



— ORDER —
SONS OF ITALY
TRIESTE LODGE | HAMILTON

President's Message

MARCH 2019



Dear Brothers and Sisters; Spring is just around the corner (ignore the cold winds, icy sidewalks, snow banks and salt marks on your shoes) and that marks the beginning of the 'busy season' for our lodge. We have many events and items on the docket over the next few months that will make things very exciting going all the way into June.

Our March general meeting is taking place on Tuesday the 12th, and as in the past this meeting will be our annual wine tasting contest, open to members looking to showcase their home-made wines. There is more information in the newsletter regarding submitting your wine – good luck to all entrants and thank you to Brother Livio DiNello for organizing again this year.

A tradition like no other is honouring our past president's that gave their time and resources to ensuring the viability and strength of our lodge. On Saturday March 30th (6:00pm, our hall) we not only can give tribute to our past 4 presidents (Robert Skaljin, Guido DiCesare, Lou Filice, Loris Pilot), but we'll also get a chance to roast them a bit too. To top off the night, our friend and internationally renowned comedian Frank Spadone will be performing. Tickets for this event are \$75 all inclusive – and at the time of this message we are almost sold out. If you are looking for tickets, please see me ASAP so you don't miss out!

A big part of the Trieste Lodge is the amount of charitable contributions that we give to worthy organizations within the

community. A large portion of the donations we make come from the Elimination Draw proceeds that we have held the last few years. We are printing 200 tickets this year, selling tickets at \$50 each. To be clear, 100% of the proceeds of this draw get donated to charity. If you are considering donating to a charity this year, a great way is buying a ticket in our draw- that way we can raise a substantial amount of funds that can make a large difference to a local charity. See myself or the executive for your draw ticket.

The elimination draw winners will be determined at our Sopressata Contest Dinner that is being held at our hall on Thursday April 25th. Tickets for this event are \$40 for dinner, cash bar. This has become a very popular event, with well over 20 entries last year. If you have started making your own soppressata, this event is a great way to showcase your product! See brother Lou Filice for more information on entering the contest and dinner tickets.

Also coming up in the next few months are the Spaghetti Supper in May, a wine tasting dinner/fundraiser partnering with the Catholic Children's Aid Society, the Sons of Italy National Convention, our annual golf tournament, and of course Italian Heritage Month in June. More information on these events will be presented in future newsletters.

I'm excited to see that we have a lot on the go, and I look forward to seeing many of you at our events as we celebrate our Italian culture with food, wine and fun.

Fraternally yours,
Lewis Merolli

NEXT GENERAL MEETING: Tuesday, March 12, 2019

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MESSAGGIO DEL PRESIDENTE



Cari Fratelli e Sorelle; La primavera è dietro l'angolo (basta ignorare i venti freddi, i marciapiedi ghiacciati, i banchi di neve e le macchie di sale sulle scarpe) e questo segna l'inizio della "stagione indaffarata" per la nostra loggia. Nei prossimi mesi abbiamo molti eventi e articoli in agenda che renderanno il tutto molto coinvolgente per i nostril membri fino a Giugno.

Il nostro meeting di Marzo si terrà Martedì 12 e, come in passato, questo meeting sarà il nostro concorso annuale di degustazione di vini, aperto ai membri che desiderano mostrare i loro vini fatti in casa. Troverete più informazioni nella newsletter riguardo all'invio del vostro vino - buona fortuna a tutti i partecipanti e grazie al nostro fratello Livio DiNello per l'organizzazione di questo evento anche quest'anno.

