President's Message

OCTOBER 2019



ear Brothers and Sisters of the Trieste Lodge; I hope you are enjoying your fall and getting ready for Thanksgiving that is only a couple of weeks away. September was a very busy month as Festitalia was in full swing with events occurring almost daily. We can be very proud to say this festival was started inside our walls and continues to thrive to this day. Special congratulations to Pat

Mostacci who chaired this year, for a very successful and well attended festival.

We of course celebrated in our own way, holding our Regional Food Night on Wednesday September 25th. I am very pleased to say we packed the hall with 215 guests. The meal was excellent (especially the sauce that I personally watched Joe Mongiardi make) and the night was topped off with countless donations to charities within our community. All told we made donations of over \$20,000 that evening. We had representatives from many of those charities that were extremely appreciative of the support we have given over the years, especially from those that rely strictly on donations from the community. Thank you to Anthony Chiarelli for organizing again this year, Lucas Costanzo for organizing the charity budget and Joe Mongiardi and the kitchen staff for a great meal.

As discussed at September's General Meeting, the Strategic Board held many meetings over the last 6 months that have culminated in a recommendation on how to restructure our organization. In summary, the board has proposed the formation of a foundation. In this newsletter you will find the background to this decision, and what a foundation will look

like. The October meeting will be dedicated to the discussion of this proposal. I am hoping for a large attendance at this meeting as discussion and decisions made at this meeting can and will have long lasting implications to our Order. I know as members we all want to see the Trieste Lodge thrive, and we are at a turning point. If we do this right, the sky is the limit, so the more participation we can have the better the results will be.

Please also take note of this years Citizen of the Year Recipient Sam Cino. The Gala in his honour will be on Saturday November 16th at LIUNA Gardens. Cost is \$125 per person, all inclusive. It is a great night filled with music and dance. Please see Lucas Costanzo for sponsorship information and/ or tickets.

I know as members we all want to see the Trieste Lodge thrive, and we are at a turning point.

We are also holding initiations for new members at our November meeting. I know there was a bunch of applications taken at the last meeting for new members. Please have those applications submitted at the October meeting so we can approve them for November initiation.

I wish to extend a Happy Thanksgiving to all our members and families, as we have much to be thankful for. We have the best of both – we live in the best country in the world, and we have Italian heritage – who can beat that! Looking forward to seeing you at our October meeting!

Fraternally yours, Lewis Merolli President, Trieste Lodge #4

NEXT GENERAL MEETING: Tuesday, October 8, 2019

LIBERTY EQUALITY

FRATERNITY

Messaggio Del Presidente



ari fratelli e sorelle della Loggia di Trieste: Spero che vi stiate godendo l'inizio dell'autunno e vi stiate preparando per la festa del Ringraziamento a poche settimane di distanza. Settembre è stato un mese molto intenso poiché Festitalia era in pieno svolgimento con eventi quasi ogni giorno. Possiamo essere molto orgogliosi di dire che questo festival è stato avviato all'interno delle nostre

mura e continua a prosperare fino ad oggi. Congratulazioni speciali a Pat Mostacci che ha presieduto Festitalia in questa edizione, e'stato un festival di grande successo e ben frequentato.

Ovviamente abbiamo festeggiato a modo nostro, tenendo la nostra serata gastronomica regionale Mercoledì 25 Settembre. Sono molto lieto di dire che abbiamo riempito la sala con 215 ospiti. Il pasto è stato eccellente (soprattutto la salsa che ho visto personalmente Joe Mongiardi fare) e la notte è stata completata con innumerevoli donazioni ad enti di beneficenza all'interno della nostra comunità. In totale abbiamo fatto donazioni di oltre \$ 20.000 quella sera. Avevamo rappresentanti di molte di quelle organizzazioni benefiche che erano estremamente riconoscenti per il sostegno che abbiamo fornito nel corso degli anni, in particolare da quelli che si affidano strettamente alle donazioni della comunità. Grazie ad Anthony Chiarelli per aver organizzato di nuovo questo evento quest'anno, Lucas Costanzo per l'organizzazione del budget di beneficenza e Joe Mongiardi e il personale della cucina per l'ottimo pasto.

