



Northwest Italian News

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

USPS 397-200, VOLUME XLIV, NO. 10, December, 2024

From the Office of the Grand Lodge of the NW
Linda Buccini Anderson, President

Coming Events!

Sunday, November 24, 2024

American-Italian Club #2172

Annual Three Course Spaghetti Dinner

Wine Baked Goods Music Silent Auction



Gonzaga Prep HS

1224 E Euclid Ave, Spokane
Adult \$20, Youth \$12

<https://aic-dinner.square.site>

479-616-6880

americanitalianclubspokane@gmail.com

Sat, Dec 7, 2024, 10am - 2pm

Black Diamond #1809

Santa Photo Fundraiser

Black Diamond Community Center

Suggested donation \$10

Baked items for donation
and raffles!

Contact: Janice Malvesti-Cole
360-463-4671

Sat. Feb 15, 2025, 7:00 PM

Grand Lodge Northwest

Annual Crab Dinner

Holy Family Church Hall, Auburn, WA

Rosetta 206-478-3895

Sat, Mar 1, 2025, 5:30 pm

Amerigo Vespucci #1814

Spaghetti and Meatball Dinner and Fundraiser

St. Mary's Parish Hall

To-go pick up 4-6 pm \$20.00

Contact: Mark Percini
(360) 532-1983

Events continued on back cover.



Buon Natale- Merry Christmas. As we all know, Christmas is for being with family and celebrating the holiday. Remember, family isn't always a person you are related to. That is where our lodge family comes forward. We as members of the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America are a family too. Reach out to each other and share the love and joy not only of the holidays but all year round. It is no surprise that this year has gone by so fast, as they seem to be going faster each year.

We are already preparing for the Grand Convention that will be held May 16-17, 2025. This is an opportunity for members to step up and become leaders of our great organization. At this convention, our delegates will be electing our Grand Lodge officers & our National Delegates.

To be able to vote for or become a future Grand Lodge officer, you first need to be elected by your lodge as a delegate, usually in February.



Talk with your lodge president about your interest and if you qualify to be a delegate. This is your opportunity to be a part of the leadership for the Northwest. Another opportunity for a member between 18-40 years of age is to apply for the FOTO position for the Northwest to attend the National Convention in August 2025. (information is in www.glnw.org under Questo Mese's article Future of the Order Forum).

As the new year comes forward it's time for us all to renew our membership dues at your January meeting. Remember why you are a member of the organization. I know I have been a member for almost 39 years because I love my culture, the friendships, and the heritage connection I have found because of being an Italian. I also know that by being a member, I am showing my pride as an Italian and supporting a larger organization that helps keep the Italian language, culture, pride, and respect throughout the United States and the world alive. As I have moved up the officer positions in this organization and now as your Grand Lodge President, I have come to see many benefits of being a part of a bigger organization. I now know what the Grand Lodge is doing for members and what the many things the National is doing as well. I am attempting to share with members the different opportunities and benefits that being a member brings forward. I also know how much we as part of the National organization donate to our four recognized National Charities. How impactful we as a combined group can be to bring help, address discrimination, strengthen pride and respect for being an Italian and more importantly a member of the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America.

The more you get involved, the more you can recognize what being a member of this great organization has done and will continue to do for Italian/ Italian Americans.

Please note that our Grand Lodge Crab Dinner will be held on February 15, 2025, at Holy Family Catholic Church Hall in Auburn, WA. Address: 505 17th ST SE Auburn, WA 98002. For tickets, please contact Debbie Sonsteli by email: sonsteli4@hotmail.com, phone #: 253-797-9515.

Remember to look at www.glnw.org (under member resources- Holiday Culture) to learn about the Italian holidays throughout the year. Lastly please remember Tony's Motto: "Anything we accomplish, is never accomplished alone, but TOGETHER"

Buon Natale and Buon Anno,

Linda Buccini Anderson, President – GLNW 253-225-2483 linda@glnw.org

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*American-Italian Club
#2172 Spokane WA*

Ciao amici, Spokane sits under dark skies as a storm brews in the distance bringing in frosty air with a chance of snow. Although the weather outside was miserable and wet, we had a very nice turnout for our November 6th meeting. And to start off the holiday season our club is proud to announce our Spaghetti Dinner on November 24th at Gonzaga Prep. We have been very busy organizing and planning our special event.



The Meatball Committee had a "Meatball Mania Monday", where they hand-rolled and baked 1024! Meatballs! Mamma Mia, that's a lotta meat-a-balls!! Susan Riley has been on a committee of one, collecting and organizing items for the

Silent Auction. Donna Clark and her bakers are busy in their kitchens baking goodies for the Homemade Italian Bake Sale. Darlene Labella our in-house sommelier, has wine glasses sparkling and ready for a pour. And we are very lucky to



have the Cannoli King, Bill Haberstock, from the Cataldo Lodge down to add to the festivities. A photo booth featuring the Grand Canal Welcomes guests to take a personal photo. And there's Raffles, Raffles, Raffles. A Sunday filled with good

food, wonderful family and friends, music, and song! Buon appetito!

