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**SONS OF ITALY**  
TRIESTE LODGE | HAMILTON

## President's Message

OCTOBER 2018



**D**ear Brothers and Sisters of the Trieste Lodge, I would like to use this month's president's message to talk about the different events/objectives that your executive is working on. We had executive meetings this past August and September to discuss how we can promote/amend each event that we currently hold throughout the calendar year to increase their

attendance and enjoyment.

Firstly, we looked at our 'staple' events, mainly: Regional Food Night, Citizen of the Year Gala, Children's Christmas Party, Briscola Card Night, Spaghetti Supper, and the Sopressata Contest Dinner. As in the past, we assigned a committee chair to each event, along with a couple of executive members to help as committee members. To that end, I am asking the membership for participation into these committees, specifically as committee members. There are many reasons why an active membership within our events is extremely important. For one, it ensures that the event caters to the needs of the membership. It also ensures that some the best ideas on how to bring events to the next level are heard and utilized. Thirdly, it allows our general membership the opportunity to explicitly 'give back' to our lodge and the community.

We also challenged ourselves to look at each event to judge it against the parameters I set out on my last president's message. Do they attract current and potential members that are looking to experience and embrace their Italian heritage and culture? Do they meet the tenets set out in our constitution and by-

laws, specifically around charity and community? I believe if our events answer these two important questions, they can be very successful. Moreover, examining each event to determine its usefulness it's a great way to ensure that we are meeting the needs of our membership. I am a strong advocate of tradition, and I do recognize the importance of keeping certain practices. However, I also agree that change is always warranted if we are doing it for the right reason - that serving the immediate needs and wants of our membership is the most important function of any thriving organization.

You may notice some changes in how we operate in the coming months, specifically on how we promote the ongoing good works of our lodge. We have endeavoured on revamping our internet and social media presence. We have reached out to various Italian clubs within the community to include them and promote them in our newsletter and web site. We are going to endeavour on a marketing campaign to highlight the charitable works we have achieved. The goal is this: I want the Sons of Italy to be the conduit for all Italian Canadians within our community to experience their heritage and culture.

In closing, I wish to extend my personal wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving to all members and their families. I hope to see many of you at our general meeting on Tuesday October 9<sup>th</sup>, and I look forward to any input that will help us grow to be the premier Italian Canadian organization in our community.

Fraternally Yours,

Lewis Merolli  
President, Trieste Lodge #4  
Liberty, Equality, Fraternity

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING: Tuesday, October 9, 2018**

LIBERTY      EQUALITY      FRATERNITY



# Messaggio Del Presidente



**C**ari Fratelli e Sorelle della Loggia di Trieste, Vorrei usufruire del messaggio del mese del presidente per parlare dei diversi eventi e obiettivi che il nostro esecutivo si e' preposto. Durante i meetings esecutivi di Agosto e Settembre abbiamo discusso su come promuovere e modificare gli eventi che in questo momento proponiamo durante l'anno per migliorarne la

partecipazione e il divertimento.

Innanzitutto, abbiamo considerato i nostri eventi principali : Regional Food Night, Citizen of the Year Gala, Children's Christmas Party, Briscola Card Night, Spaghetti Supper, and the Sopressata Contest Dinner. Come in passato, abbiamo assegnato un presidente del comitato per ogni evento con il supporto di almeno due membri dell'esecutivo. A tal fine, vorrei invitare i nostri soci a partecipare a questi comitati, in particular modo come membri del comitato. Ci sono moltissimi motivi per cui vale la pena essere un socio attivo durante i nostri eventi. Per primo, si assicura che l'evento soddisfi i bisogni dei nostri soci. Inoltre, si assicura che le idee migliori per arricchire l'evento vengono ascoltate e utilizzate. Terzo, da' la possibilita' ai soci di contribuire alla nostra loggia e alla nostra comunita'.

Ci siamo anche preposti di esaminare e valutare ogni evento rispetto ai parametri che ho fissato nel mio messaggio del mese scorso ponendoci le seguenti domande : Questi eventi sono in grado di attrarre attuali e futuri membri che vorrebbero vivere ed abbracciare la propria cultura Italiana? Rispondono ai principi stabiliti nel nostro statuto e regolamento, in particolare in ambito caritatevole e comunitario?

