



Northwest Italian News

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

USPS 397-200, VOLUME XLIII, NO.9, November, 2023

Coming Events!

Saturday, November 11, 2023

Auburn Annual Veterans Day Parade- Free lunch for marchers at the Multipurpose Building in Les Gove Park after the parade. Please RSVP to Michael Sepal 253-863-5216 sepalmj@aol.com

Saturday, November 21, 2023

Dessert Raffle

We'll have a variety of desserts raffled off on 11/21/23 and delivered by 11/22/22 - just in time for Thanksgiving!

Tickets are: One (1) for \$5.00 or Five (5) for \$20 Cash and checks contact Janice Malvesti Cole, jmalvesticole@gmail.com or via vemno @ Janice-Cole_13 Paypal via paypal.me/jcole2006

Friday, December 8, 2023

Christmas Party, 6:30pm
Black Diamond Community Center

Join us for a fun, festive party with an ornament exchange, ugly sweater/holiday outfit contact and more.

Bring a wrapped ornament valued at \$5.00 or more

Sunday, December 10, 2023

Bellevue Lodge Christmas Party
Noon - 3:30

Optional Gift exchange

Cost and Menu TBD

Linda Jacobin to reserve

lindakitten@gmail.com

From the Office of State President Linda Buccini Anderson



Happy Thanksgiving to all. I hope you all survived all the

Halloween candy and events. It is great to see lodges get into the holiday spirit, i.e., Black Diamond Halloween costume party for their Oct. meeting. I am sure Tacoma will be bringing out its Turkey costume...Making a meeting fun and enjoyable is the primary way to build and retain your membership. It is nice to see that all lodges have

had increases in membership. I just returned from a quick trip to Italy & it was so special. I must say my husband Tony never ceases to amaze me. Grazie for the wonderful Birthday Gift. We also celebrated Rosetta's birthday...oh what a trip! The food, the art, the towns, and certainly the people. Many people are traveling to Europe as all the towns I visited were very crowded. Why not... Italy is a wonderful place to visit and learn about your family history and culture. Those are two reasons why many people join the Sons and Daughters of Italy. Consider adding ways to share Italian customs, culture, and stories in your meetings. Our Grand Council was just held on Oct. 21. Thank you to the lodge Presidents, Deputies, and Grand Lodge officers for taking the time to review business and information. It is also a wonderful way to connect with other lodge officers and build a connection. Sharing what is working and ideas is important. We are a family of fifteen lodges. Our lodges may be far away from each other but with the internet, zoom, and a carpool of people we can still be connected. I want to welcome newly elected Olympic Peninsula President Armando Muggia. I appreciate him stepping up when their lodge has had several leaders pass away. I know we all will be there for him and his lodge. That is one thing I really have appreciated is grand lodge officers and other lodge members stepping up to help when a lodge is in need. If you need any help or assistance. Please let us know, as working together is the way the Sons and Daughters of Italy should be noted. November is also the month that the nomination committee should be chosen, and they start putting together their proposed list of officers for elections in February 2024. Please consider being a part of your lodge's future by becoming an officer.

The Grand Lodge Crab dinner is on Feb. 10, 2024, at Holy Family Church in Auburn. Tickets are available via Debbie Sonsteli (253) 797-9515 Sonsteli4@hotmail.com. We are limiting the number of tickets sold so get your tickets early. Tickets will be \$60.00. As always, we plan a large raffle and would appreciate each lodge donating a basket, gift cards, items & individual donations are also very much appreciated.

Gobble, Gobble, Gobble - Have a wonderful Thanksgiving,

Linda Buccini Anderson
253-225-2483, or linda@glnw.org

Coming Events!

Saturday, February, 10, 2024

Grand Lodge Crab Dinner
Holy Family Church, Auburn
Contact: Debbie Sonsteli
Sonsteli4@hotmail.com
see ad below...

Saturday, February 17, 2024

Amerigo Vespucci Valentine Day Spaghetti Dinner
Contact: Joe "Chiacchieri" Chicano 360-581-1072
cjchicano@comcast.com

Saturday, April 27, 2024

Spring Grand Council, Embassy Suites-Lynnwood
Contact: Tony Anderson osdia1957@gmail.com

Sunday August 24, 2024, Noon - 4:30

Cataldo Lodge Annual Picnic, Elks Picnic Shelter
4131 Pine Road, Bremerton
Contact Bill Haberstock 360 373-4341

The 2024 Sons of Italy Foundation (SIF) Scholarship

The program will be launched in
December 2023.

More information will be
available here:

[https://osdia.org/
initiatives/scholarships/](https://osdia.org/initiatives/scholarships/)



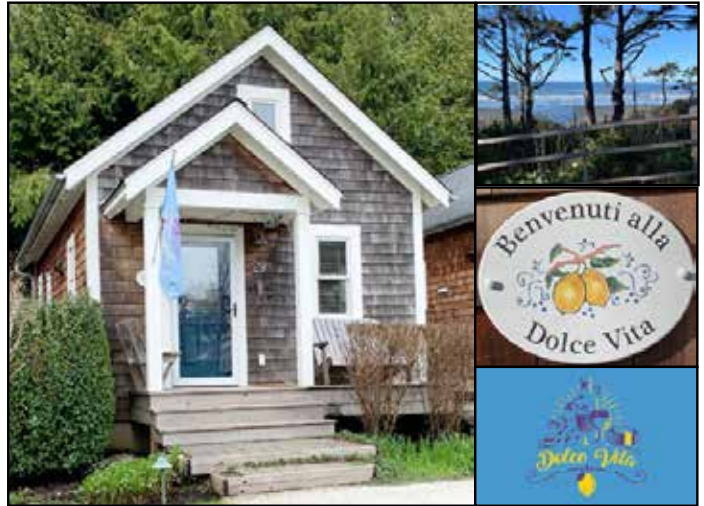
Christmas and the Holidays are upon us!
Prepare your Season's Greetings



Send your warm wishes and Yuletide blessings.
1/4 page ad is only \$35. and are due November 20th, 2023

Help with art is available, contact patrick@glnw.org

Visit Washington's premiere beach location in Seabrook!