Un importantissima tradizione di Marzo sara' quella di onorare i nostri ex-presidenti che hanno dato il loro tempo e le loro risorse per garantire il futuro e la forza della nostra loggia. Sabato 30 Marzo (6:00 pm, alla nostra sala) non solo possiamo rendere omaggio ai nostri ultimi 4 presidenti (Robert Skaljin, Guido DiCesare, Lou Filice, Loris Pilot), ma avremo anche la possibilità di prenderli un po' in giro. Per completare la serata, il nostro amico e comico di fama internazionale Frank Spadone si esibirà. I biglietti per questo evento sono \$ 75 tutto compreso e sono quasi tutti esauriti. Se state cercando biglietti, vi prego di contattarmi al più presto in modo da non perdere l'occasione di parteciparvi.

Una grande parte di cio' che facciamo alla Loggia di Trieste è la quantità di contributi di beneficenza che diamo ad organizzazioni meritevoli all'interno della comunità. Gran parte delle donazioni che facciamo provengono dal

ricavato dell' « elimination draw » che abbiamo tenuto negli ultimi anni. Stiamo stampando 200 biglietti quest'anno, vendendo i biglietti a \$ 50 ciascuno. Per essere chiari, il 100% del ricavato di questo sorteggio viene devoluto in beneficenza. Se state pensando di fare una donazione a un ente di beneficenza quest'anno, un ottimo modo è acquistare un biglietto per il nostro sorteggio, in questo modo possiamo raccogliere una notevole quantità di fondi che possono fare una grande differenza per un ente di beneficenza locale. Contattatemi per il vostro biglietto per l'estrazione.

I vincitori dell'eliminazione saranno determinati nella nostra cena della « Soppressata Contest » che si terrà nella nostra sala Giovedì 25 Aprile. I biglietti per questo evento sono \$ 40 per cena, alcolici non inclusi. Questo è diventato un evento molto popolare, con oltre 20 iscrizioni l'anno scorso. Se hai iniziato a preparare la tua soppressata, questo evento è un ottimo modo per mostrare il tuo prodotto! Contattate fratello Lou Filice per ulteriori informazioni sull'iscrizione al concorso e per i biglietti per la cena.

Nei prossimi mesi avremo altri eventi tra i quali "Spaghetti Supper", una cena di degustazione di vini / raccolta di fondi in collaborazione con la Catholic Children's Aid Society, la Convention Nazionale dei Figli d'Italia, il nostro torneo annuale di golf e, naturalmente, il mese del patrimonio italiano a Giugno. Ulteriori informazioni su questi eventi saranno presentate nelle future newsletter.

Sono felice di vedere che abbiamo molto da fare in e non vedo l'ora di vedere molti di voi durante i nostri eventi mentre celebriamo la nostra cultura italiana con cibo, vino e divertimento.

Fraternalmente,
Lewis Merolli

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HISTORY AND HERITAGE



IL RISORGIMENTO The resurgence of the Italian people

After our wonderful travelling trips to two of the most incredible regions nel Bel Paese we want to give this month's newsletter a little twist. We won't just dive into a geographical area, rather a time frame that would forever change who we are today as Italians or Italian descendants.

Today we could hardly conceive a world without Italy in it. Yet, the unification of Italy as a country is something relatively recent. Just take into consideration that the grandfathers of some of our elderly members might have even seen with their own eyes that incredible process of unifying the boot called Risorgimento ie. the resurgence. Before that, Italians were never united institutionally in a country, the Roman Empire in fact cannot be considered as such and once it fell in 476 a.c. the foreigners ruling the country would periodically change.

However, from a cultural, linguistic and religious point of view there is a form of national identify starting from the

Renaissance period that will reach its peak in the '800s. During this time Italy was significantly segmented. Piedmont and Sardinia were part of an independent kingdom controlled by the Savoia family. Lombardy, Trentino, Friuli-Venezia Giulia and Veneto were controlled by the Austrians, in Tuscany we have the Grand duchy that is technically independent and along with the smaller Duchy of Modena and Parma were informally controlled and influenced by the Austrians. Lazio, Marche and Umbria are under the control of the Papal state (the Pope back then had both the spiritual and temporal power as the true king of its territory). From Campania till Sicily there's the Kingdom of the two Sicily under the Borboni family part of the Spanish royal family. In short, we are looking at a multicolored puzzle that the Italians of the time considered to be a situation to be resolved once and for all.

