

ORDER
SONS OF ITALY
TRIESTE LODGE | HAMILTON

President's Message

FEBRUARY 2020



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This month's newsletter is packed with a lot of information regarding the Strategic Board and the Housing Corporations activities over the past year. Moreover, the Strategic Board update will describe the short term and long-term goals of our lodge. I am very pleased with the progress of the Strategic Board and I am certain our membership will be as well. If

there are any questions or comments on the updates, please feel free to discuss at the February meeting, or contact any one of the board chairs directly.

Speaking to the February general meeting, this month's theme will be family and friend's night. To this, any family member or friend attending as a guest will only pay \$20 for dinner (same as members pricing) and any child under 18 will be free. This is a great opportunity to bring someone out to the lodge for dinner. We will not be having a formal meeting that night, just some updates on some upcoming events. My only request is that if you plan on bringing a guest or child, notify myself or Joe Mongiardi so we can properly plan for dinner. I will be bringing my 2 children to the dinner (Frank and John Paul, future Presidents??) so it would be great to see other children out as well.

As discussed in January, we have many events coming up in the Spring schedule. An event we haven't had in a while is being brought back by popular demand is our Baccala night. We are going to hold a fish and baccala dinner this spring at our hall. Tickets will be limited due to the menu being prepared, so please attend our meeting in February or March for tickets and more information.

Our annual Elimination Draw and Sopressata dinner will be held at our hall on Thursday April 30th. We have printed 200 elimination draw tickets, at \$50/ea. If each one of our members bought a ticket, we would be sold out before getting through just over half of the membership! Please keep in mind that 100% of the proceeds from the draw and dinner get donated to local charities within the community.

Our annual spaghetti supper is getting a revamp this year as well. Instead of having an open seating that can be difficult to organize and plan for, we are selling a maximum of 230 tickets and having one seating at 6:30pm. Tickets this year will be \$15 as this dinner will also act as a fundraiser to support a plaque the Trieste lodge is creating to acknowledge and remember the Italian-Canadians in Hamilton that were interned during World War II. More information on this will be shared at the February meeting.

The annual President's meeting for the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy was held in Brantford this year on Saturday February 1st. I was very happy to announce in my report to the Grand lodge of our continued growth and dedication of our membership. All our members should be very proud of our accomplishments. I would also like to acknowledge and thank everyone who has been coming out to our monthly meetings – they have been very well attended and I hope this trend continues for many years to come!

Fraternally yours,
Lewis Merolli
President

NEXT GENERAL MEETING: Tuesday, February 11, 2020

LIBERTY EQUALITY FRATERNITY



MESSAGGIO DEL PRESIDENTE



Cari fratelli e sorelle,

La newsletter di questo mese è ricca di informazioni riguardanti il Consiglio strategico e le attività dell' Housing Board durante l'anno appena trascorso. Inoltre, a breve condivideremo un aggiornamento da parte del Consiglio strategico dove confermeremo obiettivi a breve e a lungo termine della nostra loggia. Sono molto soddisfatto dei

progressi del Consiglio strategico e sono certo che lo saranno anche i nostri membri. In caso di domande o commenti sugli aggiornamenti, non esitate ad informarvi e chiedere qualsiasi domanda durante la riunione di Febbraio o contattate direttamente un membro dell'esecutivo.

Per quello che riguarda l'assemblea generale di Febbraio, il tema di questo mese sarà la serata in famiglia e con gli amici. Per questo, qualsiasi membro della vostra famiglia o amico che partecipi come ospite pagherà solo \$ 20 per la cena (stesso prezzo dei membri) e qualsiasi bambino di età inferiore ai 18 anni avrà entrata gratuita. Questa è una grande opportunità per invitare qualcuno alla loggia per cena. Non avremo un incontro formale quella sera, solo aggiornamenti su alcuni eventi imminenti. La mia unica richiesta è che se avete intenzione di portare un ospite o un bambino, di avvisare me o Joe Mongiardi in modo da poter pianificare correttamente la cena. Io porterò i miei 2 bambini a cena (Frank e John Paul, saranno futuri presidenti ?), quindi sarebbe bello vedere anche altri bambini.