In keeping with the holiday spirit of giving thanks and giving back, Marilee Reagor as our chairperson for Tom's Turkey Drive has diligently helped keep our club involved with this fundraising opportunity. Tom Sherry is a news anchor for KREM News, CBS, and has covered different club events. Contributing to our community helps those in need have food for the holidays.

On December 11th, following a short meeting, we will be Decking the Halls for our club Christmas Party. Due to our busy schedule this year the membership chose to postpone our family party to a possible Spring Fling.

From all of us here in Spokane Buon Natale. Wishing you all Christmas magic!

Linda Marcus

Assistant Recording Secretary



Amerigo Vespucci
#1814 Aberdeen, WA

Season's Greetings to all from the Amerigo Vespucci Lodge #1418!

Amerigo Vespucci Lodge enjoyed spaghetti, provided by President Joe Chicano, along with delicious sides, salads, and desserts, provided by members at our November meeting.

Christmas Dinner meeting will be December 7, 2025, social time at 4 pm and dinner at 5 pm. Dennis Rogers is preparing the prime rib. Lodge members signed up for other dinner items. Members agreed to have a Silent Auction fundraiser at the Christmas dinner meet.

Amerigo Vespucci's annual Spaghetti and meatball dinner is Saturday, March 1, 2025, at St. Mary's Parish Hall in Aberdeen. Mark Percini is taking ticket orders for the dinner. Tickets are \$20. All those interested in purchasing tickets can contact Mark at (360) 532-1983 or email ppercini@comcast.net. There is a 120-seating limit. Take-out is also available. There will be a "Wheelbarrow Raffle" along with other raffle items and baked goods at the dinner. We will collect Italian-themed items for wheelbarrow through our January meeting, Wheelbarrow Raffle tickets are \$5.00 or 6 for \$20.00.

President Joe Chicano reported from the Grand Lodge Council meeting. The Grand Lodge will be

The American Italian Club
Spaghetti Dinner

November 24th, 2024
Gonzaga Prep HS
1224 E Euclid Ave
12-5pm

**PLEASE JOIN US!
ALL AGES
WELCOME**

More info and
Purchase Dinner
tickets at:
aic-dinner.square.site
(Limited Seats Available)

3 Course Dinner
\$20 Adult
\$12 Child

available

A 501(c)(3) Organization

Wine
Baked Goods
Music

Music
Silent Auction
Raffles

increasing insurance from \$3 to \$6. The Grand Lodge Crab Feed is February 15, 2024, at 6:00 pm at the Auburn Catholic Church. The Lodge will provide a basket for the raffle. President Joe Chicano had reserved the Five Star van for the event. Members must purchase their own tickets which are \$65.

Lodge members approved raising dues to \$50 for 2025. Members who pay 2025 dues by the end of December will be entered into a gift card drawing. Lodge members approved purchasing a quarter page for the December Christmas ad in the NWIN. Richard shared that an article honoring past member, Joe Cornell's community service to Grays Harbor kids, was in the Italian National magazine last month.

Wishing everyone a "Buon Natale."

Judith Braddon, reporter



Auburn
#1955 Auburn, WA

Remember! Our Christmas meeting and celebration will be on Wednesday, December 11th. Please consider bringing a food or cash donation, and bring any kiddos that would like to visit with Babbo Natale! Our Thanksgiving meeting was



well-attended and lively. Mike Sepal reported that we had about 20 marchers and perfect weather for the Auburn Veterans Day Parade. He thanked all who participated especially the wonderful ladies who cooked up a delicious lunch for the marchers. Further thanks goes out to you, our members, for your generosity. You donated 170 pounds of food and \$230 in cash to the Auburn food bank! Amazing job, everyone! Sal Cascone reported that while there were no official bocce events over the winter, he would be hosting bocce at his home, and to contact him for details. Joanne McDaniel reported that the Sunshine Committee is always

looking to hear about members and their families who are celebrating, in need of prayer, or who have news to share. Please contact Joanne at bmca27471@aol.com.



As mentioned above, our Christmas meeting will be a day early: on Wednesday, December 11th. We're still collecting food or cash donations for the Auburn Food Bank. Once again this Christmas, we will be blessed with a visit from Babbo Natale himself! Please bring your littles to the meeting, along with a small, wrapped gift for Santa to deliver. On Saturday, January 18th, we will be going to see the Thunderbirds play hockey at the Showare Center. Tickets are \$20. Please talk to Joe Ripollone. On Saturday, February 15th, we'll be hosting the (last?) annual crab dinner. Tickets are \$65. Please contact Debbie Sonsteli or Rosetta Beyersdorf. Looking to get involved? We need volunteers to lead the Clean Up and Membership committees. Many hands make for light work, and there's a lot of work that goes into making the magic happen each month. On that note, a reminder that dues for 2025 will be \$40 and should be paid by the end of the year. (Incidentally, how is the end of the year so close?!)

