#### ROMA LODGE NEWSLETTEI



7130 Spring Street- Racine, Wisconsin 53406 – (262) 886-3610 – Fax (262-886-6286 Also Available in Full Color on the Web at <u>http://members.romalodge.com/newsletter.html</u>

#### April 2016 Issue

#### **MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Cari Fratelli,

Please keep in mind our founding principles: *LIBERTY, EQUALITY and FRATERNITY.* Also, please strive to achieve our objectives: *TO SERVE, TO STRENGTHEN and TO UNITE.* 

It was gratifying to see that many of you attended our March membership meeting. Consequently, we were able to open the meeting and conduct the important business of Roma Lodge. We completed the nomination process for the open director's positions. Voting will be conducted prior to our membership meeting on Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup>. Please plan on exercising your right to vote.

In addition to our membership meeting on Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, Roma Lodge is involved in many other events during April. On Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> the Italian Community Center in Milwaukee hosts Frank Sinatra night. Also, Roma Lodge will be represented by 3 great teams in Highwood's Bocce Tournament on Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Vittoria Colonna will conduct their Bocce Social on Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup>. The Men's Bocce Championship will be played on Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. Zuddy's Special Wednesday Night Buffet will be on April 20<sup>th</sup>. The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebrazione Italiana is on Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at U.W. Parkside. Our Men's Single Bocce Tournament starts on Friday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> and Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. The Men's League Bocce Banquet is on Monday, April 25<sup>th</sup>. Remembering Racine's Old Neighborhood Grocery Stores will be held on Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. And, approximately 50 of our brothers and sisters from the Italian Workmen's Club in Madison will visit Roma Lodge on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>. Hopefully you and your families will have the opportunity to participate in one or more of these events.

Our belated best wishes go to Roma Lodge brother Paul Renzoni who celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. Buon compleanno e tanti auguri.

Our congratulations go to Roma Lodge's new full members: Matt Montemurro, Keith Redell and Gerald Schultz.

On behalf of Roma Lodge, I would like to convey special thanks to Roma Lodge's outgoing directors: Don Cicero, Jim LaBelle, Chip Mazurek and John Pisanello.

THANKS AGAIN TO ALL OF YOU.

Vi Saluto.... Rick Bonanno

APRIL 2016 EVENTS		
Tuesday, April 5, 2016	Board of Directors Meeting	
Friday, April 8, 2016	Membership Meeting – Election of Directors	
Tuesday, April 19, 2016	Men's Bocce Championship	
Wednesday, April 20, 2016	Zuddy's Special Wednesday Night Buffet	
Saturday, April 23, 2016	Singles Bocce Tournament	
Sunday, April 24, 2016	Singles Bocce Tournament	
Monday, April 25, 2016	Men's Bocce Banguet	
Tuesday, April 26, 2016	Racine's Old Grocery Stores - RIWA	

#### Gift Certificate Special!

Members can purchase five \$20 Gift Certificates for the Members Dining Room or Café Venerdi and receive a sixth \$20 Gift Certificate for free!

Gift certificates are available to Roma Lodge members from the RIWA office 262-886-3610, Dennis Porcaro 262-884-9121 or Frank Bisotti 262-914-1880.



#### Funeral Service Calling Tree Schedule

The Calling Tree schedule includes those members whose names are listed on the Membership List between: Gabbey, Michael - Infusino, Egidio

If you are notified of a funeral during your scheduled month you are expected to attend to represent the Lodge. Other members are also encouraged to attend. <u>There will be a special Roma Lodge sign in book at the service for members who</u> attend to verify that they are fulfilling their obligation.



Volunteers are always needed. Sign up for a date, time, and work assignment by telephoning Jim Faraone at 262- 657-1244 or jfaraone@wi.rr.com, Jim LaBelle 262-995-0152 or jlabelle71@yahoo.com, The April Bingo Captain is Jason Evitts 262-994-1926

#### New Membership Incentive for Current Members

Any current Roma Lodge member who recruits a new member will be provided a \$30 Dining Room or Café Venerdi gift certificate for the first new member they propose, and a \$20 Dining Room or Café Venerdi gift certificate for any additional new members proposed in the same calendar year. The gift certificates would be provided upon the new member's successful election as a probationary status.

