



The Lion's Pride



**DINNER
and BINGO!**
February 26



February 2025
Volume 25
Issue 2

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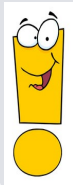
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(marnelson03@gmail.com)
775-232-1576

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE—February, 2025

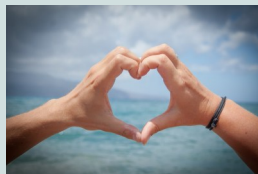
Fa Freddo Fuori Persone!

Groundhog Day is February 2, 2025. In America if the groundhog sees his shadow, he gets scared and goes underground for six more weeks. This means winters continues. Did you know that in Italy Italians don't celebrate Ground Hogs Day? Instead, Italians celebrate i giorni della merla. In English this means The Days Of The Blackbird. This event happens the last three days in January. If January 29, 30 and 31st are particularly cold, then the incoming spring will be warm and sunny and arrive early and blackbirds will be able to find food sooner. If the contrary happens, then spring will be late and rainy and blackbirds will continue to have trouble finding food to eat. Italians also celebrate Valentine's Day on February 14th. The holiday is known as La Festa di San Valentino or the Day Of Lovers. Italy has a special connection to the holiday because its origins began during the Roman Empire and February 14th is the feast day of Saint Valentino. Saint Valentino defied the emperor's orders by secretly marrying couples either because of their Christianity or to spare husbands from going to war. For these infractions, Valentino was martyred on February 14 in the year 269.

We are in need of a new Vice President. Paul Zucconi has stepped down. We need to fill this position as soon as possible. Please consider stepping in to this position.

Our next big event is Festa. Festa will be taking place Saturday, May 3 at the Elks Lodge. Terry Parrillo will have tickets for all members to sell at the February meeting. Please use Pam Ricci's donation letter to give to business owners when you go out to ask for donations. Please start bringing donations to meetings or donations can be dropped off at my house at 12410 Westridge Drive. This is our only fundraiser of the year. So, everyone's help is needed to make this a successful event. The money we raise from this event funds all of the charities and scholarships we donate to. Thanks in advance for your help. That is all I have for this month!

*Alla prossima,
Dawn Romero, President, Cristoforo Colombo
Lodge #1534*



Officers 2025

President

Dawn Romero

romerowestridge@gmail.com

Vice President

VACANT

Immediate Past President

Pamela Ricci

pam@riccihomes.com

Treasurer

Ross Bausone

Ross_bausone@sbcglobal.net

Financial Secretary

Chris Cifelli

chriscifellil@sbcglobal.net

Recording Secretary

Margaret Raulino

tahoeeyedocs@sbcglobal.net

Orator

Silvana Ricci

sricci1007@gmail.com

Head Trustee

Mark Froio

mfroio@aol.com

Mistresses of Ceremonies

Donna Zutshi

gregobaby@aol.com

and

Janet Froio

jmfroio@aol.com

Guard

Paul Romero

romerowestridge@gmail.com

DINNER MEETINGS

Elks Lodge, 597 Kumle Lane, Reno (825-0597)

February 26: Dinner/Meeting by Consent/Bingo

March 26: Dinner Meeting/Initiation of New Members

April 23: Dinner Meeting/Guest Speaker

May 3: Festa at the Elks

May 28: Dinner Meeting/Italian Business Recognition

June 18: Dinner Meeting/Scholarships

June 25-29: CONVENTION

July: NO MEETING

August: Picnic/Bocce Tournament with Sparks Lodge

September 24: Dinner Meeting/Speaker

October 11: GREAT ITALIAN FESTIVAL, El Dorado

October 22: Dinner/Meeting by Consent

November 19: EARLY Meeting/Charitable Giving Speakers

December 17 EARLY Christmas Party

*Ciao
Bella*



Find us on FaceBook
at Reno Sons of
Italy and on the web
at:
renosonsofitaly.org

CLICK THE LINK
BELOW TO GO
DIRECTLY TO THE
WEBSITE:



CLICK HERE

FEBRUARY babies!