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
 479-616-6880
Kimberley Asay, President
Americanitalianclubspokane@gmail.com
Marilee Reagor, Recording Secretary
Americanitalianclubspokane@gmail.com

AMERIGO VESPUCCI LODGE NO. 1814
Aberdeen, WA
 Meets the 3rd Thursday of each month
 5:30 PM Social, 6:00 Dinner,
 6:30 PM Meeting
ST. MARY'S PARISH CENTER
 306 East 3rd, Aberdeen, WA
President Joe "Chiacchieri" Chicano
 360-581-1072
cjchicano@comcast.com

AUBURN LODGE NO. 1955
Auburn, WA
www.auburnsonsofitaly.org
 Meets the 2nd Thursday of each month
 Doors Open at 6PM for Social Hour
 Meeting at 7:00PM
 Dinner and Raffle following
HOLY FAMILY CHURCH HALL
 505 17th Street SE - Auburn, WA. 98002
President John Partridge
jpartridge427@gmail.com
 253-350-4922

As always, if finances are an issue, please, please, let us know. In closing, I want to wish all of you a wonderful holiday season. Take time for those you love. If I don't see you at the meeting, have a Merry Christmas and a joyous New Year! Sincerely,
 Francesco Ortenzo, Immediate Past President



**Bella Vita
 #2285, Olympia, WA**

Boune Feste! On Thursday, Nov 7th, Bella Vita met for another fun festa. I cooked a rigatoni with red sauce with mushrooms & meatballs in honor of Member Jim Vettori who passed away in October.



He really wanted to cook that for the lodge but his health didn't allow it. He wanted us to cook together and we talked through his recipe often. I made my changes but everyone enjoyed it and it was complimented by sides, salads, & desserts contributed by all members. I wanted to

try Mary Jane's biscotti but they were so good, there were none left! Thank you to everyone! At Bella Vita, we have our monthly meeting but it is always more of a "festa"! We enjoyed talking about past & upcoming trips to Italy & abroad. We continue our themes of "Back to Italy" but also "Bella Vita First", encouraging members to be involved with one another and promoting our family culture. We have a great time at Bella Vita!



We are looking forward to our December holiday party where Pam Daudet will cook a turkey & we'll all contribute to a huge feast. We'll celebrate both Thanksgiving & Christmas with a traditional turkey meal but also with gifts, lights, music, & dancing! We will be thanking God for His blessings on each of us & our country but mostly for the gift of His Son, Jesus Christ, who lived for us, died for us, rose from the grave, & is coming again! Praise God! We will celebrate Jesus & I hope you do too! Remember that He is the reason for the season! Bella Vita... a beautiful life! Buon Natalie!
 Amber Dahl, Recording Secretary



**Bellevue
 #2377, Bellevue, WA**

The temperatures are going down, but the participation and enthusiasm at our Lodge meetings seems to be going up. Some of it may be the great food we've been having with each meal seeming to be better than the last. At our November 7th Lodge meeting our master chef

**BELLA VITA LODGE No. 2285
 Olympia, WA**
 Meets the 1st Thursday of each month
 Social at 5:30 pm, Dinner at 6:00 pm
 Meeting starts at 6:30pm
 McLane Grange
 931 Delphi Rd SW, Olympia 98512

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

Shirley Delauranti Garrison, Vice President
 253-677-8420 shirleygarrison46@gmail.com

Amber Dahl, Recording Secretary

**BELLEVUE LODGE NO. 2377
 Bellevue, WA**
 Meets the 1st Thursday
 of each month / Social: 5:30 PM
 Dinner at 6:30 PM / Meeting to Follow

UNITY CHURCH
 16330 Northeast 4th Street
 Bellevue, WA 98008

Greg Osgood, President
osgood_g@msn.com 206-669-4312

Michele Guerrini, Recording Sec.
 (206) 979-9147 / guerrini@aol.com

**BLACK DIAMOND
 LODGE NO. 1809
 Black Diamond, WA**
 Meets the 2nd Friday of each month
 Social Hour 6:30 p.m. • Dinner 7 p.m.
 Meeting 8 p.m. and Raffle following

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

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

team of Nello Prissinotti, Cathy Mettler, and Michele Guerrini made sun-dried tomato chicken with pasta for the main dish, Vito Romano made a very tasty salad, Cathy Mettler brought bread, and Laura Cosacchi and Tessa Floreano brought appetizers, Jerry Nonnis brought soft drinks, Brock Ricci brought wine, and Linda Jacobin brought dessert: chocolate covered haystacks which were awesome. Antoinette Folino also had her ambrosia salad which could be a dessert, but it was put out with the main course and there wasn't any left by the time we got around to dessert. Next month we will not be having our regular meeting instead we will be holding our annual Lodge Christmas Party, which we will have again at Enzo's in Issaquah on December 8th from noon until 3:30 pm.

There will be lots of great food and we'll be doing a white elephant gift exchange. This year's Christmas party will be a little more intimate because it will be held in a small room limited to only 40 attendees, but it should still be a lot of fun. We are starting to plan our annual Lodge Wine Tasting which is to be held on April 5th.

Ron Roletto and Nick Degidio will be presenting wines again and of course, we'll have plenty of great food and a raffle with lots of awesome prizes. We've set the price this year at \$35, which is a bit higher than in previous years, but with the prices of everything going up, we had to increase the price. It's still a really great deal and one of the most fun events on the calendar.

