



Order Sons of Italy  
Pikes Peak Lodge  
#2870

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## Ciao!

Welcome to the first edition of our monthly newsletter! Our hope is that this will grow into an exciting publication. To do so, we need your help. Not all of our members come to every meeting and this would be a great way to share news with everyone. Some of the sections that we are looking to incorporate are: **Member Highlights, Lodge Highlights (ours and others), Southern Colorado History, Recipes, Italian Phrases, and Cultural Notes.** We would love to hear from our members and 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 below and we will do our best to get it in the next publication.

## Flapjack Fundraiser

The lodge held our Flapjack fundraiser at Applebee's on Saturday, January 20th. We raised \$530 for our national Chari-



## Lodge Highlights

The Friday Fun Day gathering which took place on February 20, was a blast, even if the weather wasn't perfect! Periods of snow kept some away, but we had a pretty good showing. Members had a few drinks, enjoyed some appetizer and dinner, and talked about family traditions, food, kids and grandkids. Out next Friday Fun Day will be held some time in May. All are welcome to join us!!! More info in a future newsletter.

We enjoyed a boisterous game of Bunco on Saturday, February 7. Half the money raised goes to our lodge general fund. We also enjoyed a delicious potluck of soups, salads, desserts and homemade breads.

Please mark your calendars—our 2nd annual scholarship awards ceremony and dinner will take place on Tuesday, June 2, 5:30 pm at the VFW 702 S. Tejon. Last year we awarded one \$750 scholarship. This year, thanks in part to the generosity of Carlo Montera who donated \$750 for a scholarship, we will be awarding THREE \$750 scholarships! Thanks Carl, and all members who contribute to our scholarship fund through pre-meeting dinners and other lodge events. If you would like to donate to our scholarship fund, please send a check payable to Sons of Italy Lodge 2870 to our PO Box. Please write "scholarship fund" in the memo line.

## Member Highlight

Meet Maura Fontanini, who hails originally from Italy. She holds an Italian conversation group at her house every other Wednesday at 1:30. Her group uses the book *Mastering Italian Vocabulary* as a guide to the language, along with Maura herself. She also hosts a Facebook page called “Italiano Colorado Springs” where she posts different subjects about Italy such as history, architecture, traveling tips, jokes and movie clips!



**Maura Fontanini**

Maura will also be walking in the St. Patrick’s Day Parade with the Westie Rescue Network. She will be joined by her Westie, “Rocky”. This rescue group has been rescuing, rehabilitating, and rehoming Westies for over 20 years in Colorado. Headquartered in Denver, they have successfully rehomed almost a thousand Westies since their founding and they are the only Westie rescue organization in the Rocky Mountain region recognized and promoted by the West Highland White Terrier Club of America

## Miscellaneous—Other Lodge's Events



OSIA Pueblo Lodge Scholarship Awards dinner held on Saturday, March 7, 2015. Eighteen Scholarships were awarded to deserving Italian American High School

## Italian Phrases for the month of March

According to folklore, the last three days of March are called “*i giorni della vecchia*” (the old lady’s days) or “*giorni imprestati*” (borrowed days). Way back in time when March had only 28 days, an old woman decided to take her sheep into the fields because, as she declared, March was over and could not torment her with cold any more. Offended by these words, March “borrowed” three days from April and made sure that they chilled the old woman to the bone.

Marzo (named for Mars, the God of War) has always had a reputation for being “*pazzo*” (crazy). Someone who seems unpredictable and impulsive is said to be “*nato di marzo*” (born in March). Italians caution: “*Sole di marzo, ondo di mare, pianto di donna: non ti fidare*” (March sun, ocean wave, woman’s crying: don’t trust any of them)



In English we say that “March comes in like a lion and leaves like a lamb”. Italians add a twist: “*Marzo pazzarello* (crazy March) *arriva da leone e se ne va come un agnello*”

## Cultural notes - March in Italy

March 8th was **International Women's Day** or *Festa delle Donne* in Italy where men give yellow mimosas to women. This civil holiday was born as a political event, and over the course of year's blended into the culture of many countries, to the point that in some celebrations, the day lost it's political flavor and became simply an occasion for men to express their love to the women around them.



