



# Northwest Italian News

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

USPS 397-200, VOLUME XLV, NO. 1, January, 2025

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

## Coming Events!

**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

**Sat, May 10, 2025, 6:00pm**

Auburn Lodge #1955  
**Wine Tasting,  
Hors d'oeuvres & Raffle**  
Tickets \$35  
Holy Family Church  
505- 17th St. S.E. Auburn  
No one under 21 permitted  
Contact: Debbie Sonstalie  
253-797-9515

**Grand Lodge of the NW  
2025 Biennial Convention  
May 16-18, 2025**

Embassy Suites-Lynwood  
Linda Buccini Anderson  
(253) 225-2483

**Sun. Aug 10, 2025, 12-4pm**

Cataldo Lodge Annual Picnic  
4131 Pine Rd, Bremerton  
Contact: Bill Haberstock  
360-373-4341

Be sure to check with the event  
contacts for any changes.



Buon Capodanno (a good new year) Yes, we are starting a wonderful and exciting new year 2025. So many changes and opportunities for all in the Sons and Daughters of Italy. As I have mentioned, the local lodges need to elect their Grand Convention Delegates, & our Grand Lodge officer elections happen this year at our May 16-17, 2025, convention. Within your own lodges, here is the time to open opportunities for members to get more involved. Bring forward ideas, and suggestions and get beyond "This is how we always do it". Bring more focus towards being

Italian. Here is your opportunity to get more involved and be a part of our future. Now that is exciting. Looking back, we celebrate the lives of so many of our Italian family members who have passed. From the Grand Lodge, our own 4th Vice President Barbara Blair passed. She was an example of a resolute member. She began as a young girl attending lodge meetings with her mother. When she moved to Vancouver, WA, she helped organize the Vancouver USA lodge and was there to do all she could to build and sustain it. She built a family within her lodge. Barbara received the Governor Albert D. Rosellini Award in 2023, which is the highest award we present to a member. So, for all that have lost someone, embrace the person they were to you, especially their love of being Italian and a Member of the Sons and Daughters of Italy. Consider giving a GIFT OF MEMBERSHIP to your family or friend. Help them see what our great organization (family) is all about and why it is important to you and your past loved ones. I know we are family. Remember, many of us have members who are closer to us than our actual family. We see them more often, talk to them, and connect with members in a way we hope we would as a family. Also remember, at times families do not always agree, but we are there for each other. I am immensely proud to see this happening.

Congratulations to all who were winners of the November money raffle. Winners are posted on the [www.GLNW.org](http://www.GLNW.org) webpage. We are onto another fun Fun-Raiser: Pick a square for \$20. Only one hundred are available. Three winners each will receive \$250. You can't beat those odds. Contact me if you are interested. The National Charities coin is also a wonderful gift to acknowledge someone for all they have done as well as support our charities. Contact Tony Anderson (253 677-9366). A picture is on our website in color which helps to better see how beautiful this coin is.

January brings the il sei gennaio, January 6 the Feast of the Epiphany. This is when the Three Wise Men followed a star to bring gifts to the newborn baby Jesus. In Italy, this is a National holiday. La Befana also travels on her broom on this day. Look at the holiday/culture calendar under our website [www.glnw.org](http://www.glnw.org) under member resource. There is so much information to learn and share on our website. How to run a meeting, build and retain membership, upcoming events, and fun information about being an Italian. Take advantage of this resource and encourage others to learn more about our organization and so much more about our Italian culture and heritage...Listen to the great orator Angelo Bianchi's speech- "I am Italian"-on our website. It is very inspirational. Remember that the Grand Lodge Crab dinner is Feb 15-a great gift and lots of fun. Come support it by attending and donating a raffle prize to the event. Contact info is in this newsletter. Finally, another thing the new year brings to all members. Your dues are due this month. Be excited about your love of all things Italian and share this love. Invite a friend to be a member. Happy New Year to all.

