Il LEONE

Grand Lodge of California
ORDER Sons and Daughters of Italy IN AMERICA

FEBRUARY 2026
Vol. 79 No. 2

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OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE GRAND LODGE OF CALIFORNIA WHOSE JURISDICTION COVERS CALIFORNIA, NEVADA AND KLAMATH COUNTY IN OREGON.

Dear Members
If the address, name or title is not correct on the mailing label, please send changes to: sonsofitalyca@aol.com. Be sure to notify your lodge Recording Secretary also.

Message From Your State President

MARK VAONA

Here we are coming up on February and I am still recovering from all the Holiday events. We are deep into the planning for this year's convention. By the time you read this, our Convention Coordinators, Lynn Lawrence-Murphy and Lorri Rossi; First Vice President Mark Rossi; Host Lodge President Dan Marinelli; and myself will have met to choose the menus for June. I look forward to seeing all the delegates at convention and hopefully those who have kids or grandkids will bring them. Our Youth Chairperson Brian Watson is hard at work putting together a program for them which we should have ready to announce at the beginning of April.

Grand Council is coming up and will be held in Torrance, CA on March 21.

The meeting will open at 9:00 a.m. at the Centinela Valley Lodge Hall. If you are in the area and would like to attend the Grand Council, see page 2. ■

OSDIA GRAND LODGE OF CALIFORNIA

89th Annual Grand Convention

Location Hints—do you recognize the city from these photos? See page 9 for dates and location of this year's convention!

Message From Your Vice President, Northern Dist.

MARK ROSSI

I hope your 2026 has started off healthy and is heading in a positive direction. How are your New Year resolutions going? The experts say that most of our resolutions don't make it past the 9th of January. I hope that is not the case for you!

How did your Lodge do with Membership in 2025? Do you have any plans for membership recruitment in 2026? We all talk about wanting to grow membership, but few of us are actually able to do it. It's not easy or we all would be doing it. In 2025 we sadly lost the Roseville Lodge and the Vincenzo Bellini Lodge in Chico. A few of their members transferred to the Sacramento Lodge and the Shasta Lodge in Redding. Lodge closings are painful, they are painful for the members that lose their friends and the community of the Lodge, painful for the community that loses a fraternal service organization and painful for all of us who lose longtime friends and members. Preliminarily overall membership for 2025 decreased by 148 members and our Lodge count dropped to 34.

Not all of the membership news was grim; we did have five Lodges with double digit growth and another ten Lodges with single digit growth. With our aging membership it can be a challenge just to keep your membership number the same from year to year.

At the January Presidents' Zoom Meeting, the Napa Lodge shared some of the key ingredients that have helped them grow their membership over the last two years. The Presidents' Zoom Meeting is on the 4th Thursday of each month and it starts at 6:00 p.m. This is a great forum for Lodge Presidents to share best practices and discuss challenges that they are running into.

The Grand Lodge continues to work with National and our local Lodges on implementing the iMembersDB program. At some point in the future National is planning to use the program to calculate National per capita. As that gets closer, it will become increasingly important to keep the Lodge membership data in iMembersDB up to date. Currently, if a Lodge is not using the iMembersDB program, our Office Manager, Alison is keeping their membership data up to date. It would be very helpful if each Lodge could take on the responsibility of keeping their membership data up to date.

The 2026 March Grand Council will be held in Torrance, CA. The Grand Council meeting will be on Saturday March 21, 2026 at the Centinela Valley Lodge Hall. The meeting will open at 9:00 a.m. and is open to any member who would like to attend. Also, the Scholarship Committee will be meeting on Sunday March 22 at the Centinela Valley to review scholarship applications and make scholarship selections.

I was very sorry to hear of the passing of Past State Vice President Joseph Simoni. Joe had been a very active member of the Colombia Lodge serving in many capacities including Lodge President. Joe chaired and served on the State Leadership and Membership Committees as well as some National Committees. I think Joe will be best remembered as a musician. Joe loved to play the accordion. One of my first memories of Joe was watching him and John Linda playing their accordions together. Rest in Peace Joe.

There is still time to reach out to the high schools in your area and let them know about the Grand Lodge Scholarship program. Scholarship applications can be found on the Grand Lodge website at: https://osiaca.org/scholarships/. The submission deadline is March 1, 2026. ■

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DEADLINE IS MARCH 1

By Annette Porter,
Scholarship & Students to Italy Program Chairperson

Our 2026 Academic Scholarships, the Italian Language Study Grant and the Career Education/Trade School Scholarships applications are on our website, https://osiaca.org/scholarships/, as fillable PDFs. The deadline for submission is right around the corner: Sunday, **March 1, 2026 (by postmark)**.

The schools in our Grand Lodge jurisdiction in California, Nevada, and Oregon have already received a letter announcing the scholarships.

Lodge Presidents have received a half-page scholarship flyer and we ask the Lodges' assistance to reach out to their local schools to highlight the opportunities our Scholarship program offers for deserving students wanting to further their education.

Thank you for helping our future leaders!

If you have any questions, contact Annette Porter at ampdynomom@aol.com or (310) 245-4502.

The Scholarship Committee will be meeting on Sunday March 22 at the Centinela Valley to review scholarship applications and make scholarship selections. ■

FEBRUARY 2026

Feb 2	Groundhog Day
Feb 14	Valentine's Day
Feb 16	Presidents' Day
Feb 17	Martedì Grasso
Feb 26	Lodge Presidents' Zoom Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

Lodges with anniversaries this month: Diablo Valley, Joanne Coccia, and Shasta.

PRESIDENTS' ZOOM MEETING EVERY 4TH THURSDAY OF THE MONTH AT 6:00 P.M. THROUGH MAY 28, 2026

Join other Lodge Presidents to discuss varying topics relevant to you and your Lodge. Past topics have included iMembersDB and increasing membership.

Tune in for National and Grand Lodge updates, questions and answers, new ideas, and maybe a fresh perspective about shared issues faced by all the Lodges.

For more information and to get the Zoom link, contact Mark Rossi at mercatoman1@gmail.com or (209) 404-0692. ■

The next meeting is Feb. 26 at 6:00 p.m.

