



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL MEETING IN AMERICAN CANYON – MARCH 2019

President John Costa:

As of this meeting, membership is 3,796. Last year we lost two lodges and this year two more are leaning that way. Several lodges are below the membership limit of 25 and have been sent

letters notifying them that in order to vote at convention their adult membership needs to reach that number.

- ✚ Alexis Cardenas has officially replaced Arlene as Office Manager. After convention she will also be doing the bookkeeping that had to be done by our State Recording Secretary in the past.
- ✚ Computer Membership Program is up and running.
- ✚ New Land Line Telephones for the Grand Lodge Office have been installed (Thank you Mark Vaona), and we anticipate saving at least \$10,000 this year once the numbers have been released from AT &T.

1st Vice Arlene Nunziati:

- ✚ Be sure to use the Office Depot-Office Max on printing discounts. You need a card and I have asked Arlene to send one to each President.
- ✚ Giuseppe Mazzini Lodge has closed.

2nd Vice Sadie Tamburine:

- ✚ Gala was a success and made \$15,299 for Western Foundation.
- ✚ Las Vegas, Desert Valley and America Lodges are closing.

3rd Vice Barbara Wisniewski:

- ✚ Joy Bruno will now be the official State Deputy for Napa.

State Orator Mark Vaona:

- ✚ Actively working to ensure everyone and everything stays in compliance.

State Recording Secretary Lori Rossi:

- ✚ Please ensure that all lodge Recording Secretaries submit their State Delegate forms as soon as possible.

- # This year, the Janet Capello Distinguished Member Award will be awarded in the Northern District. Deadline for nominations is May 3, 2019.
- # Delegate packages will be going out at the beginning of April and will be mailed to the Recording Secretaries. Deadline for the package is Monday, May 27, 2019.
- # Lodges that are below the 25 Member minimum will not have representation at the 2019 Convention. Letters have been sent out to those lodges as a reminder.
- # As of this report, over \$31,000 in donations have been received to help our brothers and sisters who have been affected by California's wildfires.

State Treasurer Al Trentini:

- # PG & E Stocks were sold for a total of \$27,270.11. These proceeds were deposited into A Schwab One Brokerage Account and a Money Market Brokerage Account.
- # Both CD's held by the Bank of Stockton were closed and the net funds of \$155,866.30 were subsequently deposited in our Schwab One Money Market Account for the Western Foundation.
- # The cash flow report was not available currently.

Western Foundation CAO Roy Vanoni:

- # Western Foundation Trustee Joe LaPorta is organizing a golf tournament that will benefit Western Foundation charities as well as provide support for local charities. It is scheduled for November 11, 2019 and will be held at the Indian Canyon Resort in Palm Springs, CA. It will include golf, cart and an Italian style buffet lunch.
- # UC Davis Alzheimer's Foundation has been approved as a new Charity.
- # Two requests for funding was approved: \$1,000 went to a school in San Francisco and \$1,000 went to Social Justice.

Italian Language and Culture/History Committee-Maria Pignati

- # 2019 is the 500th anniversary of the death of Leonardo da Vinci. Please encourage someone in your lodge to give a brief talk about the importance of Leonardo and his incredible contributions.
- # At the upcoming convention in June, please bring memorabilia to display including banners, photo albums, historical objects and lodge cookbooks to help showcase our heritage.

Scholarship Committee-Rosemarie Vanderhaar

- ✚ Committee will be meeting on Sunday, March 24th.

Report from Medical Charities – Michael Carroll

- ✚ A reminder to all Lodge Presidents, please empty the contents of their Cooley's cans that were distributed last year, to be opened and the money to be made into a check to The Western Foundation, earmarked for Cooley's Anemia in the memo of the check. Bring that check to convention and present it when charities are collected.

Birth Defects Libraries – HazelAnn Christin

- ✚ Due to illness at this time, she has requested Joy Bruno & Louise Silacci to make the last presentation for the year and prior to convention.
- ✚ U.C. Davis will be scheduled for some time in April 2019.

Judiciary Committee – Al Girolami

- ✚ Reviewed the new Proposed Royal Pageant Rules. After much discussion, President John Costa requested it be sent back to the Judiciary Committee to ensure language is consistent within entire document.
- ✚ The Grand Council requested two research projects of which both were found appropriate and Grand Council moved for them to be voted on at convention.
1) Is to reduce the number of State Trustees from six to three. 2) Is to eliminate the position of Current Emeritus as a Component of the Grand Lodge.
- ✚ West End Lodge submitted a proposal to make a Bylaw to specifically provide that a State Officer may serve as a State Deputy. It was agreed that this would not be necessary since there was not prohibition against it and the committee should publicize this as the committee previously came to this conclusion a few years ago.
- ✚ West End Lodge also requested clarity of Article 15 regarding State Officers. There will be language consistent with Supreme Lodge stating that "If willing, may be elected to an office in their respective Local Lodge except for the positions of President and Vice President."
- ✚ Hanford Lodge submitted a proposal to eliminate the position of State Third Vice President which passed and will be voted on at convention.
- ✚ Hanford Lodge submitted another proposal to eliminate the three districts and create two, which also passed and will be voted on at convention.