Application for Membership form along with the <u>Handbook for New Applicants and Proponents</u> is available from Doug Goebel, Membership Secretary, at 262-554-7316, <u>dggoebel@yahoo.com and on-line at</u> <u>http://members.romalodge.com/membership information.html</u>.



#### Change of Address, Phone Number, or Email Address

Please remember to notify Doug Goebel, Membership Secretary, 554-7316 <u>dggoebel@yahoo.com</u> of changes of address and/or phone numbers. This will help insure an up-to-date membership list so that you will continue to receive Lodge mailings and other communications.

#### Roma Lodge Reservations

For **Members Dining Room** reservations, the **telephone number is 262-886-8850**. When making reservations for the Members Dining Room, please telephone the <u>Members Dining Room number only</u>. Leave your name, day and date you want the reservation, your phone number, number of people in your party, and estimated time of arrival. You will only receive a call back if there is a problem or a question about your reservation. <u>NOTE:</u> The Members Dining Room is always closed on Membership Meeting nights, which are usually the second Friday of the month. It is also closed on Wednesday and weekend nights when events for members or members and guests are scheduled. To reserve the Venetian Room and for Roma-to-Go, telephone the RIWA Office at 262-886-3610. For the Members Card Room telephone is 262-886-2557.

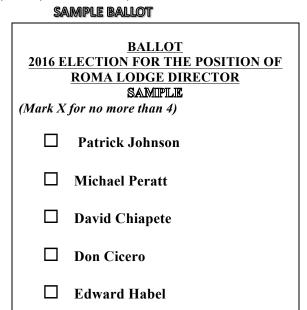
#### Dear Brothers,

Thank you so much for your contributions towards our Pasta Scholarship Fundraiser held Sunday, March 6th. We had a lot of familiar faces cooking and serving and your help is greatly appreciated. Several members simply donated to the fund, and in fact, checks continue to roll in. Your thoughtfulness to the next generation of Roma is appreciated.

Sincerely, Director John Pisanello



Jeff DeMatthew, chairman of the Election Committee, announced that the 2016 Election for Board of Directors will be held Friday, April 8, 2016. Members may vote in the Hall of History between 10:00 am and 7:00 pm. To be eligible to vote, you must have been a member prior to February 8, 2016 and have paid your membership dues prior to February 1, 2016.





**Absentee ballots** for the election can be requested from Jeff DeMatthew, 262-554-6804, 262-633-2495, or email dematthew@ameritech.net. Absentee ballots are provided as a courtesy to our members. However, please keep the following in mind:

• Requests for an absentee ballot must be made in time for mailing to the requesting member, unless you are going to make special arrangements to personally pick up your ballot.

- Absentee ballots will not be given out or sent to anyone other than the requesting member.
- Members requesting an absentee ballot bear all risks in regard to timeliness. That is, we are not responsible for late delivery of the ballot to you, or its return to us.
- Absentee ballots must be returned in an envelope with your name and return address clearly readable on the front of the envelope. Return the envelope to Jeff DeMatthew, Roma Lodge Nominations Committee, 7130 Spring Street, Racine, WI 53406



#### 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 died or is hospitalized or ill at home, contact Jim Faraone, 262-657-1244 or email jfaraone@wi.rr.com.

### News from the Bocce Courts

The Couples Bocce League ended the season with a banquet held on Sunday, February 28. There were nine teams this year.

The First place team consisted of Captain Mike Miceli, Barb Miceli, Armando Covelli, Giulia Sturycz, Ruth Mandala, Joe Manadala.

Second place team consisted of Captain Jim Silvani, Georgette Silvani, David Silvani, Briana Silvani, Zuddy DeRose, and Lou Barrera.

We also had two new teams join the league this year and one of those teams took Third place and that team consisted of Captain Rick Bonanno, Pam Bonanno, Bill and Gale Pucci, Jeff and Leneya DeMatthew.