Grand Lodge of California
ORDER Sons and Daughters of Italy IN AMERICA

2026 MARCH GRAND COUNCIL

Saturday, March 21
9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

Centinela Valley Lodge #1991
Sons of Italy Hall
1744 W. Carson St.
Torrance, CA 90501

Members welcome to attend.

IL LEONE MAILING LIST

Alison in the Grand Lodge office is compiling a list of everyone who does not want to receive the printed Il Leone but will read it or download it from our website. Please e-mail her at sonsofitalyca@aol.com so she can let you know when each issue is live on the website.

If your household receives more than one copy of Il Leone and you want to share, please let Alison know which copy to remove from the mailing list.

Thank you!

Baci to all who update information and find typos, errors and inconsistencies in the Il Leone. By letting Alison know, you help make the Il Leone better with each issue. ■

USPS POSTMASTER

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Design & Production: Alison Williams

IL LEONE SPONSORSHIP

For $25.00 a year or more, you can support your Il Leone and see your name in print! Make your payment payable to SOI Western Foundation and mail to the Grand Lodge, noting it is for the IL Leone.

POLICIES OF THE IL LEONE

Each LODGE, STATE VICE PRESIDENT, STATE OFFICER, and COMMITTEE CHAIR is entitled to one, full column (2.36"x15.875") or a shorter two-column space (4.9"x7.65"). For every inch over that you will be charged $3.00 per inch. **Photographs are extra at a cost of $8.00 per photograph.**

Lodges are billed on their per capita billing from the Grand Lodge.

Designer may edit your article to fit. Size of photos are at the discretion of the designer to look their best and fit the space. Resolution of the photos submitted could affect size. Photographs should be high resolution (over 1 MB) and in color.

There will be No Charge for the following:
State President Article
Filial Lodge Fundraiser Event Flyer
Scholarship Recipients

Ad size and cost per issue:
Full Page . . . . . (10"x15.875"). $300.00
1/2 page. . . . . (10"x7.75"). $150.00
1/4 page. . . . . (4.8125"x 7.75") $75.00
1/8 page* . . . . . (4.8125"x3.6875") $37.50
*State Officer/Committee Chairs $36.00

ADVERTISEMENT ARTWORK:
Finished artwork should be submitted as a high-resolution (300 dpi) PDF in CMYK color. (Newsletter is in color on our website but prints in black and white.) E-mail to Alison Williams at sonsofitalyca@aol.com. Make payment to OSDIA Grand Lodge of California and mail to 9300 Madison Avenue, Suite 100, Orangevale, CA 95662.

ARTICLE SUBMISSION

E-mail your article content and pictures to Alison Williams at sonsofitalyca@aol.com. **Non-Lodge/state officer/chairperson/scholarship recipient articles will be charged at the ad rate based on size.**

Deadline for submission is the 15th of the month.

CRISTOFORO COLOMBO LODGE #1534

By Maria Nelson, Lodge Historian

The Cristoforo Colombo Lodge #1534 in Reno, Nevada wishes you a Happy and Healthy New Year. Buon Anno everyone!

November was our charitable giving month. We gave $2,000 each to the Savitt Medical Library, Veterans Guest House, Safe Talk for Teens, and the Saint Francis of Assisi Food Bank. Representatives from each charity attended our dinner and were formally presented with a check. Each member of their respective charities was able to tell us a little bit about what they do in our community. It was great for our lodge members to know how our funds will help these organizations. Our Festa Primavera fundraiser this year was so successful that it allowed us to increase our charitable giving. We are so happy we can help these wonderful and needy charities in our area.

December was our annual Christmas party. We had a record number of people in attendance—114 adults and 8 children! Wow! It was tight but we made room for a Christmas tree and, of course, Santa. Santa gave gifts and candy canes to the children. We took lots of pictures and everyone had fun. Each person or family brought a gift for the raffle. Many people went home with a very nice gift or two. Santa went home with a check for $2,000 for his charity, the St. Baldrick's Foundation which helps children with cancer. We also had an ugly sweater/outfit contest. Our winner did not have an ugly sweater but wore a crazy Christmas suit. It was fun and many people participated.

We continue our Share the Wealth Board at each of our meetings which gives two winners about $87 each. Margaret Spano continues to coordinate the monthly Amici Lunch Bunch which is very well attended at different Italian restaurants in the area. This gives our members a chance to catch up with friends in a more casual atmosphere. I sometimes receive information and articles for the Cheers for Peers section and the Guess Who section of our newsletter. We like to spotlight our members and what they do for other areas of the Reno/Sparks community. These articles and pictures are always fun and interesting. Chris Cifelli sponsored 4 new members this past year so he will receive a free membership in 2026. This is a membership contest we started to encourage members to bring in new members.

Thank you for reading about our Lodge. Buona fine e buon principio (good ending and good beginning).

Please visit our Facebook page at Reno Sons of Italy and our website for more information: www.renosonsofitaly.org. Learn more about our Lodge, your Italian heritage and upcoming events. ■

Charitable giving to St. Francis Food Bank. Dawn and Cindy.

Hugh making "Tom and Jerry's" at the Christmas party.

Eddie—winner of the ugly sweater/outfit contest at the Christmas party!

Santa with the OSDIA Board

Santa with our youngest family member.

DOLLY SINATRA LODGE #2400

By Danny Lodolo

Buon San Valentino, Amore Mio!

Per San Valentino la primavera fa capolino. For St. Valentine spring peeks out. This is just one of the beautiful Northern Italian sayings about the month of February. This one is especially true here in sunny Coachella Valley where a good amount of intermittent showery weather around The Holidays has given way to fresh flora, blue skies, cool breezes, and temperatures into the warm 80s. The hundreds of pickle ball courts and golf courses in the area are filling as The Valley balloons to many times its normal size this time of year. In January alone La Quinta hosted PGA's AMEX Golf Tournament, and the area was filled with many concerts and well attended events at the several casinos and arenas.

Not to be outdone, The Dolly Sinatra Lodge kicked off the year with the stylings of Brian Scott at its first weekly club celebration. House favorites Michael D'Angelo and Tony Di Jerlando entertained the following two weeks and brought many members together for dinner and a show. The month's final meeting was hosted by a new, soon to be house favorite, singer Sharon Sills.