Come discusso a Gennaio, abbiamo molti eventi in programma in primavera. Un evento che non abbiamo avuto da un po' di tempo e che verrà riproposto è la nostra cena a base di Baccala. Organizzeremo una cena a base di pesce e Baccala. I biglietti saranno limitati a causa della preparazione del menu, quindi si prega di partecipare alla nostra riunione di Febbraio o Marzo per i biglietti e ulteriori informazioni.

Giovedì 30 Aprile si terrà presso la nostra sala il nostro sorteggio annuale per l'eliminazione e la cena all'insegna della Sopressata. Abbiamo stampato 200 biglietti per l'estrazione ad eliminazione, a \$ 50 cadauno. Se ognuno dei nostri membri acquistasse un biglietto, li venderemmo tutti prima di superare poco più della metà degli iscritti! Tenete presente che il 100% dei profitti del sorteggio e della cena verrà donato ad enti di beneficenza locali all'interno della comunità.

Anche quest'anno la nostra cena a base di spaghetti sarà riproposta. Invece di avere un posto libero che rende tutto difficile da organizzare e pianificare, stiamo vendendo un massimo di 230 biglietti e un posto fisso da sedere alle 18:30. I biglietti quest'anno saranno \$ 15 poiché questa cena fungerà anche da raccolta fondi per sostenere una targa che la loggia di Trieste sta creando per riconoscere e ricordare gli italo-canadesi di Hamilton che furono internati durante la Seconda Guerra Mondiale. Maggiori informazioni saranno condivise alla riunione di Febbraio.

L'incontro annuale dei Presidenti per l'Ordine dei Figli e delle Figlie d'Italia si è tenuto a Brantford Sabato 1 Febbraio. Sono stato molto felice di annunciare nel mio rapporto al Grand lodge la nostra continua crescita e dedizione dei nostri membri. Tutti i nostri membri dovrebbero essere molto orgogliosi dei nostri risultati. Vorrei anche ringraziare tutti coloro che sono venuti ai nostri incontri mensili - hanno partecipato molto bene e spero che questa tendenza continui per molti anni a venire!

Fraternamente vostro,
Lewis Merolli
Presidente



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STRATEGIC BOARD UPDATE

I take this opportunity to give an update to the membership on the latest developments of the Strategic Board.

Over the past few months each of the executives of the Housing Corporation, the Villa Boards, and the general membership of the Sons and Daughters of Italy, Trieste Lodge had voted to allow the Strategic Board to pursue the establishment of a Foundation subject to legal and accounting reviews. Subsequent to these reviews, a legal opinion was received that stated that a foundation was not the best way to achieve the goals that the Strategic Board wants to pursue. The legal recommendation submitted would be for the creation of a charity. A foundation can give funds only to a charity; whereas a charity can give funds to any organization or individual. As such, our charity can fund all three of our organizations – the Lodge, Housing and the Villa. It was noted that the creation of this charity would take about one year. A second opinion was also sought which confirmed the first legal opinion and as such, the Strategic Board will proceed on that basis.

The Strategic Board was established to bring about both short term and long-term goals. These goals must be such that the involvement of all three parts, meaning that the Trieste Lodge, the Housing Corporations, and the Villa Charitable Board must be a part of these goals.

The first area that the Strategic Board looked at was the communications within our various organizations. Members of the Lodge must know what is happening within each of those groups. To this end, the Strategic Board is looking at expanding the monthly Newsletter so that each of the Presidents of the Housing Corporations and the Villa Charitable Board report on their organization. Also, that all Lodge members are made aware of all openings that are coming up within those Boards. A review of our web sites so that they are inter connected and updated on a regular basis.