Come discusso in occasione dell'Assemblea generale di Settembre, il Consiglio strategico ha tenuto numerose riunioni negli ultimi 6 mesi che sono culminate in una raccomandazione su come ristrutturare la nostra organizzazione. In sintesi, il consiglio ha proposto la formazione di una fondazione. In questa newsletter troverete maggiori informazioni su questa

decisione e come apparirà una fondazione. La riunione di Ottobre sarà dedicata alla discussione di questa proposta. Spero in una grande partecipazione a questo incontro poiché la discussione e le decisioni prese in questo incontro possono e avranno implicazioni di lunga durata per il nostro Ordine. So che come membri tutti vogliamo vedere prosperare la Loggia di Trieste, e siamo ad una svolta. Se lo facciamo nel modo giusto, non vi saranno piu' limiti, quindi più partecipazione possiamo avere e migliori saranno i risultati.

Si prega di prendere nota anche la festa del Cittadino Italo-Canadese dell'anno Sam Cino. La serata di gala in suo onore si terrà sabato 16 Novembre presso Liuna Gardens. Il costo è di \$ 125 a persona, tutto compreso. È una grande serata piena di musica e danza. Si prega di consultare Lucas Costanzo per informazioni sulla sponsorizzazione e / o biglietti.

So che come membri tutti vogliamo vedere prosperare la Loggia di Trieste, e siamo ad una svolta.

Alla nostra riunione di Novembre terremo anche iniziazioni per i nuovi membri. So che all'ultima riunione sono state presentate molte domande per i nuovi membri. Vi preghiamo di presentare tali domande alla riunione di Ottobre di modo che potremo approvarle per l'inizio di Novembre.

Desidero estendere un felice Ringraziamento a tutti i nostri membri e famiglie, poiché abbiamo molto di cui essere grati. Abbiamo il meglio dei due mondi - viviamo nel miglior paese del mondo e abbiamo un patrimonio italiano nel sangue – cosa chiedere di meglio! Non vedo l'ora di vedervi al nostro incontro di Ottobre!

Fraternamente vostro, Lewis Merolli Presidente, Trieste Lodge # 4



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Citizen Of The Year 2019 Mr. Sam Cino



The Order Sons of Italy Trieste Lodge in Hamilton is proud to recognize Mr. Sam Cino as the 2019 Italian-Canadian Citizen of the Year. A truly deserving individual, Sam has dedicated a lifetime to helping others as a philanthropic figure in the Hamilton area.

From a young age, Sam learned the importance of generosity and dedication to the community from his parents, as they were strong representative's of Hamilton's sister city, Racalmuto in Sicily. Among

many notable accomplishments, Sam has served on a variety of community boards, including Scouts Canada, Festitalia (Chair 2012 and 2013), Immigrant Women's Centre (Vice Chair 2014), the Health Care Health and Safety Association (3 years as Chair), and 5 years as President of Volunteer Hamilton Centre for Community Engagement. As the founding Chair of the Festitalia Italian Heritage Awards Program in 2012, he served as the Dinner Co-chair until 2016. He's been the Co-chair of Sicilia Canta since 2013, a cultural event linking Hamilton to Sicily. In 2012 Sam was recognized for community service with the Diamond Jubilee Medal. Mr. Sam Cino is a true testament to what it means to live a humble and fulfilling life, surrounded by the love and care of so many friends and family.

Sam has dedicated a lifetime to helping others as a philanthopic figure in the Hamilton area

The Sons of Italy Trieste Lodge would like to invite all family, friends and colleagues to share in a wonderful evening recognizing Mr. Cino. The Gala event will be held at Liuna Gardens on Saturday November 16th at 6pm. Tickets for the gala will be \$125 per person (all inclusive, black tie). Sponsorship in the event program is also available as an avenue to congratulate Sam on his many achievements. For information on tickets or sponsorship, please contact The Citizen of the Year Chairperson, Lucas Costanzo via email costanzlu@gmail.com or Stefano Zecchin at 289-925-4362 or stevenzecchin@gmail.com

National Lodge

Certificate of Merit

ongratulations to Leo Leoni for receiving the Certificate of Merit awarded by The Grand Lodge of the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in Canada. Your dedication, enthusiasm and hard work has earned you this well deserved award. Thank you for everything you do on behalf of the Trieste Lodge!