Credo che se i nostri eventi rispondono a queste due importanti domande, possono avere molto successo. Inoltre, esaminare ciascun evento per determinarne l'utilità è un ottimo modo per garantire che stiamo incontrando le esigenze dei nostri membri. Sono un grande sostenitore della tradizione e riconosco l'importanza di mantenere determinate usanze. Tuttavia, sono anche d'accordo sul fatto che il cambiamento sia sempre giustificato se lo stiamo facendo per il giusto motivo: che servire i bisogni e i desideri immediati dei nostri membri è la funzione più importante di qualsiasi organizzazione prospera. Noterete alcuni cambiamenti nel modo in cui opereremo nei prossimi mesi, in particolare su come promuoveremo i buoni propositi in corso nella nostra loggia. Ci siamo sforzati di rinnovare la nostra presenza su Internet e sui social media. Abbiamo contattato vari club italiani all'interno della comunità per includerli e promuoverli nella nostra newsletter e nel nostro sito web. Ci impegneremo in una campagna di marketing per evidenziare le opere di beneficenza che abbiamo realizzato. L'obiettivo è questo: voglio che i Sons of Italy sia il canale per tutti i canadesi italiani all'interno della nostra comunità per poter vivere il proprio patrimonio e la propria cultura.

Per concludere, desidero estendere i miei auguri piu' cari per un felice Ringraziamento a tutti i membri e alle loro famiglie. Spero di vedere molti di voi al general meeting di martedì 9 ottobre, e attendo con impazienza qualsiasi input che possa aiutarci a diventare la principale organizzazione italo-canadese nella nostra comunità.

Fraternamente,  
Lewis Merolli  
President, Trieste Lodge #4  
Liberty, Equality, Fraternity



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## The Sons of Italy **Choir Update**

**T**he Sons of Italy Choir had a fantastic time performing at the Locke St. Festival in front of Mr. Tony Hairstylist Shoppe. The reception from the audience was amazing. They sang along, and we had many dancing in the street. It was a great Joy to have our Mayor Fred Eisenberger join in singing with the choir to “ Santa Lucia “. The SOI Choir also had a performance on Tuesday Sept. 11, at 10:00 am at St. Joseph Hospital for the Festitalia event. It was a real pleasure to see brother Fern Viola come down and enjoy the choir performing.

The Choir now is preparing for the Christmas Season and especially for “ The Sons of Italy choir Christmas Concert Dinner and Dance “. The date for the event is on; Saturday Dec. 1, 2018. By the time you read this, tickets will be ready. To reserve you tickets please Call Angelo Venditti 905-388-0872. The cost is still only \$40.00. Great food by Joe Mongiardi, Choir Concert with Sing-a-long, and Dancing to DJ Venditti .

## General Meeting Dinner Pricing and Etiquette

**J**ust a reminder our monthly General Meetings begin at 7pm sharp and doors open at exactly 6pm. **October Dinner pricing for members is \$20 and guest pricing is \$25 at the door.**

All members and guests must sign in at the door with an executive member before entering the hall. Please be patient with us at the door as we have been implementing a new sign-in process that will allow us to better manage and track our dinner attendance for years to come.

Please contact the executive if you have any questions.

Grazie!  
SOI EXECUTIVE 2018-2019

## New Membership

**A**ll 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.

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## HISTORY AND HERITAGE

# Time travels to our Marvelous Italy: Second Stop Tuscany



Welcome back my fellow adventurers. We have had the chance to catch our breath and recharge our batteries to continue our time travels in this beautiful country filled with wonders...true gems to the point that many are part of the World Heritage, and in this category our beloved Italy holds the number one spot. Our time machine is ready to take us into a magical world that we can savor and enjoy to this day but that we want to rediscover as if we were part of those historical times that will continue to be immortal in all history books for many centuries to come.

We take our map and after our incredible adventure in the hot and beautiful Sicily, we head straight to one of the most beloved and known regions in Italy: Tuscany.

Our machine lands in the middle of a Piazza. We are immediately taken aback by the loud buzz around us and

the number of people that go on with their daily tasks. There are artisans of every kind, merchants, many artists--from musicians, writers, to painters, sculptures and many more. We look around and we are speechless standing in front of an impressive building with an elegant tower, home of the government. In modern age we call it 'Palazzo Vecchio' ( Old Palace) and we are in Piazza della Signoria around the XV century. The Signoria is Florence's government but truthfully it was the De Medici family, at this time the bankers to the papal court and the most influential power in Italy after the pope itself, to be in charge. During this time the De Medici's support both financially and politically of the arts and education, by commissioning the building of great cathedrals, and commissioning the best artists of the age to decorate them, is extraordinary to the extent that it is considered to be the most influential and vibrant city in Europe of this time. What we are about to witness is an incredible amount of investment no

one else has ever come close to during that period.

