

7130 Spring Street – Mt. Pleasant, Wisconsin 53406 – (262) 886-8850 – RIWA (262) 886-3610

Also Available on the Web at <http://members.romalodge.com/newsletter.html>

## Message from the President

Roma Lodge Brothers:

As I write this letter, we are preparing for the 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Racine Pancake Day hosted by Roma Lodge. By the time you read this, I am confident we will have completed a 4<sup>th</sup> successful year.

I want to thank Bill Pucci for his tireless work making Pancake Day such a magnificent event for our community. I know these last three months have been extremely hectic for Bill and have taken a lot of his free time to make sure the event comes off in a manner that highlights our great lodge and gives back to the community.

There have been so many people that have devoted their time to the Pancake Day Committee and planning. I want to thank all those people. This has been a joint effort between members of Roma Lodge, Vittoria Colonna, and the RIWA. When you see these people, please thank them – Bill Pucci, Pat Tierney, Gavin DeCheck, Rick Bonanno, Sheri Heck, Dave & Bri Silvani, Vicky Christensen, Briana Graan and Jake Vanderhoef. I want to give a special shout out to Tim Nelson. Without Tim, Pat Tierney and Jake Vanderhoef, I am not sure our 50+ year-old grills would be in such great shape. So many people work hard for this event so if I have forgotten someone I apologize.

This past month saw the loss of two

longtime members of Roma Lodge in Joe Romano and Jim Faraone. Joe was a 63-year member of the lodge and Jim was a 25-year member. Joe was an active member at the lodge and served faithfully at the festival. Jim served on the Board of Directors from 2002-2018 and ran Bingo from 2017-2024. While on the board he served as chair of the Building and Grounds Committee and his work can be seen throughout the property. Both gentlemen will be missed at the club, and I extend my condolences to both men's families.

Remember, the restaurant is open on Wednesday evening for the buffet and Friday and Saturday nights with a full menu and new specials each weekend. We ask that groups of 6 or more on Fridays and Saturdays no longer request separate checks and those groups will have a 19% gratuity added to their bill. Please open your e-mails weekly to view the Wednesday night buffet menu and the weekend specials menu.

**Reservations are always recommended as this helps us plan for staffing and food preparation. The reservation line is 886-8850.**

Pricing for the buffet is \$14.00, \$13.00 for seniors 55 and older and \$8.00 for kids. Volunteer help on Wednesdays is always appreciated. Please contact me if you are interested in volunteering. Bingo participation continues to be excellent! The April 24th Bingo had

251 players in attendance. Bingo has always been an important function here at Roma Lodge and requires many volunteers. If you have the time to volunteer, please contact Dennis Porcaro or Mike Peratt.

If you have some time to give to the club, please consider being a part of the many committees we have or helping organize and work on some of our many social events throughout the year.

If you want to help with social events, please contact Dave or Bri Silvani. In cooperation with the Vittoria Colonna, we have formed a joint social committee.

You can contact me or any of our board members if you have an area of interest. Our membership involvement and participation will always be the key to our success.

The next Roma Lodge Membership meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. The next Roma Lodge Board of Directors meeting will be on Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM. All members are welcome to attend the board meeting and if you want to speak you can request permission ahead of time by contacting me.

*Jon Morelli*  
President



## MAY MEMBERSHIP MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The next Membership meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.



DOORS OPEN – 4:00 PM  
FOOD SERVICE – 4:45 PM  
BINGO! START – 6:00 PM



If you would like to volunteer your time, please contact one of the following

Jon Morelli: 262-994-2861 – [roma.secretary.iam@gmail.com](mailto:roma.secretary.iam@gmail.com)

Dennis Porcaro: 262-884-9121 – [apprlservices@netscape.net](mailto:apprlservices@netscape.net)

At the right is a table of BINGO! Captains for 2025. We need people interested in being captains to volunteer. The empty months in the table need captains.

Each captain is required to secure volunteers to sell cards on the floor.

In addition to captains, we need volunteers to step up to learn the role of selling game cards (this job requires you to be at Bingo! from 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM at a minimum). We can also use others to learn the other jobs of BINGO!.

**Please** consider giving your time on a Thursday afternoon and/or evening. BINGO! is an important source of income for Roma Lodge.