Next season will begin in September or October and it will be great to have more participation. A team consists of three couples. Each male must be a Roma Lodge member, but his partner may be any female over the age of 18. Play begins at 3:30 pm on Sundays. More information will appear in the August Newsletter

#### CANDIDATE STATEMENTS



#### Patrick Johnson

Since becoming a member of Roma Lodge It's been a privilege to get to know you and be part of this great tradition. I love everything our lodge has to offer, and enjoy helping in any way I can. I want to be more involved at the lodge, and that is why I'm running for the board of directors. I feel with my sales experience and out going personality I'd be a great fit for director. My main goal is to continue to make Roma Lodge the great place we all love. I'm fully committed to this opportunity, and promise to always do what's best for our lodge. If elected by my peers it would be an honor for me to serve on this board.



#### Michael Peratt

I have been a lodge member since 2008. During that time I have observed the dedication of the current and past board members. This position not only requires the willingness but the time to perform the duties of a board member. I have the willingness and the time necessary to help make Roma lodge the best club possible. This club is only as strong as its members and the board members it elects. I will be a hard working Trustee, who will greatly appreciate your vote.



### **David Chiapete**

Ciao! First and foremost, I want to thank so many of you, the members of Roma Lodge, for all your past support. It's a privilege and an honor to have previously served on the Board of Directors of Roma Lodge from 2001-2013 including 4 of those years as your vice president.

I have chaired the annual Summer Bocce Tournament in 2000-2002, 2009-2011, and 2013-present, created and chaired the winter Round Robin Bocce Tournament in 2010-2012 and again 2014-present, ran the winter bocce leagues in 2002 and 2005-2012, brought back and chaired the members singles tournament 2014present, served on the Social Committee (Christmas Party, Members Picnic, Columbus Day, and others), served on the Building and Grounds Committee, the Bar and Beverage Committee, as well as the RIWA Committee, volunteered for the \$10,000 Raffle, bingo, Super Bowl Party, and of course, our great festival. I was chairman of both the 85th Anniversary Party as well as the Mortgage Burning Party. This past fall, I was also chair of another fairly new and very successful event, La Festa di San Martino (homemade wine tasting/contest).

Anyone who knows me will attest that my only concern is for the good and welfare of Roma Lodge and its members, and that I will stand up for what I believe to be in their best interest. My involvement and memories of Roma Lodge started as a boy. I remember helping my father and grandfather at the festivals on South Memorial Drive, the old gravel bocce courts, the picnics at Johnson Park, as well as many of the older, long-time members and how much fun they always seemed to have.

Still being relatively young, I feel I am able to represent the younger members, but at the same time, I want to continue many of the great traditions of Roma Lodge that were started by previous generations. I am looking forward to blending new ideas and events with the many we already have.

Thank you again for all your past support during my previous 13 years on the Board of Directors as well as for the many events I have been involved with. It's truly an honor serving all of you, and I ask for your vote to do so once again!

#### CANDIDATE STATEMENTS CONTINUED

We all can be proud of how far we have come in the last few years. Roma Lodge's business side is on the verge of profitability and currently in a very stable position. Our executive branch has set the tone and the results have been very positive. I feel fortunate enough to have been on the board that has helped to move our great club forward. My hat is off to those who work Bingo every Thursday night. I'm very proud of those who set aside a weekend every summer and work at our famous Roma Lodge festival and to those who support our \$10,000 raffles, we cannot thank you enough. As long as we continue to keep doing what we are doing, we will continue to set an example that our community and surrounding area can be very proud of.



### Edward Habel

Don Cicero

My name is Ed Habel and I've been a member of Roma Lodge since 2009. I would like to take this time to express to all of you what being a member of Roma Lodge means to me, as well as my reasons for running for a board of directors position. My father in law, Emil Passarelli, first took me to the lodge when I started dating his daughter, my now wife. I instantly gained respect for all it stands for, and immediately could see myself joining. Being a member of a great institution, that not only offers a great atmosphere, but does so much in the community, is rewarding.

Upon joining I started volunteering in as many capacities as possible. I have worked the kids Christmas party, bocce tournaments, festival, and Bingo. Unfortunately in 2014, I was diagnosed with colon cancer, and subsequently had 16 surgeries, and of course chemo. This caused me to be absent from the lodge, as well as rendered me unable to volunteer when needed. Now that my health seems to be on the mend, I'm back to being an active member, and even working Bingo again with that great group of guys. I have recently been active on the Planning and By-laws committee run by Jeff DeMathew.