Cheryl Besso 2-2

Angie Quilici 2-9

Donn Dalton 2-10

Kathi Stepina 2-10

Judy Bard 2-11

John Pacheco 2-12

Chery Brassea-Biggs 2-17

Joe Decaria 2-18

Ross Bausone 2-19

Gloria Garaventa 2-25

Anthony Durante 2-28



Birthday Drink Ticket

This ticket entitles you to one (1)
House Wine, Beer, or Soda at the Elks Bar.
Charge to Reno Son's of Italy



Click on the box
below to go
directly to our
FACEBOOK PAGE!



VISIT OUR "GHIA" AT THE NATIONAL AUTOMOBILE MUSEUM

We renewed our **Adopt-A-car** membership with the National Automobile Museum. The Museum is open Monday through Saturday 9:30 to 5:30 and Sundays 10 to 4 p.m.

All our members get free admission.

Hope you can visit our Ghia this year!



IT PAYS TO COME TO MEETINGS

Every month we have a meeting we draw a name of a member and you could be the winner of cash just for attending!!

Also, you can buy a square or two on the **Share the Wealth Board** for a chance to win 1/4 of the funds collected.

In January, **Norma Vasquez** won the Attendance Drawing but was not present. It will go to \$35 next month. **Nancy Anderson and Jack Biggs** won the Share the Wealth Board for **\$85 each**.

YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN! Join us and win some \$\$\$\$!



Sunshine Committee

If you know anyone who needs a little cheer or get well, please contact: **Donna Zutshi** at 323-0110 or grecobaby@aol.com.

Thinking of You card sent to David Pincolini



Keep Members Informed

Contact **Madeleine Zunino** (madnlar@sbcglobal.net) if you have an Address Change, Email Change, a Special Event Celebration, or a Funeral.



St. Patrick's Day is coming! How will you celebrate?



The Youth Group

Bring your children and grandchildren to the meeting. We have a youth coordinator who will take the bambinos during the meeting to learn language & culture projects...they enjoy being together and having fun!



ORDER **Sons and Daughters of Italy** IN AMERICA



UPCOMING EVENTS

Festa at the Elks—*May 3*

Convention—*June 25-29*

Great Italian Festival at the El Dorado—*October 11*



Go to the SDOI Youtube channel and put in Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America. Click on Italian American Shows and pick some great programs to watch.

IMPORTANT NOTICES!!

FREE DUES FOR A YEAR!

Want to get your dues paid for a year? It's easy. Just bring in 4 or more new members between January 1 and December 31 and your dues for the following year will be free. **Hugh Ricci brought in 5 new members and will receive a free membership in 2025.** Chris Cifelli and Dawn Romero both brought in 3 new members each, and Madeleine Zunino brought in 2 new members.

Great job everyone!

LEARN TO SPEAK ITALIAN, SPANISH OR FRENCH!

Salene Pecetti is the owner of Bilingual Basics. If you would like to learn to speak Italian, Spanish, or French contact her at: 775 771 7327 or email: specetti@renovulc.com

The 2024 Sons of Italy Foundation Scholarship program was launched in December, 2023. Go to <https://osdia.org/initiatives/scholarships> for more information. Please share this information with someone who might want to apply. Thank you.

IMPORTANT NOTICES!

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE DUTIES

Starting in January of 2025 the Hospitality Committee will be taking on the new responsibilities listed below.

1. The head person on the committee is in charge of getting together with everyone on the committee and organizing a dessert for the month assigned.
2. If you are unable to participate on the month you have been assigned to, please notify the lead person on the committee. The lead person is the first person listed on the committee list. You will be responsible for paying for any ingredients that the rest of the team will be using to make the dessert for the month assigned. The lead person will determine how much you owe for those ingredients or for the cost to purchase a dessert if that is what the group decides to do instead of making a dessert.
3. **Arrive at the Elks Lodge at 5 p.m.**, to set up the meeting room. Wipe tables down. Put napkins, silverware and filled water pitchers on tables. Place 8 plastic cups in the middle of each table.
4. Set up the serving tables where food will be served from. Set up the table just inside the door where money is taken for dinner. Set up the tables where officers sit during the meeting, including the podium. Put out six chairs for officers to sit in during the meeting.
5. Carefully set out the meeting banner outside the meeting room doors. Set up the Italian flag and American flag on either side of the podium. Lay out the regalia for the officers. Get two microphones from the bar and make sure they are working.
6. Sell and collect the money for the Share The Wealth Board.
7. Put the big meeting banner away at the end of the meeting and store in the back room in the kitchen.
8. The Mistress's of Ceremonies will be responsible for collecting regalia, and putting small flags away in the plastic container located behind the podium after each meeting.
9. Wipe off the Share The Wealth Board and store in the plastic box.
10. Put plastic box in the storage room at the back of the kitchen.