A famous slogan would be shared during those years "We want a country, one country and fast. We can compromise on anything but not on this. Can you give it to us?"

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HISTORY AND HERITAGE

IL RISORGIMENTO The resurgence of the Italian people - cont'd

Between 1815, after the Vienna treaty (and the collapse of Napoleon), and 1848 there is no real progress in achieving such goal. Mazzini, with his Giovine Italia association, Garibaldi, an incredible general named the heroes of the two worlds for leading rebellions in Europe and South America, and many other Italian patriots would try several times to start rebellions in various cities in the North and South but they are always quickly repressed in blood. Even the First War of Independence convened by the Savoia against Austria in 1848 will end with an armistice that does not bring to any political change. With that being said there is one certain fact, the Kingdom of Sardinia with King Carlo Alberto and its genius politician Camillo Benso Di Cavour are the paladins towards a united Italy. Cavour quickly understands that the formation of a country cannot be achieved through rebellions, or alliances with the other Italian states nor attacking Austria on its own.

The only way is to seek an alliance with the other European countries, making the Italian Unification issue one for the rest to consider. In 1852 he decides to create an alliance with France in the war of Crimea and, as a winner, he is allowed to speak at the Congress of Paris. At the congress Cavour will speak about the Austrian occupation in Lombardy and

other zones that need to be freed. In 1858 with France on his side Cavour makes arrangements with the protagonists of the rebellions, Garibaldi and Mazzini, and starts provoking Austria that then declares war to the Savoia triggering the treaty that would bring France to war as well. It is the outbreak for the Second War of Independence ten years after the First.

This time the Savoia family can also count on the incredible courageous volunteers from all over Italy, in particular the Cacciatori delle Alpi (the Alps hunters) will be crucial in defeating the Austrians troops fighting on the hard and impervious Alps. Though the victory was clear, a potential incumbent Prussian war on the other front pushed Napoleon III to force an armistice that would partially give the Savoia Kingdom what they were hoping for: only Lombardy and part of Veneto. The disappointment was so big that Cavour had resigned from his Prime Minister position. However, only a year later, due to the destabilizing conditions in all of the peninsula the King Vittorio Emanuele II brought Cavour back in his elite position. He swiftly made a treaty with France that would give the Sardinian kingdom control over the current Emilia Romagna region and Tuscany in exchange of Nice and Savoia that would now be part of the French Kingdom.



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IL RISORGIMENTO The resurgence of the Italian people - cont'd

Now that the new Kingdom encompassed most of the North and Central Italy, the spirits of all Italian patriots were at an all-time high and felt there was no time to waste before reuniting the territories of the Italian peninsula under one government. After successfully leading the Cacciatori delle Alpi, Giuseppe Garibaldi volunteered himself in what is often considered as the legendary Spedizione dei Mille or expedition of the one thousand, to point out the number of Giubbe Rosse (red coats) that initially followed the Italian general and sailed south. There was a catch though, none of the major European forces wanted the South to be part of an Italian Kingdom rather to be independent. Furthermore, the Papal State

boasted the personal protection of the French Kingdom. Interestingly the King Vittorio Emanuele officially writes a letter to Garibaldi asking him to stop the expedition, however unofficially he asked Giuseppe to push through and continue on the dream to reunite the beloved country under one flag. The Garibaldini land in Marsala, Sicily on May 11th 1860 and three days later with the battle of Salemi, the war for the Southern freedom officially begun. Interestingly enough many reliable sources state that the landing in Sicily had zero casualties as the Borboni were under the impression that the vessels were showing English flag. At the time the British fleet was the strongest and largest in the world and no small kingdom would dare face such giant.