I have a degree in business, and have owned/operated businesses in the recent past. I have vast experience in the restaurant and bar industry. I feel this could help me benefit the lodge immensely. I have many ideas that I feel could help the RIWA side, as well as the members lounge and dining room. I also have volunteered at a camp for underprivileged children, Habitat For Humanity, Shop With A Cop, and much more.

All in all, I want to do my part as a member of Roma Lodge. I have great respect for my family's Italian heritage, and all the members that came before me, that made the lodge so great. If the membership decides I am a good fit for a board position, I would consider it an honor to serve.



#### ROMA LODGE CARES COMMITTEE

In order to meet Roma Lodge's mission to carry on human relations activities on a charitable basis for the purpose of showing the community the positive force of Italian-American citizens, the CARES Committee, with the approval of the Roma Lodge Board of Directors, recently made a donation of \$250 to the South Shore Fire Department and \$100 to the Royal Family Kids.

For more information on the CARES Committee, contact Jim LaBelle, 262-939-3470, jlabelle71@yahoo.com.

#### Lighthouse Run, Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup>

Roma Lodge and the Racine Area Running Club will be co-sponsoring teams in the Lighthouse Run 4 and 10 mile competitive team divisions this year. Non-members are welcome to sign up on either team. So, please pass this information on to any family and friends that may be interested. Team members will have both the Roma Lodge and the RARC logos added to the back of their Lighthouse Run t-shirt.

Prior to April 30<sup>th</sup>, the fee is \$20/person for both 4 and 10 mile team members. After May 1<sup>st</sup>, the fee goes up to \$22. **Also, the deadline to enter and have the logos added to the back of the race-shirt is May 15th.** Last year, we had a Racine Area Running Club 10 mile team that placed 2<sup>nd</sup> as a team, and our Roma Lodge 4 mile team just missed getting medals. We also had a number of Roma Lodge members that received individual age-group awards. We are looking to do even better this year. <u>Remember: The deadline to enter as a team member is May 15th.</u> For more information or to sign-up for one of the teams, please contact Jeff DeMatthew at: <u>dematthew@ameritech.net</u> or by phone at (262)-880-7474.



#### Men's Golf League – Meeting April 11<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00pm

Members interested in participating in the Men's Golf League should attend the April 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. The meeting will be held at 6:00pm in the dining room and will discuss the season's dates, rules, and fees. League veterans and first-timers alike are encouraged to attend. The league is a two-man team format, however, if you do not have a partner we can help place you on a team. Any questions please contact Dennis Porcaro at <u>262-884-9121</u>.



Celebrazione Italiana Friday, April 22, 2016 UW-Parkside Student Center | University Ballroom 5:00 p.m. Cocktails, Silent Auction, Raffles 6:00 p.m. Dinner and Program

Join us to celebrate Italian-American heritage in our community! All proceeds benefit cultural and educational exchange between the University of Wisconsin-Parkside and the University of Calabria, Italy.

The entry price is \$75. Roma Lodge will subsidize \$25 of the entry price for up to 20 people on a first come first serve base. Please contact Rick Bonnano at 262-914-1509.

### Zuddy's Sicilian Pork Chop Special



Zuddy's Sicilian Pork Chop Special consists of 2 center cut pork chops covered with an extraordinary mixture of sautéed peppers, onions and mushrooms. Included is the salad bar with baked potato or a very generous helping of pasta and bread and butter. The special also includes a complementary glass of red wine. Price is \$9.95

### Zuddy's New York Strip Special



The New York Strip Special consists of Zuddy's sauteed mushrooms over a perfectly seasoned and cooked New York Strip. The side dish is a baked potato or a very generous helping of pasta. The special includes the salad bar, bread, butter and a complementary glass of red wine. Price is \$15.99



## Remembering Racine's Old Neighborhood Grocery Stores

Tuesday, April 26, 2016 6:00 – 9:00pm Vittoria Hall

Roma Lodge 7130 Spring Street Racine, WI 53406

This will be an encore event that was presented last September at the Racine Library. Do you remember Quadracci's on Albert? Matranga's on Prospect or Matranga's on Villa? Christiano's on Kearney? Porcaro's on Hamilton? There are many others!!! Memories from descendents of those who once owned stores will be shared. Your memories and memorabilia are also welcome. Carol Gianforte's reading of her story "The Store" and Jim Mercier's extensive collection of memorabilia will also be featured. Refreshments will be served and door prizes will be featured. Tickets are \$1.00 in advance or \$2.00 at the door.