Women's Day has its roots in two events that took place outside of Italy. On March 8, 1857 a strike by garment workers in New York led to the formation of the first women's union in the United States. Sixty years later, Russian women led a strike calling for "bread and peace" during the twin horrors of World War I and the Russian Revolution. In 1945, the Union of Italian Women declared that this special date, March the 8th, should be set aside to celebrate womanhood across the country. Authorities don't agree how or why this Italian tradition started. Some sources say the tradition of men giving their wives, mothers, daughters, and other women friends sprigs of bright yellow Mimosa flowers started in Rome in 1946. Women have since also started to give Mimosa's to each other. The flowers are intended as a sign of respect for the women and also an expression of solidarity with women in support of oppressed women worldwide.

Another holiday, Saint Giuseppe or Saint Joseph's Feast day, is celebrated on the 19th of March and is also known as Father's Day. It used to be a national holiday in Italy and traditionally bonfires were lit throughout the country. According to tradition, children give gifts to their fathers on the occasion and in many places, nativity scenes based on the life of the Saint are shown. Saint Joseph's Day also has a typical food: Zeppole (an Italian pastry).

19 MARZO: *San Giuseppe e La Festa del Papa' pertutti gli italiani nel mondo. Abbracciate i vostri PAPA' oggi e RINGRAZIATELI per tutto il loro AMORE e i SACRIFICI che hanno fatto per offrirvi il meglio della VITA.* (Saint Joseph and Father's Day in Italy. HUG your Papa' today and THANK him for all his LOVE and all the SACRIFICES he has gone through to offer you the best in LIFE)

Don't forget **Palio dei Somari**, a donkey race held in the picturesque medieval village know as Torrita de Siena, in Tuscany, in honor of Saint Joseph (patron saint of carpenters).

## Recipe of the month—Chicken Cacciatore

### Ingredients:

Chicken breast/ thighs cut in pieces  
 Flour  
 Crushed tomatoes  
 Olives  
 Olive oil  
 Onions (thin sliced)  
 Garlic (minced)  
 Red wine  
 Salt and pepper to taste

Preferably, the day before, cut the chicken into pieces and flour it with salt and pepper

Let the chicken rest overnight in the mixture in a covered container

In a large, deep pan, heat the olive oil. Place the sliced onions and minced garlic in it and cook until transparent

Add the chicken and cook for about 15/20 minutes

Add the red wine

Cool a little bit more—5/10 minutes  
 Add the crushed tomatoes and olives  
 Cover the pan and simmer until tender (about 30+ minutes)  
 Add a little more red wine if needed  
 Serve with noodles, rice or polenta



italian cuisine

## Upcoming Events

### March 15th 2pm – Bowl-A-Thon

At Brunswick Circle Lanes

999 North Circle Drive, Corner of Galley and Circle Drive

Cost to bowl is \$2.25 per person for shoe and ball rental

### April 11, 2015 - Culinary Passport International Food and Wine Tasting Event

hosted by our own Chef Peter Aiello, President of the American Culinary Federation

Pikes Peak Chapter. 6 - 9pm at the St Paul's Church Julie Penrose Hall, 9 El Pomar Tickets are \$40

### April 25 - Bunco

2pm at the VFW

### May 23 – 25 – Territory Days

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

### Special Event:

Our brother, Rick Blessing, an amazing Frank Sinatra tribute artist, will be performing at Cucuru Gallery Café with the Trip Ziegler Quartet on Saturday March 28th from 7:00 to 10:00 pm. No admission at the door.

Address: 2332 W. Colorado Blvd 80904 in Old Colorado City on the south-east corner of Bancroft Park.

He will also be performing at Rico's Café April 17 ro 18th from 7:30 to 9:30 with Trip & the boys. As soon as he knows the exact date, we will send it out. Again, no admission at the door.

Address: 320 N. Tejon St

He will be at Stargazers Theatre on June 13th from 8:00 to 10:00 and at The Mezzanine sometime in the future. more info on ticket prices in the future.



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