With at least 5 people on each team this should not be too much work to do to make the meetings run smoothly.

DEAN MARTIN

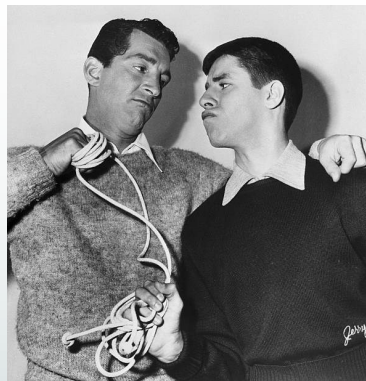
29 Years After He Died, Dean Martin's Children FINALLY CONFIRM
The Awful Truth.

"Dean Martin, the "King of Cool," was more than just a Rat Pack charmer. Behind his smooth public persona were struggles only now revealed by his children. Born to Italian immigrants, he faced early bullying and experimented with various jobs before finding fame in music.

As a child, he endured bullying from his peers because of his humble background and appearance. These painful experiences not only tested his spirit but also shaped his later resilience. Before achieving fame, Dean Martin experimented with various jobs, from being a paperboy, a waiter to an extra in movies.

However, his passion for music has always been his mainstay. Discovered by a music producer, Dean Martin's talent was recognized, and he quickly rose to become one of the most famous vocalists of his time, with a brilliant career in both music and film. The challenges of his youth shaped Dean Martin into a man who would not be easily defeated, and an icon of perseverance and success."

FB post



Dean Martin's children

Pictures from the January meeting. Several guests were introduced and the new officers were installed.



New officers being sworn in.



Membership Chairperson

Hugh Ricci

PHONE:

775-851-2169

EMAIL:

hughricci@gmail.com

President

Dawn Romero

12410 West Ridge Drive

Reno, NV 89511

PHONE:

775-350-2442

E-MAIL:

romerowestridge@gmail.com



We're on the Web and on Facebook!

See us at:

www.renosonsofitaly.org

Reno Sons of Italy on Facebook

DINNER and BINGO, February 26, 2025,

6 p.m. Cocktails and 6:30 Dinner

PLEASE ARRIVE BY 6:15 FOR CHECK IN!

Elk's Lodge 597 Kumle Lane, Reno (825-0597)

Please call or email the SATURDAY BEFORE THE MEETING for

Reservations: Maria Nelson: marnelson03@gmail.com (775-232-1576) to insure we have enough seating and food.

Thank you for calling on time AND

KEEPING YOUR RESERVATIONS!! We will no longer be able to accommodate late reservations as we now have a caterer. YOU MUST RSVP by the Saturday before the meeting.

Cost: Members: \$20; Children 7-12 \$10; children 6 and under free. There will be water & coffee included in the dinner price. Drinks may be purchased at the Elk's Bar.

Hospitality committee: Madeleine Zunino; David Pincolini; Don and Terry Parrillo; John Pacheco; Nancy Anderson; Ronald Pollastrini.

MENU:

Mushroom Raviolis, Caesar Salad, Garlic Bread, Dessert by Committee!



About Our Organization ...

ORDER SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF ITALY IN AMERICA—Cristoforo Colombo Lodge #1534

The Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America (OSIA) is the largest and longest-established national organization for men and women of Italian heritage in the United States.

The name Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America is a translation of the original name L'Ordine Figli D'Italia. In Italian, figli, means both children and sons. We keep this name today for historic reasons and for name recognition. The Cristoforo Colombo Lodge was installed on May 12, 1929. The founders were Nicolo Gardella, Rose Mongolo Marillion, Pete De Prati, Luigi Anelli and Edith Mongolo Lazzari.

According to records, the first meeting was held on May 22, 1929 in the social hall of St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Cathedral. At the first meeting there were 59 persons in attendance. Signor Pietro De Prati became its first venerable. Other prominent names among the Charter members were Gardella and Zunino; these names are still represented in the current membership. Since mid 2021, we have been meeting at the Elks Lodge on Kumle Lane, in Reno.