BINGO CAPTAINS	
JANUARY	Ed Morelli
FEBRUARY	Ken Scolaro
MARCH	Don Vena
APRIL	Jason Evitts
MAY	
JUNE	Rich Nygro
JULY	
AUGUST	
SEPTEMBER	Jon Morelli
OCTOBER	
NOVEMBER	Frank Bisotti
DECEMBER	Jon Morelli

## Buon Compleanno e Tanti Auguri Happy Birthday to our Roma Lodge Brothers Born in May

May 1	Tommy Ricchio	May 10	Anthony Povkovich	May 19	Gary Petersen
May 2	Charles Aiello, Jr.	May 12	Eric Weaseman	May 20	Kenneth Scolaro
	Peter Chambasian	May 13	Paul Crivello	May 22	Achille Cortese
	Aurelio Fardella		Anthony Pisanello	May 24	Tony Catrine
	Ralph Lipari	May 15	Michael Rauch	May 26	Richard Heck
May 7	Jeffrey Fries	May 16	Scott Lippold	May 28	David Ruffalo
	Will Pucci	May 17	Leonard Montalbano		
May 8	Richard DeFurio	May 18	Michael Pucci		

List compiled from the Roma Lodge Membership Files. Contact Pat Tierney, [teamtierney@sbcglobal.net](mailto:teamtierney@sbcglobal.net) if corrections are needed.



### **Funeral Service Calling Tree Schedule – April through June**

The Calling Tree schedule includes those members whose names are listed on the Membership List between:

***DeCheck, Gavin – Krause, Gary***

If you are notified of a funeral during your scheduled three-month period, you are expected to attend to represent the Lodge. You are not required to attend every funeral; however, you are encouraged to attend at least one during the quarter. Other members are also encouraged to attend. There will be a special Roma Lodge sign in book at the service for members who attend to verify that they are fulfilling their obligation.



### **Sick and Shut-ins**

On behalf of the members of Roma Lodge, the Sick and Shut-ins Committee sends flowers to the funeral of deceased members as well as “Get Well” cards to members who are hospitalized or ailing at home. If you know of a Roma Lodge brother who passed away, is hospitalized or ill at home, contact Steve Rawlinko, [srawlinko@wi.rr.com](mailto:srawlinko@wi.rr.com) or by phone at (262) 308-7997.

## **ROMA LODGE BOARD OF DIRECTORS WEEKEND DUTY SCHEDULE**

<b>May 2025</b>			
<b>Friday</b>		<b>Saturday</b>	
<b>2nd</b>	<b>Carmelo Bruno</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<b>Carmelo Bruno</b>
<b>9th</b>	<b>John Ponio</b>	<b>10th</b>	<b>John Ponio</b>
<b>16th</b>	<b>Bill Pucci</b>	<b>17th</b>	<b>Bill Pucci</b>
<b>23rd</b>	<b>Greg Pierangeli</b>	<b>24th</b>	<b>Greg Pierangeli</b>
<b>30th</b>	<b>Matt Montemurro</b>	<b>31st</b>	<b>Matt Montemurro</b>



## **Bocce Schedules**

To view bocce schedules please click on the following link:

<https://www.romalodge.com/members/league-schedulesroster-sheetbocce-rules>

## May 2025 EVENTS

Saturday, May 3  
Monday, May 5  
**Monday, May 5**  
**Tuesday, May 6**  
Thursday, May 8  
**Friday, May 9**  
Sunday, May 11  
Saturday, May 17  
Saturday, May 17  
Monday, May 26  
Thursday, May 29

Kentucky Derby  
Cinco de Mayo  
**Bocce Banquet - 5:30 PM**  
**Board of Directors Meeting - 6:30 PM**  
Victory in Europe Day  
**Members Meeting - 7:00 PM**  
Mother's Day  
Armed Forces Day  
Preakness Stakes  
Memorial Day HOLIDAY  
Ascension Day

## June 2025 EVENTS

Saturday, June 7  
**Monday, May 5**  
**Tuesday, June 10**  
**Friday, June 13**  
Sunday, June 15  
Thursday, June 19

Belmont Stakes  
**Bocce Banquet - 5:30 PM**  
**Board of Directors Meeting - 6:30 PM**  
**Members Meeting - 7:00 PM**  
Father's Day  
Juneteenth

## 2025 ROMA LODGE SOCIAL EVENTS

Saturday, May 3  
Monday, May 12  
Friday, July 4  
Friday, July 25  
Saturday, July 26  
Sunday, July 27  
Sunday, August 17  
Saturday, October 11  
Sunday, December 7  
Saturday, December 13

Kentucky Derby Party  
Roma Lodge Golf League Start Date  
Parade and Float  
Roma Lodge Italian Festival  
Roma Lodge Italian Festival  
Roma Lodge Italian Festival  
Roma Lodge Golf Outing – Ives Grove Golf Course  
Columbus Day Celebration & Wine Tasting  
Kids Christmas Party  
Members Christmas Party

## OBITUARIES

### **Rosalbino "Bino" Ammendola**

August 16, 1939 – February 19, 2025



Bino Ammendola of Kenosha, Wisconsin passed away peacefully in his sleep on February 19, 2025, at his winter home in Englewood, Florida. He was born in **Decollatura**, Province of Catanzaro, Italy on August 16, 1939, to Vincenzo and Marietta (Perri) Ammendola.