Now is your chance to have an incredible experience in this quaint and unique village while staying at Dolce Vita! This lovely cottage is a perfect getaway! One bedroom with loft, fully equipped kitchen, walking distance to the beach and town!

Enjoy *Dolce Vita*, "Sweet Life"

For rental information contact:

Sophia Risorto 760-333-7964 or Sophia-pt@hotmail.com



Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America

*Grand Lodge of the
Northwest*

Annual Crab Dinner

Saturday, February 10, 2024

Holy Family Church - 505 17th St, Auburn, WA

\$60.00 per person

Doors open at 6pm - Dinner served at 7pm

Crab, Pasta, Salad, Dessert, Coffee, Bottled Water, Beer & Wine * Raffle Prizes Galore!!!



**Seating Limited to 250 People
Buy Your Tickets Early!**



THIS EVENT SELLS OUT EVERY YEAR - DON'T WAIT UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE.
Ticket sales will end February 1, 2024 or when sold out.



To-go pick-up sales are also available separately- also \$60 ea.

For Information and Ticket Sales - Contact:
Debbie Sonsteli (253) 797-9515 Sonsteli4@hotmail.com



Linda and friends in Italy



Happy Birthday Linda!

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



**American-Italian Club
 #2172 Spokane WA**



Susie and Robert Prusch got us "Plugged In" for our October meeting, while President Judy Anselmo, Bewitched us with her Twinkling smile, Me I just came to eat.

We are enjoying Fall here in the Inland Northwest. Leaves are carpeting the ground, and whiffs of smoke float through the air from outside fire pits. Everyone is enjoying Fall to her fullest. At our October General Meeting, members were frightfully greeted by some of us who let the spirit move us as we donned our Halloween finery. The meeting was brief; however, we accomplished a full agenda. We are very focused on fundraising and hope to do one fundraising event per quarter. To start us off we are holding an online See's Candy Fundraiser. It's very exciting and we are anxiously looking forward to reaching our goal. The event is open to the public and can be accessed by visiting our Facebook page, American Italian Club-Spokane, and Instagram social media accounts. The shop is now open closing on 12-1; shipping begins 12-10. Get your one-stop shopping done for those who are far and near and help us reach our goal!! We are also planning a Holiday silent auction with some Christmas decorations and tree ornaments for our December meeting. The Member Ambassador program, initiated by our Lodge President, Judy Anselmo, has been a huge success and has reached National recognition. Our State President, Linda B. Anderson, issued Member Ambassador pins from the National Grand Lodge for each ambassador to wear. Judy proudly presented the first Member Ambassador pins to Spokane Lodge, Member Ambassadors, Georgia Seeberger, and Donna Clark. (unfortunately, Donna was out of town and will receive her pin later). Congratulations to Georgia and Donna! Tina Santorsola has purchased a beautiful map of Italy for our Italian Heritage sharing program. We will use pins on the map to designate different areas and regions of Italy from which members share their family history. Members also enjoyed a fun-filled October Social Night at David's Pizza. A slice, a beer, and good friends made for a delightful evening. A good time was had by all. In closing, let us all give thanks for our blessings of love, family, and friends. And for our memories of the past and hope for the blessings of a peaceful future for all. Felice Ringraziamento! Happy Thanksgiving! Respectfully submitted.
 Linda Marcus, Recording Secretary #2172
 linda-amarcus@hotmail.com

**Amerigo Vespucci
#1814 Aberdeen, WA**

Amerigo Vespucci Lodge #1814 wishes all the Northwest Sons and Daughters of Italy a "Buon Giorno del Ringraziamento." Amerigo Vespucci Lodge's October meeting was held on Thursday, October



19, 2023. There was a social time at 5:30 p.m., followed by a Soup and salad potluck at 6:00 p.m. Members brought their favorite soup, salad, dessert, or appetizer, which were enjoyed by all! The Lodge meeting was held after the potluck. President, Joe Chicano announced that the Christmas Dinner Party date has been changed to Wednesday, December 13, 2023, at St. Mary's Parish Hall. A Silent Auction will be held as part of the event. The party will begin at 5:30 pm.

The February Valentine Spaghetti Dinner has also

changed from February 10th to February 17, 2024, due to The Grand Lodge Crab Feed also being scheduled for February 10, 2024. Members agreed to continue the options of take-out or seated dinners. Cameron Covall will provide music for the event.



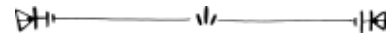
Gina Rector will oversee the Bake Sale. Mary Jane and Eva To will be heading the Spaghetti Dinner. Joe Cornell received a wheelbarrow donation from Aberdeen Dennis Co. for the Valentine Dinner raffle. Members are contributing items

to fill the wheelbarrow. Items can be brought to the November meeting. Amerigo Vespucci members approved purchasing two of the GLNW November Raffle Calendars. President Joe Chicano will attend the Grand Lodge Council Meeting in Lynnwood, WA, on October 21, 2023. Members approved donations to local charities Feed the Homeless, to which members Mark and Patti Percini also volunteer their time serving. Union Gospel Missions and

Helping Kids of Grays Harbor, which is run by member Joe Cornell. Congratulations to Past President Richard Luzzi, who won a fourth of a pig in the Bella Vita Lodge Pig Raffle.