Looking ahead, The Dolly Sinatra Lodge looks forward to a full slate of entertainment in February and March. The pinnacle of our weekly entertainment is the much-awaited return of long time Coachella Valley singer and Dolly Sinatra Club President Larry Capeloto.

If you intend to come to The Desert to enjoy our weather or simply find yourself here per gioco or per divertimento (for fun or for play) on a Tuesday evening, please call your OSDIA family here in The Desert to join us for a night of entertainment and good food. ■

Dolly Sinatra Lodge 2400

CESARE BATTISTI LODGE #1518

By Gina Jacquez

Sons and Daughters of Italy Cesare Battisti Lodge No. 1518 hails from Petaluma, CA.

As we close out another beautiful year together, our Lodge gathered for our Annual Christmas Dinner on December 6. It was an evening filled with good food, shared stories, laughter, and the warmth of being together. Just the way it should be! Moments like these remind us that our Lodge is more than an organization; it is a famiglia.

November saw 11 new members sworn into our Lodge.

We celebrated Elsie Albertoni's 102nd birthday! She has been a member of OSDIA for 69 years!

We are also very proud to welcome 11 new members who were sworn in at our November meeting. We extend a heartfelt benvenuti to each of them. We look forward to getting to know them better and sharing our traditions, service, and friendships for many years to come.

As we look ahead, there is much to be excited about. Our Butter & Egg Days Parade Salami Toss Booth, which was such a success last year, will be back again in April, and this year our lodge will also be riding in the parade. We are also looking forward to our Festa della Mamma Dinner on May 9, a special time to gather and celebrate the mothers who are the heart of our families.

This year, we are especially honored to celebrate a remarkable milestone. Our beloved member, Elsie Albertoni, recently turned 102 and has been part of the Sons and Daughters of Italy for 69 years. This extraordinary dedication is a true testament to the strength of our traditions and the bonds that connect generations.

As we start this new year, we wish all members and their families a Happy New Year—Buon Anno! May it be filled with good health, love, and time spent with family and friends. We look forward to another year of friendship, tradition, and community with our Cesare Battisti famiglia.

Con affetto, Cesare Battisti Lodge No. 1518. ■

HANFORD LODGE #1543

By Jackie Giacomazzi

Hanford Lodge #1543 enjoyed a polenta & stew dinner at its January meeting. As a tradition, the Leoni & Nardini families have hosted this event for over 50 years. Many thanks to President Michael Leoni, Mark & Debbie Nardini, Mycaela Leoni & her son, Kixton who helped prepare a very delizioso meal for members & guests to enjoy. Members were honored to have State Trustee, Central (Head Trustee) Pamela Buldo & Pauline Richmond, from the Enrico Caruso Lodge present as well as Larry Dutto, President of the Roma Lodge.

Hanford Lodge will host the United Lodges of the San Joaquin Valley meeting on March 8, 2026.

Happy Valentine's Day! ■

Michael Leoni and Pam Buldo.

Leoni Nardini Family with Polenta Stew

Hanford
Lodge 1543
ORDER
Sons and Daughters of Italy
IN AMERICA

JOANNE COCCIA LODGE #2553

By Michaelynn M. Minicucci, Lodge President

I wanted to share with everyone our Christmas celebration we held at the Joanne Coccia Lodge #2553 December meeting on the 21st at the Hilton Garden Inn in Fontana. We had very special guests attend our party, State President Mark Vaona and First Lady Gilma Vaona along with Centinela Lodge President Annette Porter. Also in attendance, our own State VP of the South Paul Finazzo and State Trustee of the South Ron Manna who are also members of our lodge.

Family, friends, new and future members came to celebrate the Holidays with us.

We had a fabulous catered holiday luncheon and music by DJ Carlos. We raised money with prize donations from myself and Nick Masseria, and a beautiful hand-made quilt made by our Historian MaryAnn Beckham.

It was a really nice day and I am so proud to represent these amazing members of our lodge.

Happy New Year to everyone! ■

ROMA LODGE #1573

By Larry Dutto, Lodge President

Roma Lodge will be conducting our major fundraiser for the year at the World Ag Expo February 10–12 at the International Agri-Center in Tulare. For the past 12 years Michael DePaoli, Melissa Watkins and Maci Daramy have chaired the event. As shown in the picture below are part of the over 50 lodge members who helped cook and serve Italian sausage sandwiches, pasta, salads and a variety of other menu items to some of the over than 100,000 attendees to the show. What you don't see are the countless hours many members spend getting the booth ready for the show, showing up everyday to cook pasta, BBQ sausage or run back and forth to get all the supplies to conduct a food booth for the week.

Roma Lodge #1573 has been at the show since its inception back in 1968. Every local lodge has a mission of carrying on the Italian Culture; and what better way to do that than with great Italian food, served to visitors from over 80 countries from around the world. Proceeds from the fundraiser are used to donate to the community, operate our Lodge and showcase what we do in Tulare County.

Roma Lodge members voted at our January meeting to submit bylaw changes for consideration at the 2026 Grand Lodge reducing the number of days of the convention to 2 and limiting delegates to 1 or 2 depending if your lodge has less than or more than 25 members. We also are suggesting that conventions be held every other year when elections are held. Roma Lodge was successful a few years ago to change the bylaw doing away with fines to local lodges who do not attend the convention. The vote was 84-0 in favor of that change. If you would to review these bylaw changes simply go to the Roma Lodge website, Resources | roma-lodge.

We would like your support in making these changes to the organization. ■

SACRAMENTO LODGE #1352

BOCCE AND PICNIC

Come join the Sacramento Lodge #1352 for a day of Bocce, Raffle, and Fun!

DATE: *Saturday, May 2, 2026*

TIME: *Check-in at 9:30 a.m.*

Tournament Starts at 10 a.m.

Lunch at 12 noon

LOCATION: East Portal Park, 1120 Rodeo Way, Sacramento

ENTRY FEE: $30 for Bocce and Lunch (Per Person)

$10 for Lunch Only (Per Person)

Sacramento Lodge 1352
Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America

For more information call Danny Marinelli at 916-698-2928

Individual players are welcome!

SHASTA LODGE #2453

By Telly D. Vinci

Happy February (and Valentines Day) from Shasta Lodge!