Bino lost his father in the war when he was three years old. At age eight, he and his mother moved to Argentina for three years. They returned to Italy, and at age fifteen the family moved to Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan to join a large step-family, the Bonacci's. In 1958 he moved to Kenosha with his brother Tony and a friend to find work.

He worked for AMC/Chrysler in various material handling jobs and retired after thirty years as a supervisor. In his retirement he built a spec house with a friend, and worked for St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Mary's Churches demonstrating his woodworking and maintenance skills, retiring at age 70.

Bino attended school in Italy, Sault Ste. Marie and Gateway Technical College in Kenosha. He also had apprenticed as a fine wood worker and tailor while in Italy.

Bino proudly served in the U.S. Marine Corp. He spent six months on active duty and seven years in the reserve. He was stationed at Parris Island in South Carolina and later, Camp Pendleton in California.

He was united in marriage to Karen (Schuch) on September 25, 1965, at St. Thomas Aquinas Church. They would have celebrated sixty years together in September. Together they raised three children, Edward, Tina and Lisa.

Bino was a member of St. Thomas Aquinas Church and then St. Mary Catholic Church. For over 30 years he was a member of Roma Lodge in Racine, Wisconsin. He played soccer for a Milwaukee team and was a Golden Gloves boxing champ in his youth. He enjoyed bowling, golfing and was a championship bocce player. Bino was an avid gardener, who shared his delicious harvest with family and friends. His fine woodworking skills are on display in many homes, as Bino would never hesitate to lend a hand with building or fixing something. One of his pride and joys was a '57 Corvette Convertible. Bino took great delight in having family and friends at their vacation homes in Wild Rose and Wautoma. Bino and Karen loved to travel and visited many relatives in Italy, France, Belgium and Australia. They also enjoyed trips to Alaska, the Hawaiian Islands, Central America, the Panama Canal and several Caribbean Islands.

The twinkling, mischievous blue eyes and smile will be dearly missed by his wife, Karen; children, Edward (Valeriane) Ammendola, Tina (Hugh) Rafferty and Lisa (Robert) Dixon; grandchildren, Madeline (Dan) Laken, Owen Rafferty, Calvin Eickstaedt, Melanie Ammendola, Daniel Ammendola, David Ammendola and Monica Ammendola; step-grandson, Tyler (Maranda Marcelain) Dixon; great-granddaughter, Quinn Marie Laken; step-great-grandchildren, Weston Cadeau, Brielle Dixon, and Camille Dixon; brother, Carmine (Debra) Bonacci; sister, Anna (Donald) Slater; sister-in-law, Jean Ammendola; and many nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; step-father, Carmine Bonacci; brother, Antonio "Tony" Ammendola; grandson, Cooper Eickstaedt; and several stepbrothers and sisters.



## Joseph F. Romano

May 16, 1940 – April 6, 2025



Joseph Romano, age 84, passed away peacefully at Ascension Medical Center on April 6, 2025. Joe was born in Racine on May 16, 1940, son of the late Frank and Christine (Nee:Porcaro) Romano. Joe was a proud graduate of St. Catherine's High School "Class of 1958." Upon graduation, he went on to study at the University of Wisconsin – Racine Extension. Joe started working in high school as a butcher for Matranga's Grocery Store, where he met his first wife, Anna Matranga. Joe and Anna were married on September 29, 1963. They raised four children and were together until Anna's death in 2000. Joe was employed for many years at Walker Manufacturing in Racine as a salesman, travelling throughout the Northeast and Midwest selling Walker exhaust systems. While at Walker, he was part of their running club, competing in local races throughout Wisconsin. One of Joe's proudest moments was competing in and finishing the Milwaukee Lakefront Marathon in 1981. In his later years, Joe worked locally for CCB Technologies, also in sales. Every year, Joe and Anna would take the children to Devil's Lake in Baraboo, where they would rent a cabin and spend the week on the beach enjoying some wonderful family time, and making memories that would last a lifetime.