Linda Buccini Anderson, President- Grand Lodge of the Northwest  
(253) 225-2483 [linda@glnw.org](mailto:linda@glnw.org)

## American-Italian Club

#2172 Spokane WA



Ciao Amici, January is the month for reflecting on the past and moving forward with new beginnings. As I reflect on the past year, I see many fundraisers and different club activities. Our club's participation in EXPO SPOKANE in May proved to be a very busy venue for us from Opening Ceremonies to participating in different areas throughout the EXPO. Lots of cookies were baked and packaged. And I think we can put pop-ups together "almost" blindfolded. EXPO allowed us visibility in the community and to invite new members to the lodge. We didn't let any moss grow under our feet as we held our



Annual Family Picnic in the summer which also hosted students from Cagli, Italy. A nice concert in the early Fall at Arbor Crest Vineyards was a welcome R & R. And from there it was work, work to put together the "piece de resistant", the rebirth of our Annual Spaghetti

## VINCENZI Amaretto Di Torino



Available at Total Wines & More  
and other fine liquor stores  
[www.BicerinUSA.com](http://www.BicerinUSA.com)



Dinner Fundraiser in November! As you can see our members showed up to volunteer from our reservation/ticket desk

to the kitchen staff the "A Team". Filling bowls for salad and rolls, plating platters of spaghetti and meatballs we rolled and baked 1,034 meatballs. (And we ran out of meatballs) to our dishwashers who kept the party going, and to our student volunteers from Gonzaga Prep. We would like to thank Bill Haberstock the "Cannoli King" who drove down to join us. His cannoli were enjoyed by all, and he sold out! Thank you, Bill, for your contribution to our



dinner. Our Raffles and the Silent Auction were a great success as well! So, when December rolled around, we needed a rest. We held a very short and informal meeting and "Decked the



Halls" with our club Christmas Party where the White Elephant Gift Exchange provided many belly laughs and Gary Bartole stole the spotlight with his many gift exchanges. Gary finally ended up with an adorable pair of socks! A good time was had by all!! Our calendar for 2025 is beginning to fill up. There is the Lunar Festival in February and a possible Spring Fling. These are some of the events we are planning for 2025. Club #2172 wishes everyone good health and prosperity in the new year. Felice anno nuovo! Mangie bene, ridi spesso ama molto ~Eat well, laugh often, love much.

Respectfully submitted,



Linda Marcus, Assistant Recording Secretary

*Amerigo Vespucci*

#1814 Aberdeen, WA

Buon Anno to all the Northwest Sons and daughters of Italy from the members of the Amerigo Vespucci Lodge! Grazie mille to everyone who participated in our festive Christmas dinner party meeting on Saturday, December 7, 2024. A good time was had by all as we feasted on delicious prime rib with au jus, cooked by our wonderful chef Dennis Rogers, and tasty accompanying appetizers and side dishes furnished by members of



Amerigo Vespucci Lodge. The silent auction provided additional fun to the evening. Our thanks to GLNW President Linda Anderson and National 1st Vice President Tony Anderson for joining us. Lodge members were reminded that those who pay their 2025 dues by the end of December will be entered into a \$20 Safeway gift card.

Dues are now \$50 for 2025. President Joe Chicano also reminded everyone about the wheelbarrow raffle



and the Spaghetti/Meatball dinner fundraiser on Saturday, March 1, 2025, at St. Mary's Parish Hall, Aberdeen. The dinner

is \$20 and is limited to 120 people seating. Take-out dinners will also be available. Contact Mark Percini for dinner tickets at (360) 532-1983 or ppercini@comcast.net.



Wheelbarrow raffle tickets are \$5 or 6 for \$20. We will continue to collect Italian-themed items for Wheelbarrow at January and February meetings. GLNW convention

delegate nominations will be presented at the January 16, 2025, meeting. Members were reminded about the GLNW crab dinner on February 15, 2025, in Auburn. Best Wishes for a Happy and Healthy New Year to all. Judith Braddon, reporter

**Auburn**

#1955 Auburn, WA

Our Christmas meeting was short and sweet. We paid bills and issued reminders. We also collected 66 pounds



of food and over \$500 for the Auburn Food Bank! Great work, everyone! Dues for 2025 are now due (\$40). If you haven't yet paid, please do so as soon as you are able. If you have extenuating circumstances, please reach out and we'll figure it out. We have a few remaining tickets to see Thunderbird hockey at the Showare Center on January 18th. Tickets are \$20 and are now open to members of any lodge! I also



*Grand Lodge of the Northwest*  
**Annual Crab Dinner**

Saturday, February 15, 2025

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



**\$65.00 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,  
2025 or when sold out.

To-go pick-up sales are available for \$65 ea.