It was a pretty quiet January here. We had one catered event, the RPD Explorers Dinner, which is always a good time.

Now we gear up for our biggest event of the year...The Crab & Clam Chowder Feed on Friday February 6th and Saturday February 7th.

Featuring an antipasto platter, bread, salad, clam chowder, and of course, the main event... CRAB!

We will also have lots of raffle items both nights.

For questions or information on availability of tickets, you can contact John & Cheryl at 530-215-1333

This year, our anniversary dinner party will be on Saturday March 14th, where we will announce our most honored member for 2025. More information to come next month.

Our Spring Bocce League will begin in mid-April. Stay tuned for more info next month or you can check our website.

Lodge Scholarship applications are due by March 31, more info on the website

Our Lodge teams up with our local chapter of the Special Olympics and supports them in their activities and events. This year they are doing a "sponsor a sport" campaign to help keep their year-round sports and activities going. You can choose to sponsor a specific sport or make a general donation. Your donation directly funds the equipment, uniforms, facility use, and travel expenses for our local athletes, at no cost to them. For questions or more information how you can help, contact our area director, Stephen Bell at 530-410-8220.

That's all for now, until next month... ■

Shasta Lodge Crab and Clam Chowder Feed will be on Friday, February 6 and Saturday, February 7. Contact John or Cheryl at (530) 215-1333 for information.

RENAISSANCE LODGE #2259

EUREKA LODGE #1274

By Joe Bonino, Lodge Historian

The February meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 24th at 6:00 p.m.

It is scholarship time again. Please remind friends and family with high school seniors that the Eureka Lodge Pinochi/Stagnoli scholarship applications are available. Contact committee chair Marie Sorci at 707-599-7370 for applications. Deadline is April 15th.

Our Christmas Party on December 7th was fabulous. The dinner was superb and the atmosphere in Bill Chino's new nightclub in the basement of the historic Jacoby Storehouse in Arcata is enchanting.

I was reminded by Josephine Silva that she is Eureka Lodge's third published author. Her series of Berry Bear children's books (with original drawings by Josephine) are available directly from her or in local bookstores.■

Eureka Lodge member/chaplain/author Josephine Silva sits in Santa's chair in front of the giant Christmas tree in the main lobby of the Jacoby Storehouse building in Arcata.

SICILIAN SPIEDINI POEM

By Anthony N. Finazzo

It was the night before the New Year, and throughout the evening, the Sicilian Beef Spiedini were spread.

The meat is cut thin, slightly pounded, dipped in extra virgin olive oil, covered with Italian crumbs of bread.

Oh! of course, slices of onions and fragrant bay leaves put between each side of the spiedini to make it right.

No cookies, no milk, cakes, pies or reindeer in sight, just garlic cooking and ground beef meat prepped tonight.

These Spiedini alla Siciliana are a traditional Sicilian dish and a cherished family recipe.

Thin slices of breaded beef cutlets are stuffed with ground meat. Why? You'll see with glee.

The grill was ready for the spiedini to be broil while the propane was hot and full.

I would guarantee each one to be delicious and savoring, for sure, that's no bull.

The white onions were weeping and carbolizing next to the bay leaves giving them extra flavor.

The whole process only takes about 5 minutes on each side for them to savor.

The children were nestled nice and cozy dreaming of Santa and his toys.

While the adults dreamed only of the Sicilian Spiedini to be eaten with all of the girls and boys.

When out by the BBQ there rose such a wonderful smell, it was a matter of time to remove them from the grill.

I dashed to the grill with tongs in my hand, removed each one carefully and gave everyone a thrill.

The onions had caramelized to perfection and the bay leaves gave them extra special flavor of perfection.

In the end the whole procedure was a thrill for everyone to witness with all of their suggestions.

Then what to my surprise, my running nose and watering bloodshot eyes, it suddenly did appear,

Each and every Sicilian Spiedini so juicy they did nothing but spread holiday cheer.

I flipped them carefully and whispered very loud and real nice.

Don't burn on me now-I went the extra mile and paid extra for the spice.

Away to each platter they flew very carefully without a miss.

Leaving smoke in the air and zero regrets and not a single hiss.

Genoa Salami is optional and adds another one of flavor, but must be sliced very thin.

It really compliments the other ingredients and will not be consider a sin.

Each Spiedini were eaten so fast by all, there were hardly nothing to see.

They were so expensive but were well worth the cost and definitely not free.

And I heard them all say with mouth, quite still half full, this is a real steal.

"Forget Santa, cookies, cakes and pies – this Sicilian Spiedini meat is a good deal"

These Spiedini alla Siciliana are a traditional Sicilian dish and a cherished family recipe.

Now it time for everyone to enjoy the best, if not the best meal for sure, you will see.

And don't forget to finish this special meal with a classic dessert, like Cannoli.

Now when you are finished with this wonderful meal you will thank God the very Holy.

So, here's to loud chewing, pants and shirts fitting tight,

Buon Natale e Buon Anno to all. Now please pass one more delicious Sicilian Spiedini for me tonight!

Reminders, Updates, and Information

NOTE DALL'UFFICIO

By Alison Williams, Grand Lodge Office Manager

Deep Dive into Logos, Advanced Edition!
Your Lodge's logos are stored on iMembersDB and can be downloaded for your use. Or you can call me and I can send them to you. How to download your Lodge's logo from iMembersDB:

In iMembersDB, top menu: select "My Lodge"
> Select "Lodge Files" icon
> Select "Secure" tab
> Select File: "Lodge and OSDIA Logos"
> Select Folder: "Local Lodge Logos"
> Select and download each logo

There is a horizontal logo (example on page 5), a vertical logo (example on page 3) and a "reversed out" logo for both orientations. Reversed out means the logo can be printed white on a dark surface. Reverse logos are tricky. Check with me before using the reverse logos or if you need help with a logo for a particular application. For example, if you need a logo that is only one color, contact me.

Also stored with the logos is the Brand Guide Book that explains rules for using our logos and lists our brand typefaces. It is good information to know so that we all present OSDIA consistently and attractively.

Which logo file format do you use and when?

There are three types of files for each logo version: PNG, Ai (Adobe Illustrator), and PDF. The chart below explains the difference between these logo file formats.

