



La Parola

www.osiadenver.org Dec/Jan 2009

Brothers and Sisters,

I can't believe that Christmas is already upon us. I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving. This time of year goes so quickly that it is almost gone before we have time to enjoy the season.

Our Bella Note Dinner Dance with Our Lady of Mount Carmel was a success in spite of the snow storm that accompanied the day. Thanks to sisters Nikki Rossi and Anne Ciancio for all their hard work. It was great working with Phyllis Martin, who by the way is also a member of the Denver Lodge, and Lucille Sanders from Our Lady of Mount Carmel Altar and Rosary Society. We had a delicious dinner catered by Texas Roadhouse and dancing to the sounds of Groovin On.

Our November general meeting was also a memorable evening. We had another delicious dinner catered by Roger Felton. Roger served roasted turkey, mashed potatoes gravy, stuffing, green beans, bread, and butter and pumpkin pie. Thanks to you brother Joe Ciancio, for contacting Roger and asking him to prepare this wonderful dinner.

The VFW started off the meeting with the posting of colors and we had a tribute to our veterans that was very informative and heartwarming. Everyone had a great time. Thank you to everyone that helped make this tribute to our members so special. I hope that next year we will have more veterans bring in some of their memorabilia.

December has been bustling with activity. We began the month with our member Christmas party and went right into our general meeting and potluck social with a special visit by LaBefana. Brother Dominic LoSasso read the story of the Nativity for the children's party while the children and grandchildren of our members role played and brought the story to life. Of course it goes without saying that Santa was the hit of the party.

I wish everyone a blessed and joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Merry Christmas from my family to yours!

Fraternally,
Pam Wright
President Denver Lodge #2075



La Parola

Karen Buffalo
Michael Kutz
Bob Giusto
Karen: 720-394-1254
(kutzalo@earthlink.net)

Hall Rental – 303-238-8055

The fee for members is \$500 for 4 hours and for non-members the fee is \$1200 for 4 hours.

Building Engineer: Ellio Zanolli
303-237-5932

Health & Condolences

Get well wishes to sisters Joey Regan & Elaine Martinelli and brother Irving Sether who are recovering from surgery.

Sister Josephine Haas is recovering from an injury.

Deepest Sympathy

Brother Nick Iannacito, and

Sister Marie Pacheco passed away.

Brother & Past President Luciano Busnardo passed away.

Our deepest sympathies are with their families.

Please contact Sister Joey Regan for health & condolences at 303-994-0445.

If you need the Sons of Italy banner at a funeral service for a loved one, please call the Lodge Hall at 303-238-8055.

BOOK CLUB

Book Club will meet the first Tuesday of the month. The Club will meet at the **Denver Lodge at 12:00 for lunch.**

The book to be discussed in January is *The Christmas List* by Richard Paul Evans. Contact sister Dorine Garrimone for more information 303-421-4505.

November Attendance Prize

Nikki Rossi won & graciously donated the money back to the lodge. Thank you sister Nikki.

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.

Address Changes

If you have an address change, please inform sister Linda Wilder at 303-465-3535.

Cookbooks Make Great Gifts

Our 50th Anniversary cookbooks are a great gift idea and can be purchased for only \$20.00. Contact sister Pam Wright for orders at 303-420-2671 or pcake@comcast.net.

Thank You to all the Craft Fair Volunteers!

Thanks to all of the wonderful volunteers who helped make this event a success. We had almost 40 volunteers!

Dues are Due

To All Members: Dues are coming up and the invoices will be going out the first of January. Dues for all members are \$45.00 with the exception of Lifetime Members.

Lifetime members will receive a separate letter with no invoice. If you do not receive your invoice by the 15th of January please let us know. If you have any questions please contact sister Linda Wilder at 303-465-3535. It will be greatly appreciated if all dues are paid when invoices are received. THANK YOU!!!

Speakers Committee

We have developed a speakers committee. Please contact brother Rich Newton at 303-955-0225 if you would like to hear about a specific topic.

In January our guest will be a representative from the Miss Colorado Senior Pageant. In February we will host Penny Studebaker from the State Health Department.

