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# Sons of Italy

Trieste Lodge - Hamilton

## President's Message

February 2010



On Behalf of the Sons of Italy Executive, I wish to extend our hopes for a prosperous New Year filled with health and happiness to each of you and your families.

We concluded 2009 with a most wonderful Christmas Gathering that was held on December 8th, and attended by 140 members and guests. I wish to express my thanks and appreciation to Br. Joe Mongiardi for preparing an excellent Christmas dinner. I also wish to thank Joe Deluca of Barbara Café, for donating a Gift Basket. It was raffled off, raising \$800.00 which was donated to the Good Shepherd.

The Children's Christmas party held in our hall on December 13th was again a great success. The children were treated to a day filled with games and crafts, and a special visit from Santa. Thank you once again to Br. Robert Skaljin and Br. Guido DiCesare for picking up the presents and organizing the event. A special thank you to the Ladies of the Roma Imperial Lodge for wrapping the gifts.

Our first event of the 2010 calendar year, our Briscola/Card Night, was held on January 29th. Thank you to Br. Frank Merolli who has been chairing and organizing this event for 16 years. Thank you as well to Br. Joe Mongiardi and his staff for an outstanding meal and contributing to the overall success of the evening. Congratulations to our Briscola Tournament Champs and all those who played in the tournament.

Our February General meeting will be "Father/Children" night. A member of the Hamilton Tiger Cats will be in attendance to meet and greet the Children. I encourage all our members to bring their Children and spend an evening enjoying fine food and conversation with the future leaders of our organization.

I ask that you please refer to the listed calendar of events, and encourage you to attend and get involved.

Note: The Spaghetti Supper, which is set for Wednesday May 5th 2010, will be held as a Charity Fundraiser specifically for the people of Haiti. Our event will be titled "The Haiti Relief Fund" in conjunction with the Sons of Italy. Tickets will be available shortly and ask that you please see any member of the executive for information on how you can help.

Looking forward to seeing you on February 9th.

Fraternally yours,

Ralph Vitello  
President – Sons of Italy  
Trieste Lodge, Hamilton

### Sons of Italy Executive 2009/2010

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[www.sonsofitalyhamilton.org](http://www.sonsofitalyhamilton.org)

### Next General Meeting

"Parent/Child Night"

Tuesday,

February 9, 2010

@ 6:30 PM

# Villa Italia

## Mission Statement

*Villa Italia Retirement Residence is a not-for-profit provider of quality continuum of residential care nurturing the uniqueness of seniors in a home environment with Love, Honour & Respect.*

We live this mission statement day to day not only in how we operate but in how we take care of seniors. Families have entrusted us in caring for their loved one. From the first moment they come through the doors for a tour to the day they move in, seniors receive our utmost attention and respect.

There may be people that think the process is simple to have a loved one move to the Villa. On the contrary, it is a process that is organized, calculated and delicate, all at the same time. We involve family, doctors, specialists, social workers, hospitals and more to make this step a smooth transition. It takes approximately 48 hours of time to have a resident move to the Villa. You would never know this because of the seamless work of our team. Professional and compassionate are the key ingredients to this mix.

Come see for yourself. I encourage, no, I challenge some of you to take some time and volunteer at the Villa. See for yourself the commitment and legacy our board has created. Join us in celebrating our 7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Open House on Sunday February 21<sup>st</sup> from 2 – 4. Great food, entertainment and lots of LOVE - what more could you want.



## Wine Tasting Contest

Our annual wine tasting contest of homemade wines will take place at our March 9<sup>th</sup> General Meeting with the following conditions:

- All entries must be received no later than Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup>.
- All bottles may be left at Fengate Real Estate, 499 King Street East (next door to the Lodge), between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
- Entry fee is \$5.00 per bottle. (White, Red, Rosé)

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# Photo Gallery



Thursday, November 19th at the Sons of Italy Wine Club meeting, also celebrating Bob Savelli's 75th Birthday.

## Children's Christmas Party

The Children's Christmas Party Committee would like to thank everyone that attended our event on Sunday, December 13th. We handed out gifts to 75 children and served about 180 people. We look forward to seeing you all again next year.

Special thanks to the following individuals for ensuring our event was once again a success:

1. Roma Imperia Lodge for their help in wrapping up the gifts and helping out on the day of the event.
2. Brother Lewis Merolli for ensuring Santa made it to the event.
3. Brother Loris Pilot for managing the kitchen.
4. Brother Joe Mongiardi for purchasing the food and collecting the registration forms.
5. Soula Filice for helping to select the gifts for the children.
6. Nancy Skaljin and Judy D'Amico for organizing the Christmas crafts for the children.
7. Christine Di Cesare and Cinzia Loosemore for taking the family photos during the event.
8. Gasper Lipari for printing up the Christmas colouring books.
9. The many SOI members that jumped in to help during the event.




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# Upcoming Events

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

- General Meeting/Father/Child Night** - Tuesday, February 9th, 2010 - Our Hall
- Valentines Dinner Dance & Martini Night** - Saturday, February 13th, 2010 - Our Hall
- General Meeting/Wine Tasting Event** - Tuesday, March 9th, 2010 - Our Hall
- Past President General Meeting** - Tuesday, April 13th, 2010 - Our Hall
- Roast in Honour of Frank Merolli** - Friday, April 16th, 2010 - Our Hall
- Spaghetti Supper - Proceeds to Haiti Relief Fund** - Wednesday, May 5th, 2010 - Our Hall
- General Meeting** - Tuesday, May 11th, 2010 - Our Hall
- General Meeting/Election** - Tuesday, June 8th, 2010 - Our Hall
- Golf Tournament** - Thursday, June 24th, 2010 - King's Forest Golf Club

# Sons of Italy Choir

The Sons of Italy Choir wrapped up its very successful 20th Anniversary year with a "Sold Out" Christmas Concert. We cannot thank you enough for your support for the past 20 years. The Choir will resume practice on March 24th at 7:30 pm.

If you are interested in joining the Choir please come to our practice on March 24th at The Sons of Italy Hall or contact any choir member for information.  
**No experience necessary. Only the desire to sing is needed.**

We hope you had a great start to the New Year, and we wish you the best for the rest of the year.



# 2009 Charity Recipients

Food Share .....	\$1000.00
Camp Trillium .....	\$2000.00
Children's Make a Wish Foundation .....	\$1000.00
Cardinal Newman Italian Award .....	\$200.00
Kid's Help Phone.....	\$200.00
Thalasemia Foundation (SOI Grand Lodge Donation) .....	\$500.00
Bursary of Hope for Autism Dinner .....	\$1000.00
Villa Italia - La Passeggiata .....	\$2000.00
L'Aquila Earthquake Fund .....	\$16,074.00
Juravinski Cancer Centre .....	\$7000.00
<b>2009 Plan – Trieste Lodge Charity Budget .....</b>	<b>\$30,974.00</b>



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