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



wanted to wish a very special 100th birthday to Auburn member and veteran, Joe Audino. Cent'anni, indeed! Happy birthday, Joe! After the abridged meeting, we



used that extra time to celebrate each other and the holidays. National Fourth Vice President, Babbo Natale,



paid us a visit and handed out presents to the young ones in attendance. We had a wonderful spaghetti and meatball dinner prepared by our kitchen crew. The raffle table was overflowing, and the prize runners (present company excluded) were the cutest (and shortest) they'd

ever been! If you were unable to make the festivities, our January meeting will be at the normal time (Jan. 9th, the second Thursday of the month!). In closing, I want to thank you all for your patience and support throughout 2024 as we continue to establish our new normal at the Auburn Lodge. 2024 brought a lot of change, and I'm excited and hopeful for 2025! In the meantime, allow me to wish a heartfelt "Buon Natale, e Buon Anno" to you and yours!

Sincerely, Francesco Ortenzo  
 Immediate Past President



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

Felice Anno Nuovo! On Tuesday, Dec. 3rd, Bella Vita met for a wonderful celebration of le Feste di Natale!



Pam Daudet cooked 2 turkeys to perfection & members contributed appetizers, sides, & desserts for a full-on feast! Thank you to everyone! Of course, there was wine & music and as part of our Christmas festa, the lodge purchased an array of fun gifts and the night concluded with a fun White Elephant game, also called Yankee Swap or Dirty Santa. Members could either unwrap a gift or steal someone else's gift. Bottles of Moscato were the most popular with Prosecco as a close second. Each bottle was stolen until they were frozen & unable to be stolen again. To make time for the game, our business



meeting was concluded in a swift 15 minutes. There were no complaints about that. What a fun evening! Thanks to our Facebook Guru, Former Lodge President Sophia Risorto, you can check out pictures on our Bella Vita FB page! In addition to cooking turkeys, Pam had been busy making delicious homemade jams. She brought both huckleberry and prickly pear jams



to sell. As many of us had never had prickly pear jam, Pam opened some of each for us to sample. The prickly pear sold out quickly but they

were both amazing! Member Cathy Pearsall Stipek, 92, continues to suffer from health issues but she presses on & is determined to finish her memoir. Cathy is a former politician, having served in the WA House of Representatives and later serving as Pierce County Auditor as well as other roles. She was instrumental in establishing WA's Vote By Mail program. She is an inspiration & we ask that you keep her in your prayers. We know that the national colors of Italy are green, white, and red but at Bella Vita, we are going green! Angelo Fazio has been collecting all the compost & recycle from our meetings to reduce trash and we are very grateful to him! We've decided to take it further & have purchased reusable dishware. Enough of the paper plates; members say they're willing to wash dishes to reduce waste! My favorite part of the evening was when

**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](mailto:cjchicano@comcast.com)

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

I got home & my son, Colton, told me what a great time he had talking to George & Ludy! He loved their stories & wants to hear more! Isn't that what famiglia is all about, the older & younger generations connecting & sharing? On Jan. 2nd, we will meet again to celebrate 2025! Several members volunteered to make soups so the rest of us will pitch in with appetizers, sides, salads, & desserts. We will also be nominating delegates for the GLNW convention & discussing dues & fundraisers. Despite getting back to business, it's always a celebration at Bella Vita. We wish you all Felice Anno Nuovo! Bella Vita... a beautiful life!  
Amber Dahl, Recording Secretary



### **Bellevue**

#2377, Bellevue, WA

The holiday season is upon us and on December 8th the Bellevue Lodge had our Christmas party at Enzo's in Issaquah. The party started with appetizers: charcuterie, and arancini, followed by a buffet-style main course of two types of salads: Insalate Mista and Caesar, pasta a la vodka, pasta boglonese, and chicken



parmesan and bread. And if that wasn't enough it was followed by a dessert of either Crème Brûlée and Tiramisu. Then to top that off, we had our White Elephant gift exchange, which is always the highlight of

the party. Many wonderful gifts were exchanged and everyone went away happy. Unfortunately, the party was a little bit smaller this year with only 24 attendees including one infant: 16-month-old Mila Sangalang, past President, Mary DeMatteo Sangalang's, granddaughter. The smaller attendance meant that there was a lot of leftover food, which many took home to help extend the party possibly for another day or two. I think it's not too soon to remind everyone that our Lodge Wine Tasting is to be held on April 5th at Unity Church, 16330 NE 4th Street, Bellevue WA. 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. Mark your calendars because it's going to be the event of the year.



