

FRATELLANZA WOMEN'S SOCIAL CLUB BULLETIN

The Fratellanza Women's Social Club | Where Good Friends Meet | Since 1945

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

ROZZ CANTISANI



MEMBER'S MEETING

TUE, JANUARY 6, 2026

Member's Business Meetings are the 1st Tuesday of each month

6:00pm Social Hour & Spuntino

(Provided by the Men)

7:00pm Meeting Begins

BE SURE TO COME TO HEAR OF NEW THINGS HAPPENING IN 2026!

CLUB OPEN

BOCCE COURTS & BAR ROOM

**1:00pm - 5:00pm
Every Wednesday**

Happy Holidays!!

I hope that you had a wonderful **Thanksgiving holiday!** This a favorite day for most, sitting around the table with family and friends sharing stories and reminiscing about the good old days, remembering our family members, who are not with us, but, always in our hearts and spirit. Now it's time to prepare for our next big holiday, **Christmas!!** The cards, finding the perfect tree at our local tree lot, getting out all the sparkling lights, our favorite decorations and of course checking our gift list once or twice (just like Santa) to make sure we have that special gift for all those special people in our lives. Searching our recipe boxes for our favorite holiday cookie recipes and other Christmas treats.

This year has flown by quickly. We have had so many wonderful and successful events at the club. Our most current was the October/December Birthday dinner, Bake Sale, Boutique and Auction. It was quiet an evening for our members and guests which totaled 261. Thank you to Catia Saroni & Maria Da Maren, for chairing the dinner. Your menu was delicious. To our set-up, servers, kitchen staff, cooks, bartenders, reservations/seating, drawing, and to all the Women's Club members who donated all the lovely prizes. Thank you for all your planning and time. You all contributed to a fabulous evening!!

Our December 2, 2025, Business Meeting/Spuntino was very well attended. We had 62 members in attendance (which included 5 of our 7 new members that were installed tonight). The food was plentiful and delicious. Thank you to all the members that brought your favorite recipes for all to enjoy. What a way to start the holiday season!!

The club is beautifully decorated for all to enjoy, especially for Santa's arrival on December 14, 2025, which is our annual Children's Christmas party. See the bulletin for all the holiday events that the Women's & Men's Clubs have on the calendar. Make your reservations and, come down and enjoy with friends & family.

Tuesday December 16, 2025, is the "Women's Christmas Dinner" chaired by the Officers, Board of Directors & Trustees. A delicious dinner is planned as well as our gift exchange and sing-along. Please see the bulletin for information and get your reservations in early.

To all the members of the Fratellanza Women's Club, the Officers, Board of Directors and Trustees, want to thank you for your support to make "2025" such a successful year. Let's plan to work together and do the same in "2026"

From all of us to all of you, we wish you a

very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!!!

Buon Natale

Rozz Cantisani – President, Fratellanza Women's Club
rcantisani@comcast.net





**LADIES MEMBERS ONLY
CHRISTMAS DINNER & GIFT EXCHANGE
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2025**

“12 Days of Christmas” Sing-a-Long!

Gift Exchange - \$25 Limit (Optional)

Bring a wrapped gift. Be sure to put your name on it so the recipient knows whom it is from.

Time & Cost:

6pm Cocktails / 7pm Dinner
This is a FREE dinner for the qualified ladies members or the cost is: \$30.
(men serve this event)

Menu:

Caesar salad, pasta with marinara sauce and pasta with pesto sauce, steak, baked potato, and green beans, and cheesecake with cherry topping.

RSVP:

Make your reservation by calling Diane Sericati (510) 526-6470 or emailing Vicki Berndt at fwscreservations@gmail.com by the deadline of December 12.

Please have one person reserve for your group.

**MEMBER’S 2026 DUES
DUE JANUARY 1, 2026**

**Regular Annual Membership:
\$50**

**Honorary Annual Membership:
\$25**

A member will be delinquent if dues are NOT paid by February 1, 2026 and will be charged a \$20 penalty fee along with the annual dues. If a member fails to pay dues and the penalty fee by March 1, 2026, it will be assumed that the member is no longer interested in the Club, and shall be automatically dropped from the membership.



CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS IN ITALY

Christmas in Italy traditionally begins on December 8, with the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, the day on which traditionally the Christmas tree is mounted and ends on January 6, of the following year with the Epiphany (Italian: Epifania, in Italian) to symbolize, along with the end of the Christmas period, the death of the old year and the beginning of a new one. The Italian term “Natale” derives from the Latin natalis, which literally means “birth”, and the greetings in Italian are Buon Natale (Merry Christmas) and Felice Natale (Happy Christmas).

The tradition of the nativity scene comes from Italy. One of the earliest representations was the nativity painting found in the early Christian Roman catacomb of Saint Valentine, and seems to be attributed to Saint Francis of Assisi. Nativity scenes were popularized by Saint Francis of Assisi from 1223, quickly spreading across Europe.

It seems that the first Christmas tree in Italy was erected at the Quirinal Palace at the behest of Queen Margherita, towards the end of the 19th century. In Italy, the oldest Christmas market is considered to be that of

Bologna, held for the first time in the 18th century and linked to the feast of Saint Lucy. Typical bearers of gifts from the Christmas period in Italy are Saint Lucy (December 13), Christ Child, Babbo Natale (the name given to Santa Claus), and, on Epiphany, the Befana.