Amerigo Vespucci Lodge welcomes home Sylvia Percini, Mary Jane, and Dennis Rogers from their trip to Northern Italy with NWSDOI members. Mary Jane and Dennis Rogers celebrated their 43rd Anniversary while in Italy! Amerigo Vespucci Lodge will hold its next meeting on Thursday, November 16th at St. Mary's Parish Hall. Until then, "Ciao."

Judith Braddon, reporter



**Auburn
#1955 Auburn, WA**

Auburn Lodge had a wonderful October meeting and inducted three new members! We also had an epic potluck dinner, happily accommodating our globetrotting kitchen crew. The Auburn Lodge proudly welcomes its freshly inducted members: Marcella Nasca, Brandy Ryals, and Ryan Ryals. Welcome to the family! Here's the latest scoop to keep you in the loop:



Please note that our next two meetings will be on Wednesdays (one day early) due to conflicts with the hall. Auburn's November meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 8th at Holy Family. As always, doors open at 6 pm, meeting at 7 pm, followed by dinner and the raffle. As is customary at our Thanksgiving meeting, please consider donating non-perishable food items or cash to the Auburn Food Bank.

Saturday, Nov 11th, the Auburn Lodge will march in the annual Auburn Veterans Day parade. Our own Michael Sepal has stepped up to organize us this year, and we thank him. Afterward, those who march will gather for warm drinks and a meal. Please come join us! We are sold out of tickets for the January Thunderbirds hockey

**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

Linda Marcus, Recording Secretary
509-891-0916 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

**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
253-804-8671

game. Thanks for your interest, and I'm sure we'll be doing more of this in the future! Thanks again to Joe Ripollone for putting this all together. Because all concerned in Auburn Lodge #1955 have been very good this year, Santa has agreed to come all the way down from the North Pole to make a special appearance at the December party...Ho, Ho, Ho!!! Remember, our December meeting/ Christmas party will be a day early on Wednesday, December 13th. We will also be collecting donations for the Auburn Food Bank in December. In closing, I wanted to wish all Auburn members the happiest Thanksgiving! Please celebrate with your loved ones and make fond memories. I, for one, am eager to see you all in person once again this month. I'm hopeful you can make it!

Sincerely,
 Francesco Ortenzo, Immediate Past President, Auburn #1955

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Bella Vita
#2285, Olympia, WA

Congratulations to our 4 Hog Winners: Richard Luzzi, Bill Haberstock, and Carol Letish with her Affinity friend, Katie Snodgrass. Bella Vita Thanks to each raffle participant for supporting this Lodge's financial needs.



Grazie to all who baked and attended the Pawchella Event. A special Thank you to Dianne Stefanini for encouraging Bella Vita to participate. We had a fun day, the weather was great, and several dogs, cats, and squirrels were baptized on this day! A true Blessing especially for the pet owners! Sending get-well wishes to Mathew Williams who underwent a

total knee replacement, surely he will be back hiking the trails very soon! We continue to extend Best Wishes to Tony Anderson who is healing following his back surgery. Here is an update on our Bella Vita travelers: Jim Vettori is traveling to Washington DC to receive recognition for his military service. He will be attending a reception at the White House. We are proud of Jim and looking forward to hearing about his adventure. Let's welcome back Linda Nielson as she traveled to Croatia and Germany this summer. She enjoyed Tango Events and relaxing with the locals by the Adriatic Sea!

Linda Anderson and MaryJane Rogers traveled to Italy this month, we look forward to hearing about their adventures. It was great to see Marina Foster visit us with her friend Naomi-Kate Lombardi. We hope they both can join us again.



At our November Meeting we are having our Pasta Dinner, Shirley Garrison and Maria Marabella volunteered to each make a pasta dish. Members, please add to this dinner with a salad or dessert. Thank you to Dianne Stefanini who baked chicken and 2 types of polenta at our October Meeting. Delicious and plenty for all! We also Thank Dianne and George Stefanini for setting up, cleaning, and closing the lodge. We continue to need volunteers to help with set up and clean up after each meeting as well as cooking. We also need someone to write our monthly newsletter for NWIN! Please contact President Sophia. Please consider sharing your "Cultural Notes" - "Notizia Culturale" during our meeting. It is a 5-minute share time as a member shares an Italian item, picture, story, trip, book- anything that has an Italian flair. Attenzione: Bill Haberstock from Cataldo Lodge will be joining Bella Vita at our December meeting. He will be selling his homemade cannoli. Further information will be shared soon! Keep dreaming about cannoli and how many you wish to buy for yourself, as a gift, for the holidays! You must preorder your cannoli! Looking forward to seeing all of you at our November meeting! A presto!

— ∞ —
Bellevue
#2377, Bellevue, WA

Hello Friends, on October 5th we celebrated the 47th anniversary of the Bellevue Lodge at our Lodge meeting, and we honored

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

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

Shirley Delauranti Garrison,
Recording Secretary
 253-677-8420 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

Michele Guerrini, Recording Sec.
 (425) 746-2487 / 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

founding members and past Presidents. Founding members Mary May, Louie DeLaurenti, and Gwen and Gary Galeotti attended. Louie DeLaurenti, Gwen, and Gary Galeotti are also past Presidents and other past Presidents in attendance were Greg Osgood and Mary DeMatteo Sangalang, who is also our current



President. Louie and Gary talked about the fond memories they had of their early years at the Bellevue Lodge. It was an honor and a pleasure to have them join us at the meeting. For dinner Michele Guerrini and Linda Caputo made spaghetti and meatballs and salad, and Linda Jacobin made whole wheat rolls and bread pudding for dessert. I can't tell you if the meal was as good as the meals they made back in the day, but I'm sure in the future we'll look back with fond memories of that meal.