For each logo version (vertical, horizontal or reversed out) there are three file types:	
There is one you probably can't open or view; that is an Adobe Illustrator (Ai) file.	Send the Ai and PDF file to vendors that require a "vector" logo for printing t-shirts or other merchandise.
There is a PDF version.	Use the PDF when adding a logo to something you will PRINT.
There is a PNG version.	Use the PNG logo on website/social media only. (Of course, if you have an older Word or Publisher on your computer, this may be the only logo you can use and it will be fine because the logo is so large. It's resolution will stay high enough as long as you do not enlarge it.)
What is the difference between a raster (PNG) and a vector (Ai/PDF) logo?	
RASTER Why only use PNG on websites/social media? A PNG is a raster image (made up of pixels), it is low resolution, and meant to be used "on screen". When enlarged, it loses resolution and becomes even more pixelated.	**VECTOR** The Ai and PDF files can be enlarged or reduced without any loss of resolution because they are vector or line art.

MORE REMINDERS:

- Please have your insured members update their Beneficiary Forms and send a copy to me.
- Please continue to send in the green Monthly Membership Changes Form when canceling, updating, correcting or marking a member deceased. ■

OSDIA GRAND LODGE OF CALIFORNIA

89th Annual Grand Convention

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24–SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 2026

Sacramento is named after the Sacramento River, which was named by Spanish explorer Gabriel Moraga in the early 1800s. The city of Sacramento was founded in 1849 during the Gold Rush. In 1950 California becomes the 31st state in the Union. On February 25, 1854, Sacramento becomes the permanent capital of California after moving around for five years.

Planning has started for this year's convention and the Convention Committee is looking forward to welcoming Delegates and members to the Capital of California!

The 89th Annual Grand Convention will be held from Wednesday, June 24 to Saturday, June 27, 2026 at the Hilton Sacramento Arden West Hotel on 2200 Harvard Street.

More details to come!
DELEGATE PACKAGES WILL BE MAILED TO FINANCIAL SECRETARIES/LODGE PRESIDENTS IN THE FIRST WEEK OF APRIL.

GRAND LODGE OF CALIFORNIA • LODGE DIRECTORY

ANAHEIM LODGE No. 2076
Anniv. May 3, 1958
ANAHEIM
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212 S. Kraemer Blvd., Unit 207, Placentia, CA 92870
(201) 562-4786
lovesemblem469@gmail.com
Rec. Secty. Frances D'Errico
7424 E. Calle Durango
Anaheim Hills, CA 92808
(714) 469-1020
derricofa@sbcglobal.net
Meets 1st Wed., 7:30 p.m., NOT EVERY MONTH.
Contact Pres. Mariann Aita or Rec. Sec. Fran D'Errico for meeting date and location.
www.anaheim2076.org

CAMELIA-COLOMBO LODGE No. 1294
Anniv. June, 1924
KLAMATH FALLS, OR
PRES. OLIVER SPIRES
224 Mountain View Blvd.
Klamath Falls, OR 97601
(541) 891-8617
ospires@charter.net
Meets 3rd Mon., 6:30 p.m., 815 High St., Klamath Falls, OR 97603

C. COLOMBO LODGE No. 1315
Anniv. Aug. 31, 1924
ANTIOCH
PRES. ROSANNE ORTLAND
247 Mariposa Dr.
Pittsburg, CA 94565
(925) 783-8315
Queenrose85@yahoo.com
Rec. Secty. Pamela Bustos
1859 Chaparral Dr.
Pittsburg, CA 94565
(925) 642-8658
pam.bustos2136@gmail.com
Meets 2nd Tues., 7:00 p.m., American Legion Hall
403 W 6th St.
Antioch, CA 94509
www.soiccololmbo1315.com

CENTINELA VALLEY LODGE No. 1991
Anniv. Mar. 20, 1949
TORRANCE
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19310 Ronald Ave.
Torrance CA 90503
(310) 245-4502
ampdynomom@aol.com
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(310) 251-5710
BellaT437@sbcglobal.net
Meets 2nd Wed., 7:00 p.m., Order Sons of Italy Hall
1744 W. Carson St.
Torrance, CA 90501

CESARE BATTISTI LODGE No. 1518
Anniv. Jan. 28, 1929
PETALUMA
PRES. JOHN ALBINI
P.O. Box 2121
Sonoma, CA 95476
(707) 337-4695
John@albinisonoma.com
Rec. Secty. Anna Biggio
125 Rogue Moraes
Mill Valley, CA 94941
(415) 388-1998
sonoioann@gmail.com
Meets 3rd Thurs., 4:30 p.m., Herman Sons Hall
860 Western Ave.
Petaluma, CA 94952

COLUMBIA LODGE No. 1940
Anniv. July 30, 1944
SAN MATEO
PRES. ANGELO FANUCCHI
3721 Wilshire Ave.
San Mateo, CA 94403
(650) 678-1993
angsm42@gmail.com
Rec. Secty. Angie Fanucchi
3721 Wilshire Ave.
San Mateo, CA 94403
(650) 228-6013
angsm42@gmail.com
Meets 4th Tues., 11:00 a.m., Peninsula Italian American Social Club, 100 North B St., San Mateo, CA 94401
columbia_1940@yahoo.com
www.sonsofitalysanmateo.com

COLOMBO-STELLA LODGE No. 1149
Anniv. Sept. 22, 1922
FRESNO
PRES. STEVEN BARRA
850 W. Jensen Ave.
Fresno CA 93706
(559) 974-2345
stevebarra@gmail.com
Interim. Rec. Secty.
Diane Barra
850 W. Jensen Ave.
Fresno, CA 93706
(559) 974-2345
Meets 3rd Tues., 6:30 p.m.
Contact Steven Barra for meeting details
www.sonsofitalyfresno.org
sonsofitalyfresno@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/pages/Sons-Of Italy-Fresno-Colombo-Stella-1149

CORNELIA-VITA NUOVA LODGE No. 1198
Anniv. April 21, 1923
SAN FRANCISCO
PRES. JENNIFER DE PALMA-CHANDLER
3825 Webster St
San Francisco, CA 94123
(415) 637-7080
ladonnadepalma@gmail.com
Rec. Secty. Maria Fassio-Pignati
268 Delmar Way
San Mateo, CA 94403
(415) 370-3956
abondnza@aol.com
For lodge meeting date and location please contact lodge Rec. Secty.