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The Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America **turns 114!**

Article was published in the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America email newsletter on June 24, 2019.



riginally called "Figli d'Italia," the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America® was established in the Little Italy neighborhood of New York City on June 22, 1905, by Vincenzo Sellaro, M.D., and five other Italian immigrants who came to the United States during the great Italian migration (1880-1923).

Their aim was to create a support system for all Italian immigrants that would assist them with becoming U.S. citizens, provide health/death benefits and educational opportunities and offer assistance with assimilation in America. We continue that mission through our National Supreme Lodge, Sons of Italy Foundation and Commission for Social Justice.

Today, we are a national organization of men and women who represent the estimated 26 million Americans of Italian heritage, dedicated to promoting our culture, our traditions, our language, the legacy of our ancestors, and our contributions to the U.S. and the world. With members and lodges across the United States of America and Canada, we continue to be the largest and oldest organization for people of Italian heritage.

Inaugural Address by OSDIA Founder Dr. Vincenzo Sellaro

The following is a translation from Italian of the inaugural address given by Dr. Vincenzo Sellaro, founder of the Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America. Lost since 1935, the speech was discovered recently by Professor Frank P. Oliveri of Rochester, New York, who also translated it. OSDIA is deeply grateful to Professor Oliveri.

Today is the 22^{nd} of June 1905! Today we are blessed with a magnificent day of sunshine. Today the Almighty has brought us together for a purpose. We are all brothers and sisters, who represent every corner of Italy.

No matter what part of Italy we came from, we are first and foremost Italians. I happen to be from Sicily; our pharmacist, Ludovico Ferrara is from Piedmont; our attorney, Antonio Marzullo is from Campania; Giuseppe Carlino, a sculptor, from Lazio; and our barbers, Pietro Viscardi is from Calabria, and Roberto Merlo is from Tuscany.

But we cannot continue to treat each other as sub-nationalities of the Italian peninsula. If we do, we will not only remain weak as a nationality in the larger American society, but we will also find it difficult to achieve our rightful place of influence and respect as we help make this country greater than ever before. This wonderful country can only become the richer and more cultured as a result of our efforts.

Today we are gathered together for one main purpose—a purpose that I believe someday will become a very important part of American history. We are the newest of

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the immigrants to this great country and because of the fierce and undeserved prejudice and discrimination that we have had to suffer for nearly two decades, we must begin to work together for our common good.

We must educate ourselves and insist that our children receive the best education possible. Only through education will we understand the ways and beliefs of this marvelous adopted country of ours, and be treated as equal and worthy American citizens.

We left our native land for a new life, in order to survive. Our former country and its government demonstrated after so many years of trying, that it was simply not capable of providing us what we deserved--a decent and respectable life.

The majority of us have come to these shores as the poorest of all Italians, and the least educated of most of Europe. But we are also the most courageous for having made the decision to come here we left behind our motherland and our families, in the hope, not to *find* a new life, but to *earn* a better one.

Before leaving Italy, only a few of us were fortunate enough to have received an education. Many of us reached these shores as common laborers, tenant farmers, field workers and shepherds, gardeners, fishermen. But just as many of us came as skilled artisans -- masons, carpenters, stonecutters, bakers, tailors and miners. And our contribution as tradesmen, lawyers, teachers, accountants, entrepreneurs, pharmacists, and yes, doctors as well—is second to none.

One of our most important objectives should be to bring over the rest of our family members we left behind in Italy and do that as soon as possible. The other objective that all of us must

keep in mind at all times is that at all times whatever we say or do must enhance the greatness of this wonderful country that has received so many of us. We ask only for the opportunity to earn a living! We are not here to be a burden. By staying united and helping one another we will achieve all our goals.

Today the Almighty has brought us together for a purpose. We are all brothers and sisters, who represent every corner of Italy.