In Lodge news, we voted to resurrect our Lodge Scholarship program with one \$1,000 scholarship available to eligible applicants. We will be sending out the application forms to Lodge members in the coming weeks.

Children and grandchildren of members are eligible. We had a discussion about whether or not the Lodge wants to continue using Meetup.com to help bring in new members. Previously, it didn't cost us anything to use Meetup, but to continue it will cost the Lodge \$242, so we discussed whether it's worth it to continue. The discussion was tabled to evaluate the pros and cons and explore other options. We also discussed the menu for our Lodge Christmas Party. We decided on Chicken Marsala, Penne Alfredo, and Ravioli. The party will be at Enzo's in Issaquah on December 10, from noon to 3:30 pm. The cost will be \$50 per person. If you would like to make reservations, send an e-mail to Linda Jacobin at lindakitten@gmail.com. In Sunshine News, Gary Galeotti and Louie DeLaurenti said that they recently visited Tony and Rose Petrarca and they are doing well. On Sept 30th Tessa

Floreano gave a talk at Casa Italiano about her new book *Italians in the Pacific Northwest*. It's an essential book for anyone who is interested in the history of Italians in America. Tessa is continuing to give talks around the Pacific Northwest. To find out more about the talks see her website (<https://www.tessaflloreano.com>). Laura Cosacchi's plan to live in Italy for a year has been derailed because her visa only allows her to stay in Italy for 3 months. So she is traveling to Africa for three months until she is eligible to return to Italy. You can read more about her adventures on her blog: <https://sunnywondermedia.com/author/laura>.

Our next Lodge meeting will be November 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



**Black Diamond
#1809, Black Diamond, WA**

We greet you with Una Buona Festa del Ringraziamento from the sixteen communities in which we reside to all our brothers and sisters throughout the greater Northwest region. We are grateful for our blessings and add our prayers for peaceful and constructive worldwide negotiations, as we welcome you to join our Thanksgiving festivities on Friday, November 10.

Our October meeting was highlighted with creative Halloween costumes and camaraderie that enhanced a delicious baked potato dinner by Harvey and Joan Woodruff. Ken and Barbara Murdock donated a handcrafted walnut charcuterie board etched with the Sons of Italy logo for our Festive Fall Dessert Fundraiser. During the upcoming GLNW Council meeting, President Janice will have tickets available for this beautiful piece, as well as the desserts. It is an honor to introduce the following story by Steve Toschi, a longstanding member whose father Evo and wife Shirley were prominent members of Black Diamond and instrumental fundraisers for the Grand Lodge of the Northwest, which included Shirley's donation of a classic Chevrolet sedan.

My grandfather, Ignazio Toschi, came to America from Italy in 1909 at 23 years old. He returned to Rovolo, Italy, and married my grandmother Oliva on September 6, 1913. They came back to

**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

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

South Cle Elum, WA 98943-0361

**MILLE CUGINI LODGE NO. 2659
Marysville, WA**

<https://www.glnw.org/page-17>

MARYSVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM
6805 Armar Rd, Marysville, WA 98270

Patrick Jacoby, President

(425) 478-0757

Rebecca Helling, Recording Secretary

(425) 422-7434 txt

Meets the 3rd **Wednesday** of each Month

6:30 Social, 7:00 Meeting

Potluck Dinner following meeting



America, settled in Black Diamond in 1913, and started the family. The first son Iro was born May 19, 1915, but unfortunately died on April 24, 1917. The next son Edo was born February 18, 1918, my dad Evo was born May 9, 1920, and the last son Hugo was born February 10, 1922. They had planned to stay here for five years and then go back to Italy. It was on their 50th wedding anniversary that my dad and uncles paid for their trip back to Rovolo. They stayed in Italy

for three months visiting with relatives and friends. They still owned a house in Rovolo that the relatives had kept up over the years. If you only had one house, there would be no taxes. When my dad went to Rovolo in 1980, he stayed in the house. It was in April when he was there, and they had 18 inches of snow in one night. Rovolo



Evo, Shirley and Steve Toschi (Rovolo, Italy)

is in northern Italy at more than 3,000 feet elevation. I have a picture of a metal bucket with long arched handles in which they would heat rocks on the wood stove to put under the covers to heat the bed. In

1922 the family moved to Renton where my grandfather worked for the city in the Street Department. My dad told the story of my grandfather's hand digging the basement and building their house on Cedar Street in Renton. I remember that every square foot of the property was used for a garden, peach tree, fig tree, walnut tree, and chicken coup. There was a wine barrel filled with dirt and holes in the sides where Grandpa planted strawberries.

