

Marzo 2018

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A REAL TREAT COMING MARCH 18

The phenomenon that is the smash musical *Hamilton* is about to take Portland by storm. If you're lucky enough to have a ticket, toward the end of the first act, you'll see Alexander Hamilton and the Marquis de Lafayette revel in the line, "Immigrants: We get the job done!"

They're not the only ones. Join us March 18 to meet Sandro Paolini, another young immigrant who is also getting the job done: the *gelato* job!.

Sandro (below) owns [Pinolo Gelateria](#) at 3707 SE Division in Portland which caused a sensation when it opened in 2015. It continues to be at the forefront of local gelaterias, known for its authentic Tuscan taste, natural and simple recipes, and heavy reliance on local ingredients.



To Sandro, gelato is recipes and ingredients, sure, but the cool creamy confection is all about conversation, too. He's pleased that his gelato brings people together to chat ... face-to-face and *not* on their cellpones!

That'll happen on March 18 at 3:00pm in the Community Room at Oswego Summit in Mountain Park. [Find directions here](#). We'll enjoy Sandro's delicious gelato as well as his Pisa-to-Portland immigrant's story. We'll experience first-hand his efforts to bring a taste of his hometown to Stumptown. It should be a fun and yummy afternoon.

NEXT MTG:
SUN., MAR. 18, 3:00PM
215 OSWEGO SUMMIT
LAKE OSWEGO
AFTER THAT: MAY 20

WE'RE INTO YEAR TWO WITHOUT A PRESIDENT...

The Tuscan Association, that is. Did you think we were talking about something else? Since the fall of 2016, the club has conducted planning, when at all, in fits and starts. We cut back on the number of meetings from eight regularly scheduled ones per year to four, which happen when (and if) they happen.

Not coincidentally, we've seen attendance at our meetings fall off since 2016. Where we once averaged about 30 people at our meetings, that number is down under 20. Like it or not, the Tuscan Club is shrinking and without someone to take charge, its days are likely numbered.

Carlo, Gino, Joe, Audrey, and Jimmie have "done their time" as club president. Ken has been a sort of "non-Italian behind the curtain" also trying to keep the club functioning.

The time is *NOW* for someone new. Is it you? Speak up at or before the March 18 meeting.

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Thanks to *Amici d'Italia* and the Sons of Italy for joining forces with the Tuscan Association of Oregon to set the stage for the arrival of *La Befana* at St. Philip Neri's Carvlin Hall on Jan. 7. Thanks to Louise Ramunno-Johnson for bringing *La Befana* to life and to all of the volunteers who acquired the gifts, told the stories, baked the cookies, and prepared Carvlin Hall for the festivities.

La Festa della Befana!



photos courtesy of Il Pappagallo and Kerry-Lynne Demarinis Brown

L'ANGOLO ITALIANO

DI CARLO ILIO MANNOCCI

La domanda del giorno in Italia e': "Arriveremo a formare un governo?" I risultati delle elezioni di domenica 4 marzo non hanno creato una maggioranza di modo che per governare occorrono alleanze molto difficili, un po' come mettere assieme nel pollaio la volpe e la gallina.

Le previsioni sono negative e, a meno che qualcuno cambi drasticamente idea, probabilmente avremo nuove elezioni a breve scadenza. Ma la vita continua e sono sicuro che gli italiani che hanno fatto collezioni di eventi felici e tristi sapranno affrontare in qualche modo anche questa sfida!!

AFTER ELECTIONS, WHAT NOW FOR ITALY?

The populist parties' combined majority in the elections of March 4 seems to have repudiated current and former prime ministers from Gentiloni to Renzi to Berlusconi. It appears that the Italian political tide is turning to the right, and away from the European Union. The nature of Italy's continued participation in the EU will certainly be a front-burner issue in the months ahead.

The political news from Italy changes by the day, but here are a few links to stories which attempt to describe the shifting political sands...

[Four take-aways from "Throw out the Bums" vote](#)

[Former Italian Prime Minister Mario Monti's take](#)

[Refugees wonder what's next for them](#)

[Neo-fascist/anti-immigrant party HQ bombed](#)

[Far-right League elects Italy's first black senator](#)

[The people have spoken ... what'd they say?](#)

**IF YOU HAVEN'T PAID YOUR 2018 DUES YET,
TREASURER AUDREY SAYS, "GET WITH IT!"
\$25 FOR SINGLES/\$35 FOR COUPLES.
BRING IT ON MARCH 18 OR MAIL A CHECK MADE OUT TO
"TUSCAN ASSOCIATION OF OREGON" TO AUDREY PERINO,
37 SW CANBY ST., PORTLAND, OR 97219.**