February's Speaker

Our February speaker will be Penny K. Studebaker. Penny is with the Colorado State Health Dept. She will be speaking on "YOUR ROLE IN HEALTHCARE REFORM AS AN OLDER ADULT."

March Speakers

Our speakers in March will be Juliana & Mario Del Piccolo. They will be speaking on "OUR REGION OF ORIGIN...VENETO."

Scholarships

Please notify sister Adeline Napier if you need scholarship information or applications (303-429-1580).

Mortuary Member's Meeting

On October 25th the members of the mortuary benefit fund, along with members of council, met to discuss the future of this benefit. After much discussion it was decided to dissolve the fund by dividing the money among the members that are part of the fund and awarding \$7,000 to the Denver Lodge. Any benefit that is paid out after the October 24th date will receive the amount agreed upon at that meeting. Members also agreed to wait until the CD's become mature before any distribution. Thank you to all who attended the meeting and thank you for your generosity in donating money back to the lodge.

Be a Fan

Our lodge is now on Facebook. Be a fan of our lodge. You can find us at OSIA Denver Lodge 2075. Thanks to brother Dominic LoSasso for setting this up.

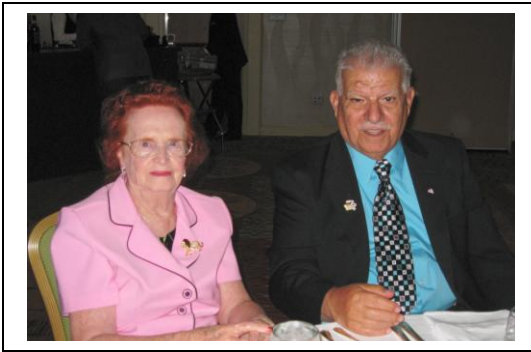
Casino Night to be Rescheduled

New Year's Eve Casino Night has been cancelled. We hope to hold this event sometime in late spring or early summer.

Italian American Baseball Cards

The Colorado Foundation is selling a box of 100 baseball cards of Italian American baseball players for \$60.00 per box. This would make a great Christmas gift! Please call: sister Angie Sether 303-989-2251, or brother Joe Ciancio 303-770-6255, or sister Addie Napier 303-429-1580, or sister Pam Wright 303-420-2671 to place your order.

Looking back, throughout the year





La Befana - Italian Christmas Tradition

Italian Christmas tradition of "La Befana"

The legend of Babbo Natale (Santa Claus) has existed in Italy mostly since the days of World War II. However, there is even a more ancient (and popular) Italian Christmas tradition that has its origins traced back to the 13th century: the legend of "La Befana"

Deriving from the word Epiphany (Greek term meaning "manifestation" or "appearing"), the legend of "La Befana" is that of an old witch lady with a big red nose and slight hunch, dressed in a jacket of colorful patches. She is often pictured with a broom.

Legend has it that on the 12th night of Christmas (January 5th) the 3 Wise Men, on their search for the baby Jesus, asked "La Befana" to join them in their quest. She initially declined, stating she had too much housework to do. She later changed her mind and went looking for the 3 Wise Men and the baby Jesus, but was unable to find them.

Therefore, every year, on the night of January 5th, "La Befana", will travel on her magic broom, to every house in Italy in search of the baby Jesus bringing gifts. Climbing down the chimneys, she brings candy ("caramelle") or fruit to the children that were good and black coal ("carbone"), onions or garlic to the children that were naughty. The children will leave out their stockings, and even their shoes, hoping to awake on the morning of January 6th to some "caramelle". Similar to the Santa Claus tradition, many of the children will write notes to "La Befana" and even leave out food and wine for her (sausages and broccoli in some parts of Italy).