Grandma always had wood frames with screens spread out in the basement with the wood stove going to dry mushrooms and walnuts. When they were dry, she would store them in two-gallon curved side glass jugs with screw-on lids to use throughout the year. My dad told me about being in the basement and my grandmother tying a rope through the back straps of his bib overalls to a ring in the top of the door to keep him from getting into anything while she was busy. A ringer washing machine and double concrete sink were in the basement for laundry, and a room had a small

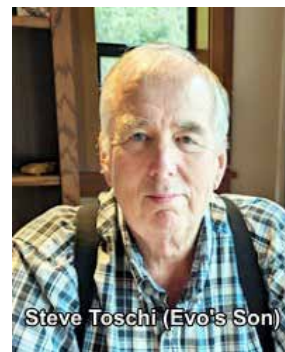
window high in the wall through which a chute was inserted to fill the room with coal for heating the house. In the upstairs of the house, Grandma was always busy cooking the greatest meals. I am sure we all think that way about our grandma's cooking. I remember



Shirley and Evo Toschi

my grandfather taking the shotgun hung over the kitchen door to go pheasant hunting. I still have the shotgun and belt he wore filled with shotgun shells. Grandma used the pheasants for the sauce she made for polenta, one of my favorite meals. I, for sure, miss Grandma's cooking! On Sundays, we would take the newspaper and go to our grandparents' house. Grandma

always had either cookies or Hershey bars to give us for treats. These were the times I should have had an interest in learning the Italian language since my dad talked to my grandparents in Italian. Another interesting story was my dad had 300 silver dollars before he was married and was going to start spending them. My grandmother bought all of them from him. She would then give us grandkids silver dollars when we did well on our report cards from school. We also got silver dollars for our birthdays, Christmas, and whatever other reason she determined we needed one. I still have them all. Edo settled in Sunnyvale California after he got out of the army. He married and had two sons Tim and Lynn and one daughter Sharon. He worked as an electrical engineer until retirement. While attending Renton High School, my dad Evo



Steve Toschi (Evo's Son)

worked for August Tonelli who had a farm where Renton Airport is today. After high school, he went into the army and when he returned, he worked for Golden Arrow Dairy which became Meadowsweet and then Foremost Dairy from which he retired. He married my mother on May 8, 1948 (my birthdate is on May 8—don't know how that worked out!). There were three sons in the family, Dick, Ron and me. We lived in South Renton on property mom and dad purchased in 1954 and where I lived until I sold it in June 2021. Dick was killed in Vietnam in 1967 at age 22 and Ron in an auto accident in 1970 at age 21. My mother died in 1979 at 54 years old. My dad met Shirley Stream in 1980 and they married in June of 1981. Shirley was responsible for my dad joining the Sons

**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

Laura Salle
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

of Italy, and they became very active on behalf of the organization. An honorary Evo Toschi Room was built onto the Black Diamond Community Center with donations from Cadman and Boeing and construction by Gabriel Cordi, Joe Silvestri, my dad Evo, and me. In 1980 Dad went to Italy with Meg Pierotti and always wanted to go back, so in 1982 my dad, Shirley, and I went to Italy. They bought a new Mercedes, we picked it up in Germany, and it was great to have our own transportation. We saw some beautiful country on the way to Rovolo. At the time Dad had 27 cousins and his aunt in Rovolo was in her 90s, but you would think she was in her 70s. The house she lived in was over 600 years old. In Rovolo there is an upper road and a lower road. The month of August is vacation time in northern Italy, and the road becomes one-way. The hardest thing for Shirley and me was the language barrier, and my dad had some difficulty with the different dialects from town to town. We were told they had just started teaching a standard Italian language in the schools.

The church where my grandparents were married was still there. We tried to find records of their marriage but had no luck. An interesting thing in the church was a picture frame on the wall with several items pinned on it. We were told that anytime someone left or moved from Rovolo, they would leave something of significance on this board which left us to wonder if grandma or grandpa had left anything. One thing that was a change for me was breakfasts of only cheese and crackers. The main meal was at noon. The women worked hard in the morning to get the meal ready; everything was made from scratch. The shops shut down between 12 noon and 3 pm and then reopened until 7 pm. Dad's aunt would cook on a wood stove which also had an open tank at one end to fill with water for heated water. Her son was building a new house next door and had a wood stove also for heating water, but his system had a round tank like our hot water tanks mounted horizontally on the wall. We would build a fire to heat the water and when you loaded the firebox the second time, you had enough hot water for a shower.

Hugo also married and lived in Renton after the army and worked in the milk business and retired from Foremost. He had one son Doug and two daughters Linda and Tonya. My grandfather died at the age of 80 in 1965 and my grandma died at the age of 82 in 1970. They are both buried, along with Iro, at the Black Diamond Cemetery.

Steve Toschi

Cataldo

#2280, Bremerton, WA

Hello to everyone. I hope all is well with everyone and that members who are unable to come to our meetings are healing. Cards were sent to Don Giammona and Joe Clementi. Bill reports that we have more than 120 members as per Facebook. Maria Marsala prepared "summer pasta", which was great. In November we will be having our traditional Soup Potluck where everyone brings a soup and we are set up to taste many different and tasty soups. They are really quite good. This has become a yearly event for all of us. Our VFW 5th Friday dinners have been suspended at this time. Volunteers are needed for December 2nd at Crossroads Church for these fundraisers. This is for an indoor bazaar and has been a great fundraiser with creative art displays and cannoli that are mighty tasty. The finances coming in through these fundraisers help to supply funds for 7 food banks and we donated \$1000.00 to the VFW. These funds were discussed and passed by a vote from the lodge.



We had a fun event, also, with an olive oil tasting at our lodge meeting today and we will also be honoring Columbus at our current lodge meeting. Everyone who wished participated in this event which was quite fun. Olive oils, donated by members, and bread was broken for dipping and tasting. The winner was Patano! It was moved and seconded that we purchased 2 calendars for November. Motion carried. Don't forget the calendar is still open at this time. Perhaps you will be the winner when the drawing starts in November.

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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

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.

