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MESSAGE FROM TRUSTEE SANDY REECE

Fall has finally arrived with its shorter days and cooler weather. October is Italian American Heritage Month and is celebrated every year to honor and recognize the achievements and contributions of Italian Americans. It includes Columbus Day, which is celebrated on the second Monday of October.

Our Columbus Day Dinner will be held on Saturday, October 24, 2026. This year we are serving a delicious shrimp and pasta dinner. There will also be a dessert auction, basket drawings, and a silent auction. This is an important fundraiser for us and helps to fund our Lodge's involvement in giving back to the community. Northern Solano Lodge has a long history of giving back to the community including our work with Solano Food Bank, our donations to various organizations, and the scholarships we award to high school seniors each year – just to name a few. The Columbus Day Dinner is also a fun and entertaining way of introducing new people to our Lodge. Tickets are \$60 for adults and \$30 for children. Please contact Carol Urban at 707-334-0611 or Lauretta Graham at 707-365-1818 for tickets.

This October we open nominations for the officers of our Lodge with elections being held in November. Joining the board is a great way to become more involved with the Lodge and its future. As a first term board member, I found my fellow board members to be very supportive and willing to share their knowledge which made my experience very worthwhile. New board members can bring new perspectives and help our Lodge continue to prosper. If you are thinking of joining the board, feel free to speak to any of the current board members.

The Albert and Pat Galli Holiday Wreath Fundraiser is underway. There is additional information in this month's La Voce. The ordering process is streamlined and all orders are placed online. Please feel free to contact Caroline Abughazaleh at 707-425-8242 if you need any assistance.

Our Lodge's annual toy collection to support the Marine Corps League's Christmas toy drive begins in October. We will be collecting toys at our October and November stated meetings.

Buon autunno,

Sandra Reece, Trustee

Buon Compleanno di Ottobre

Tracie Falati	1st
Dominic Cilia	1st
Kristina Cilia	4th
Marlene Riddell	4th
Ellie Cheechov	6th
Lucille Beeler	11th
Gerald Firpo	13th
Rory Nichols	13th
Jordon Falati	13th
Rich Barker	14th
Chantol Williams	16th



Payton Alduenda	17th
BellaLucia Williams	22nd
Lukas Cilia	22nd
Olga Perez	25th
Angela Spratt	26th
Maria Reginato	29th
George Locatelli	29th
Pam Boes	29th
Linda White	29th
Denise Valoff	30th
Rosemarie Archer	30th

Buon Anniversario

Happy Anniversary to all members who are celebrating this month. Please let Mark know about your special occasion so we can share with your Lodge Brothers and Sisters.

SAVE THE DATE

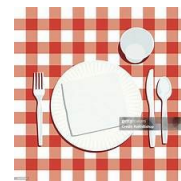
Nov 19th - November meeting

Attività di Ottobre

- Oct 1st Board Meeting at 5:30 p.m. in the ARC Conference Room.
- Oct 9th Card night will be at the Fairfield Adult Recreation Center from 4 PM to 8 PM. For more information please contact Jerry Firpo at 707-678-2455 or email him at jfirpo@jps.net. Everyone brings food to share before we play cards. If you like to play cards, please join us for a fun evening with food, drink, and good fun
- Oct 12th Please RSVP for the monthly meeting so our kitchen crew will know how much food to prepare. Please RSVP by calling 707-365-1818 or emailing Lauretta Graham at lgraham457@aol.com
- Oct 15th Our regular lodge meeting will be held at the Adult Recreation Center starting at 6:00 p.m. with dinner being served at 6:30 p.m. followed by a short business meeting. Don't forget to bring a raffle prize. The proceeds from the raffle offset the cost of the meal.
- Oct 20th The Book Club will meet at Louise Rossi's home at 1 p.m. The book this month is "The Whistler" by Ann Patchett. New members are welcome. For more information please call Louise at 707-425-2621.
- Oct 24th Annual Columbus Dinner Fundraiser
- Oct 26th Food Bank. For more information please contact Saskia Lembesis at 707-631-1829.
- Oct 27th Out to Lunch Bunch will be at Bud's in Dixon at 12:30 p.m.. Please contact Shirley Firpo for more information at 707-678-2455,

TABLE DECORATIONS FOR LODGE MEETINGS

The decoration team for the month of October is Linda and John DeBenedetto and Jack Mackay.



SUNSHINE

Please remember to contact Joy Bruno if you know of any member that might need to be sent a card. Call Joy Bruno at 707-422-3391 and leave a message or email her at joy.b@comcast.net.

COLUMBUS DINNER FUNDRAISER

Please contact Mark Rossi at 209-404-0692 or Laretta Graham at 707-365-1818 if you can help in any way with our October Fundraiser. Set-up and Clean-up as well as raffle ticket sellers are always needed. Many hands make quick work.



The winner of the September monthly free membership drawing was Gloria Terry. Congratulations Gloria.



WEAR YOUR BADGES

Badge checks will be in force at the meetings. There will be a \$1 fine for not wearing your badge. The fine will be used to help with the dinner expenses. Contact Don Craddock to make you a new badge if yours is missing.



Halloween in Italy: A Spooky Celebration of Tradition and Mystery

by @LiveInItalyMag Editorial



Halloween, a globally celebrated holiday known for its eerie costumes, haunted houses, and sugary delights, has transcended its American origins to become a worldwide phenomenon. However, when we dive into the celebration of Halloween in Italy, we discover unique traditions and customs that may not match your expectations. In this article, we'll explore the captivating world of Halloween in Italy, shedding light on its history and distinctive traditions.