The Chair of the Strategic Board is required to meet with the three Presidents at the minimum of once every quarter. I have met with these Presidents on a more frequent basis to keep them up to date on all developments. It is also a requirement that the Chair make an official presentation to the Lodge membership on an annual basis. I plan to do so in the near future.

Over this past year, the Board has recommended that a seniors' day facility be established at St. John's Place. That would be at the southwest corner of the building at the street level. It is hoped that any renovations would be completed so that this facility would be operational by the end of this year. The Villa (retirement home staff) would operate such a facility. The Housing Corporation will provide the actual facility. Most certainly the Lodge would be a part of the programs that would be provided. This is the interaction of the three groups that is wanted. Currently the Villa staff is undertaking a detailed analysis of the requirements for such a facility.

The long-term goal that the Strategic Board is pursuing is the creation of a broad campus layout that would contain an affordable housing component, a facility for seniors and a cultural center. These buildings and services would be held in one large geographic area of approximately 7 acres. If it can be imaged, this would become a piazza not only for those living in the two complexes, but also for the surrounding community for which the cultural center would be the hub.

Over the past six months meetings have been held with various stakeholders that have included all levels of government. One of these partners is the City, which has shown strong support for this proposal, which promotes a true sense of community.

Undoubtedly the financial resources for such a project would be great and require the funding from both within our organization and external partners. The Strategic Board is aware of this and is seeking out such partners.

It is important to note that the future structure of a charity, the primary purpose of that is to facilitate the implementation of those short and long-term goals. The charity will be a means to achieve our goals.

I, as well as other members of the Strategic Board, will be available to answer any questions at the February meeting of the Trieste Lodge.

Frank Attardo
Chair, Strategic Board



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ITALIAN TRAVELS - CALABRIA

My dear fellow travelers, it's been quite some time since our last adventure. Do not despair, our time machine has been repaired, fuelled up, and it's ready to take us to our next destination nella bella Italia. Remember...we do not want to overwhelm you with too much beauty and information, but rather immerse you in a smaller area to savour every moment and every picture – just like un buon bicchiere di vino rosso a tavola. After getting a taste for the Ancient world via Sicily, and the Renaissance via Tuscany, our little time machine has selected a region that is often overlooked. Known as one of the most beautiful jewels of the Italian peninsula, our next journey starts at la Calabria. If Italy is a boot (in shape), then Calabria is the toe kicking Sicily. Being the closest region to Sicily, Calabria does share many traits with the largest island in the Mediterranean sea but yet, it is incredibly diverse and we are excited to dive into the abyss of the Calabrian world.



Pronti, partenza..via! Off we go to our first stop in over 2500 years....In no time we make our descent and immediately our eyes start wandering to take in as much of the scenery. We breathe in the saltiness and the citrus aroma from the artisans of the town who are extracting the oils from the fruits and plants they so carefully cultivated. Roughly 3km

ahead of us, off the coast, we catch a glimpse of Sicily but there is more – an incredible optical illusion, defined as the Mirage of the Fata Morgana, paints the sea of the beauty of Sicilian landscape. We are in Reggio Calabria and there is a reason this lungomare was defined as Il Piu' bel chilometro d'Italia – “the most beautiful kilometre in Italy” – by writer and philosopher, Gabriele D'Annunzio. Our natural moment is immediately disrupted by the screams and voices of a group of Greek sailors and merchants on a boat not far from us. They carry many statues and other fine art to be sold to the powerful Calabrian city of the Magna Grecia of Rhégion – “Cape of the King.” As their boat is on the verge of collapsing, they are forced to get rid of two larger statues. The statues will be found again thousands of years later and are known today as the Bronze of Riace or Riace Warriors: two full-size Greek bronzes of naked bearded warriors, one of few in the

entire world to have survived through these centuries. With no time to spare we hop back on our machine, next stop: Cosenza. It is 1222 AC and there is an incredible number of carpenters, architects, and workers gathered around an incredible baroque superstructure: la Cattedrale di Cosenza. It is about to be consecrated by Emperor Frederick II, who is still known to this day as one of the most powerful Emperors in the middle ages, having controlled from German to Italy and even to Jerusalem. What's special here is that the Cathedral was rebuilt after a terrible earthquake in 1184 that completely destroyed the city. This cathedral is full of incredible beauty and history. From the tomb of important royalties like Isabella of Aragon, wife of king Philip III of France to housing precious art such as the Immacolata by Luca Giordano. For this reason, and many more in 2011, the Cathedral of Cosenza received the status of UNESCO World Heritage Site for being “Heritage Witness to a Culture of Peace. This is the first award given by UNESCO to the region of Calabria.



