



LA PAROLA

Bringing You Information About the Denver Lodge Since 1958

November / Novembre 2022



Brothers and Sisters,

Winter is slowly beginning to creep into our beautiful fall weather. The colors in our Wheat Ridge neighborhood have been beautiful, but the leaves are slowly falling away.

There are lots of fun events coming up and we hope you can attend all of them!!

Our Annual Craft Fair is coming up fast, Saturday November 5th at the Hall. Get a jump on your Christmas shopping!

The November General Meeting is Wednesday November 16th. In addition to our big Thanksgiving meal, this is our Salute to Service meeting when we honor our Service men and women, as well as our first responders, retired and active police, fire and EMT services. There is no charge for our honorees. Please contact Pam Wright to register yourself or family member.

December and the Holidays are right around the corner! Our Christmas Party will be on Saturday December 3rd and the kids party with Santa Claus is Saturday December 10th.

We are always looking for volunteers to help with our many events! See me or a Lodge Officer if you would like to lend a hand and SUPPORT YOUR LODGE!!

Take Care and God Bless!

Fraternally Yours,
President Sal



US Department of Defense and our First Responders

by Pam Wright

At our general meeting (social evening) November 16, we will be honoring veterans and first responders. Please make the time to come and join us in showing our appreciation to these men and women who have put their lives on the line to protect us.

Army – The largest and oldest service in the United States Military, the Army provides the ground forces that protect the United States.

Navy – On, above and below, the Navy is America's forward-deployed force and is a major deterrent to aggression around the world.

Marines – A component of the Department of the Navy, the Marine Corps maintains amphibious and ground units for contingency and combat operations.

Coast Guard – The Coast Guard provides law and maintains safety enforcement marine and environmental protection and military naval support. Part of Department of Homeland Security during peacetime and operates under the Navy during time of war.

Air Force – The Airforce provides a rapid, flexible and lethal air and space capability that can deliver forces anywhere in the world within hours.

National Guard – National Guard comprised of the Army National Guard and Air National Guard is a versatile force, supporting combat missions, domestic emergencies, humanitarian efforts, homeland security operations and more.

Source: Department of defense/gov

A Firefighter - is responsible for using their physical stamina and compassionate nature to combat fires and other hazardous situations while ensuring the safety of others. Their duties include using equipment to extinguish fires, rescuing members of the public from dangerous conditions and providing cleanup services to law enforcement at the scene of a car accident or natural disaster.

A police officer - is a government employee who protects lives and property, enforces law and order in communities and investigates crimes. A police officer issues citations for minor offenses like traffic violations and testifies in court cases. Police officers also provide first aid to road accident or crime victims before paramedics arrive. Police officers have ranks based on their skills and job experience.

Federal law enforcement officer - officer, agent, or employee of the United States authorized by law or by a Government agency to engage in or supervise the prevention, detection, investigation, or prosecution of any violation of Federal criminal law.

EMT/Paramedic They provide first-line medical or emergency care for sick and injured people at the scene, which may be in the person's home, at an accident site or other places and while they are being transported to the hospital for care. They typically operate in teams with one person serving as an emergency vehicle operator while the other continues to provide life-saving emergency care to the patient en route to a medical facility



La Parola

November / Novembre 2022

Pam Wright, Anna Vann, Sal Siraguse ,
LeAnne DiTirro, Beverly Mendicello, Eleanor Gaccetta,
Kathy Holt, and Dr. Rita DeFrangé

Building Contacts

Patrick Lubrano – Building Committee
Desi Ramirez – Facility Manager

Health & Condolence

Angelina Sether 303-989-2251

Hall Rental

Anna Vann

Address Changes

SOIDenver2075@gmail.com

By-Laws

According to Denver By-Laws, Article 1-Paragraph 4, "The by-law commission shall accept for consideration any by-law or change submitted in writing by a regular member in good standing by March 1 of each calendar year.