We also had some important Lodge business to take care of. As I said earlier everything is getting more expensive and that has been affecting our Lodge finances. Our accounts have been slowly diminishing and our current trajectory is unsustainable. We proposed that our annual dues

be increased from \$50 to \$60. Some members voiced their concerns, but when put to a vote we agreed to the increase. We are also working on how to improve our Lodge meetings. One of the most obvious things is to make the business part of the meeting shorter so that if more of the business was handled by the board we wouldn't need to discuss that business at our general meetings. During the pandemic we stopped having board meetings and have yet to resume, so we are in discussions on how we want to move forward to achieve what would be best for the Lodge and the members.

In Sunshine News, Past-President Mary DeMatteo Sangalang took a fall at work and got a nasty bruise. Mary showed us the bruise and it looked pretty bad. On behalf of the Lodge, we wish you a speedy recovery. In happy sunshine news, our Lodge author Tessa Floreano has a new book coming out called Murder & Matrimony in the Castello. There will be a book launch party at Stimson-Green Mansion on Seattle's First Hill, 1204 Minor Ave, Seattle, and a book signing at Casa Italiana Cultural Center's annual Christmas open house and bake sale. For more information see Tessa's website www.tessafloreano.com. Our upcoming Lodge meetings will be January 2nd, February 6th, and March 6th 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. I look forward to seeing everyone.

Buon Cannoli!
Greg Osgood, President



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

MARYSVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

6805 Armar Rd, Marysville, WA

Patrick Jacoby, President

(425) 478-0757 patrick@glnw.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
Meeting follows dinner

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

We welcome you to our Christmas festivities at the Black Diamond Community Center – a fundraiser on December 7 to take your picture with Santa Claus and enjoy a hot drink with homemade treats – and an invitation to participate in our December 13 potluck Christmas dinner, highlighted by an ugly Christmas sweater competition and a fun tree ornament exchange (\$5 minimum).



In November you met our newest member, Carolyn Conforti, and we are delighted to complete the year by sharing her family story with you.

In 1910 at age 18, my grandfather, Angelo Traina, left the town of Misilmeri (near Palermo, Sicily) for the land of opportunity. He ended up in Chicago where he worked three jobs

to make ends meet – his favorite being elevator operator at a big building downtown. His lively personality and love for people – and the 26 floors worth of time to interact with them – earned him very large tips! He was delighted when he went to church and heard the sermon spoken not in Latin, but in Italian. It was there he met my grandmother, Argia Giovannoni, who had immigrated from Lucca, Tuscany.

They married and raised nine children in a small



house on the southwest side of Chicago. Right after the Great Depression, they managed to buy it for \$5,000 and cram it into the basement so they could rent out the main floor to pay the mortgage. My grandmother grew tomatoes, vegetables, and flowers in the backyard

and made daily trips to the bakery to buy bread. Wanting desperately for the children to take advantage of the educational opportunities he never had, my grandfather was mortified when they started school and could not understand the lessons in English. He forbade them to speak Italian, and in hopes of the kids being more accepted in society, he tried to downplay immigrant stereotypes. There was a slight glitch, however, when his sons made some ominous playground threats about their non-existent “uncle” who “will make you regret that you ever made fun of us...” The taunting stopped and everyone survived, somehow. When my mother moved to Seattle and became a fourth-grade teacher, the self-described city girl met and married my dad, a country boy from a pioneering family in the remote northwest corner of Washington. I grew up in Port Orchard where we raised our own organic meat, vegetables, and fruit – long before this was

**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
ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH
732 18 TH AVE E
SEATTLE WASH 98112
Michael Croce
crocem@pacificfoodimporters.com
206-391-1122

TACOMA LODGE NO. 1175
“The Mother Lodge of the Northwest”
Tacoma, WA
Meets the 1st Thursday of the Month
Doors open at 5:30 Dinner 6:30,
Meeting Follows Dinner
Holy Cross parish hall
5510 N 44th St Tacoma 98407
David Madrid, President
(253) 961-6526
motherlodge@yahoo.com

'cool' – and to this day my mother still makes fresh bread for us to eat straight from the oven. I married Steve Conforti, the great-grandson of Salvatore Conforti of San Pietro, Calabria, who had immigrated to Fall River, Massachusetts, and started his own barber shop. Salvatore's grandson – my father-in-law – had proudly served in the US Army in Korea and Vietnam, retiring in the Fort Lewis area. Fast forward a couple of decades: our daughter, wanting to embrace her roots, studied abroad in Florence and acted as our personal tour guide/interpreter on our first trip to Italy. I became enamored with the language that my mother had lost in her childhood and began my slow, steady, sweet journey to learn la bella lingua. Recently I spoke a little bit of my humble Italian to



my mom. Although she has not heard her mother's voice in almost 70 years, she told me the language brings back memories of her mother talking. She assures me my grandparents are cheering me on. I am thrilled to be welcomed into the Sons and Daughters of Italy, this community that has treated me like family from the minute I walked in the door. I believe my grandparents are cheering us all on! Evviva! Carolyn Conforti

Cataldo

#2280, Bremerton, WA

As a tradition now, our November meeting is 'The Annual Cataldo Soup Kitchen'. Members made eight different kinds of soup to sample. There was



the classic Minestrone, but also delicious Zuppa Toscana, Leek and Potato, Lentil with African Spices, and even Dill Pickle Soup. Members brought unwrapped toys to the meeting to be donated to the local Toys for Tots.