This history overload made us hungry and needing for some time to relax. What better place then to fly over to a true gem of the Tirreno: Tropea.

What incredible scenery, dramatic rock formations, cliffs, coves, and grottoes dot the coastline, holding ground against the sparkling, turquoise, Caribbean-like water making it one of the undisputed most beautiful beaches in Italy and perhaps of the world.

...to be continued in next months issue

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Barrister & Solicitor

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SEASONAL EVENTS

Order Sons of Italy – Trieste Lodge Elimination Draw

Once again we are asking for your support in our annual fundraiser with 100% of the proceeds donated to charity. The draw is a raffle lottery in which all ticket stubs are placed in a drum and pulled out one at a time until the final ticket remains for the grand prize winner. Information below:

- Draw date Thursday, April 30, 2020.
- Lesser prizes are awarded at specific intervals:
 - 25th ticket wins \$100.00
 - 50th ticket wins \$300.00
 - 75th ticket wins \$600.00
- The last remaining ticket in the drum wins the grand prize; GRAND PRIZE \$1,000.00
- Total Prizes = \$2,000.00
- 200 Tickets will be printed. (1 – 200)
- Only purchased tickets are entered into the draw
- Deadline to purchase tickets is April 23, 2020 – 6:00pm
- Tickets are \$50.00 each.
- Winners will be posted in monthly newsletter

Trieste Lodge Sopressata Contest

Reserve your tickets for our Sopressata contest being held on Thursday, April 30, 2020. This year the ticket price \$35.00 – cash bar. If you wish to enter the contest please bring eight slices before dinner.



Citizen of the Year 2020 Nominations Open

If you know someone that you believe displays the values of our lodge and goes above and beyond for our community, please submit a nomination for the Sons and Daughters of Italy Citizen of the Year 2020. All nominations can be submitted to Br. Loris Pilot. All nominations must be submitted prior to April 30th. Please don't hesitate to contact Br. Loris to further discuss the nomination process.

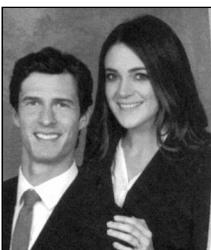


Wine Tasting Contest

The Sons of Italy annual wine tasting contest of homemade wines, for members only, will take place at our March 10th General Meeting with the following conditions:

1. All bottles may be left at the Trieste Lodge Hall on Tuesday, March 10th between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm.
2. Entry fee is \$5.00 per bottle (white, red, and *red for past winners category*).
3. Eligible are wines that have not won in the past.
4. "Last 4 Years Past Winners Category" - anyone that has won a trophy, in the red category, in the last 4 years (2016-2019) will have to enter their red wine(s) in this category.

If you have any questions please call Br. Livio Di Nello: 905-389-6930.



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HOUSING CORPORATION UPDATE

Dear Brothers and Sisters of Trieste Lodge,

I am happy to report that the Housing Corporation continues to carry on the vision of our founding members by providing affordable housing in our community.

What most people are not aware of is the impact we have on the community while providing said service.

Below is a summary of the contribution impact we have made to our community. Something for all of us to be proud of.

I would like to thank our board members for all the volunteer hours they put toward this endeavour.

Furthermore I would like to thank DMS property management for the great work they do managing our sites.

Lastly, I welcome our newest board members, Bianca Caramento and Dan Finelli.

Here is a brief profile our newest members.