- ✚ Hanford Lodge also submitted two other proposals that did not meet Supreme Bylaw regulations and will not be brought to convention. Those regarding Social Members having a right to hold an office and to eliminate fines and to impose additional voting sanctions for Local Lodges not sending allotted Delegates to Grand Convention.

Grand Lodge Building Committee – John Bianco

- ✚ No report given
- ✚ Building has not been put on the market due to not all information has been gathered to do so.

Queen Committee – Eva Lavezzari

- ✚ New rules have been given to the Judiciary Committee to review.
- ✚ 2020 is another Royal Pageant year. Letters and information will be going out after convention in June of 2019.

Report on Hall Rental – 5051 Mission – Barbara Muselli

- ✚ 26 events were booked in 2018 with nearly \$39,000 collected in rents.
- ✚ 2019 has five events completed to date with several more pending.
- ✚ Waste policy and booking requirements have been updated.
- ✚ Several planned large construction projects in the neighborhood and throughout the city are currently stalled because of funding challenges and permit problems.

Report from Winter National Plenary & Immediate Past President Report – Lynn Lawrence-Murphy

- ✚ Financial picture for the Supreme Lodge and Foundation look very bright.
- ✚ An IRS update on all national lodges was given – many lodges' non-profit status has been revoked (there are three in California). They will be contacted directly.
- ✚ A new Ritual and Protocol book is out and will distributed shortly by the Supreme Lodge, as well as the new and improved bylaws.
- ✚ National Convention will be August 13 – 16th in San Antonio, Texas.
- ✚ 2019 June Convention in Reno: Rooms at the Atlantis will be \$140 ++, the package will be \$240. Wednesday, June 26th will be the Bocce Tournament, Thursday, June 27th will be speeches for those candidates running for state office **(FYI – I am running for Vice President and would appreciate your vote)**, Friday, June 28th will be elections and Saturday, June 29th will be the Black & White Ball as well as honoring student scholarships.

- ✚ The September 19 -22, 2019 Grand Council meeting will be in Visalia at the Wyndham Hotel, at a rate of \$99 a night for rooms. The Hanford Lodge 90th Anniversary will be held on the 21st.
- ✚ The 2020 Grand Convention will be held at the Crown Plaza in Concord.

Report from Webmaster – Anna M. Graeber

- ✚ Please send any corrections or updates needed to the Grand Lodge website to osia.ca.webmaster@gmail.com
- ✚ Grand Lodge applications were developed for students to be able to fill out online to mirror National Scholarship applications, which will be discussed at the Scholarship committee meeting on March 24th.
- ✚ Advertising space has been reserved on the website in order to sell ads that could underwrite the monthly cost of the website. Let's get behind this to defray the monthly charge of \$100 and allow local lodges to have their ads free of charge.
- ✚ Emails have been set up for each officer to receive emails sent in through the Grand Lodge website instead of going to one email address. Just waiting for the ok to go live.

Report from Grand Lodge Queen – Brianna Simon

- ✚ Please send all invitations to your events and will try to make as many as I can.

Report from Ritual and Protocol – Donna Lee Lawrence Costa

- ✚ Changes have been approved by National on our Ritual and Protocol. Currently they pertain to new member initiation ceremonies and will be sent from National office shortly.

Report from State Youth Committee – Brian Watson

- ✚ Remember it's not too late to donate to the Little Lion Program for June.

Report from Garibaldi/Meucci Museum – Joy Bruno

- ✚ The Fashions and Faces of the Regions of Italy Exhibit opened in January with costumes from Campania, Abruzzo, Le Marche and Lombardia, accompanied by the collection of some of the famous sons and daughters of each region.
- ✚ Celebrating Naples: “A Journey though History” will be held March 9th presented by Anita Sanseverino.

As of this report, here are the slate of officers running at the 2019 Convention:

State President (vote for one)	John Costa
	Arlene M. Nunziati
Vice President (vote for three)	Louise Silacci - Central
	Pauline Richmond - Central
	Barbara Wisniewski - North
	Sadie Tamburine - South
State Orator (vote for one)	Mark Vaona
State Recording Secretary (vote for one)	Lori Rossi
State Financial Secretary (vote for one)	Gabe Domenici
State Treasurer (vote for one)	Al Trentini
State Trustees – North (vote for two)	Anna Graeber
	Ray Bini
	Bill Murphy
State Trustees – Central (vote for two)	
State Trustees – South (vote for two)	Carmine Baffo
	Manny Finazzo

Also, National Delegates will be up for election as well. As of this writing, here are the names of those running to be elected: (we do not know for certain how many we get to send until National sends us the letter).

John Costa – President (is automatic)

Lynn Lawrence Murphy – Immediate Past President (is automatic)

Mark Vaona	Sadie Tamburine	Barbara Wisniewski
Louise Silacci	Arlene Nunziati	Joy Bruno
Anna Graeber	Pauline Richmond	Bill Murphy

In closing, I would like to remind all members that our Grand Council Meetings are held all over the state. I urge that when it comes to your area, you attend and see for yourself, the time and effort it takes to keep our order running smoothly.

Fraternally,

Louise Silacci, State Trustee - Central