ROSANN GRZESIEWSKI, President

360-601-8410 ro_gar@comcast.net

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

A short story: I would like to thank the lady from the VFW who helped me personally to retrieve my purse and waited patiently after closing, while we returned from a bit of a distance. What a really nice thing for her to do. What a kind lady! Olympic Peninsula Lodge #2733 had a special celebration of its 25-year anniversary. It was quite a nice celebration with stories, photos, and great food as well. What a fun event this was even though some members were unable to come. Long-time members and friends were great to see and we were blessed to hear background stories by President Armondo Muggia and assisted by Secretary Yvon Schipani. An ongoing display of pictures over the years was fun to see as well. It has been noted that the Grand Lodge of the Northwest is preparing to produce an updated membership directory. There are no birthdays to celebrate in November. Sincerely, Diane Clementi



**Cle Elum
#1968, Cle Elum, WA**

Members and Guests of Cle Elum Lodge met on Sunday, October 8th, and in friendship and fraternity enjoyed a wonderful potluck dinner with conversation of summer travel and the current nice weather. Guests joining us on this evening included Bob Bullock, spouse of member Linda, John Partridge, Auburn Lodge President, and his spouse and fellow Auburn lodge member, Shirlee. Joining them was Jeannine Lavande, sister of John and Ronald resident. Also joining us was Grand Lodge 4th Vice-President Jeanne Fasano, member of Yakima Lodge, and Cle Elum local and Board Member of the Gretchen Weller Foundation, Penny Hein. President Mike Butorac introduced Penny who talked about the work the foundation provides to cancer patients and their families in Kittitas County. Business discussion included the Garibaldi-Meucci Museum Super Raffle and Annual Luncheon, GLNW database progress, annual lodge spaghetti dinner and auction in March, and a fall clean-up of the Silvio Pelico Cemetery in the Historical Roslyn Cemeteries. President Mike displayed an Italian-made bocce set that was stunning. The balls were covered in an ornate brass exterior and encased in a colorful leather bag. They were a gift to Mike and Kathi's son Mikey Butorac. Time will tell if they get any use or become a display piece. Yakima Lodge member Jeanne spoke about her dedication to Autism support and how awareness and

education in the community can be positive for those with autism. Auburn President John invited Cle Elum Lodge and members to participate in their Veterans Day Parade in Auburn on November 11th. Lastly, Jeannine Lavande was nominated for membership in the Cle Elum Lodge. Welcome to the lodge and OSDIA. Respectfully Submitted, Rich Grillo, grillo1@msn.com



**Mille Cugini
#2659, Marysville, WA**

Summer, for me, had the perfect ending. It was a memorable day



at Festa Italiana in downtown Seattle with my 2 oldest granddaughters, J. Jacoby and Blanca Moreno. We were enjoying the festival, but things seemed a little quieter than I had

remembered from years past. I guess the bands weren't playing yet on that cloudy, Sunday morning. We watched a cooking class and a grape stomping competition, which took place every hour or so. Then, while waiting to meet up with someone else, we sat down to watch another round of grape stompers. One of the teams was missing a person, so when the emcee asked for a volunteer from the crowd to come forward and help out, I thought I'd liven things up a little for my granddaughters, so I raised my hand and started rolling up my pant legs! I think they were a little surprised. Our team



lost, but the laughs and memories we made were worth it. Thank you to Chris Gerling, our state Deputy. She acted as Herald during our ceremony while we officially welcomed 4 new members! Bob and Katt Branting, Judy Price, and her husband, Al Favre. We look forward to getting to know them more throughout the year. They've already shown a great interest in participating. That's what we hope for as we grow stronger as a lodge. Our guests this month

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were Mark & Chris Gerling, also Geno DiGidio from the Auburn Lodge. Rose Mary Barretta and several other members have been struggling with health issues or grieving the loss of loved ones. We send our hopes for their prompt healing. If you've ever thought about trying to make it up to one of our meetings and/or you love sweets as much as I do, November 15th is the best time to come. We meet at the Marysville Historical Society and Museum, 6805 Armar Rd. This month our meeting will start at 6:30, followed by dinner. Lastly, we will have our Annual Dessert Auction to raise money for our scholarship fund. Bring a friend and enjoy a great dinner before we auction off baked goods for a good cause. Maybe you'll take home some nice desserts for your Thanksgiving dinner or other special occasion. It's open to everyone. Please consider donating a dessert, but it's all optional. RSVP to olycot@gmail.com or text 425-422-7434 for the dinner no later than 1 week prior, November 8th. We hope to see you! Mille Cugini Reporter Paula Dellino Jacoby

Olympic Peninsula
#2733, Port Angeles, WA

Hello from the beautiful Olympic Peninsula. Rain rain don't go away, we need it --- But we sure are happy to see the lovely sunny Fall days as well.



Judy D'Amico w/ Singing Chef

We had a great 25th-anniversary celebration in October. The business meeting was short so we could spend more time on acknowledging the 25 years of the Lodge. We dusted off a slide show from 2005 which former member Joe Clementi made --(great job Joe by the way) and added a few of our current pictures. This Lodge has put on some great events through the years. We are hoping to get that momentum going again. We had several visitors for this meeting and hope to see them again. And



of course, there was cake, along with several Italian dishes which are always crowd-pleasing. The afternoon was spent passing the microphone to hear stories of how our members came to be in the Lodge and their experiences with it. There were so many



Clementi and Bill Haberstock from the Cataldo Lodge attended. Bill, as always, was so helpful in getting our dishes to the table for our meal. We also had the drawing for the lovely Italian-themed



basket donated by the Zanons. Our big winner was Lodge member Anne McGonigel.

Congratulations to Anne and thank you to everyone who supported this fundraiser. A special thanks to the Zanons for their generous contribution. Until next time, be well and be happy...and hey, come up and see us sometime. Here's to another 25 years! Ciao ... for now!