Some say that history has dealt us a bad hand because we are the last to come to America, but I say to them, "Wasn't it one of our own who discovered America?" While others might have come here with masters and, in many cases, as slaves, we have come of our own accord. We are a free people.

It is because of this that today I have a dream and a hope that someday, even if it takes a hundred more years before we are fully accepted, our children and their children's children, even if they carry a single drop of Italian blood will be able and proud to continue to carry on our traditions, our culture and our language. It is up to us, and what we do today!





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Strategic Board Update: **Recommendation** for the Formation of A Foundation

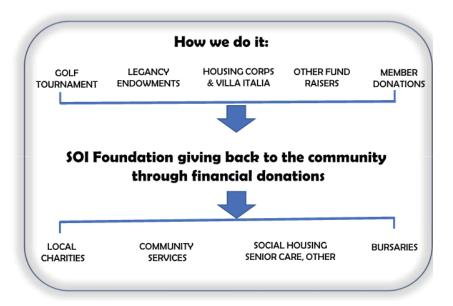
FOUNDATION

VISION:

To be a significant charitable contributor to The community where members **live**, **work and play**.

MISSION:

The SOI Foundation aspires to be an outstanding philanthropic organization serving the Italian and broader Hamilton community.



ver the many joint sessions that the Trieste Lodge, the Housing Corporation and the Villa (Charitable) boards and executives and the general membership have held, there is a perpetual expression of everyone wanting to work together towards some common element goal. However, there is always a stumbling block that prevents the achieving of these aspirations.

One of the long-term goals that have been discussed is the development of social housing, seniors' care and a 'cultural' center that would all be contained within a common campus. Such a project would require the combined efforts of all the related parties as well as various partnerships from the larger community.

After much careful thought, consideration, research and discussion the Strategic Board believes that for the long-term continuation of the branches of our Order (Trieste Lodge, Housing Corporation, Charitable Corporation) and for the ability to create a long-term project, a foundation is the most effective way forward.



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.







... the Strategic Board believes that for the long-term continuation of the branches of our Order... and for the ability to create a long-term project, a foundation is the most effective way forward.

A foundation will provide the framework by which the Sons and Daughters of Italy, Trieste Lodge and its related entities with a mechanism to engage our members' skills, talents, experience and knowledge to give back to the community in a significant and sustained way.

The benefits of forming a foundation:

- 1. Provides the ability to pool financial resources for a common purpose and engage our organization to choose the specific projects that we wish to support.
- 2. Gives the Foundation the ability to redistribute resources among the Lodge, Villa and Housing Corporations.
- 3. Allows for the creation of a vision and provides the necessary capital to realize the objectives that will have enduring benefits for our community.
- 4. The Foundation can receive donations from many sources including:
 - Our membership
 - Other Italian clubs or organizations
 - Other Not For Profit organizations
- 5. Provides a window for other Italian based organizations to participate with gifting and partnership.
- 6. Allows individual to donate funds and designate them for a specific cause of their choice.

However, the benefits to a foundation do not come without their hurdles. Most importantly:

- 1. The Foundation will require an operating arm that will manage cash flow, accounting records, donation requests and investment oversite.
- 2. Other Italian clubs may be reluctant to participate since they may perceive the SDOI motive to be to take control of some of their resources.
- 3. Perception from the community that the funds will not be directed to community causes.
- 4. Reluctance from the Charitable and the Housing Corporations to release financial resources that in the long run may be required for extraordinary repairs.

The executive of the Trieste Lodge has decided that an approval from our board will come only after careful discussion and approval from the general membership of the Trieste Lodge. We will have a discussion at the General Meeting on Tuesday October 8th. I am requesting as much attendance to this meeting as possible so we can have a comprehensive discussion.

**Information above from notes and discussion with Frank Attardo, Chair of the Strategic Board



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.

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EVENT CALENDAR

Mark your Calendar

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

October General Meeting	Tuesday, October 8, 2019
SOI FC Annual Awards Dinner & Card Night	Friday, October 25, 2019
November General Meeting	Tuesday, November 12, 2019
Citizen of the Year	Saturday, November 16, 2019







LEWIS MEROLLI

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