I don't have any sunshine news to report this month other than our Lodge author Tessa Floreano's new book has come out: Murder & Matrimony in the Castello. There was

a book launch party at Stimson-Green Mansion on Seattle's First Hill and a book signing at Casa Italiana Cultural Center's annual Christmas open house and bake sale. Tessa also had another promotional event for her book and was not able to make our Christmas party. For more information see Tessa's website [www.tessafloreano.com](http://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

#### **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](mailto:gutterman@comcast.net)

**Shirley Delauranti Garrison, Vice President**  
253-677-8420 [shirleygarrison46@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:osgood_g@msn.com) 206-669-4312  
**Michele Guerrini, Recording Sec.**  
(206) 979-9147 / [guerrini@aol.com](mailto:guerrini@aol.com)

#### **BLACK DIAMOND LODGE NO. 1809 Black Diamond, WA**

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

#### **BLACK DIAMOND COMMUNITY CENTER**

31605 Third Ave (SR 169)  
Black Diamond, WA 98010

**Janice Malvesti-Cole, President**  
360.463.4671  
[jmalvesticole@gmail.com](mailto:jmalvesticole@gmail.com)

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



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



Grateful for the love and more in 2024 . . . and wishes for peace to thrive in 2025! Our Picture with Santa fundraiser was a grand success, introducing our own personal Black Diamond Lodge Santa Claus. His



surprise appearance at our Christmas meeting was a highlight for our members, the National and State officers, and those who came from as far as Eastern Washington, Oregon, and Texas. An interactive ornament exchange and raffle generated great fun and laughter. The delicious and abundant potluck Christmas dinner was complemented by a door prize for everyone (donated by President Janice and Treasurer Tom). The past is kind enough to give you lessons; the present is kind enough to give you opportunities, the future is kind enough to give you both. (Matshona Dhliwayo) In honor of our original Charter members, this begins a series of articles about the endurance and resilience of Black Diamond Lodge members who founded our Lodge in 1937. We first introduce you to Arturo Pistoresi. The majority of information is from Black Diamond: Mining the Memories compiled and edited by Diane and Cory Olsen. Arturo was born May 30, 1884, in Pozzeveri (Province of Lucca) Italy, and died January 31, 1960, in

**CATALDO LODGE NO. 2280**  
**Bremerton, WA**

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

**VFW HALL**

190 S. Dora, Bremerton, WA

**MAILING ADDRESS:**

P.O. Box 4243

Bremerton, WA 98312-0243

**Bill Haberstock, President**

(360) 373-4341 / [habpal@hotmail.com](mailto:habpal@hotmail.com)

**CLE ELUM LODGE NO. 1968**

Meets the 2nd Sunday of Each Month

Potluck Dinner 5:00 p.m. Meeting and Raffle follows

**CLE ELUM COMMUNITY CHURCH**

201 East 3rd Street

Cle Elum, WA

Michael Butorac, President

(509) 674-2940/

[mbutorac\\_cabin@hotmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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

Seattle. He is buried in Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Renton, Washington. When Arturo arrived in Black Diamond, like most Italian immigrants he knew nothing about coal mining. According to one description, he was a big man about 6.5 - 7 feet tall with an imposing frame. Since he was big and strong, the first job the mine gave him was pushing the coal car off to dump the rock. Each time he came out with a car he would yell, "Rock-a Car, Rock-a Car!" Later he would learn how to mine. Duda Vernarelli recalled the following story his uncle



told him. One night in the saloon a man would not stop bothering Big Arturo. After continually asking him to stop doing that, Arturo finally had enough so he grabbed the guy, lifted him off the floor above his head, and body slammed him back on the floor. That's how strong he was. Big Arturo was known to go on a drunk