TRE CITTÀ LODGE #2881 TRI-CITIES, WA

Meets the 1st Tuesday of the month
Social/Dinner 5:30 pm

Meeting follows at 7:00 pm

Bella Italia Restaurant

7000 W. Okanogan Pl., Kennewick, WA

Jack Barnaby, President

509 735-2163

jabarnaby@charter.net

John Cacioppo, Recording Secretary

360-509-8287

john.cacioppo2@gmail.com

VANCOUVER LODGE NO. 2690 Vancouver, WA

Meets the 2nd Thursday of each month

**FAMILY OF CHRIST
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

"We're here! We're in the back"

3500 N.W. 129th Street
Vancouver, WA 98685

6:00 p.m. Dinner

Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Barbara Blair, President

(360)253-7984 blairbjb@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

President, Bill Haberstock, presented the Quartermaster of the VFW Post 239, Tommy Thompson, with a check as a thank you for our meeting place in Bremerton. Bill and helpers had record sales of Cannoli at the last fundraiser-- over 190 sold! Pumpkin flavor was very popular... with people looking forward to the booth at the Bazaar. Next will be December 7 at the Crossroads Neighborhood Church, on the corner of Old Military and Fairgrounds Road. It is a huge event with over 40 vendors-- will get you in the Holiday spirit. Rose Marie Leggett and her daughter, Nicole



Davis, returned from a fourteen-day trip to Italy in October. They led a travel group of twelve to Rome, Orvieto, Florence, Siena, Venice, and the Islands of Murano and Burano. It was a very special trip with lots of fun. One of the highlights was a day at a working farm and cooking school a few

miles from Orvieto. After a tour of the farm and walking amongst the olive groves and grapes, they picked fresh vegetables and herbs that were used for dinner. With the help of their chef, a six-course meal was prepared--including Spinach Gnocchi and Wild Boar Broccolo. They then feasted on the fantastic meal.

Joyia Rubens, Reporter



Cle Elum

#1968, Cle Elum, WA

With our upcoming Holidays ahead, the Cle Elum Lodge chose to celebrate Veterans Day and Thanksgiving together at our November meeting.



We had a full house of 30 members and as many dishes brought by our members. Our first half-hour was dedicated to socializing and a lot of laughs. President Mike Butorac called the meeting to order with the tap of the gavel. Mike led our members in the Pledge of Allegiance, a moment of silence for those members no longer with us. Doug Chiechi read the Italian blessing and we recognized all the Veterans in attendance. The Veterans in attendance were Charlie Glondo, Frank Peccia, Dan Rempe, and Ed Depicolzuane.



Rich Grillo updated us on our bank accounts and discussed the options for rolling over maturing CDs. The leadership team answered questions about options. Vice President Kathi Butorac provided a review of our upcoming GLNW See's candy fundraising opportunity, encouraged members to support it, and provided the link for easy access.

We concluded our meeting with Raffle Ticket sales drawings and gifts to the lucky ticket winners and a reminder that our annual Fall Italian Cemetery clean-up is on Saturday. The Turkey tryptophan could not hold this group back. Saturday, eight



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atony@harboret.com
www.osia.org

brave members raked Pine needles, loaded them on tarps, and took the rakings to the city yard. Our Italian rakers were (left to right in the photo) Dee Saldin, Craig Eilers, Patrice Swafford, Rich Grillo, Kathi Butoric, Mike Butoric, Tony Menerich, and Mike Read. We concluded our efforts by lowering the flags and folding them for winter cleaning and storage. Buon Ringraziamento
Sincerely and respectfully submitted, Dee Saldin
Deesaldin@gmail.com



Mille Cugini
#2659, Marysville, WA

We are happy to introduce five new members this



month! Please welcome them, pictured from left to right: Barbara Rakes, Mary Jo (Gaudio) Enyeart, Dianne Riter, Beverly (Paledeni) Riter, and Iris



Smith. Thank you to our President, Patrick Jacoby, who was the caller for our Dessert Auction. He did a great job and had fun too. We raised a nice sum of money for our newly-named Mary Dellino Mille Cugini Scholarship fund.

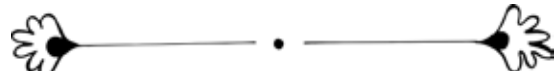
Thank you to everyone who supported us, either by laboring over their homemade items or buying others', and sometimes doing both! We enjoyed



having many guests. Dave Dellino, Linda, and Joe Jacobin brought Ron Roletto, Mark and Chris Gerling, Julie Philips, Kelly Sferas, and Cy Smith all joined us for a lovely and lively evening.

Buon Natale dal Mille Cugini Lodge.