CRISTOFORO COLOMBO LODGE No. 1534
Anniv. June 14, 1929
RENO, NV
PRES. DAWN ROMERO
12410 Westridge Dr.
Reno, NV 89511
(775) 350 2442
romerowestridge@gmail.com
Rec. Secty. Margaret Raulino
2350 Roanoke Trail
Reno, NV 89523
(530) 318 2173
tahoeeyedocs@sbcglobal.net
Meets 4th Wed., 6:00 p.m., Reno Elks Lodge
597 Kumle Lane
Reno, NV 89509
www.renosonsofitaly.org

DIABLO VALLEY LODGE No. 2167
Anniv. Feb. 13, 1966
PLEASANT HILL
PRES. LINDA PARENT TASCA
4014 Lynwood Ct.
Concord, CA 94519
(925) 825-2560
lptcatlady@yahoo.com
Rec. Secty. Francine Loyd
225 Rainbow Dr.
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
(925) 933-1578
Meets 2nd Thurs., 12:00 noon, VARIOUS LOCATIONS

DOLLY SINATRA LODGE No. 2400
Anniv. May 29, 1977
PALM SPRINGS
PRES. LARRY CAPELOTO
80245 Royal Dornoch Dr.
Indio CA 92201
(760)219-3267
Rec. Secty. Donna Martella
78234 Grape Arbor Ave.
Palm Desert CA 92211
(510) 821-7000
Meets 2nd Tues., 6:00 p.m., Dolly Sinatra Lodge Hall, 1700 Sahara
Palm Springs, CA 92262
www.dollysinatralodgeosia.org
info@dollysinatralodgeosia.org

ENRICO CARUSO LODGE No. 1463
Anniv. June 27, 1927
VISALIA
PRES. LARRY ROMANAZZI
1150 N. Rossmoor Ct.
Visalia, CA 93291
(559) 733-1461
larry@msrcpa.com
Rec. Secty. Pam Buldo
(559) 799-8697
pjbuldo@aol.com
Meets 2nd Thurs., 5:30 p.m. Dinner, 6:30 p.m. Meeting, Whitendale Center
630 W. Beech
Visalia, CA 93277
visaliasonsofitaly.club.offificelive.com

EUREKA LODGE No. 1274
Anniv. Mar. 16, 1924
EUREKA
PRES. JEREMY SORCI
725 6th Street
Eureka, CA 95540-2841
(707) 499-6674
jeremy.sorci@yahoo.com
Rec. Secty. Laura Lazzarotto
2911 C Street
Eureka, CA 95501
(707) 499-6674
Meets 4th Tues., 6:00 p.m., St. Bernard's Parish Hall
7th & "I" St.
Eureka, CA 95501
sonsofitalyeureka@gmail.com
Facebook.com/Order.Sons.of.Italy.Eureka

FRATELLANZA GARIBALDINA LODGE No. 1627
Anniv. Apr. 17, 1932
SAN DIEGO
PRES. JOHN ORSINI, Jr
4098 Avati Dr.
San Diego, CA 92117
(619) 992-1927
johnorsini12@gmail.com
Rec. Secty. Anthony Contasti
2246 Union St.
San Diego, CA 92101
acontasti1@cox.net
Meets 3rd Tues., 5:30 p.m., 5717 Pacific Center Blvd., #100, San Diego, CA 92121
www.sonsofitalysd-1627.org

GIUSEPPE VERDI LODGE No. 1441
Anniv. Sept. 6, 1927
SPARKS, NV
PRES. MONICA DOMINI
3550 W. Plumb Lane
Reno, NV 89509
(775) 843-3733
monicadomini@gmail.com
Rec. Secty. Cathleen Sarratea
2069 Meritage Dr.
Sparks, NV 89434
(775) 322-5331
lambchopcs@yahoo.com
Meets 4th Tues., 6:30 p.m., Immaculate Conception Church-Social Hall
2900 N. McCarran Blvd.
Sparks, NV 89431
www.sonsofitaly1441.weebly.com

HACIENDA LODGE No. 2168
Anniv. Apr. 17, 1966
WHITTIER
PRES. BILL VIVERTO
1021 Clintwood Ave.
La Puente, CA 91744
(626) 261-2879
bverdo@aol.com
Rec. Secty. Carrie Harrison
2520 Summershade Dr.
La Habra, CA 90631
(562) 400-9663
OPCarrie@cs.com
Meets 2nd Mon., 6:00 p.m., Whittier Elks Lodge
13620 Whittier Blvd.
Whittier, CA 90605
www.osiahaciendalodge.com

HANFORD LODGE No. 1543
Anniv. July 27, 1929
HANFORD
PRES. MICHAEL LEONI
315 W. Earl Way
Hanford, CA 93230
(559) 212-8773
mleoni1080@gmail.com
Meets 2nd Tues., 6:00 p.m., Kings County Historical Society Meeting Hall
14060 Hackett St., Hanford (Grangeville), CA 93230,
www.sonsofitaly1543.org
www.sonsofitaly1543.org

JOANNE COCCIA LODGE No. 2553
Anniv. Feb. 19, 1984
FONTANA
PRES. MICHAELYNN MINICUCCI
140 W. Pioneer Ave., #101
Redlands, CA 92373
(909) 855-5437
michaelynn66@live.com
Rec. Secty. Josephine Dudeck
108 Cascade Ct.
Redlands, CA 92373
(951) 347-1516
jdudeck68@gmail.com
Meets 3rd Sun., 12:00 p.m., Fontana Elks Lodge
1540 W. Rialto Ave.
Fontana, CA 92335
www.facebook.com/JoanneCocciaLodgeSOIosia_2553@yahoo.com

LA COSTA DEI FIORI LODGE No. 2424
Anniv. Oct. 22, 1978
ENCINITAS
PRES. TONI McMAHON
Sons and Daughters of Italy, North County San Diego
P.O. Box 231724
Encinitas, CA 92024
(760) 822-2338
tonimcmahon64@gmail.com
Rec. Secty. Marina Jurich
4511 37th St., Unit 6
San Diego, CA 92116
marinajurich1@gmail.com
(619) 871-4006
Meets 1st Wed., 6:00 p.m., Sky Loft Community Center
1475 Sky Loft Lane
Encinitas, CA 92024
www.sonsofitalysandiego.org