Yvonne Schipani, Recording Secretary

Seattle Fedele
#1390, Seattle, WA

Ciao from the Crazy Sorelle. We decided to do the article a little differently today. We are sitting in a little place that has a comfy vibe in Burien called Smarty Pants Garage drinking Bubbly and eating cheesy fries with bacon & green onions. Yum Yum! Need to come back again to try something else on the menu! First off, THANK YOU to Laura Salle, President of our Lodge, Banker, and Chairperson, and to all the volunteers who worked the whole weekend in typical Seattle weather - drizzly - at the Meat Ball Sandwich booth at Festa Italiana at the Seattle Center. The volunteers found out that meatballs heated up in water that was used to cook corn (Thank You Brock!) would taste so good! Go figure! To let you all know, Johnny V. helped out in the booth for the first time, and Johnny, you have to admit it was a lot of fun! We are looking forward to your help at our next events! Which I believe is the Annual Children's Christmas Party and we all know you have kids, so this would be a perfect event to volunteer for - The Santa position is open!?! Just something to think about. Besides hoping that Johnny V. will volunteer, we need more volunteers to help out. Speaking of the Annual Children Christmas Breakfast Party - it is coming up on December 9, 2023, at 9:00 am at Our Lady of Mount Virgin Church (OLMV) Hall. All children are welcome, but only



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children between the ages of 0 to 10 will be getting presents from Santa. Please send the ages and sex of the children that will be attending so the appropriate gifts can be purchased. Submit them to Holly Cochran - 253-631-1561 - by Thanksgiving (November 23, 2023). See ya there!

At our meeting this month, we had some visitors: Linda Buccini Anderson, GLNW President and member of Bella Vita Lodge, Brock Ricci, 1st Vice President and Millie Cugini member, Gina Natucci, Secretary of the GLNW, Janice Malvesti-Cole, President of Black Diamond Lodge and her husband. If I forgot someone, sorry, it may be the Bubby!

We had several members entertain us with their stories of how their families came to America, how they ended up in Seattle, and the industries they worked in. Several families found out that their Grandfathers or Fathers all worked on the Coroceno's (okay, sorry about the spelling) farm in the south end and how OLMV played a big part in the history of several families.

Speaking of OLMV, there will be a Mass at 11:00 am on December 17, 2023. I believe some sections of the mass will be said in Italian. Please come to celebrate the season and support the community. Cristina Ryser will be excited to see all of you. A light meal will be served in the hall after.

We think that is all for now. See you all at the next meeting - November 16, 2023. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

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**Tacoma
#1175, Tacoma, WA**

Hello all from The Mother Lodge
We had a wonderful October meeting, a delicious dinner, and a great time was had by all. We had six new members join our lodges and we think they will all be a great addition to Tacoma 1175. They contributed to the total attendance of a whopping (no pun intended) 85 attendees. The new members are Abby Lowry, Kate Orlando Lowy, David Machetti, Michael Machetti, Tonya Mushallo, and rounding it out, Louie Orlando, a BIG WELCOME to all of you. Our recording secretary Gina Contant Eacrett volunteered to provide the dinner and at the last minute got called on an assignment to work. No panic on Gina's part as what she was making was her mother's recipe. Don't you know her mother Janet showed up in Gina's place and made her fantastic dinner of a pesto chicken with bow tie pasta that hit an out-of-the-park homerun!

We have implemented some strategies to alleviate boring, and sometimes heated discussions and it is working incredibly well. Our meetings are fun, informative, and always interesting. Many members from other lodges seem to have a great time. We would love any and all to visit one of our dinner meetings. They are the first Wednesday of the month, a social/happy hour with appetizers and drinks at 5:30 and dinner is usually served around 6:30. Have a great Thanksgiving Everyone
David Madrid



**Tre Città
#2881, Tri-Cities, WA**

Our Lodge held our tenth meeting of this year on Tuesday, Oct. 3rd



at Bella Italia restaurant in Kennewick. We had a total of twenty-eight members and visitors in attendance. Our membership so far for this year has grown to fifty-three members.

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We discussed our last planning and selling of tickets for our Annual Pasta Dinner and Basket Raffle at this meeting. 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 \$140 from the raffle at our October meeting. Our charity fund has continued to grow, and we hope to donate to a worthy local cause at our next meeting in November.



Our most 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. We were incredibly pleased to have Linda and her guest Kathy join us for our annual fundraiser. 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.



Vancouver USA

#2690, Vancouver, WA

We had Bellevue Lodge member and author, Tessa Floreano, at our October meeting. She gave a wonderful presentation on her new book, *Italians in the Pacific Northwest*. November meeting will be on Thursday, November 9th at Family of Christ Lutheran Church, 3500 NW 129th St., Vancouver. Dinner will begin at 6:30 PM. The meeting is to begin at 7:00 PM. Speaker Gina Natucci, State Secretary and our State Deputy, will talk to us about Italy tonight. We will be having a potluck this evening. Please RSVP to Louise Ramunno-Johnson at her email alamunno@gmail.com Subject Line: November Dinner or (360) 281-0915. So far we have sign-

ups for Main Dishes: Kathryn Salverda; Side Dishes: Sharon Sorensen; Salads: Cathy Rafanelli; Desserts: Nanette Walker, Dorrie Palandrani, Bread: Louise Ramunno-Johnson. Please bring enough to share. There will be no charge for dinner tonight. TANTE GRAZIE to Frank Palandrani and his family, and all the members who participated in making our Annual Spaghetti Dinner so successful. Also, MOLTO GRAZIE to Dee Newbern for the many years of chairing our Scholarship Raffle Baskets and the members who donated and made baskets. We can't do it without you!!! Take a Bow!!!

