular meeting. No cost for dinner. RSVP to Louise Ramunno-Johnson at [alamunno@gmail.com](mailto:alamunno@gmail.com) or (360)281-0915. DUES DUES DUES for 2024 are "due" in January of each new year. Annual dues are \$38.00 per member. Please mail your check of \$38.00 payable to OSDIA to PO Box 823295, Vancouver WA 98682 or you can pay at the February meeting. WHITE ELEPHANT BINGO will be on Tuesday, February 6th at 7:00 PM at Barbara Blair's house. You can RSVP at (360)253-7984




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or blairbjb@comcast.net. She will be serving dessert only this evening. Please bring a white elephant prize in a paper bag and a \$1.00 to participate GAME NITE will be Saturday, February 17th at 7:00 PM at Bruce and Barbara Blair's home. RSVP at (360)253-7984 if you plan to attend. DINE OUT We will be dining this month at Gustav's, 1705 SE 164th Avenue, Vancouver 98683 (360)883-0222. The menu was updated by the new owner of Amaro's Table last October. Check their menu out at gustavsvancouver.com. We will meet at 6:00 PM on Wednesday, February 28th. RSVP to Barbara Blair at (360)253-7984 or blairbjb@comcast.net no later than Saturday, February 24th if you plan to attend. ITALIAN BOOK CLUB we finally met on January 22nd due to the ice and snow to discuss our January book selection. Our next selection is The Lady of Lake Como by author Terrence Williamson for our March meeting on Monday, March 18, 2024. We will gather 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. CLUB NEWS: The traveling bug has arrived for our members. Linda Gibson continues her travel adventures with "sock monkey" visiting the San Diego area. You can follow me on Facebook!! Vickie Marino will be in Australia and New Zealand during February and March. George and Donna LaFrazia will be catching the sun in Palm Springs. Kathryn Scarpelli Salverda and Nanette Scarpelli Walker will be cruising the Far East for several weeks visiting Thailand, Vietnam, Singapore, and Japan among other exciting ports. Buon compleanno to our February birthdays!! SUNSHINE COMMITTEE: Filomena Forsyth is back home recovering from pneumonia after a hospital stay. Linda Cherney continues to recover at home from knee replacement surgery. Please keep all our members in your thoughts and prayers as we move forward in 2024. Happy Valentine's Day  
Barbara Blair



### *Yakima*

#2732, Yakima, WA

Happy New Year Everyone. Mother Nature won this past Thursday when we were scheduled to meet- in

the name of Safety & Caution due to the snow, we postponed our dinner meeting until Feb 15th. We hope to see you there when we Celebrate the Holidays & each other. We need to spend a few minutes on business also. It's time for membership dues. And we would appreciate your input. Sarah will provide information on how our dues are distributed and what is needed to provide the needs of our lodge. Sending out Get Better Wishes to Janet Fanciullo & Jeanne Fasano. The month of December had a painful loss along with the fun of the holidays. As most know by now a loved former member and Lodge Financial Secretary, Joanne Wells passed away on December 18, and our beloved Joseph Ficele the day after on December 19th. Saint Patrick's Day will never be the same without celebrating his birthday. Our Newsletter went out that same day so contained only a brief amount of information on Joe. Joe was a humble leader with a wonderful sense of humor. His life held many challenges both to his late wife Pam's health and to his own. Yet he was an active member of the community. He was invaluable to the Yakima CYO baseball program, he led the push to build the hall at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church through the Holy Names Society by a Bingo program. It was done so well that the building was built on a cash basis with no loans needed. Joe was a numbers man, it is said that on Bingo nights he kept track in his head of the income so well that he could tell them within a few dollars of the till total. We saw that often in our lodge where he could add expected expenses and give us a breakdown in seconds. We will miss you, Joe, you were a remarkable man. Thank you Eleanor for years of devoted care of your brother and Kim for your help to your father. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Our next meeting will be a dinner on February 15 at 5:30 PM at Harman Center. That will be the day after Valentine's Day! Watch your email or if you do not do email check in with Ama or Robin for more information. We will have lasagne and cake provided by Eleanor. Thank you for your thoughtfulness, Eleanor. We



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are looking forward to seeing everyone. As usual, a raffle item is appreciated to help pay our room rent. Respectfully submitted, Jeanne Fasano's



**On Christmas Eve**, the Casa Italiana and the whole Italian community lost a dear beloved friend and brother, Joe Salle. He died unexpectedly early that morning. He hadn't been feeling well for about a week. After the shock, in the midst of family times and Christmas joy, we find ourselves with many mixed emotions. His family decided to continue with their gathering on Christmas Eve, for Joe would not have liked canceling the coming together of family! He was the ultimate family man, and the Casa family would not have been like we are today without Joe's passion about the Italian Community and the Casa Italiana. He had his own seat and table at the Casa. He would preside at the table with other regulars of what some of us would call "The Roman Forum" or the "Calabrese Connection". We would often see him greet



newcomers to the Casa and make them feel like they were home as soon as they stepped in the door. We shall miss his loud "Welcome!" He would ask them "Where are you from? What is your last name?" and "What would you like to see offered at the Casa?" He knew his Italian history of families in the Seattle area. In fact, he would find a connection in some way to everyone he would meet! We called him the Ambassador of the Casa. His passion was to see all Italian groups and clubs collaborate on events and projects. For the staff and volunteers, he was so caring, always asking how we were and if we were okay. He always jumped in if there was anything he could help us with. He would chop vegetables, score chestnuts, assemble cookie boxes and whatever he

was asked to do. He was also very generous. If we were trying to figure logistics out for an event, he would have an appliance, or whatever apparatus that would help our situation. He was such an amazing person and "Jack of all trades"! Our hearts are broken, but we are given the inspiration of Joe Salle to continue making our little corner of the world a better place, through hospitality, compassion and love for our Italian heritage. Ti amiamo e ci manchi, Giuseppe!  
Written by Lisa Ursino. Reprinted with Permission

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Linda@GLNW.org

Saturday, April 27  
Seattle Fedele Lodge #1390  
Annual Banquet  
Kennedy Catholic High School  
Contact: Laura Salle  
lsalle@comcast.net

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

Friday thru Sunday June 7-9th  
Sorticulture 2024  
Mille Cugini #2659  
Plant, Gift, Garden, and Food  
Booth  
Downtown Everett on Colby Ave  
between Everett & Pacific avenues  
Contact: Paula Jacoby  
olycot@gmail.com

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

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

**Travel Arrangments Made  
Possible By:**  
  
**GINA NATUCCI**  
**Tacoma, WA - Travel Agent**  
**A full-service Travel Leaders**  
**Associate Agency 253-205-6595**  
**ginanatucci@gmail.com**  
**ITALY**  
**DESTINATION SPECIALIST**

The 2024  
Grand Lodge of the NW Scholarship  
Application is available online at  
[www.GLNW.org](http://www.GLNW.org)  
  
Applications are due by  
April 15th, 2024

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Tony La Stella & Marzia Caputo, Hosts



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Created by David Madrid