occasionally, so after closing time he would walk up to the mine, get some sleep, then wake up, and go to work. Someone mentioned this to the mine superintendent who said, "Don't you worry. You just leave him alone. He'll sleep a couple hours, and he will turn out more coal than both of you guys together." A federal residence card from 1942 listed his occupation as a miner for the Dale Coal Company in Ravensdale where he also lived. There was some friction between the Italians and the Welsh due to the Italians not being able to speak English well. One night the Italians decided they had enough of this. The Italians gathered outside the saloon and Big Arturo, Big John, Big Andrew, along with Bear Franchini, went in and cleared the place out. As the Welsh were thrown out of the saloon, the Italians waiting outside continued the fight. Afterward that

incident, they all got along great and became good friends. The photo included with this article is courtesy of Arturo's granddaughter, Barbara Flor Billing. History researched by Docent Leonardo Folino for the Black Diamond Museum  
Dr. Marlene M. Palazzo, #1890 Imm. Past President



### Cataldo

#2280, Bremerton, WA

There was a great response at the Cannoli Booth at the Christmas Market in December, with over 140 filled and sold. Bill Haberstock encouraged customers by wandering through the crowd and giving samples. He was helped in the booth by John Lembo, Steve Lebeda, and Carolyn Crabtree -- all while having a great time.



Tony Anderson was Chef of the Month for the December meeting. He made a delicious Penne Pasta with sauce and Italian Sausage. Others brought side dishes and desserts. The VFW was decorated for the Holidays and got us all in a festive spirit. Members contributed

non-perishable food for the collection for St Vincent de Paul. We welcomed member, Giuseppe Grillea, from Bainbridge Island, his wife, Kathleen, and son, Nicky. This time the children in attendance sat together at their

#### OLYMPIC PENINSULA LODGE NO. 2733

**Port Angeles/Sequim, WA**  
Meets 3rd Sunday of each Month  
Social begins at 12:30pm  
Meeting begins at 1:00pm  
Bethany Pentecostal Church  
508 S. Francis St, Port Angeles  
WA 98362

Armando Muggia, President

[muggiaac@gmail.com](mailto:muggiaac@gmail.com) 360-461-5574

#### SEATTLE FEDELE LODGE NO. 1390

**Seattle, WA**  
Meets 3rd Thursday of each Month  
Dinner at 6:15 PM  
Meeting Follows at 7:00 PM  
ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH  
732 18 TH AVE E  
SEATTLE WASH 98112

Michael Croce

[crocem@pacificfoodimporters.com](mailto: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](mailto:motherlodge@yahoo.com)

own table for dinner, and Santa passed out gifts to them. Around the table were Joseph, Olivia, Sophia, Nicky, and Michael. Our raffle after each meeting is always



a good time-- and a good fundraiser. Members bring such nice items-- often a bottle of wine--for the prizes. Happy Birthdays were wished to Steve Lebeda and to Diane and Rachel McBain who celebrate in December. Members paid their dues -- still at \$40-- for 2025. Buon Anno to all...

Joyia Rubens, Reporter



## Cle Elum

#1968, Cle Elum, WA

Buon Natale, from your loyal Lodge on the Eastern Slopes of the Cascades, where we do love our snow. There was no "call to order" from our president Mike Butoric or formal reports from our leaders...in keeping the Italian tradition, we had a full social meeting of nothing except great food, sharing holiday memories, and meaningful conversations about our upcoming



Holiday. Given our weather extremes, our roads were a sheath of ice for the days before our meeting on December 8th. Luckily, the weather calmed, and the roads dried up enough to allow everyone safe travels to our meeting.

The November Bomb Cycle that hit so hard on the west side, seemed so much calmer in our Cle Elum area. We suffered power outages but not nearly the devastation that our members did on the west side of the Cascades. We heard of trees down and no power for more than 6 days. With the blessings of Mother Nature, our members or extended families did not encounter any personal harm or severe damage to their homes. For



this, we are extremely grateful and hope others fared as well. All our members were planning on a potpourri of Christmas events and family traditions. Every option seemed to come up. The cabin stays in the quiet snow, travels to family, baking traditions, reading & relaxing, food and football, and a very generous tradition of taking grandchildren and parents their gifts so they can stay home and do not have to travel.