2021-2022 Lodge Officers

President

Sal Siraguse
siraguse56@msn.com

Vice President
open

Orator

Pam Wright
pcake@comcast.net

Recording Secretary

Anna Vann
tmvenv@msn.com

Treasurer

Beverly Mendicello
bmendi@msn.com

Financial Secretary

Dr. Rita DeFrangé
ritadefrange@gmail.com

Past President

Pam Wright
pcake@Comcast.net

Guard

TJ Henderson
TJHenderson435@hotmail.com

Chaplain

Barbara Pietrafeso
barb@coloradosownrealestate.com

Trustee

Patrick Lubrano
PatrickLubrano@yahoo.com

Trustee

Ed Mendicello
emendi36@msn.com

Trustee

Phil Rossi
prossi1@msn.com

Trustee

John Callor
callor95@gmail.com

Trustee

John Gargano

Past President

Dominic LoSasso
dominic@osiacolorado.org

Mistress of Ceremonies

Diana Williams
piebald4@comcast.net

Mistress of Ceremonies

LeAnne DiTirro
leanneditirro@gmail.com

Historian

Open



Hall Inquiries by Anna Vann

2023 is starting to fill up with rentals. If you're thinking about having an event next year, please contact Anna Vann at 303-618-8023.



2022 - 2023 Membership Information

For those members that hadn't picked up your membership card, they were recently mailed, so you should have your card now.

If not, please contact me at 303-618-8023. Thanks!



Come Polka on Sundays!

Sunday afternoon Polka dancing is back in full force!! If you're interested, dancing is from 2-5:30 pm Sundays. Need information, contact Bev Meyer at 970-222-4331 or email coloradopolkaklub@gmail.com.



Book Club by Pam Wright

Book Club continues to meet the second Monday of each month. This month we will meet 12:00 at Panera on 64th & Zang. Our reading for the month of October was "The Woman He Used to Know" author Helen Starbuck. Miss Starbuck is a local author living in Arvada CO. Interesting and well written, we will discuss in November. November reading is written by local author Gail Mencini "To Tuscany with Love". Everyone is welcome.

For more information, please call Pam 303-210-6277 or email Pam at pcake@comcast.net

Dancing at the Lodge – Come and Enjoy!

Sponsored by our own Maggie Francucci! Ballroom dancing is back in full swing too! They meet on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of most months. To verify or check with Cathy and/or Maggie at [Http://danceconnectioncolorado.com](http://danceconnectioncolorado.com) There is a one-hour class for various types of dances followed by open dance the rest of the evening.



Italian Family Values and Traditions *by Eleanor Gacetta*

Italian family traditions often change as each generation passes to their eternal home. This is true with most cultures. Italian family values are steeped in tradition. Here are some of the most prevalent traditions to Italians.

1. Family

Family is the most important part of the lives of Italians. Italians are close knit, not just their immediate family but their extended family as well. Hell, friends often become like family. When I was growing up, we were taught to stay close to families and to strive to maintain the larger family network as we grew to be adults. Sharing both joys and sorrows with family members is still a staple of the Italian culture. One of the most notable changes missing in American Italian traditions today is the large Sunday family gatherings. Why? For the past several decades, families have consisted of two wage earners. Children are involved in sports, music, school and other outside weekend activities. With both parents working the weekend is the only time young families can spend together shopping, do household chores, or prepare for the upcoming week. The traditional Sunday family dinners require an entire day to prepare and an afternoon to consume. Today such time commitment is a precious commodity. Today the time families spend together on holidays, or backyard barbecue or birthday party are as special a time to catch up on each other's lives. It is as meaningful as the old Sunday dinner.

2. Music

Opera has always been associated with the Italian tradition. The booming opera voices heard on stage in elaborate costumes drew big crowds back in the day. As the generations evolved so did music and how we enjoy it. Rather than sit and listen to Pavarotti, Italians also loved dancing to folk music like the tarantella. Today traditional opera and folk music have been replaced by Italian and American contemporary music. Young (and older) Italians not only love to listen to the music but love to dance and move. Whether you listen to Puccini or rock music, music is in our Italian blood!

(Continued on page 4.....)

November Trivia

by Beverly Mendicello



Spiritually, November is **the sacred warrior** and acts as a mirror to remind us that we are fighting personal battles with ourselves. It is a month in which we are recommended to realign, to refocus and to regain our inner strength.

Did you know?

As the weather cools down and gets wetter, **more and more places in Italy start to close in November**. However, it really depends on the place. Smaller towns that depend on revenue from tourism, and especially coastal towns and villages all around Italy, go into winter sleep.



Thanks John Gargano

by Dr. Rita DeFrango

Special Thanks to John Gargano for his support financially and through continuous reminders to purchase red and green tablecloths for the lodge!