We continue our journey by heading south and we are immediately facing Florence's only river: the Arno. Believe it or not, Cosimo de Medici re-modernized the then simple bridge that connected Palazzo Vecchio to Palazzo Pitti (home of his family) transforming it to the 'Ponte Vecchio' we all know today and considered as one of the most famous in the world.

Though we would like to stick around the historical centre we are drawn towards a hill just outside the city where time seems to stop for a second. We feel the need to soak in the beauty of this magnificent city in its entirety. We are literally looking at one of the most beautiful live postcards we could ever imagine. On the right stands the Duomo, one of the largest cathedrals in Italy and, up until the modern era, largest in the world. Perhaps the largest investment made by Cosimo and Lorenzo De Medici, the Duomo is one of the Italian Gothic masterpieces and to this day it still holds the record for largest masonry church ever built. It was started in 1296 and completed in 1436 with the marvellous cupola made by Filippo Brunelleschi that along with the baptistery and Duomo itself are considered as World Heritage sites by the Unesco. Today, the location where we can enjoy such a view is called Piazzale Michelangelo-- after one of the most renowned painters and sculptors born and raised during the Renaissance in Tuscany.

**CHARLES MACALUSO, B.Sc., LL.B.**

*Barrister & Solicitor*

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## HISTORY AND HERITAGE

After witnessing so much beauty we are ready for our second stop, towards the only city in Tuscany capable of standing up to the super power of Florence, a unique city for its significant historic, artistic and landscape patrimony and for its substantial consistency in its medieval urban style: Siena.

Our time machine lands directly on a large Piazza with a unique shell shape and we are simply amazed at the scene we see: an immense crowd shouting and encouraging its rider in a horse race called 'Il Palio'. We notice a multitude of colours and flags and immediately ask for an explanation.

We find out that Siena had to surround itself by high walls in order to protect itself from Florence. Every district which was separated by such walls was called 'contrada' and each one had its own rules and traditions. Each contrada (there are 17 in total) competed with each other during the famous race on horseback in the Palio of Siena. This was an opportunity to claim your belonging to your contrada with pride and challenge



the other districts. What's incredible is that the Palio still occurs twice a year almost 700 years after its origins.

The stage of this exciting event, considered the pulsing heart of Siena is called Piazza del Campo. Appointed as a World Heritage site, it hosts many symbols of the medieval Siena and its glorious past.

As we decide to fuel ourselves with some delicious Pappardelle with boar, we notice a number of soldiers escort a mysterious load. We decide to follow them and end up in front of a large building with an inscription that reads: Montepaschi di Siena. This is 1472 and till this day, it is considered the first and longest living bank ever existing.

Luckily our journey through the Renaissance is not over yet. We want to dive into another gem, and while we leave Siena's monumental walls behind us, we adventure out into the countryside where notice a town on a hill. This city is incredibly special as it has preserved its beauty throughout the centuries and is considered one of the best examples of urban organization during that era in all Europe-- Welcome to San Gimignano.

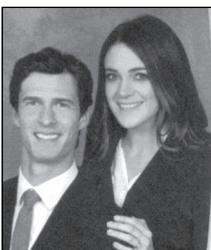
As we admire such scenery, something immediately catches our eye--the multitude of medieval towers that stand out on its landscape. We start counting them and to our astonishment we reach

73! Something completely unique in the world that leads to the nickname of this Medieval Manhattan as well as World Heritage site. We cannot help but wonder why there are so many towers. We happen to bump into a wine merchant who provides us with a surprising answer. The tower was a symbol of wealth and power--the tallest the tower the bigger your importance. During its peak in the XV century it became a true competition, which lead to the highest number of 73 towers though in modern times we can only count 13.

We are almost at the end of our trip, and our time machine is almost out of gas, but we have one more quick stop to make. We want to follow our instincts and caress those sweet dunes and hills that take us to the border with Umbria. Here with the river Orcia at the center, we reach one of the most beautiful and incredible valleys in the country: la Val d'Orcia. The cypress trees that outline those curves like the brush of a painter and the sun that warms and shines light over hectares upon hectares of prairies and woods is an image we'd love to frame and hang up on our bedroom wall so as never to forget such beauty . It is one of the very few valleys in the world recognized as a World Heritage site for the excellent conservation of the landscape throughout the centuries.