A proud McMaster University alumni, Bianca also holds a master's degree from the London School of Economics in Environmental Policy and a first degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do.

Bianca has worked in government, both federally and provincially. She currently serves as Manager of Policy

and Government Relations at the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce.

Dan Finelli, P. Eng was born in Hamilton to Italian immigrants from Puglia.

Dan is a graduate of Mohawk College's Architectural Technology program and received a Bachelor of Engineering (Building) from Concordia University in Montreal.

He has worked as a structural engineer for buildings for the past 33 years. Ran his own firm for 14 years and eventually merged with MTE Consultants in 2010 where he currently manages the Building Structures Division in Burlington

Fraternally yours,

Carmine E. Filice
President - Housing Corporation

Contribution to our Community

- 485 Families Live in our Buildings
- 215 Families Receive Rent Subsidy
- 65 New Families were Housed in 2018
- 10 Full Time Employees
- \$5M Spent on Services in our Local Economy
- Partnership with March of Dimes Providing In-Home Care
- Sponsorship of VON Adult Programs



New Membership Note

All new membership applications must be completed in full and accompanied with the first year membership fee of \$75. No applications will be accepted without payment.



General Meeting Dinner Pricing and Etiquette

Our monthly General Meetings begin at 7:00 pm sharp and doors open at exactly 6:00 pm. Please note that dinner prices are \$20 for members and \$30 for non-members. All members and guests must sign in at the door with an executive member before entering the hall. Please contact the executive if you have any questions.



Need a Ride to our Monthly Meetings?

If you are willing to pick up a fellow brother or sister and drive them to general meetings or if you would like to attend a general meeting but are unable to drive, please contact Lewis Merolli @ 905-515-7276 or Joe Mongiardi @ 289-925-1557. We will do our best to accommodate all requests.



2020 Membership Dues

With the commencement of the New Year, the Executive would just like to provide a reminder that ALL membership dues are to be paid in full by MARCH 31st. Dues are \$75.00 and can be paid in person using cash or cheque at our general meetings, by mail, or by visiting our website under the "payments page" using PayPal. Please contact the executive if you have any questions.

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CHOIR UPDATE

The Sons of Italy Choir wishes All the Members of the Sons and Daughters of Italy Trieste Lodge a very Happy and Prosperous New Year. 2019 was the Sons of Italy Choir's 30th Anniversary and it was celebrated with a 30th Anniversary Concert with Guest Artists. Thank you letters of recognition from The City of Hamilton, and Our Sons and Daughters of Italy president Louis Merolli. The Sons of Italy Choir in keeping up with The Trieste Lodge will also Change their Name to "The Sons and Daughters of Italy Choir", especially since the Choir is Comprised of Men and Ladies.

The Choir will resume rehearsals on Wednesday Feb.26, 7:15 pm at the Sons of Italy Hall. We would love to have you come and give it a try. You would be surprised at what you can do. Once again this year the choir, through the Lucia Sanmartin fund, will donate to the music programs in our schools. We hope these donations will help some underprivileged children to discover the love of music. Please mark June 6, 2020, on your calendar as the Choir's Spring Concert.



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EVENT CALENDAR

Mark your **Calendar**

For those wishing to help with the following events, please see your Executive.

February General Meeting - Family Night	Tue, Feb 11, 2020
March General Meeting - Wine Tasting Contest	Tue, Mar 10, 2020
Baccala Night	TBD
April General Meeting	Tue, Apr 14, 2020
Soppressata Dinner & Elimination Draw	Thu, Apr 30, 2020
May General Meeting	Tue, May 12, 2020
Spaghetti Supper (one sitting)	Wed, May 20, 2020
Choir's Spring Concert	Sat, Jun 6, 2020
June General Meeting	Tue, Jun 9, 2020
Annual Golf Tournament	Thu, Jun 18, 2020

Card Night Briscola Tournament Winners!

Congratulations to the winners of the 2020 Briscola tournament:
Bruno Mamone & Leo Leoni

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