Voting for Sons & Daughters Officers

by Pam Wright

Voting for the 2023-24 Council will occur in November at the meeting. The council is in search of a Treasurer – please contact Pam if you are interested! See you at the meeting!



WELCOME

Welcome to our new members !

Welcome new members, Carol Rondinelli and Fred Ernst. For those members that hadn't picked up your membership card, they were recently mailed, so you should have your card now. If not, please contact me at 303-618-8023. Thanks! Anna Vann, Recording Secretary.

Remember – general meetings are every third Wednesday, there are plenty of fun things going on at the lodge and across the community. For now – come down on Monday evenings to watch bocce – and maybe even sub ... we always need subs! We are working to schedule an official initiation...stay tuned for details!

The holidays are quickly approaching!*from Dr. Rita DeFrango***November****November 6th**, Prima Domenica sponsor TBD**November 5th**, Sons & Daughters Craft Fair**November 12th**- Mt. St. Vincent - Silver Bell Ball @ Grand Hyatt Denver**November 19th** - St. Michael's 10th Annual Holiday Dinner Dance @ Lakewood Country ClubNovember 26th – Christmas decorating at the Lodge – 9AM with snacks!**December - Mark your calendars!!!!****December 3rd**, Sons & Daughters Adult Christmas Party - with Wildefire!**December 10**-Sons & Daughters Kids Christmas – Come See Santa!See our website osiadenver.org for more information!

Also, anyone interested in assisting with event planning at the Denver Lodge, please speak with Sal!

*Continued from page 3.....***3. Art**

Italians love art. Visiting Italy means taking in the splendor of ancient art in castles, basilicas, churches, museums, the Coliseum, and Vatican. Vacations to Italy include touring the countryside to enjoy the architecture within large and small cities.

Art also includes Italian fashion. Many of the world's renown fashion creators are Italian. Among the most notable are Armani, Gucci, Benetton, Verace and Prada. Priced outside the reach of the average Italian, we still enjoy the creativity and beauty of Italian art.

4. Religion

80% of Italians are Catholic. The church rituals and customs are as traditional today as in ancient Italy. Italians go to church and believe in the power of prayer in their lives. Italian homes proudly display the crucifix and pictures of Jesus and La Madonna. One thing our ancestors taught us was that prayer can move mountains. We continue to endeavor to instill the belief that prayer is important to the younger generations.

5. Holidays and Celebrations

Italians love to celebrate and often don't need a reason. Growing up we gathered to celebrate traditional holidays such as Christmas, Easter, All Saints Day, Fourth of July, Memorial and Labor Days, Thanksgiving and even Halloween! Add to that list weddings, baptisms, and funerals.

But celebrations have changed with the generations and passage of time. The very elaborate Christmas traditions of my childhood have been replaced with newer, more relaxed, traditions as the generations change. Growing up, women would begin buying and preparing for the seven-fishes dinner several days prior to sitting down at the table on Christmas Eve. Today my family enjoys baked shrimp and pasta Milanese, but the meatless-Christmas Eve dinner has been replaced with "American" meats alongside some fish and different pastas. For Easter, we no longer eat traditional goat or lamb – the tradition meat of choice is now prime rib. Growing up we always had several meals in one, never put the turkey and "fixings" on the table without homemade raviolis and pork for Thanksgiving. Pasta is either the star or not on the table for today's holidays. But that doesn't mean we aren't celebrating our heritage.

Take some time before the end of the year to think about how your family traditions have changed as the generations have changed. But never lose sight of the fact that Italians love tradition.



Come Decorate the Hall for Christmas!!

by Dr. Rita DeFrango

Each year we get together, share refreshments and snacks and decorate the hall for the Holidays!

Our decorating day is scheduled for after Thanksgiving on Saturday, November 26th at 9 AM. We will be playing Christmas music as we decorate both inside and outside the front of the lodge!

Come share a special morning with us!



Peppermint Mocha Mudslide

from our own LeAnne DiTirro

- 3 ounces Kahlua Peppermint Mocha
- 1 ounce vodka
- 1 Tablespoon chocolate syrup
- 3 ounces heavy cream
- Ice
- Candy canes crushed



Instructions:

Crush up a candy cane or peppermint candies into small pieces and spread on a small plate so that it is about ¼” deep.

Dip each cocktail glass into the simple syrup so that the rim is fully coated, then dip the rim into the crushed candy cane until it sticks to the glass. Allow to set.

