



Volume 1, Issue 3

May, 2015

**Order Sons of Italy  
Pikes Peak Lodge  
#2870**

## Ciao!

The challenge is still on!! We currently have a membership drive running from April 7—August 4. The member who signs up the most new members will receive ONE free ticket to our Anniversary dinner on August 22nd! New member applications can be found on our website. (See last page for link)

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## Lodge Highlights:

### Annual Scholarship Dinner

The Scholarship committee has chosen three graduating seniors as recipients of our lodge scholarships. Please join us on Tuesday, June 2nd at the VFW Post #101, 702 S. Tejon, Colorado Springs, CO 80907 to congratulate these deserving students. Wonderful food and great entertainment from our own Major Mandolin, Lila Mori and Rick Blessing will be provided. 5:30 dinner 6:30 ceremony \$10 per person.

**Bunco** was held on April 25th at the VFW. There were five tables competing. Eight places were paid out: First and second to most Buncos, most Funcos, most wins and most losses! Carlo Montera won most buncos, finally! Jim Mesite sat at one table most of the time and was our biggest loser. (Sometimes it pays to lose!!) . Everyone had a great time and as always good snacks to eat! Thank you to all who were there— Your Events Committee

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## Pat's on the Back

Meet Jennifer Strand, our Vice President and Newsletter Editor. You can count on her to be involved in a variety of projects and events here at OSIA Lodge #2870.



Jennifer currently teaches English, works as the AP Testing Coordinator, serves as GT (Gifted and Talented) resource teacher, runs the Teen Volunteer Club and is project lead for two college-bound programs at Mitchell High School.

Jennifer's sons have left her with an empty nest - her older son, Jared, lives in Denver and is a Mercedes technician at an independent shop and her younger son, Justin, serves in the Air Force and is currently stationed at Dover AFB, Dover, DE.

Their absence gives Jennifer more time to work on Renaissance costumes, and you'll likely see her each year up in Larkspur at the Renaissance festival, looking somewhat Viking-ish in period leather armor that she creates herself.

Jennifer's boundless energy and dedication to our Lodge is apparent at every monthly meeting and behind the scenes as she serves on committees, organizes events, helps keep us on track, and fields questions. Jennifer has been especially helpful welcoming new members and making them feel at home. OSIA has long been a part of Jennifer's Italian legacy through her mother's side of the family, and we're fortunate to have her with us!

Our brother, Mark Fini's daughter, Gabrielle, has the unique opportunity to study in Florence, Italy for a semester at the Istituto Lorenzo de Medici University. She actually lives in a small town (50,000 people) called Sesto Fiorentino which is about a 10-15 minute train ride into Florence. She then has a short walk to her classes. Her classes include a wine tasting class, a cooking class, an advanced Italian language class (she has studied two years of Italian at CSU), and a couple of international business classes. She will be studying there until mid-May. She has used this opportunity to see a lot of Italy and is writing a blog that is very educational and cultural. She updates the blog about once a month. Check out her blog at <https://gfini2015.wordpress.com/>

## Recipe of the Month—Another Delicious Soup!

### Tortellini Soup— Cheryl Malenky

1lb bulk spicy sausage  
 1 bag fresh spinach  
 1/2 onion chopped  
 2 cloves garlic minced  
 Pepper / salt



tolen cuisine

1 32oz Chicken Broth  
 1 big size bag of tortellini  
 (cheese or sausage)  
 1 large can of diced tomatoes

## Cultural notes - Maggio (May) in Italy

**May Day (1st) La Festa dei Lavoratori or Festa del Lavoro-** Celebrated in most of the world as Labor Day. In Italy, it's not just a worker's holiday, but it is a day reserved for political parties to hit the streets and rally to their causes. The event is usually festive, but at times some can get carried away. The climax of every May 1st celebration is a free music concert of Piazza San Giovanni, in Rome where the most important Italian singers perform to a festive audience.

*Calendimaggio* is celebrated in early May in Assisi, Umbria. It is a spectacular evocation of Medieval and Renaissance costumes and life. The two ancient medieval wards, the "Parte di Sopra" and the "Parte di Sotto", engage in a spectacular challenge which takes the form of theatre shows, concerts, songs and choruses, dances, processions, archery, crossbow and flag-waving displays. The districts compete in a singing contest among the spectacular floral decorations, flags, torches and candles.