Joe was an avid golfer. Throughout most of his life, Joe maintained a single digit handicap, and he would spend most Saturday mornings at Johnson Park, playing in their men's group. After retirement, you'd often find Joe with his friends, Joe Porcaro, Frank Maritato, and Don Cicero golfing together at Ives Grove. Joe was a 60+ year member of Roma Lodge, spending countless hours with friends and family members at the lodge and at their annual festival enjoying great Italian food. Additionally, Joe will be missed by the Charles St. Cigar Club, where he was a founding member. He enjoyed many afternoons there smoking a

cigar with friends, including his brother, Nick. Joe took extreme pride in his children and grandchildren spending time attending any sporting events or extracurricular activities they took part in. He liked nothing more than getting together with the entire family and sharing great food and discussing what was going on in everyone's lives.

Joe was also blessed to have met and married Rosemarie (Hurlimann) Romano following Anna's passing. Joe and Rosemarie had almost 25 years together and enjoyed spending time with each other's families, attending church together, walking at the mall, attending concerts at the zoo, and going out to eat, especially at The Sausage Kitchen every Sunday after church! Joe became another dad and grandpa to Rosemarie's family, especially her son Steve, who loved traveling, attending sporting events, and smoking cigars with Joe.

Joe's journey on earth was one marked by family, love, and his unwavering faith in God. He enjoyed his weekly bible study with his men's group at Calvary Chapel Racine. Joe was well versed in the bible and lived his life as a servant of Jesus.

Joe will be profoundly missed by: His children, Carol (Keith) Sobotka, Frank (Lynn) Romano, Gina (Clint) Wisialowski, and Greg (Lisa) Romano; His grandchildren, Madison (Jabari) Cooper, PJ (Grace) Sobotka, Jake (Isabelle) Romano, Christina Sobotka, Zach (Ashley Lawler) Romano, Bayli Wisialowski, and Talia DeBartelo. He will be greatly missed by his brother, Nick Romano.

Joe will also be dearly missed by Rosemarie's family and numerous friends including: Steve and Sue Botzau and their children Steven Botzau, Andy (Missy) Botzau, Jackie (Justan) Lemke, and their grandchildren Anthony, Stephanie, Rylee and Mason; Peter Nelson and his children Kody (Brittney) Nelson and Kevin (Andrea Veron) Nelson. In addition to his parents and his first wife, Anna, Joe was preceded in death by sisters-in-law, Charlotte Romano, Donna Chambasian, and Margaret Hay.

The family would like to extend a special thanks to Dr. Gullberg and the numerous doctors and nurses at Ascension, and the caregivers at Lakeshore Siena for their compassion and care they provided in Joe's final days.

In lieu of flowers, memorials to Calvary Chapel Racine have been suggested.

## Alan "Jim" James Faraone

July 25, 1942 – April 10, 2025



Alan "Jim" Faraone, 82, of Kenosha passed away on April 10, 2025, at Hospice House surrounded by his loving family.

Jim was born on July 25, 1942, in Kenosha, the son of the late A. James and Helen (Cole) Faraone. He graduated from Bradford High School on June 9, 1960. Jim attended the University of Wisconsin–Madison from August to December of 1960. He served in the United States Navy from January 10, 1961, until January 8, 1965, where he graduated boot camp in San Diego and was assigned to the USS St. Paul ported out of Yokosuka Japan for 1 ½ years and San Diego, CA for 1 year. He was then transferred to the USS George Clymer APA as an assault boat coxswain. He received the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal on January 8, 1964, for his service in Vietnam. He was released from active duty and transferred to the USN Reserves Sea Bees as a builder for 2 years with his service ending on January 9, 1967. One project he worked on included helping to build a National Boy Scout Camp in Albert, CO.

Upon his return to Kenosha, he attended Kenosha Technical College as part of the Carpentry Apprentice program and joined the Carpenters Union in March 1965, where he remained a member for 60 years. Jim spent the early part of his career building houses for A.J. Faraone Construction with his father. He then worked for Don Bain and then later went into business for himself. Jim became a licensed real estate broker in 1978. Jim became injured doing volunteer work and retired in 1989. He continued to

find ways to use his skills as a master craftsman and it showed in all of his projects.

Jim married JoDell Grandow on September 29, 1973, celebrating 52-years of marriage.