### 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](mailto:jabarnaby@charter.net)

**John Cacioppo**, Recording Secretary

360-509-8287

[john.cacioppo2@gmail.com](mailto: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.

Linda Gibson 760-450-8057

[Legogibson@gmail.com](mailto:Legogibson@gmail.com)

### 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](mailto:gmawidner@yahoo.com)





In November, we all voted to have a catered Italian dinner to ease the holiday stress. Jeannie's great niece catered. Lasagne, Picante Chicken, Ceasar Salad, Garlic Bread deserts. Such wonderful food that we enjoyed as well as more time to wonder about and share time together on the holidays. We had a fun gift exchange, with the intent for the recipient to guess who would have brought the gift... a few successful guesses were made, and lots of laughs with the wrong guesses. Jeannie Precious was the first correct guess and then admitted to seeing the bag come in with the person, she is a clever one. Buon Natale and Boun Anno  
Sincerely and respectfully submitted, Dee Saldin  
Deesaldin@gmail.com



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



Buon Anno Nuovo a tutti! We celebrated Christmas with a beautiful dinner and a fun gift exchange. Hopefully, everyone who participated took home a nice gift. We definitely didn't go home hungry. There was so much good food including



lots of desserts; I felt like I was on a cruise ship at a dessert buffet! Many wonderful guests joined us for the evening, making it a memorable event. We missed



everyone who couldn't make it, but hope to see them on January 9th, at our next meeting. Remember to share your light and love with others, especially with those who are struggling to find peace during the Holidays.

Buon Anno Nuovo  
Reporter: Paula Jacoby



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## Olympic Peninsula

#2733, Port Angeles, WA

Hello from the beautiful Olympic Peninsula. Not a White Christmas for us, but it was another great get-together with Lodge members and several guests at our December meeting. It is always a joy to see new faces and some familiar family members as well.

There are no strangers to our Lodge meetings; our goal is to make everyone feel “warm, welcome and wanted”. This is a prevalent



phrase our member Peni Cenedella uses often when

meeting and greeting new people. There is no better time than Christmas to embrace this phrase. Our visitors came to us by way of member invites; John



Angalatti, whom Peni happened to meet in the grocery store and invited,

Marty Lanzi, invited by the Muggia family through their church, Dick Grinstad, President of the Sons of Norway lodge, who is always a supporter of our lodge.



The Muggias made sure he knew of our event so he could attend – he is like an old



friend dropping by for coffee. A long-time friend of our member Judy D’Amico, coincidentally named Judy (Persyck) joined us again as well. Family members Geri Zanon, wife of our trustee Don,

and also Debra Buonpane, daughter-in-law to Frank were there. And per usual, CataldoLodge President Bill Haberstock accompanied our favorite State Deputy, Jackie, and helped greatly in the kitchen. We had nearly as many guests as members! Our short meeting was conducted by none other than Santa himself. He was quite jolly and brought a lighthearted approach to the meeting. The group was introduced to an Italian game called Strummolo, which involves a spinning top. A few modifications were made to the specific spinning tops used, but the general idea was conveyed. Santa was generous and provided our members with small gifts, and our guests were treated to a bag of homemade cookies. As 2024 comes to a close, we are all grateful for each other and for the contributions everyone has made to the Lodge. Whether it be via fundraising efforts, holding positions in the Lodge, being encouragers in a time of need, setting up and cleaning up for meetings, and most certainly the endless contributions to our buffet meal. The members make a consistent effort to load the table with both typical and unusual Italian foods from their own family favorites. Spending time together, and looking out for each other, sharing recipes and stories – life sure is beautiful. The Olympic Peninsula Lodge family wishes you all a happy and healthy 2025. Ciao for now!