Halloween in Italy: A Brief History

While Halloween, as we know it today, has its roots in the Celtic festival of Samhain and the Christian holidays of All Saints' Day (November 1st) and All Souls' Day (November 2nd), Italy has its own deep-seated history of autumn celebrations. Traditionally, Italians observe the Feast of Ognissanti (All Saints' Day) on November 1st, followed by the Commemorazione dei defunti (Commemoration of the Deceased) on November 2nd. Both these events hold profound religious and cultural significance for Italians. Historically, these Italian celebrations entail visiting cemeteries to pay homage to departed loved ones by lighting candles and leaving flowers on graves. The juxtaposition of these somber traditions with the lively and playful ambiance of Halloween creates a unique blend in Italy's approach to the holiday.

Trick or Treat: Italian Style

One of the most iconic aspects of Halloween is the cherished tradition of "trick or treating." In Italy, this custom has gained popularity, particularly in urban areas. Children don costumes and go door-to-door, asking for sweets and treats, while playfully uttering the phrase "Dolcetto o scherzetto" (literally, "Sweet or prank?"). Many Italians, influenced by American culture, enthusiastically embrace this playful tradition, making it a highlight of Halloween for kids and families.



Haunted Happenings

Just like in many parts of the world, Halloween in Italy often features haunted houses, parties, and themed events. Some towns, especially in the northern regions of Italy, have embraced the commercial aspects of Halloween, with businesses decorating their storefronts and restaurants offering special Halloween-themed menus. While this trend is more prevalent in the north, Halloween celebrations are slowly spreading throughout the country.

Witches and the Occult

One intriguing aspect of Halloween in Italy is its connection to ancient beliefs and superstitions. Italy has a long history of folklore and superstition, and Halloween provides an opportunity to delve into these mystical traditions. Witches and other supernatural elements often take center stage in Italian Halloween celebrations. You might come across eerie decorations, such as witches' hats and broomsticks, as Italians embrace the spooky side of the holiday.

Costumes and Creativity

Costumes play an integral part in Halloween celebrations in Italy, much as they do elsewhere. However, the choices of costumes can vary significantly. While many still opt for traditional costumes like witches, vampires, and zombies, Italians often draw inspiration from their rich history and culture. It's not uncommon to see people dressed as iconic Italian figures like Leonardo da Vinci, ancient Roman gladiators, or even famous Italian cuisine, such as a walking pizza slice.



Pumpkins and Jack-o'-Lanterns

The carving of pumpkins and creating Jack-o'-Lanterns is a cherished Halloween tradition in many countries, and Italy is no exception. Pumpkins, with their vibrant orange hue, have become a symbol of the holiday's arrival. In Italy, however, you might also encounter different types of squash and gourds that are more readily available. In recent years, pumpkin patches and pumpkin-themed events have gained popularity in Italy, allowing families to pick their own pumpkins and enjoy the artistic endeavor of carving them into spooky or creative designs. This tradition, inspired by American Halloween customs, adds an element of festive creativity to the Italian celebration.



Halloween and Italian Culinary Delights

Italy is renowned for its culinary excellence, and Halloween provides a unique opportunity to infuse the holiday with delicious Italian flavors. Many bakeries and pastry shops create Halloween-themed treats, such as cookies and cakes in the shape of ghosts, pumpkins, and bats. In addition, creative gelato shops offer spooky flavors and unique combinations to celebrate the holiday in a truly Italian style.



Halloween in Italy:

A Blend of Tradition and Modernity

The way Italians celebrate Halloween is a testament to their ability to blend tradition and modernity. The combination of All Saints' and All Souls' Days with Halloween festivities demonstrates Italy's profound respect for its rich cultural heritage. At the same time, Italians eagerly embrace the playful and commercial aspects of Halloween that have been introduced from abroad.

In conclusion, Halloween in Italy is a captivating fusion of ancient customs and modern trends. Whether you find yourself in a charming Italian village or a bustling city, you're likely to encounter a delightful mix of superstition, creativity, and delicious treats that make Halloween in Italy an enchanting and memorable experience. So, if you're ever in Italy in late October or early November, don't be surprised if you're greeted with "Dolcetto o scherzetto" – it's all part of the captivating Italian Halloween experience.

NORTHERN SOLANO LODGE #2534

COLUMBUS DAY *Dinner* FUNDRAISER

Honoring Our Heritage • Strengthening Our Community



**SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 24, 2026**



ADULT RECREATION CENTER
1200 Harry Price Dr.
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**NO HOST COCKTAILS
6:00 PM**



**DINNER
7:00 PM**

Dinner Includes:

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**\$60
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12 & UNDER**

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RAFFLE



**SILENT
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**FOR TICKETS
CONTACT**

Lauretta Graham ✉ lgraham457@aol.com ☎ 707 365-1818
or Carol Urban ✉ curban44@aol.com ☎ 707-334-0611

STAY CONNECTED WITH NORTHERN SOLANO LODGE #2534



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Proud of Our Past, Committed to Our Future!



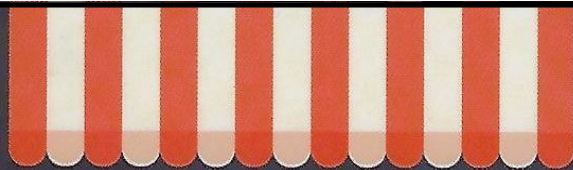
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**FOR INFORMATION PLACING
YOUR AD PLEASE CONTACT**

LINDA FEINS AT
lfeins@sbcglobal.net



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