Jim was a member of the Roma Lodge from 2000-2025 where he served on the Board of Directors from 2002-2018. Jim also ran Bingo from 2017-2024. He found passion in the Building and Grounds Committee and his work can be seen throughout the property. Jim enjoyed the people at bingo and strived to make it more rewarding for both the players and workers. Jim was a member of the Kenosha Elks from the 1970's as well as being a lifetime member of the Kenosha VFW. Jim joined the Kenosha Moose Lodge in 2021 where he enjoyed being a member of the Moose community and also volunteered for Bingo.

Jim found great pleasure in looking for and wearing tee-shirts with humorous sayings and enjoyed talking with people about them. Jim enjoyed cheering on the Green Bay Packers and all things Disney.

Jim is survived by his wife, JoDell Faraone; daughter, Helen (Jerry) Faraone Witt; sister, Anita Faraone and his brother-in-law, Kenneth S. Grandow, Sr. He was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Laurilee Faraone.

The family would like to express their gratitude to the nursing staff at the Froedtert Drexel Infusion Clinic and the Hospice House staff for their compassionate care of Jim.

In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donations to Hospice House or Kindred Kitties.

## BUILDING AND GROUNDS ANNOUNCEMENT



The Buildings and Grounds committee has recommended the reroofing of the section of roof that currently covers the “Public” kitchen and the replacement of three (3) roof top units located on said roof. One (1) roof top unit was replaced last July as it had failed and was unrepairable. The three remaining units are of the same age and condition as the one replaced.

The roof will be taken off, any damage underneath will be repaired or replaced and the area (approx. 2,788 square feet) will be roofed with a new 90 mil EDPM product with a 30-year labor and materials warranty. This does not mean the roof will never leak, it means the product and the installation are warranted to be free of defect for 30 years.

The requested amount for this project is two hundred twenty-five thousand dollars. (\$225,000)

Per the by-laws of Roma Lodge, the project was discussed at the March Membership Meeting and was voted upon at the April Membership meeting. **RESULT – The expenditure was approved.**



## **Roma Lodge Patio Brick Program**

*Become a permanent fixture at Roma Lodge!!*

*Consider the Roma Lodge Patio Brick Program*

### **Some ideas are:**

- Your name and when you joined Roma Lodge.
- For deceased family members – when they were members.
- In memory of a loved one.
- All Family members names.
- Imagine a brick and add it to the patio.

If interested, please fill out the order form on the next page and return to Dennis Porcaro. You can also order by scanning the QR code below or going to <https://roma-lodge.square.site>

Orders taken will be completed and installed in the spring of 2025.



4" x 8" Brick  
\$75.00



12" x 12" Brick  
\$200.00

## Roma Lodge Patio Brick Program

Bricks are available to members of both Roma Lodge and Vittoria Colonna.

Each brick serves as a testimony of your support and commitment to a lasting memorial to family and friends for generations to come

### BRICK OPTIONS

4" x 8" brick consisting of three lines of type, 12 characters per line is \$75.00.

12" x 12" brick consisting of six lines of type, 15 characters per line is \$200.00.

Check must accompany your order

To purchase a brick please contact:

Dennis Porcaro

Phone (262) 884-9121 Email - [apprlservices@netscape.net](mailto:apprlservices@netscape.net)

### 4" by 8" Brick

**NOTE:** Spaces count as letters.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

### 12" x 12" Brick

**NOTE:** Spaces count as letters.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15

BRICKS WILL BE INSTALLED IN EARLY SPRING OF 2025

Buyer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

## Roma Lodge Clothing Store

Members interested in ordering Roma Lodge clothing can now do so by directly ordering from **The Lettering Machine**.

TO ORDER FROM THE WEBSTORE:

Visit <https://theletteringmachine.com/RomaLodge/shop/home>

Feel free to call The Lettering Machine at (262) 652-4177 if you have any questions. Thank you for your business!



## OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

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Vice President	Dennis Porcaro	<a href="mailto:apprlservices@netscape.net">apprlservices@netscape.net</a>	262-994-3111
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Recording Secretary	Mike Garbo	<a href="mailto:romalodge.secretary.msg@gmail.com">romalodge.secretary.msg@gmail.com</a>	262-939-6291
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Director – '24-'26	John Ponio	<a href="mailto:JMPonio@gmail.com">JMPonio@gmail.com</a>	847-219-1098
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**The submission deadline for information to be published in the June 2025 Newsletter is May 25, 2025.**

Comments, suggestions and articles of interest to our members are welcome at [roma.newsletter.mpk@gmail.com](mailto:roma.newsletter.mpk@gmail.com).