CHARITABLE DONATIONS

Aside from donating three scholarships every year to a student of Italian descent (one a vocational scholarship) and giving to the Savitt Medical School Library at the University of Nevada, the Lodge has supported the following: College of Education at the University; St. Baldrick's Foundation; Honor Flight Nevada; The Secret Witness Program; GI Dogs; Adolescent Boy's Center; Urban Roots; The Children's Cabinet; Nevada Veteran's Memorial Plaza; Reno Elks Lodge Veterans; Read and Succeed; Eddy House; Elks Gift a Vet Program; Read to Me book club program from the Assistance League; Santa For Children's Cancer; Awaken; Step 2; Horsemanship 4 Heroes. **In 2024 we also gave to St. Vincent's Dining Room; Grafted Kitchen; and Liberty Dogs Project.**



BE THE FIRST TO FIND MARIO !

TWO tiny pictures of Mario are hiding within this newsletter.

Find them **both** and email Maria Nelson at marnelson03@gmail.com, and tell her where you found them. If you are the **FIRST**, you will win a free chance on the Share the Wealth Board. You must find them **both** to win.



Time to Elect delegates for the Grand Lodge Convention

February is the month we must choose our delegates to the Convention in June. This year the Convention will be in Los Angeles at the Sonesta LAX from June 25th-28th. Bocce is usually played on Wednesday afternoon/evening and the convention begins on Thursday morning. Our Lodge will have 3 delegates this year which is great as we have not been able to have 3 delegates for a long time. To be a delegate or alternate, you must be a member in good standing with the Lodge and have served on the local Council (Board) for at least one term. The delegate term is like the lodge officers, for 2 years. This is where you get to meet people from all over California and learn about what they do in their lodges. There are usually 2-3 dinners, a President's Luncheon, The Golden Lion Luncheon and, of course, the meetings on Thursday, Friday, and part of Saturday which you are expected to attend. The dress code is business casual...you can wear your polo shirt too. There are other expenses involved but our lodge will pay for your travel, the hotel, and the convention package which includes the dinners.

The current president, Dawn Romero, is always the first delegate and those currently nominated are Chris Cifelli and Hugh Ricci with alternates being Pam Ricci, Ross Bausone, and Margaret Raulino. If you are interested in running for delegate or alternate, please let Dawn know before the meeting and she will present the names at the meeting in February. We will vote on the slate at the February meeting.

Thank you for your interest in the Lodge and how it works.

Pamela Ricci

Immediate Past President

Sons and Daughters Of Italy Cristoforo Colombo Lodge #1534 Calendar & Hospitality Committees for 2025-2027

January 22	Dinner Meeting/Installation of New Officers
February 26	Dinner and Meeting By Consent/Bingo
March 26	Dinner Meeting/Initiation of New Members
April 23	Dinner Meeting/Guest Speaker
May 3	Festa at the Elks
May 28	Dinner Meeting/Italian Business Award
June 18	Dinner Meeting/Scholarships
June 25-29	Convention
July	No monthly meeting
August	Picnic/Bocce Tournament with Sparks
September 24	Dinner Meeting/Speaker
October 11	GREAT ITALIAN FESTIVAL at the El DORADO
October 22	Dinner and Meeting By Consent/Bingo
November 19	EARLY MEETING/Charitable Giving
December 17	EARLY MEETING /Christmas Party

Hospitality Committees 2025-2027

- January:** Hugh/Pam Ricci, Handys, Sibley, Quillici
- February:** Zunino/Pincolini, Parrillo, Pacheco, Anderson, Pollastrini
- March:** Romero, Froio, Martini, Salvail, Simone
- April:** Cifelli, Heyer, Lauriello-Klein, Dalton, Rassiga/White
- May:** Raulinos, Bausone, DiMartini, Fialsini, Zucconi
- June:** Lodge will purchase cupcakes for scholarship winners
- July:** No Meeting
- August:** Picnic/Bocce Tournament at Immaculate Conception
- September:** Maria Nelson, Iovinellas, Skeltons, Obenaur, Cleary
- October:** Robin Brooke, DiMaggio, Biales, Caporale, Lauderback
- November:** Silvana Ricci, Zutshi, Lotito, Quartucci, Richard Ricci

Underlined names on list are head organizers.