MODESTO LODGE No. 2021
Anniv. March 23, 1952
MODESTO
PRES. MELANIE PARKER GOMEZ
3912 Maui Terrace
Modesto CA 95355
(650) 678-0479
mparker2010@yahoo.com
Rec. Secty. Sara Shupp
1136 El Vicino Ave.
Modesto CA 95350
(209) 480-8857
Meets 2nd Fri., 6:00 p.m., Grace Lutheran Church
617 W. Orangeburg Ave.
Modesto, CA 95350

NAPA LODGE No. 2043
Anniv. Mar. 28, 1955
NAPA
PRES. MARISA SILVA MILLER
101 Hillside Ave.
Napa, CA 94558
(707) 477-5538
napasonsdaughtersofitaly@gmail.com
Rec. Secty. Jenny Gass
4445 Stillson St.
Napa, CA 94558
(707) 307-3866
napasonsdaughtersofitaly@gmail.com
Meets 3rd Wednesday
Chef David Thater
RSVP Marisa Miller
(707) 477-5538
Happy Half Hour Social 5:30 p.m., Dinner 6:00 p.m., Meeting 7:00 p.m.
Native Sons Hall
937 Coombs St.
Napa, CA 94559
www.napasonsanddaughtersofitaly.com
napasonsdaughtersofitaly@gmail.com

NORTHERN SOLANO LODGE No. 2534
Anniv. Jan. 16, 1983
FAIRFIELD
IMM. PAST PRES. MARK ROSSI
4540 St. Andrews Ct.
Fairfield, CA 94533
(209) 404-0692
mercatoman1@gmail.com
Rec. Secty. Shirley Firpo
8057 N. Meridian Rd.
Dixon, CA 95620
(707) 678-2455
slfirpo@jps.net
Meets 3rd Thurs., 6:00 p.m., Fairfield Senior Center
1200 Harry Price Dr.
Fairfield, CA 94533
www.OSDIA2534.com

PUGLIESE LODGE No. 1375
Anniv. Sept. 5, 1925
LOS ANGELES
PRES. MICHAEL DiGIURO
1957 Mt. Shasta Dr.
San Pedro, CA 90732
(310) 292-8802
mgdigiuro@yahoo.com
Rec. Secty. Rosemarie Vanderhaar
801 West Duarte Road #I
Monrovia, CA 91016
(626) 222-7768
rgeorev@aol.com
Meets 1st Thurs., 6:00 p.m.
1744 West Carson St.
Torrance, CA 90501
www.soipugliese1375.com

RENAISSANCE LODGE No. 2259
Anniv. Mar. 4, 1972
ORANGE
PRES. FRED FASCENELLI
10901 Vida Dr.
Villa Park, CA 92861
(714) 417-0196
fascenelli@gmail.com
Rec. Secty. Grace Scoma-Cosman
230 E Riverdale
Orange, CA 92865
(714) 606-4131
gsachef@att.net
Meets 3rd Wed., 7:00 p.m.
Renaissance Lodge
1526 Brookhollow Dr., #76
Santa Ana, CA 92705

Renaissancelodge2259@yahoo.com

GRAND LODGE OF CALIFORNIA • LODGE DIRECTORY

RODOLFO VALENTINO LODGE No. 1449
Anniv. Apr. 4, 1927
CLOVIS
PRES. BRIAN WATSON
4308 N. Dewitt Ave.
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 285-6934
pumbaa673@yahoo.com
Rec. Secty. Meri Sorrells
3341 N. Emperor
Fresno, CA 93737
(559) 292-3469
Meets 3rd Mon., 6:00 p.m.
Luna Restaurant
349 Pollasky Ave.
Clovis, CA 93612
www.rodolfovalentinolodge.com

ROMA LODGE No. 1573
Anniv. May 25, 1930
TULARE
PRES. LARRY DUTTO
1804 South Tamarack
Visalia, CA 93277
(559) 901-4683
larrydutto@yahoo.com
Rec. Secty. Renee Marinelli
6528 West Mary Street
Visalia, CA 93277
(559) 732-8258
r.marine@sbcglobal.net
Meets 1st Mon., 6:30 p.m.
International Agri Centre-Social Hall, 4450 S. Laspina, Tulare, CA 93274
www.romalodge1573.org
romalodge@yahoo.com

SACRAMENTO LODGE No. 1352
Anniv. Jan. 7, 1925
SACRAMENTO
PRES. DAN MARINELLI
340 Cabot Court
Granite Bay, CA 95746
(916) 698-2928
dan.r.marinelli@gmail.com
Rec. Secty. Pam Stewart
7243 Pine Grove Way
Folsom, CA 95630
(916) 205-5328
tom-pamstewart@sbcglobal.net
Meets 2nd Wed., 5:00 p.m.
Knights of Columbus Hall
5961 Newman Ct.
Sacramento, CA 95819

SHASTA LODGE No. 2453
Anniv. Feb. 23, 1980
REDDING
PRES. JIM NOBILI
2391 Cumberland Dr.
Redding, CA 96001
(530) 243-4127
rjnobili@sbcglobal.net
Rec. Secty. Sharon Roberts
1767 Capistrano Walk
Redding, CA 96003
(530) 356-6078
jimandsharon@charter.net
Meets 3rd Mon., 7:00 p.m.
Sons of Italy Hall
4850 Cedars Rd.
Redding, CA 96001
www.reddingsonsofitaly.com
soishastalodge@charter.net

ST. HELENA LODGE No. 2077
Anniv. May 28, 1958
ST HELENA
PRES. KEVIN COLEMAN
1245 Tucker Rd.
Calistoga, CA 94515
(415) 533-2920
kcoleman@nutihart.com
Rec. Secty. Debbie Polverino
410 La Fata St., Suite #200
St. Helena, CA 94574
707-290-0519
debbie@divinecompliance.com
Meets 1st Wed., 7:00 p.m.
Native Sons Hall
1313 Spring Street
St. Helena, CA 94574
www.sdoia2077.org

