

# NAVIGATOR

DECEMBER, 2024

# THE HOUSE OF ITALY (HOI) MISSION:

Our mission is to offer to its members and the public through its cultural and social programs, an understanding and appreciation of the history and culture of Italy. Our vision is that our HOI members celebrate their Italian heritage and culture with the people of San Diego.



Entrance of House of Italy San Diego

House of Italy Bar

Cari membri,

At the November meeting, we were treated to an excellent presentation by loe Pasquale, entitled "St. Peter's and its Dome: How it was built". Members emailed me stating how much they enjoyed learning about St. Peter's Cathedral and its dome. It was a fascinating journey, reliving the construction of the cathedral, itself an architectural masterpiece of the Italian high renaissance.

Then loe brought to light an understanding of the dome's construction, its building complexities and what had to be done to insure its construction would stand the test of time. Very fascinating lecture indeed! Many thanks Joe from all of us!

Get ready for the House of Italy holiday dinner, scheduled for Saturday December 21<sup>st</sup> in the Hall of Nations! We will begin at 5:00 pm. Bring your good luck charms as we will be playing Tombola again this year with fun prizes for the winners. Be sure to RSVP by Wednesday Dec 18th to save your place and give Mark sufficient time for the holiday dinner.

One more important detail, don't forget to sign up for hosting. Anna Phaimany is sending out emails to fill the January, February and March weekends for hosting the House of Italy. Be sure to let her know when you are available. And as a reminder, all members are obligated to host at least one weekend day per year.

We have a link to obtain your food handler's certificate at a minimal cost.

Anna would appreciate you letting her know your availability in an email to annareyes505@icloud.com.

Have a wonderful holiday, be it Christmas or Hanukkah and a very Happy New Year 2025!

See you on December 21.

Carol



# 2024 HOUSE OF ITALY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Carol Gratzke *IstVice President*: Rich LaRocca (delegate) 2nd Vice President: Mike Montgomery (delegate) VP Webmaster: Claudia Verano DaMetz Secretary: Mike Ricciardi Treasurer: Barbara LaRocca VP Communications: Don Santamaria (delegate)

- December 21, 2024 Saturday Member meeting: Holiday dinner with Tombola
- January 19, 2025 Sunday Member meeting: Paola Richard of Gelatolove -The History of Gelato
- February 16, 2025 TBA
- March 16, 2025 Dr. Kevin Petti Art and Anatomy
- April Easter Sunday No meeting
- May 18, 2025 Antonio lannotta The world of Italian Films

VP Hospitality (Member meetings): Angela Campanella

- President emeritus: Richard Tomasello (delegate) VP Weekly Hosting Activities: Carol Gratzke (temp) VP Membership: Diane Kenney
  - VP Legal Matters (By-Laws): Ken Rose (delegate) VP – Calendar: Mike Ricciardi

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### DECEMBER EVENT

Join us for an evening of great food, great company and great fun on December 21<sup>st</sup> 5:00 PM!

The December event features, along with a wonderful meal prepared by chef Mark, the traditional Italian holiday Christmas the Neapolitan Tombola!

Please make sure to **RSVP no later than December 18<sup>th</sup>** to allow us an accurate headcount and the chef sufficient time to plan the meal.

To confirm your attendance (and of eventual guests) please send an email at houseofitaly@houseofitalysandiego.org and you can pay at the door or online at https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted\_button\_id=4EVTMZYCRWQ6N

(Remember to enter the amount where the \$0 is).



## NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHT







#### New Member - Andrea Provino

I'm excited to join the House of Italy and connect with others who share a love for Italian culture. I was born in Bagheria Sicily, outside of Palermo, I spent nearly 15 years working on cruise ships and yachts as a first officer and captain, sharing Italian hospitality around the world. I moved to the U.S. less than two years ago, and now I get to share my roots here in San Diego. One year ago in October 2023, I opened Osteria Cotto e Mangiato, an Italian restaurant at the base of the iconic El Cortez building, where we serve authentic, welcoming Italian cuisine. I look forward to being a part of this community together and making new traditions here.

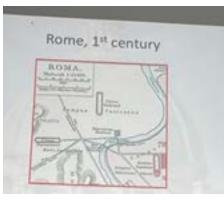
#### PAST EVENTS



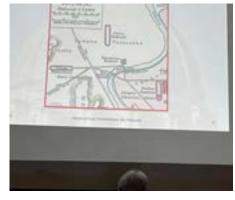
#### **PAST EVENTS**













We want **YOU** on the Navigator.

We like to see you, our members, involved in the HOI activities! Whether you are hosting the HOI, snapping selfies at the HOI monthly events, email your pictures to **svenneri239@gmail.com** and you'll be featured on the next newsletter. All new members are invited to submit a photo and a short bio to be highlighted in the next issue of the Navigator.

#### THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

SDG&E recognizes the House of Italy as a collaborating partner and as such information is sent monthly to you, our members, to ensure you are updated on the latest SDG&E products, services and resources. Additional information is also available at their website http://www.sdge.com/residential









#### Attn: Barbara LaRocca13045 Caminito Pointe Del Mar, Del Mar, CA 92014