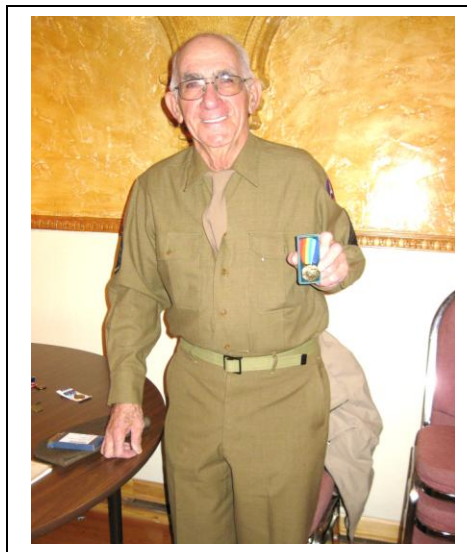
It is a tradition that is still strong in Italy with many stores selling stockings, mostly red, but sometimes even sand-colored, for the children to leave out for "La Befana". It is a fairy-tale story of the good witch / bad witch, depending on how you behaved during the past year. After her arrival, there are many parties and Italians will celebrate going from house to house celebrating the bonds of family and friends.

Here is an Italian nursery rhyme that the children will sing for "La Befana"

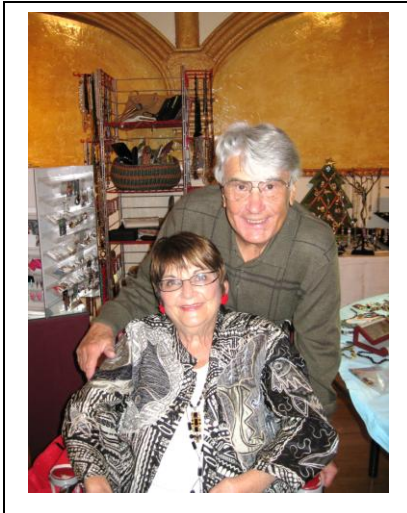
La Befana vien di notte
con le scarpe tutte rotte
col cappello alla romana
viva viva la Befana!

Rough Translation

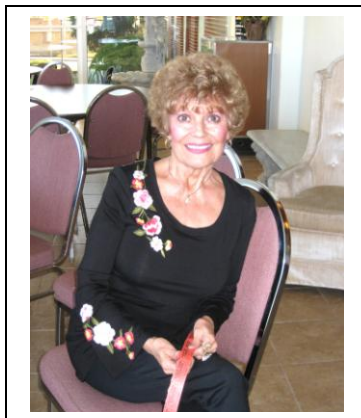
The Befana comes at night
wearing old broken shoes
dressed in Roman (hat) style
long live la Befana!



Honoring our Veterans!



Craft Fair



December

February

January 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
2 p.m. Fellowship Activities at Lodge 3	4	Book Club/12 p.m./RSVP to Dorine 5	7 p.m. Council Meeting 6	7	8	9
2 p.m. Fellowship Activities at Lodge 10	11	12	13	14	15	16
2 p.m. Fellowship Activities at Lodge 17	18	19	7 p.m. General Meeting 20	21	22	23
2 p.m. Fellowship Activities at Lodge 24	25	26	27	28	29	30
2 p.m. Fellowship Activities at Lodge 31						

Please return to President Pam Wright. Our Volunteers keep our Lodge going!

Volunteers are seldom paid; not because they are worthless, but because they are PRICELESS!

--author unknown

- I can Chair a Dinner/Dance
- I can Co-Chair a Dinner/Dance
- I can help at Bingo on a Wed or Thurs
- I can bake cookies for events
- I can help with the Golf Tournament
- I can sell cookbooks at the craft fair
- I can be a greeter at the craft fair
- I can help to measure the hall for the craft fair
- I can help put signs out for the craft fair
- I can help in the kitchen at events
- I can help sell cookies at events
- I can help make pizzelles for events
- I can help with Spaghetti Dinners
- I would like to ride in the float at parades
- I have a truck and can help haul things
- I can help with food preparation at a General Meeting
- I can help serve food at a General Meeting
- I can help with kitchen clean up at a General Meeting
- I can help decorate the hall for Christmas
- I can help with the Children's Christmas Party

- Name _____
- Phone _____
- Email _____



Denver Lodge #2075
5925 West 32nd Avenue
Wheat Ridge, Colorado
80212

DATED MATERIAL