Reporter: Paula Jacoby



Olympic Peninsula
#2733, Port Angeles, WA

Hello from the beautiful Olympic Peninsula. Turkey and all the Thanksgiving trimmings filled the tables for us to enjoy at our November meeting. We had a very abbreviated official meeting in order to have more time to enjoy the great food and everyone's company. We were pleased to welcome as guests a few family members and friends. Giancarlo and Debra Buonpone came with Giancarlo's father, Frank, to this month's meeting, and Judy D'Amico's longtime friend, Judy Persyck joined us as well. It's always a pleasure to have Bill Haberstock, President of the Cataldo Lodge attend with our beloved State Deputy Jackie Haberstock. Bill performs food magic in the kitchen for us while



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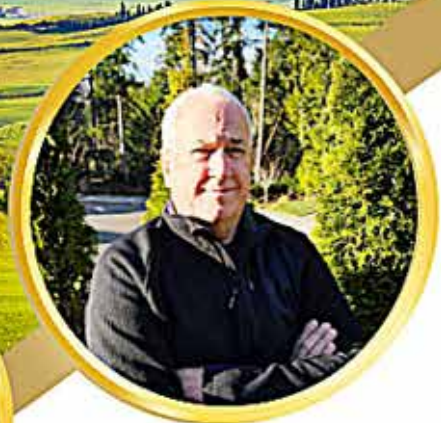
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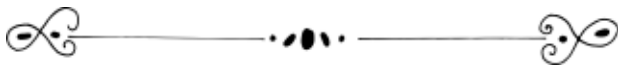
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we have our meeting. It's definitely appreciated. We want to share that one of our founding members, Frank Romeo recently passed away. Frank had been quite ill and unable to be actively involved in the Lodge for several years, however, he enjoyed hearing about Lodge activities and all the latest news. We are grateful for the commitment and hard work he, along with so many others, put into getting the Lodge established. Frank held key leadership roles for many years and participated in all the many Lodge activities. We send our thoughts and prayers to his family. Our next meeting will be our Christmas celebration – who knows maybe Santa will attend... or more appropriately Babbo Natale! May you all enjoy a peaceful holiday season filled with gratitude for daily blessings, and time with friends and family filled with laughter. Ciao for now!
Yvonne Schipani, Recording Secretary



Seattle Fedele
#1390, Seattle, WA

Buon Natale from all of us at the Seattle Fedele Order of Sons and Daughters of Italy In America 1390! Our November meeting was full of laughter and everyone asking and telling everyone how they faired through the storm on Tuesday. This Sorella did well - no power outages at work or

at home, but the drive home that night from Ballard to Lynnwood was very dark and full of tree branches. At one point had to turn around on narrow 3rd Ave. N.W. to avoid a down power line, but I made it! Hope everyone also made it through it with no real damage.

Want to thank the kitchen crew for serving up a wonderful turkey dinner with all the fixins and everyone who volunteered to serve. We are not able to do all this without the volunteers! The raffle at the end of the night was as lively as ever! Thank you to everyone who donated a raffle prize and to all who brought food items to donate to St. Vincent De Paul. It is greatly appreciated.

We welcomed two new members at our meeting: Lori Bono and Derek Weaver. I had to ask my fratellino their names because I wasn't paying much attention (I know that is not a good thing). I was trying to figure out the money for our attendance raffle - which is cash prizes. I am known at work for multitasking, but when money is involved, I can only do that. So welcome to you both from me! Hope that makes up for not paying attention. Here are some "Save the Date!" activities: The first one is our Casa Italiana Dinner Fundraiser will be held on Sunday, January 26, 2025, from Noon to 5:00 p.m. at Casa Italiana -Italian Cultural Center in Burien. The menu is pasta, meatballs, salad, and rolls. This is a "pop by event". Adults are \$20.00 and children are \$10.00. All the proceeds will go towards supporting Casa Italiana. As always, we need volunteers for all jobs. Please contact Holly Cochran at 206-779-1720 to tell her you want to volunteer. Our second one is the Wine Festival. It is being held on Sunday, March 23, 2025, at St. Joseph's Catholic School Hall. More information on this will be forthcoming in future articles. Our next meeting is on the third Thursday of December which is the 19th! There will be a short meeting then the rest of the time will be a

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Buon Natale & Buon Anno

We wish all of you a blessed Christmas Season and a very Happy New Year!

*We're told that Santa will make a very "SPECIAL" appearance in Auburn this month.
God Bless!*



*Tony Bisceglia Anderson, National 4th VP
Linda Buccini Anderson, President of the GLNW*

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graciously provided a place for the Tacoma Lodge to be successful, energetic, and just a place where you want to be. He is one of the most hardworking, talented, and dedicated people I have ever been around. He kept the lodge growing when most of the lodges in Washington were not. He opened his home to our board meetings and made sure our meals were enjoyable. He made our lodge a home and for that, we will all be forever grateful. So, we raise a glass to you David Madrid. Molte, molte grazie! From our lodge to yours: Buon Natale e tante benedizioni a voi per il nuovo anno!