Yvonne Schipani, Recording Secretary



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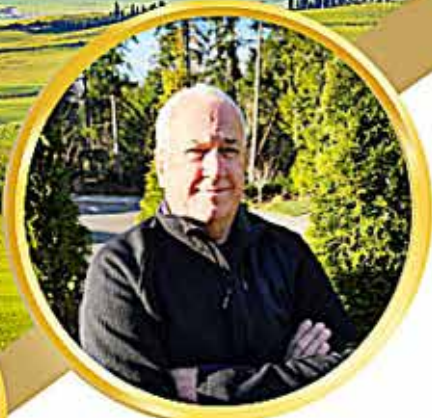
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## Seattle Fedele

#1390, Seattle, WA

Hello Everyone! Happy New Year! Hope you all had a wonderful Christmas. For our meeting on Thursday, December 19th, we used the time to celebrate Christmas as a large family! You could feel the love in the air. Dinner, as always, was definitely worth the wait. It consisted of pork loin, two types of ravioli - cheese



and meat, salad, vegetables, and rolls. For dessert, you have a choice of cake flavors - white or chocolate. Or if there was any left, Christmas Candy. We had a huge raffle, which was a rousing event! Thank you to all for bringing a prize. It makes it special. We had our annual Children's Breakfast and Christmas Party on the 7th of December. We had at least 38 children with their families. The children were very excited about seeing Santa Claus and what a wonderful surprise he had brought them. The story of La Bafana was read to them and they all sat rapt in the story. Thank you to Santa's elf, Florence Carlson, for informing Santa what every child was wishing for Christmas. Music was provided for our listening pleasure by Bonney Birch. Thank you to all who volunteered for this event. Our next

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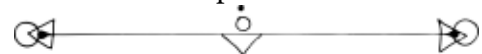
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adventure as a lodge is a stay-and-eat or come-and-go pasta and meatball dinner on Sunday, January 26, 2025, from noon to 5:00 p.m. It will be held at Casa Italiana - Italian Cultural Center in Burien. Cost is \$20 for adults and \$10 for children. Proceeds will be donated to Casa Italiana. Volunteers are needed as always. Contact President Mike Croce to volunteer or for more information - 206-391-1122. That's all for now, Sorelle Pазze, Elaine Volpone



### Tre Città

#2881, Tri-Cities, WA

The members of Tre-Citta Lodge hope everyone had a very merry Christmas and wish you all a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year.



### Vancouver USA

#2690, Vancouver, WA

Buon Capodanno (a Good New Year!)

Festa dell'Epifania, January 6th, Epiphany, also known as La Befana. Lodge News: The Vancouver WA Lodge is sad to announce the passing of one of our members.



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Barbara Blair, (Italian surname: Belloti) was a founding member of the Lodge. She also served as President more than once for the Lodge and all other positions. Barbara was also active with the GLNW, recently as the 3rd Vice President, and their charities. Barbara was active with the Sons & Daughters of Italy for at least 50 years. She was also involved with the Italian Portland Club, Festa Portland, and Club Paesano. She loved her Italian heritage and all the Italian groups she was involved with. She will be missed. Barbara Blair Celebration of Life: January 17, 2025, 11:00 am with repast afterward. St Johns the Evangelist, 8701 NE 119th St. Vancouver, WA 98662 If you can, please bring a donation of cookies for the repast.

Our January 9th meeting will be in the afternoon at 2:30 pm. This is to allow members who are going to the memorial service at 12:00 pm for Walter Johnson, husband of Louise Ramunno-Johnson, who passed in December 2024, time to get to our meeting. We will

have coffee and desserts available. Our February 13th meeting will be in the afternoon at 2:00 pm.

Family of Christ Lutheran Church, 3500 NW 129th St., Vancouver, in the rear of the building. This change has been made due to the driving conditions in these months. In March, we will be back at our evening meetings.

Lodge News: As many of you know our Lodge will be changing officers in the New Year, Linda Gibson will become our President. Other things within the Lodge will also change, Linda is asking for the advice of all the Lodge members. Please come to our January meeting to help us decide what direction the Lodge will take in the future. I believe we would all like to see the Lodge continue. For that to happen, I need your help!

Buon Compleanno! to all our January Birthdays and Felice Anniversario! to our January Celebrants.

Lodge President,  
Linda Gibson

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-Dario Brancato

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No article was submitted.

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*Thank you!!*

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The Northwest Italian News is the official publication of the Grand Lodge of the Northwest of the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America. The Northwest Italian News, USPS 397-200, is published monthly except June and September as part of yearly membership dues at \$5.00 per year at the location of its Editor, Patrick Jacoby, 723 216th St SW, Bothell, WA 98021-8105, (425)478-0757. Periodicals Postage paid at Seattle, WA. All rights reserved. Reproduction by any method without permission is prohibited.



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