We would have loved to lay down upon those grasses and to breathe in the charm

cont'd next page



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## AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

# Citizen Of The Year 2018 - **Mr. Ron Corsini**

The Order Sons of Italy Trieste Lodge in Hamilton is proud to recognize Mr. Ron Corsini as the 2018 Italian-Canadian Citizen of the Year. A truly deserving individual, Ron has dedicated a lifetime to helping others as a philanthropic figure in the Hamilton area. From a young age, Ron learned the importance of generosity and dedication to the community from his parents Ennio and Josephine Corsini, the owners of Corsini's Supermarket on James Street. Corsini's was a pillar of support for countless Italian immigrants coming to Hamilton and Ron continued in his parent's footsteps in giving back to the Hamilton community. Among many notable accomplishments and accolades, Ron has served as chair of the Jamesville BIA, chair of Festitalia

and as Ward 2 City Councillor. Ron has also sat on countless boards, including Festival of Friends, St. Joseph's Hospital Foundation, Opera Hamilton, Italian Earthquake Relief, and countless others. Mr. Ron Corsini 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.

The Sons of Italy Trieste Lodge would like to invite all family, friends and colleagues to share in a wonderful evening recognizing Mr. Corsini. The Gala event will be held at Liuna Gardens on Saturday November 17th 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



Ron 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](mailto:costanzlu@gmail.com) or Lewis Merolli at 905-515-7276 or [lewis@weld-techproducts.com](mailto:lewis@weld-techproducts.com).

## Second Stop Tuscany cont'd

surrounding us but sadly our journey has come to an end. As we are about to depart, a curious young boy approaches us and is captivated by our machine, taking notes and drafting designs. We are truly impressed by his curiosity and precision in taking down details especially because of his young age. We find out he comes from a nearby town called Vinci and his name is Leonardo. This man will continue his journey to become one of the most creative and incredible minds the world has ever seen. A true genius that mastered so many arts. Some of his masterpieces, such as his works on the Sistine Chapel, the Last Supper, the Mona Lisa or the Navigli range from sculpture, painting, architecture, anatomy and many more,

not only influenced, Florence, Tuscany, the Vatican, Milan but the entire world. After this unbelievable encounter we are now ready to leave. We open our eyes and we are back in Hamilton. We would have loved to visit other incredible cities, such as Pisa, the home of the famous Galileo and home of the world renowned leaning tower, Arezzo and its Ancient Etruscan history, Montepulciano and other striving cities from the renaissance that with the Chianti region are home to some of the most well-known and delicious wines in the world, or maybe the Elba Island, where Napoleon was first sent into exile but also known for its crystalline blue waters. Food is another key part of any travels so for meat lovers you will not

resist trying the classic Fiorentina steak, one of the largest and most tasteful meat dish the world envies us for.

I hope you have enjoyed our Tuscan trip and that one day you'll be lucky enough to see such beauties and gems with your own eyes. If you haven't done so already, it will bring a huge smile to your faces. As a Tuscan saying goes "La gente allegra Dio l'aiuta e i bischeri li rifiuta" which translates to "God helps the positive spirited people and refuses the grumpy ones". Thank you so much for being great fellow adventurers and see you on our next trip!

Br. Steven Zecchin

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## Congratulations

Br. Charles Criminisi  
and Br. Gabe Macaluso!

Congratulations to our very own Br. Charles Criminisi and Br. Gabe Macaluso on their most recent achievement to be presented at CIBPA's 8th Annual Awards Gala.



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## Camp Trillium Fundraiser

in support of #irongabe

During September and October, enjoy a special priced family meal for four in support of #irongabe and Camp Trillium. Nonna's Cucina is located at 127 Plains Road W. in Burlington. Call (905) 632-7677 for details or visit [www.nonnasristorante.com](http://www.nonnasristorante.com)



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*It's not over till I WIN!*

**Nonna's Family Dinner**  
in support of our grandson #irongabe's fight against Leukaemia and love of Camp Trillium

**Family Style Meal for 4\* \$60 +tax**

**Includes:**

- Pasta & Meatballs
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Gluten free or low carb options available - ask your server (additional charge applied)  
\*\$15 for each additional person

All proceeds from this meal will be donated to Gabe's fundraiser for Camp Trillium - a cancer camp that has helped Gabe & his family through the healing process.

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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 9, 2018
November General Meeting	Tuesday, November 13, 2018
Citizen of the Year Gala	Saturday, November 17, 2018
Children's Christmas Party	Sunday, December 9, 2018
Member's Christmas Dinner	Tuesday, December 11, 2018

*Special thanks to  
Ludovico Capozza and Leo Leone  
for an excellent job barbecuing the steak  
and sausage at September's general meeting*



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