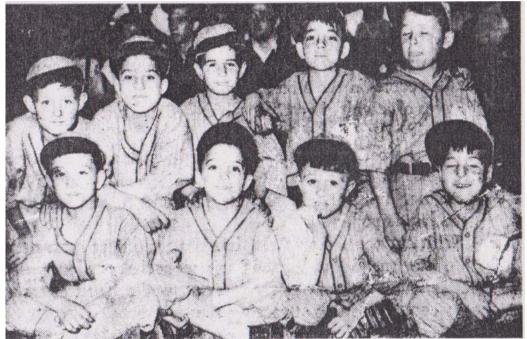
# For tickets or additional information please contact Joe Povkovich at 414-333-6723 or Rick Bonanno at 262-914-1509

### **BLAKE AVENUE GARDENS ARE RAIDED AGAIN**

### The Black Arrow Gang is Suspected

(Racine, Wisc. Circa 1940 reported by Rick Bonanno)

Vegetable gardens on and around Blake Avenue have been victims of raiders again. In one instance, Tony Litrenta went out to his lavish vegetable garden early in the morning at 1440 Blake Avenue only to find the majority of his ripening crop of tomatoes gone. While there are many kids in the neighborhood that could have perpetrated this heinous crime, the likely suspects are "The Black Arrow Gang". This unruly group of hoodlums has been known to cause havoc throughout the neighborhood. They have been spotted roaming on Blake, Summit, Carlisle and Woodrow Avenues. They have also been seen on Forest, Prospect, Hamilton and Albert Streets. The gang helps themselves to the abundant cherries, apples, plums and pears grown by local gardeners. The gang is also suspected of taking wooden boards from Horlick's factory fence along Summit Avenue. The boards, measuring 10 inches wide and 8 feet long, were taken sometime in the evening hours. Coincidentally, similar boards were used in the construction of the gang's clubhouse located at 1500 Blake Avenue. "The Black Arrow Gang" is led by Lawrence "Larry the General" Presta. Other gang members include; Charles "Chullo" Arnone, Lawrence "Weef" Presta, Louis "Lou Lou" Presta, Santo "Zuddy" DeRose, Adam "Eddie" Domanico, Charles "Charlie Boy" Domanico, John "Johnnie Boy" Domanico, Phillip "Phil" Litrenta, Mike "Ape" Aceto and Carl "Desh" Marinac. The photo shows some of "The Black Arrow Gang" posing as little league baseball players for Sam DeRose's Tavern.



Front row ( I to r) Lawrence Presta, Louis Presta, Peter LaBrasca, Santo "Zuddy" DeRose Back row (I to r) Carl Marinac, Charles Arnone, Peter Barry, Lawrence (Larry) Presta, Charles Domanico

**WARNING**...Don't be fooled by the angelic faces in this photo. "The Black Arrow Gang" is very dangerous. If you encounter any of these juvenile delinquents approach them with extreme caution, grab them and...IMMEDIATELY BRING THEM HOME TO THEIR MOTHERS FOR A GOOD SPANKING!!!

### **3rd ANNUAL(SINGLES) BOCCE TOURNEY**

SATURDAY, APRIL 23 (Pool Play-Elimination Rounds-24 Players) Games Start 9:00am – 4:00pm (Breakfast 8:00, Pizza/fruit, and Pasta & Meatballs)

### OR

### SUNDAY, APRIL 24 (Pool Play-Elimination Rounds-24 Players)

Games Start 9:00am – 4:00pm (Breakfast 8:00, Pizza/fruit, and Pasta & Meatballs)

### SUNDAY, MAY 1 (Finals-16 Player Field)

Games Start 1:00pm – 6:00pm (Bombers to be available, same as league nights (\$3) & FREE BEER FOR PLAYERS AS WELL AS EVERYONE ELSE THERE TO WATCH!!!!)