According to tradition, the Christmas Eve dinner must not contain meat. A popular Christmas Day dish in Naples and in Southern Italy is eel or capitone, which is a female eel. A traditional Christmas Day dish from Northern Italy is capon (gelded chicken). Abbacchio is more common in Central Italy. The Christmas Day dinner traditionally consists by typical Italian Christmas dishes, such as agnolini, capelletti, pavese agnolotti, panettone, pandoro, torrone, panforte, struffoli, mustaccioli, bisciola, cavallucci, veneziana, pizzelle, zelten, or others, depending on the regional cuisine. Christmas on 25 December is celebrated with a family lunch, also consisting of different types of pasta and meat dishes, cheese and local sweets.

Source: Wikipedia “Christmas In Italy”



Special Notice:

“No shows” at our dinners are charged \$10 per ticket, to be paid by the person who made the reservation.



U P C O M I N G E V E N T S



**CLUB CHRISTMAS
FAMILY DINNER
SAT, DECEMBER 13, 2025**

**5:30PM Cocktails
6:30PM Dinner**

**Dancing to Follow w/Gary
Mittone and the Drop Daddies**

Menu:

Fratellanza Salad, Minestrone
Soup, Prime Rib & Baked Potato,
Dessert, Wine & Coffee

Members: \$40

Guests: \$45

Ages 6-12: \$20

5 and Under: Free

RSVP

(510) 764-2365 X3
fratreservations@gmail.com



**CHILDREN'S
CHRISTMAS PARTY
SUN, DECEMBER 14, 2025**

See you there!

Questions?

Contact Rozz Cantisani



**CLUB CHRISTMAS
BRUNCH & KIDS CORNER
SUN, DECEMBER 7, 2025**

See Flyers for information

**MEN'S CLUB
ANNIVERSARY DINNER
SAT, JANUARY 24, 2026**

**Interested to help set up or
serve for the dinner?
Contact Rozz Cantisani**

HOLIDAY DECOR TAKE DOWN @ THE CLUB

SAT, JANUARY 3, 2026 - 9:30AM

You are cordially invited to join the Fratellanza Men's and Women's Clubs as we remove the holiday decor from the Ballroom, Dining Room, and Back Room **from the holidays. All are welcome... Coffee and treats will be available!**

Contact Joan Brignone

510-799-2743 (H) jbrignone@comcast.net

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION!

**HOW YOU CAN HELP THE
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

- Attend an event and/or donate raffle prizes
- Purchase raffle tickets at events
- Donate homemade baked goods to bake sales
- Attend the Bunco luncheon
- Consider hosting and/or attending the Scholarship Tea
- Consider monetary gifts (in Honor of..., In Celebration of..., In Memory of..., or In Thanksgiving for...)

**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE FOR
HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS - CLASS OF 2026**

Children and grandchildren of current Fratellanza Women's Social Club members are eligible to apply for the 2026 Scholarship Program. Submit completed application to the Scholarship Committee by the required deadline of **March 15, 2026**. The Scholarship Committee is looking forward to learning about you and your educational plans after your high school graduation!

Good luck to you!

The Fratellanza Women's Social Club Scholarship Program Committee

Contact Joan Brignone for the Application Packet or on the [website](#).

Phone: 510-799-2743 (H)

E-Mail: jbrignone@comcast.net



THE FRATELLANZA CLUB GOES TO THE MOVIES!

SEE FLYER FOR DECEMBER 19, 2025 MOVIE
"A Little Fellow - The Legacy of A.P. Giannini"



Questions?

Mattia Milone: mattia.milone@gmail.com / (510) 289-2058

SUNSHINE REPORT

By Irma Sericati
 Sunshine Reporter



Our member **Toni Caulfield** had knee replacement surgery the beginning of November, and is at home recuperating. We wish her a speedy recovery.

On a sad note: **Lisa Borreani's** mother, Gloria Ann Borreani, passed away on November 23rd. Please keep Lisa, daughter in law, **Renee Howley-Borreani** and the entire Borreani family in your prayers during this difficult time. Gloria attended some of the events and especially enjoyed the tea parties. Lisa was her mother's primary caregiver and devoted all her time to her care when she was not at work or at the Club. She will be greatly missed by all.

Services are as follows:

Wed, December 10: 6:00pm-8:00pm – Visitation/Rosary at St. Joseph Cemetery

Thur, December 11: 11:00am – Funeral Mass at St. David of Wales Catholic Church

On Monday, November 24th, **Diane Ward's** husband, Mike passed away after a short illness. Mike was a strong supporter of the Club and attended most events with Diane. Mike was the father of our members: **Wendi Moradian** and **Dina Trombettas**, and grandfather of **Sofia Biel** and **Julia Collins**. Funeral services were held on Wednesday, December 3rd. Keep the entire Ward family in your thoughts and prayers.

Also on Monday, November 24th, **Maria Da Maren's** father, **Joe Scodella** passed away. Joe was very active in our Club, cooked many dinners for us and was very active along with his wife Ida, attending our various events. Funeral Services for Joe are pending at this moment. We extend our sincere sympathy to Maria and family on his passing.

Although she was not a member of the Club, we want to acknowledge the passing of **Mary Andrina**, who along with her husband, Bruno and family, were always at our dinners in past years.

Now for some Great Happy News: On December 1st, our Past President, **Lillian Taddei** became a Great Grandmother for the first time. Her grandson and wife presented her with a little girl, Madison Joan, to love and spoil. Needless to say, the entire family is over the moon with this wonderful addition to their family. A big congratulations to all the Taddei family. A great way to end the year!!

We want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Please stay healthy and safe for the coming year.

If you have news of a club member who is ill, hospitalized, or deceased, please contact Irma Sericati at (510) 526-6470 or e-mail at dsramona@aol.com.

2025-2026

Club Officers

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Vice President:

Open

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Lisa Borreani

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Rose Marie Gish

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Treasurer:

Becky Lazzarotto

Ph: (510) 271-0703

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