UKIAH LODGE No. 2104
Anniv. Apr. 24, 1960
REDWOOD VALLEY
PRES. DONNA MOSCHETTI
134 Court St.
Ukiah, CA 95482
(707) 462-2402
sdogali@outlook.com
Rec. Secty. Mary Lynn Hunt
2581 Mill Creek Rd.
Ukiah, CA 95482
(707) 462-7935
ml_laviletta@msn.com
Meets 4th Wed., 6:00 p.m.
8650 E. Road
Redwood Valley, CA 95470

VALLEY OF THE MOON LODGE No. 1959
Anniv. May 17, 1947
SONOMA
PRES. MOLLY CASELLI
643 5th St. W.
Sonoma, CA 95476
(628) 234-5514
Caselli1959@yahoo.com
Rec. Secty. Vikki Torzilli
P.O. Box 637
El Verano, CA 95433
(707) 479-1895
lenoxinteriormotifs@comcast.net
Meets 3rd Thurs., Social hour 5:00 p.m., Meeting 6:00 p.m., Dinner 6:30 p.m.
Sonoma Veterans Memorial Hall, 126 1st St. West, Sonoma, CA 95476

VIRGILIO LODGE NO. 1586
Anniv. Jan. 4, 1931
VALLEJO
PRES. RAY BINI
128 Nalisty Drive
Vallejo CA 94590
(707) 688-3751
Raymond.Bini@gmail.com
Rec. Secty. Pam Bini
128 Nalisty Drive
Vallejo CA 94590
(707) 567-2938
porterbini@gmail.com
Meets 2nd Tues., 6:00 p.m.
O.S.I. Hall, 621 Carolina St., Vallejo, CA 94590
www.vallejosonsofitaly.org

WATSONVILLE LODGE No. 2016
Anniv. Nov. 18, 1951
WATSONVILLE
PRES. JANEY LEONARDICH
940 Green Valley Rd.
Watsonville, CA 95076
(831) 722-7958
sweeete940@gmail.com
Rec. Secty. Casey Clark
30 9th St.
Watsonville, CA 95076
(831) 210-9577
kc4pres@yahoo.com
Meets 3rd Thurs., 7:00 p.m.
Watsonville Women's Club
12 Brennan St.
Watsonville, CA 95076
www.sonsofitalywatsonville.org
sonsofitalywatsonville@yahoo.com

WEED LODGE No. 1269
Anniv. Jan. 6, 1924
WEED
PRES. BRENDA ZANDONA
2030 S. Old Stage Rd.
Mount Shasta, CA 96067
(530) 926-0229
brendazandona@outlook.com
Rec. Secty. Marjorie Carneiro
17310 Nagle Court
Weed, CA 96094
(530) 410-5790
mwcarneiro@sbcglobal.net
Meets 1st Wed., 6:00 p.m., Sons of Italy Memorial Hall, 155 Clay St.
Weed, CA 96094

Please check your lodge information to make sure it is all correct. Any changes or if your lodge has an e-mail address or website that you would like to include on the list, please e-mail Alison at: sonsofitalyca@aol.com

Our mission is to encourage the study of Italian language and culture in schools, preserve Italian culture, traditions, heritage and history, and to promote closer relations with Italy.

2026 IL LEONE SPONSORS

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Lodges:
Anaheim Lodge #2076
Colombo-Stella Lodge #1149
Columbia Lodge #1940
Cornelia-Vita Nuova Lodge #1198
Cristoforo Colombo Lodge #1534
Diablo Valley Lodge #2167
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Shasta Lodge #2453
St. Helena Lodge #2077
Ukiah Lodge #2104
Virgilio Lodge #1586
Watsonville Lodge #2016

HELP GROW GRAND LODGE'S SOCIAL MEDIA

Send Lodge event photos and flyers to the Grand Lodge at sonsofitalyca@aol.com for posting on our Social Media Pages! Let's show our Lodges are vibrant, active, fun, and philanthropic communities!

Please follow us and tell everyone you know to follow us on Facebook @Order Sons and Daughters of Italy - Grand Lodge of California, and on Instagram @sonsofitaly_ca.

FEBRUARY POST FEATURE

Martedì Grasso is here! Also known as Shrove Tuesday, Fat Tuesday, or Mardi Gras, Martedì Grasso is a joyful day of feasting and celebration before the start of Lent on Ash Wednesday. It's a time to savor rich foods, sweet treats, and good company before the Lenten season of reflection begins.

One of the most iconic celebrations takes place in Venice, Italy, where the legendary Carnevale fills the streets with elaborate masks, stunning costumes, music, and centuries-old traditions—a true expression of Italian culture, history, and community.

GRAND LODGE OF CALIFORNIA

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Reno, Nevada 89508

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JOY BRUNO
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Birth Defects/Medical Charities
TBD

Membership
TBD

Budget and Finance
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Leadership
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Co-Convention and Grand Council Meetings Coordinators
LYNN LAWRENCE-MURPHY
LORI ROSSI

NATIONAL OFFICERS FROM CALIFORNIA

Past National President
VERA GIROLAMI

Sons of Italy Foundation Trustee
Chair of Douhet-Mitchell Committee
MARIA FASSIO PIGNATI

National Recording Secretary
LYNN LAWRENCE MURPHY

National Trustee from California
ARLENE NUNZIATI

CALIFORNIA NATIONAL DELEGATES

MARK VAONA
ARLENE NUNZIATI
LYNN LAWRENCE-MURPHY
MARK ROSSI
MARY JANE CAMBRIA
LORI ROSSI
PAULINE RICHMOND (Alternate)
GENNY ARIETTA (Alternate)

STATE ARBITERS

ANNETTE PORTER
JENNIFER CHANDLER
RAY BINI
HUGH RICCI
STEVE GUTHRIE

ALTERNATES

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Grand Lodge of California
ORDER Sons and Daughters of Italy IN AMERICA

Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America (OSDIA) is the largest and oldest fraternal organization representing American men, women, and children of Italian descent. The Grand Lodge of California is a nonprofit organization and our charitable arm, Sons of Italy Western Foundation is a 501(c)(3) public benefit nonprofit corporation.

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