Garibaldi holds on to his reputation of ingenious war master and slowly but surely Sicily, Calabria and ultimately Napoli on February 13th 1861 all fall under his control sending the Bourbonic King in exile to Rome. With such, the Spedizione dei Mille has come to an end, Vittorio Emanuele II will meet Garibaldi at Teano and officially pass on the conquered territories to join the Kingdom of Sardinia.

At this point only the Papal state, secluded to the Lazio region, and Veneto were excluded from the newly formed kingdom and on March 17th 1861 the Kingdom of Italy is finally born!

The last two territories were going to be a greater challenge as it would disrupt stability across the entire continent. For this reason, it isn't till 1866 that an opportunity knocks at the Italian door: the outbreak of the war between Austria and Prussia. Italy quickly holds an alliance with the latter and officially commences the Third War of Independence. As Prussia rises to win the war, Italy is able to finally free the Venetian region from the control of the Austrians by October 1866.

There is now but one last piece of the puzzle, the Pope still holding protection from the Napoleon III has not given up his territory but in 1870 when France declares war to Prussia and the French King is captured, Italy swiftly attacks the Papal state and on September 20th breaks through the walls of Porta Pia and ends the Risorgimento. A year later Rome officially becomes the capital of the Italian Kingdom!

As exciting and rewarding as the unification was, it is important to recognize the incredible difficulties the new Kingdom had. Only 2% of the population could read and write Italian, an infamous slogan of those years would say "L'Italia e' fatta, gli Italiani sono da farsi" – "Italy has been made, Italians are yet to be done". With that being said we do not want to diminish this incredible movement with martyrs across the entire country, from north to south, they all made a choice to join their future compatriots united by the same dream. The Savoia's army made use of thousands upon thousands of young volunteers from Sicily, Calabria, Campania, Toscana, Emilia, Veneto and Lombardia that abandoned their family aware to be facing death. They had little military skills but their courage and valour were well documented by many enemy diaries, touched by their tenacity. It was in those years that the Italian national anthem was born and the love for our country reached the highest levels. Today, it's been over 150 years since those incredible events but it is important to remember the true first generation that sacrificed all to give us a country we could never imagine to live without.

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GENERAL NOTES



General Meeting Dinner Pricing and Etiquette

Just a reminder our monthly General Meetings begin at 7pm sharp and doors open at exactly 6pm. **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.



Need a Ride to our Monthly Meetings?

Many of our senior members may find it difficult to drive to our general 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.



2019 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.



Citizen of the Year 2019 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 of Italy Citizen of the Year 2019. 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.



Trieste Lodge Sopressata Contest

Tickets are now available for our Sopressata contest being held on Thursday, April 25, 2019. This year the ticket price \$40.00 – cash bar. If you wish to enter the contest please bring eight slices before dinner.



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CONTESTS AND COMMITTEES

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 25, 2019.**
- 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 25, 2019 – 6:00pm
- Tickets are \$50.00 each.
- Winners will be posted in monthly newsletter

Wine Tasting Contest

The Sons of Italy annual wine tasting contest of homemade wines, for members only, will take place at our March 12th General Meeting with the following conditions:

1. All bottles may be left at the Trieste Lodge Hall to the attention of Joe Mongiardi on Monday, March 11th and Tuesday, March 12th between 9:00 am and 12:00 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 (2015-2018) 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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EVENT CALENDAR

Mark your **Calendar**

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

March General Meeting [Wine Tasting Contest]	Tue, Mar 12, 2019
Presidents Roast Dinner feat. Frank Spadone	Sat, Mar 30, 2019
April General Meeting [Initiation Night]	Tue, Apr 9, 2019
Soppressata Dinner & Elimination Draw	Thurs, April 25, 2019
Spaghetti Supper	Wed, May 8, 2019
Annual Golf Tournament	Thurs, June 20, 2019



The Sons of Italy Trieste Lodge
wishes everyone a happy
Saint Patrick's Day
on March 17th!

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