## Limited to 48 Roma Lodge Members Only

Player Entry Fee \$25.00 (Includes Food) Food Ticket \$10.00 (Non-Players)

### **Projected Cash Prizes**

(Based on 48 Players)

1 <sup>st</sup>	•	\$ 400	Green Jacket
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Place	\$ 200
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Place	\$ 100
	4 <sup>th</sup>	Place	\$ 50

**RULES AND REGULATIONS:** 

Randomly selected pool play elimination rounds.

8 pools with 6 players per pool. Each player will play 5 games minimum (based on 48 players) and will throw 4 balls per frame. Pool games to 10 points.

Top 2 players in each pool will be seeded and advance to the Single Elimination Tournament.

1<sup>st</sup> Round of Single Elimination games to 12 points. Quarter, semi and finals to 16 points. Championship Game will be played on Court #1

### Dave Chiapete -Tournament Director (262) 939-5914 Tony Povkovich (262) 880-5945

Buon Compleanno e Tantí Augurí

Happy Birthday to our Roma Lodge Brothers Born in April

#### FREE BIRTHDAY DRINK!

Members Bar will provide one free drink to a member during his birthday month on Friday or Saturday night when the kitchen is open. See the bartender for details.

			-
April 1 William Chiapetta	April 10 Frank Caruso	April 19 David Purdy	
John LeRose III	Nicholas Pitts	April 20 Jeffrey Collova	
April 2 David Pagliaroni	April 11 Joseph DeRose Jr.	April 21 Richard P. Sarto	
April 3 Thomas Vena	Noah Guida	April 22 Jon Cuccio	
April 4 Mario Passarelli	April 12 Lester Salerno	April 23 Jim Silvani	
April 5 Robert DeRose	April 13 Noel Johnson	April 24 Louis Falaschi	
Aldo Fallico	April 14 Keith Bouterse	William Hasley	
Victor Pettavino	April 15 Michael Tenuta	Thomas Wood	
April 6 Paul Ferraro Jr.	April 16 Brian Hart	April 26 Darel Suokko	
Kyle Perroni	April 17 Robert Aceto	April 28 Edward Staconis	
April 8 Ronald Gardina	Tom Garbo	James Venturini	
April 9 Jeffrey Ciaramita	Ronald Ruffalo	April 30 Donald Pfaffl	
Ronald Lucas	April 19 John Anzalone Jr.		

List compiled from the Roma Lodge Membership Files. Contact Doug Goebel, dggoebel@yahoo.com if corrections are needed.

#### Roma Lodge and Vittoria Colonna Installation Dinner

The joint Roma Lodge and Vittoria Colonna installation dinner and ceremony was conducted on Sunday, March 20th.

NEW FULL ROMA LODGE MEMBERS THE PRESIDENTS

#### OUTGOING ROMA LODGE DIRECTORS



(I-r) Keith Redell, President Rick Bonanno, Matt Montemurro (Not Pictured Gerald Schultz) Newly elected Vittoria Colonna President Lisa Graceffa, Roma Lodge President Rick Bonanno, and Immediate Past Vittoria Colonna President Joan Domanico.

(I-r) Jim LaBelle, President Rick Bonanno, John Pisanello (Not Pictured Don Cicero and Chip Mazurek)

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, May 1, 2016 Tuesday, May 3, 2016 Sunday, May 8, 2016 Monday, May 9, 2016 Tuesday, May 10, 2016 Friday, May 13, 2016 Friday, May 13, 2016 Tuesday, May 17, 2016 Wednesday, May 18, 2016 Monday, May 30, 2016 Singles Bocce Tournament Finals \$10,000 Raffle and Dinner Mother's Day Brunch - RIWA Men's Golf League Begins Board of Directors Meeting

Membership Meeting

Scholarship Recipients Announced President's Dinner

Zuddy's Special Wednesday Night Buffet Memorial Day



**Deadline for information for May 2016** *Newsletter* **is April 20, 2016.** Comments and suggestions and articles of interest to our members are welcome at <u>tjpovkovich@gmail.com</u>.