



SONS & DAUGHTERS OF ITALY WATSONVILLE LODGE #2016

**FEBRUARY 2026
FEBBRAIO 2026**



February 14



February 17

Buon Giorno a tutti,

This is the month of Mardi Gras (Carnevale) and Valentine's Day. Both are celebrated by Italians. Mardi Gras (Fat Tuesday) traditionally marks the last day of eating all the good foods. And...no meat on Friday. Remember we ate fish on Friday or just veggie related meals. We also had to choose something to 'give up'. This was the 40 Days of Lent, which ended on Easter Sunday.

Valentine's Day celebrated February 14

- **Lupercalia:** Pope Gelasius I is credited with establishing Feb 14th as St. Valentine's Day around 496 A.D., partially to replace the ancient Roman fertility festival of Lupercalia.

It's the day set aside to celebrate love, affection and admiration of partners, family and friends. We show it with beautiful gifts, candy, meals and cards.

We have several projects we are working on for this year.

On March 28th, we are screening the film, ***The Lady in the Back Dress*** at the Aptos Library at 6pm.
(there will be a signup sheet at the February meeting as space is limited)

On April 12th, we will be screening, ***A Little Fellow - A.P. Giannini***, at the Cabrillo VAPA Rm 1000 theater. There will be a potluck get together at 5:30 (no alcohol allowed). The film director and producers will be present. This is in conjunction with Dante Alighieri Santa Cruz.

The signup sheet will be at our February meeting. (Seating is limited to 40 of our current members only).

Members Corner:

This month's meeting will include the installation of officers for 2026-2027. We will also perform

the initiation of new members. This is the first time in two years. If you have become a new members since 2024 your name will be on the list. Please make sure to come to the dinner meeting and partake in the event and receive your certificate, membership card and pin.



Scholarship 2026

Beginning this month, we are accepting Scholarship applications from students related to our members who have been members of our Lodge 2025. Students graduating from high school and headed to college, university or accredited trade schools for continued education. Please direct your questions to Michelle Cecchini, as noted on the application form.

www.watsonvillesonsofitaly.org

Please remember your students may also be eligible for scholarships offered by the Grand Lodge of California. (Information attached.)



Our dinner menu for February 19, 2026 served at approximate 6:15pm

Focaccia bread

Mediterranean Chicken (sundried tomatoes, thyme, Kalamata olives & capers)

Fettuccini Alfredo pasta

Garlic Parmesan Roasted Zucchini

Tossed Green Salad

Dessert

A RESERVATION MADE...IS A RESERVATION PAID.

Members \$20 ... Guests \$25

Doors open at 5pm for social hour and dinner is served at 6:15pm

You will receive a reminder call or message, but it is your responsibility to make your reservation for you and any guest(s) you may be bringing to the dinner meeting. Martha, Cheryl and Silvia will be calling on Sunday. Or...you can call and make your reservation by calling Martha at 722-1869

Reservations are required.

Remember we always encourage you to invite friends and family to join us!



**February Birthdays
Buon Compleanno**

Birthday Wishes To:

David Delfino, Ray Erta, Diane Robey, Richard Travis & Bently Wallace

Up Coming Event

- February 19 at 5pm Sons & Daughters of Italy (SDOI) Dinner Meeting
12 Brennan St., Watsonville
Installation of 2025-2026 Officers & Initiation of New Members
- March 19 at 5pm SDOI Dinner Meeting
12 Brennan St, Watsonville
- March 28 at 6pm Film Viewing, The Lady in The Black Dress,
Aptos library 7695 Soquel Dr. Aptos (reservations required)
- April 12 at 5:00 pm Film Viewing, A Little Fellow A.P. Giannini
Cabrillo VAPA Rm 1000 Theater (reservations required)
- April 16 at 5:00pm SDOI Dinner Meeting
- May 21 at 5pm SDOI Dinner Meeting
- June 18 at 5pm SDOI Dinner Meeting
- June 24 – June 28 Sons & Daughters of Italy Grand Lodge California Convention
Sacramento? (TBA)
- July 16 at 5pm SDOI Dinner Meeting
- July 19 Sunday **ANNUAL JULY BBQ** at Corralitos Padres Hall 12 noon – 4pm

Sons & Daughters of Italy Watsonville Lodge #2016 Officers

- President.....Janey' Malatesta Leonardich 831-722-7958
- Vice President..... Silvia Prevedelli 831-722-6279
- Treasurer.....Alice Bankhead 831-722-2087
- Financial Secretary..... David Delfino 831-535-2808
- Recording Secretary.....Casey Clark 831-210-9577
- Orator..... Kendra Cleary – 831-227-4492
- Head Trustee.....Cheryl Daughenbaugh 831-578-2376
- Trustee.....Susan Jacobs 831-761-8522
- Trustee.....Lester Pedrazzini 831-476-7553
- Trustee.....Melissa Rimassa 665-846-6529
- TrusteeFrances Delfino 831-566-8850
- Mistress of Ceremony.....Kendra Cleary 831-227-4492

Mistress of Ceremony.....Martha Muzzi 831-722-1869
 Guard/Sentinel.....EvanMehl 831-234-2461
 Chaplain.....Linda Erbe - 831-722-5960
 State Deputy.....Frank LoCicero 408-532-8822



NOTICE OF AVAILABLE SCHOLARSHIPS!



The Sons of Italy Western Foundation announces the availability of scholarships for graduating seniors from the Class of 2026.

Scholarships are available for the following categories:

- Academic Awards for graduating high school seniors
- Italian Language Study Grants for graduating high school seniors for the Summer of 2026
- Career Education for graduating high school seniors pursuing a career in a skilled

field. (Also open to non-high school seniors.)

In Addition to the Italian Study Grant, the Western Foundation scholarships awards range from \$500 to \$5,000.

Requirements for a Scholarship or Student Grant are:

- Applicant **MUST BE** wholly or partially Italian descent
- Applicant **MUST BE** enrolled in an accredited College, University, Community College or Trade School in the Fall of 2026.

For additional information, please contact Scholarship Committee Chairperson Annette Porter, email ampdynomom@aol.com or cell/text: (310) 245-4502.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS MARCH 1, 2026 (Postmarked)

SONS OF ITALY WESTERN FOUNDATION

Affiliation: Grand Lodge of Californi, Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America 9300 Madison Avenue, Suite 100, Orangevale, CA 95662

SONS OF ITALY WESTERN FOUNDATION (FEIN# 94-2687313) is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) public benefit nonprofit corporation and adheres to the IRS guidelines for charitable giving.

Application forms are available online at the Sons & Daughters of Italy, Grand Lodge of California website at www.osiaca.org. Once on the website, click on the link for Scholarships.