**The Wedding of the Trees, *Sposalizio dell'Albero*,** takes place May 8 in the northern Lazio town of Vetralla. A couple of oak trees are decorated with garlands, horsemen offer bouquets of the first spring flowers and new trees are planted while everyone enjoys a free picnic lunch. The ceremony revives Vetralla's sovereignty over the forests and continues the right of each citizen to a cubic meter of firewood annually.

**On May 25th *The Festa delle Milizie* or "the Madonna atop a horse"** is the only celebration worldwide that commemorates the descent of the Madonna from a horse in order to save the inhabitants of Sicily – armed with a sword – from the Saracen invasion. On the 25th of May this religious episode is re-enacted by two groups of people as Christians and Saracens ready to fight and a procession to the location where the Madonna appeared back in time.

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**Italian Phrases—** It is impossible to think about Italy without thinking of delicious Italian food. The kitchen is central to the hearts and minds of Italian families, so there are hundreds of Italian proverbs about food. Here are just a few:

*Chi va a letto senza cena tutta la notte si dimena.* -

**Translation:** He who goes to bed without eating, will regret it throughout the night.

*Mangiare per vivere e non vivere per mangiare*

**Translation:** Eat to live and not live to eat.

*A tavola non si invecchia.*

**Translation:** At the table with good friends and family you do not become old.

*La cucina piccola fa la casa grande.*

**Translation:** A small kitchen makes the house big.

*Chi mangia sulo s'affoga*

**Translation:** He who eats alone suffocates.

Here are a few quotes from celebrities we all know regarding food:

**"Everything you see I owe to pasta."** - Sophia Loren

**"Life is a combination of magic and pasta."** - Federico Fellini

**"Life is too short, and I'm Italian. I'd much rather eat pasta and drink wine than be a size 0."** - Sophia Bush

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## Upcoming Events

### May 15th – Friday Get Together at Duca's Neopolitan Pizza

236 E. Cheyenne Mountain Blvd. 80906 4 – 6 pm

### May 23 – 25 – Territory Days

Old Colorado City – Find our booth by Colorado and 24th street, facing Pikes Peak National Bank

### June 2 – Scholarship dinner

5:30 pm at the VFW 702 S. Tejon St.

### June 5 & 6 State Convention in Cripple Creek

Come watch our lodge teams compete in Bocce at 2:30 in City Park

### June 20 – Sky Sox Night

Please pay by our June 2nd meeting or send to our PO Box by June 15th – \$26 adults / \$17 12 & under / under 3 are free. It's Star Wars night!!

### July 25th – Bunco

2pm VFW There will be a cookie raffle!!

Bunco Players Have Talent  
They Can Roll Dice  
And Talk At The Same Time




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## Fellow Lodge's Events

Royal Gorge Lodge #2866 will be holding a golf tournament at Four Mile Ranch Golf Club, 3532 Rio Bravo Drive, Canon City on June 13th. Two-Person modified Scramble (Scotch). \$1000 prize! 8am check-in, 9am Shotgun start. \$200 per 2 person team. Proceeds will go to their Scholarship fund and OSIA Charities. For more info call (719) 214-4179 or (719) 429-6667.

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## Special Events:

Our sister, Lila Mori, will be performing on the Pauline Chapel Friday afternoon concert series on June 19th at 4:00 pm. She will be joined by local guitar virtuoso, Wayne Wilkinson. Lila has been performing 4 nights a week in the Penrose Room at the Broadmoor for over 21yrs. This will be an easy and inexpensive way to hear her vocal stylings.

Our brother, Rick Blessing, an amazing Frank Sinatra tribute artist, will be performing at Stargazers Theatre on June 13th from 8:00 to 10:00. We have reserved some tables and if you are interested in attending, contact Diane Varlesi via email at [scoutie777@comcast.net](mailto:scoutie777@comcast.net) to purchase a seat at one of our tables for \$25. Our lodge is one of the sponsors for this event, so let's show up and support Rick!

Put a swanky outfit together and be a "Tramp" on-stage!

Just a reminder that we need everyone's help to grow this newsletter. Not all of our members come to every meeting and this would be a great way to share news with everyone. To keep this at least a four page newsletter, we need input from our members in order to have enough content! If you have any exciting news you would like to share or to contribute to a section, please send an email to one of the editors listed on the front and we will do our best to get it in the next publication. *A presto !!!*

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