Gina Costanti-Eacrett
President Tacoma Lodge #1175



Tre Città
#2881, Tri-Cities, WA

On November 9th, Tre-Citta Lodge held its annual "Taste of Italia" dinner at the Richland Community Center. This dinner is our fundraiser which provides the Lodge with the funds to award scholarships for worthy students to continue their education. Each year an Italian city is chosen to represent the dinner. This year Napoli was chosen and the table decorations provided information about Napoli. The marinara and meat sauces were prepared by the Lodge's own in-house Italian chefs, Leonardo Luzi and Julianne Barnaby. A large part of the funds we make come from the raffle of gift baskets. This year we had twelve absolutely fantastic baskets which were all provided by Lodge members. The dinner was a success and hopefully, we can award additional scholarships this year. We will not have a business meeting in December, but rather a Christmas Open House at the home of Julianne and Jack Barnaby. In January, we will start the process of selecting our scholarship winners for 2025. Here is wishing everyone a safe and happy Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday from the members of the Tre-Citta Lodge.

Submitted by: Jack Barnaby

party! As our President Mike Croce said, "as only Italians can party". There will be snacks, dinner, a raffle, and music by Bonnie Burch. Come and join us!

Thank you everyone for reading,
Sorellina Elaine Volpone
Sorella Maggiore Chris Gerling Volpone
The Sorelle Pазze



Tacoma
#1175, Tacoma, WA

Saluti dal Tacoma Lodge! This past month has been a whirlwind for the Tacoma Lodge. We had our first Annual Crab Feed on November 4th and it was such a great success. Everyone who was in attendance had a smile on their face, and a pep in their step! The music was amazing, the crab was delicious and the happiness in the room was outstanding! A huge thank you to all who attended, all who donated, and all of the volunteers. Without ALL of you, this would not have been possible. Next year is to be even better and we hope to see you all there. I do not want to have to write this, but our favorite, our president, has resigned. He has

Vancouver USA

#2690, Vancouver, WA

Buone Autunno a tutti. Buone Feste!

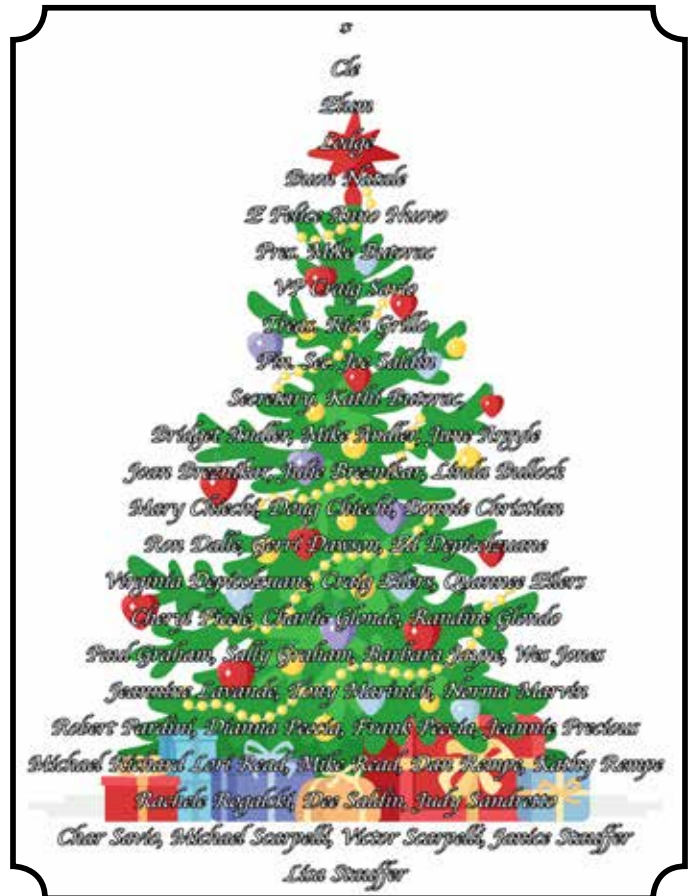
A busy time of year for all of us, with winter coming and the holidays, time with friends and family. Take the time to enjoy them, take the time to have a coffee or lunch, and remember some would enjoy your time not the extravagant gift. Our January and February meetings will be in the afternoon at 2:00 PM on our regular meeting days (Thursdays, January 9th and February 13th) at Family of Christ Lutheran Church, 3500 NW 129th St., Vancouver. We will have coffee and desserts available. This change has been made due to driving conditions in these months. In March, we will be back to our evening meetings. Club News: Our president Barbara Blair has been ill. Please keep her and her family in your prayers. Greg & Cathie Rafanelli are off to Mexico. Buon compleanno to all our December birthdays and Felice anniversario to our December celebrants.

Sunshine Committee: Barbara Blair is in the hospital from a fall. Rosanne Grzesiowski is at home after falling ill.

Please keep all our members in your thoughts and prayers. WHITE ELEPHANT BINGO will be on Tuesday, December 3rd at 7 pm at Linda Cherney's home. Please RSVP to her at nonna4ERM@gmail.com Bring a white elephant gift in a plain bag and a \$1.00 to participate.