Fill each prepared cocktail glass with ice.

Add all liquid ingredients to a cocktail shaker with ice. Shake vigorously for 5 to 10 seconds.

Strain and pour into your cocktail glasses. Enjoy immediately!

Pumpkin Bread from our own Kathy Holt

- 1 ½ cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon ground cloves
- ½ teaspoon baking powder
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 4 large eggs
- 1 cup white sugar
- ¼ cup light brown sugar
- ½ teaspoon vanilla extract
- ¾ cup canned pumpkin (not pie filling)
- ¾ cup vegetable oil



1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Grease an 8 1/2-x4 1/2-inch loaf pan.
2. Combine flour, baking soda, nutmeg, cinnamon, cloves, baking powder, and salt in a large bowl; mix well and set aside. (**See note**)
3. Beat eggs, white sugar, brown sugar, and vanilla extract in a large bowl with an electric mixer on high speed until combined, about 30 seconds. Beat in pumpkin and oil. Add flour mixture; mix until batter is blended and smooth. Pour batter into the prepared loaf pan.
4. Bake in the preheated oven until the top is dark brown and a toothpick inserted into the center of the bread comes out clean, about 70 minutes. (Check at 65 min)
5. Let bread cool in the pan for about 30 minutes, then invert onto a wire rack to cool completely. Cut into 1-inch-thick slices.

Note: You can also substitute 3 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice instead of individual spices.

This is a recipe based on Starbucks.

This bread freezes perfectly. Seal any leftover slices in a resealable plastic bag or wrap them in plastic and pop them into the freezer. To serve, microwave one frozen slice on high for about 45 seconds, and it will taste like it just came out of the oven!





JOIN US FOR BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Saturday, December 10th, 2022

RSVP is required

All children 12 years old or younger will receive a gift from Santa

Children 12 and under are FREE, but in the spirit of the holidays we request that each child bring an item to donate to Food Bank of the Rockies. The cost of all others is \$10.

Breakfast will begin at 10:00 am and Santa will arrive shortly thereafter.

Member Name _____

Child(ren) 12 and under:

Name _____ Age _____ Gender _____

Name _____ Age _____ Gender _____

Name _____ Age _____ Gender _____

Name _____ Age _____ Gender _____

Those attending who are 12 or older:

\$10x _____ = _____

Please fill out this form and return it to

Sarah Regan at 5928 Zang Way, Arvada, CO 80004

Checks made payable to "OSIA Denver Lodge #2075" MUST be included with reservation

No reservations will be accepted after December 1, 2022. Thank you for your participation!
Santa is looking forward to seeing you and your family:

Update on the La Parola
by Pam Wright

Beginning in January of 2023, the LaParola will no longer be sent out by the postal service. All members will be receiving the LaParola electronically. We are aware that some of you do not use email or have access to a computer, therefore, we are asking you to provide us with an email address to a relative or a neighbor that would print out the newsletter for you. This has become necessary because of the rising costs due to postage and printing. If you have any questions or would like to give us an email address, please contact Pam at 303-210-6277.





Celebrating Christmas at the Songs & Daughters of Italy



*You are cordially invited to an evening of
Dinner and Dancing to
Tony David and Wildefire*



*Saturday, December 3rd, 2022
5925 W 32nd Ave, Wheat Ridge, CO
From 6 to 10 PM*

Enjoy Antipasto, Dinner and Dessert!!

*Tickets are on Sale Now!!
\$35 for Members,
\$40 for Non-Members*



Please Join Us at the Denver Lodge for These Events

November / Novembre – Celebrating Veteran’s

November 16th – General Meeting Dinner at 6:15 PM,

Recognizing Veteran’s Social Meeting at 7 PM

November 26th – Christmas Decorating at the Lodge – 9 AM

December / Dicembre – Holiday Celebrations

December 3rd – **Adult Christmas Party with Wildefire!**

Tickets are on sale! Contact a Council Member.

December 10th – Mark your Calendars for the Kids Party with Santa

Happy New Year!!!!

Contact Us

Order Sons & Daughters of Italy in America,
Denver Lodge #2075
5925 West 32nd Avenue, WheatRidge, Colorado 80212

303-238-8055
soidenver2075@gmail.com



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in America Denver Lodge #2075
5925 West 32nd Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80212