ITALIAN BOOK CLUB will meet on Monday, November 13th at Starbucks in Barnes & Noble, 7700 E. Fourth Plain Blvd at 2 pm to discuss our book selection, *Eternal* by author Lisa Scottolinie. This is a week early due to the Thanksgiving holiday. This book is available at Barnes & Noble and Amazon. WHITE ELEPHANT BINGO will be Tuesday, November 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 a \$1.00 to participate. GAME NITE will be Saturday, November 18th at 7:00 PM at Bruce and Barbara Blair's home. RSVP at (360)253-7984 if you plan to attend. Our DINE OUT for November will be on Wednesday, November 29th at Keo Thai Cuisine, 1800 SW 9th Ave. #101, Battle Ground, WA. RSVP to Barbara Blair at (360)253-7984 or blairbjb@comcast.net if you plan to attend no later than Monday, November 27th.

CLUB NEWS: Donna Covi will be spending time with family in Arizona this month. Linda Gibson has been traveling through Yellowstone, Wyoming, and Montana enjoying the fall scenery. It was good to see Vickie Marino volunteering at our Spaghetti Dinner. Mirella Rizzatti is returning from her home in Italy. Buon compleanno to our November birthdays!!

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE: Continue to keep Judy Johnson in your prayers as she faces health challenges. Louise Rammuno-Johnson is recovering from successful knee replacement surgery. Linda Cherney is scheduled for knee replacement later this month. Donna LaFrazia had a fall and broke her arm. Leanore and John Olmstead returned from Italy with covid. Please keep all our members in your thoughts and prayers.

Happy Thanksgiving y'all !!
Barbara Blair

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Yakima
#2732, Yakima, WA

Happy Fall to You All! The beautiful autumn colors of orange, yellow, red, and green are truly magnificent. Wishing Eleanor Ficele a belated Happy Birthday that took place on October 7. Birthday wishes to Bev Arralde who also celebrated her birthday in October. We had an excellent turnout at our September meeting. The sausage dog and side dishes were enjoyed by all attending. Our officers have met several times to brainstorm ideas for fundraisers for our lodge. Three of our officers, Jeanne, Nancy, and Ama traveled to Kennewick to attend the TreCitta Lodge meeting. The TreCitta members were most welcoming and wonderful to the Yakima visitors. Bella Italia is a beautiful restaurant and serves great Italian food.

Our October meeting took place, on Thursday, October 19 at the Harman Center. We always look forward to seeing our friends at our meetings. We enjoyed a delicious potluck meal and conversation followed by sharing ideas on going forward. Discussion regarding 2024 dues and exploring ways to bring money into our treasury took place. Our November "THANKFUL" meeting will take place on Thursday, November 16 at the Harman Center.

Trick or Treat!!

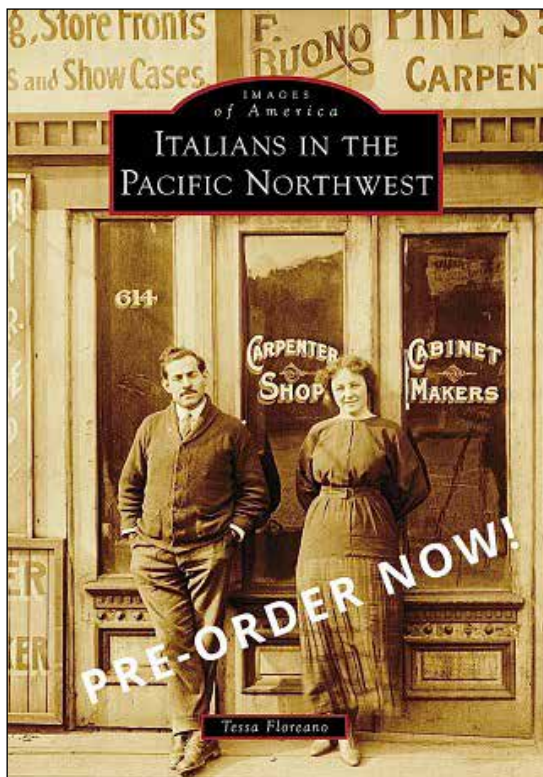
Autism:

Autism is a mental condition, present from early childhood, characterized by difficulty in communicating and forming relationships with other people, in using language, and in understanding abstract concepts.

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A strength that I have noted in my grandson is the ability to block outside distractions. Remember the definition of autism talks of difficulty communicating and forming relationships. This likely leads to his ability to block distractions. In Byron's case, this translates to the ability to bowl well. Where many people may be distracted by other bowlers, once he is up to bowl those other bowlers are no distraction.

In the coming months, I would like to explore needs that families affected by ASD have that lodges might be able to assist with in their communities. Those needs may vary from community to community depending on what is available. If you have thoughts or experience in this area, or would like to be involved, please contact me. Jeannefasano@gmail.com or (509)594-9116.



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"When food is a tradition that time does not change."
-Dario Brancato

Family owned and operated in Enumclaw, WA

La nonna casa è la casa
(Our home is your home)

-The Brancato Family

Welcome to Il Siciliano Ristorante Italiano. We are proud & excited for the opportunity to offer you a true "Italian" culinary experience offering very authentic & traditional dishes. Please relax, be comfortable & enjoy.

Stop by our location in Enumclaw, WA

**A Family Restaurant • Wood Fire Pizza
Full Kitchen • Full Bar • Imported Wines**

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Hours: Tuesday - Sunday 11:30AM - 10:00PM