Dine out: the dine-out this month is our Holiday Dinner on December 6th. Hope to see you there.

ITALIAN BOOK CLUB Book selection for December is Christ Stopped at Eboli by author Carol Levi. We will meet on Monday, January 13th at Starbucks in the Barnes & Noble, 7700 E Fourth Plain Blvd. at 2:00 PM for discussion. The book is available at Barnes & Noble and Amazon. Please contact Patti Borden at



jpboardan@aol.com with any questions. Andrea Scasso hosts The Italian Hour every other Sunday (December 1-15-29) from 9 to 10 AM on KBOO FM 90.7 Portland OR. Listen to new and old Italian music and updates on what is happening in the local Italian Community.

Note:

Out of respect for Barbara and her family, we are canceling our holiday celebration this year and our December lodge meeting. Barbara is a founding member of the Vancouver Lodge and President.

We wish Holiday Greetings to you, your family, and friends. We will see you all in the New year! Submitted by: Linda Gibson

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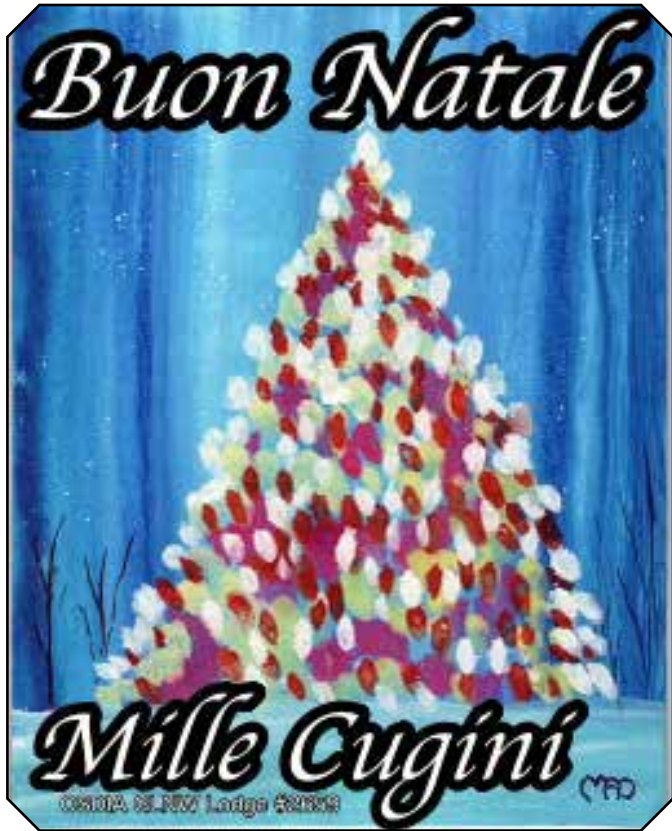
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Salvatore Cascone
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Yakima

#2732, Yakima, WA

The Yakima Lodge's Thanksgiving gathering was such a lovely evening of sharing with each other our fall activities.

Our thoughts are with the Tetreault and Arralde families who recently lost Michelle's son Charlie in a hiking accident. The holidays are

so hard after such a loss. Robin has talked to Katie DeSanto and she is home recovering from surgery. Cards for Michelle and Katie DeSanto would be appreciated.

Jan Fancuillo has asked for a biscotti recipe for a cookie exchange she is participating in. Jeanne suggested we might consider trying a smaller version of a cookie exchange at the Christmas meeting, more to follow.



We missed the Guintoli's who were going over the pass on meeting day for a trip.

Sarah Judd has been in Seaside enjoying her grandchildren. She came back by way of Biggs

to avoid the snowy pass and still made it to the meeting, what a trooper Sarah! Kathi and Mike Buttorac shared their amazing Italian and Croatian trip. They were able to see the remains of a home belonging to an older cousin. Mike has no remaining family in Croatia but felt a connection with his ancestors in seeing this very old home. Connie Blanchard's grandchildren had impressive science fair projects, and she's off on a cruise to Ste Martens next week on a family cruise! Have a wonderful time Connie! Sister Charlyne Brown and Sister Kathleen Ross completed their roof renovation that started at 7:30 every morning with workers pounding overhead and took a week. They are happy to report the

*Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo
from the Amerigo Vespucci #1814 Lodge
Aberdeen, Washington*



roof is beautiful and will keep them dry for many years. Dick Picatti is recovering at home, we sent



greetings and hope he is soon back with us. Don Picatti suggested we participate in the Toys for Tots drive. You may drop off a new unwrapped gift at Picatti Brothers 105 S. 3rd Avenue by the 2nd week in December. Ama Widner traveled to Coalgate Oklahoma to see good friends from military days in Germany and to watch the husband of a friend receive the Teacher Of The Year award for Oklahoma! Congratulations to Robin Miller on her new grandson, Kasen! There is nothing like a new baby to pass around for cuddling at the holidays.

Important Lodge business needs addressing at our December 19th meeting (5:30 PM). If you were not at the meeting please talk to an officer so you will be prepared to vote. Raffle items are always welcome! Have a very Happy Thanksgiving everyone. Respectfully submitted, Jeanne Fasano



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