



NAVIGATOR

NOVEMBER, 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,

We participated in October's Italian American Heritage Celebration with a panel discussion. A big thank you to our panelists, Vito Ingrande, Rosario Monetti and Salvatore and Michela Di Bella! We enjoyed listening to their emigration experiences to the United States and afterwards as they integrated into the American culture. Grazie Mille!

In November, we are excited to announce a presentation entitled, ST. PETER'S AND ITS DOME: How It Was Built, How It Was Saved, by Joe Pasquale, Ph.D. St. Peter's Basilica is the largest church in the world and holds a unique and special significance to the Catholic faith. The building itself is an architectural masterpiece of the Italian high renaissance, but its engineering is based on ideas that go all the way back to ancient Rome. In this talk, we will discuss how the basilica was designed and built, and how its dome, designed by the great Michelangelo, was saved at a critical point in its history.

Joe is a professor of engineering at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD), where he has been on the faculty since 1987. While his primary research and teaching activities are in computer science and engineering, he also leads a summer study-abroad program called Mathematical Beauty in Rome. Joe is originally from New Jersey and is of Italian descent (his parents emigrated from Calabria.) Check out the flyer in this month's Navigator. Don't forget to RSVP by Thursday November 14!

At the November meeting, members will be asked to vote on the 2025 Board Slate. The proposed slate is included in this month's Navigator. Be sure to come and vote!

One more important detail, don't forget to sign up for hosting. We have only one date to fill and that is Saturday December 28, 2024. Starting January, Anna Phaimany will assume the position as hosting director. She will be emailing members for hosting opportunities. Please give her the same courtesy you have always shown me when asked to host. 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. We appreciate you letting us know your availability in an email to annareyes505@icloud.com.

See you on November 17.

Carol



Otranto (Puglia) Ph. Siddhartha Kundalkar

2024 HOUSE OF ITALY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Carol Gratzke

President emeritus: Richard Tomasello (delegate)

1st Vice President: Rich LaRocca (delegate)

2nd Vice President: Mike Montgomery (delegate)

Secretary: Mike Ricciardi

Treasurer: Barbara LaRocca

VP Communications: Don Santamaria (delegate)

VP Hospitality (Member meetings): Angela Campanella

VP Weekly Hosting Activities: Carol Gratzke (temp)

VP Membership: Diane Kenney

VP Webmaster: Claudia Verano DaMetz

VP – Legal Matters (By-Laws): Ken Rose (delegate)

VP – Calendar: Mike Ricciardi

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- November 17, 2024 2025 Board Slate voting
- November 17, 2024 Sunday Member meeting: Joe Pasquale
- December 20, 2024 Saturday Member meeting: Holiday dinner with Tombola
- January 19, 2025 Sunday Member meeting: Paola Richard of Gelatolove – The History of Gelato

PROPOSED 2025 HOI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- a. President – Carol Gratzke
- b. President emeritus – Richard Tomasello (delegate)
- c. 1st Vice President – Rich LaRocca (alternate delegate)
- d. 2nd Vice President – Mike Montgomery
- e. Secretary – Mike Ricciardi
- f. Treasurer – Barbara LaRocca
- g. VP Webmaster & Communications – Sara Venneri
- h. VP Hospitality (Member meetings) – Angela Campanella
- i. VP Weekly Hosting Activities – Anna Phaimany (alternate Delegate)
- j. VP Membership – Diane Kenney
- k. VP – Legal Matters (By-Laws) – Ken Rose (alternate delegate)
- l. Bill Dutton – director at large
- m. Don Santamaria – director at large

NOVEMBER EVENT

The November event features Joe Pasquale, professor of engineering at UCSD. He will talk about the Basilica di San Pietro from its construction and how its engineering can be tied to ancient Rome. Come and enjoy this brilliant lecture on one of the most revered monuments in the world!

The dinner will be hosted on November 17th, 5:00 pm, please make sure to **RSVP no later than November 14th** to ensure an accurate head count. To confirm your attendance, please confirm your presence at houseofitaly@houseofitalysandiego.org (and eventual guests) and you can pay at the door or online at https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=4EVTMZCYCRWQ6N (Remember to enter the amount where the \$0 is).



ST. PETER'S AND ITS DOME: How It Was Built, How It Was Saved

St. Peter's Basilica is the largest church in the world and holds a unique and special significance to the Catholic faith. The building itself is an architectural masterpiece of the Italian high renaissance, but its engineering is based on ideas that go all the way back to ancient Rome. In this talk, we will discuss how the basilica was designed and built, and how its dome, designed by the great Michelangelo, was saved at a critical point in its history.

Joe Pasquale is a professor of engineering at UCSD. For many years he has led a study-abroad program in Italy called Mathematical Beauty in Rome. Joe's family roots are in Calabria.

November 17 5:00 PM | RSVP by Nov 14
members \$15 and guests \$20



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 LaRocca | 3045 Caminito Pointe Del Mar, Del Mar, CA 92014



houseofitaly@houseofitalysandiego.org



<https://houseofitalysandiego.org/>



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