



36th Year, 1971-2007

The Downriver Italian-American Club®

646 BIDDLE AVE ♣ WYANDOTTE, MICHIGAN 48192-2727 ♣ TEL. (734)285-4044 ♣ web: www.diahall.com

** IMPORTANT DATES **

March 2007 NEWSLETTER

Board of Directors Meeting..... Tuesday, March 13, 2007, 7:00 p.m.
General Membership Meeting Sunday, March 25, 2007, 6:30 p.m.



St. Joseph Celebration - March 18, 2007

2007 Club Membership Dues

One last reminder! This is the last month to pay your DIAC 2007 membership dues. The dues are \$25.00 for a member who is single and \$50.00 for a married couple. The dues can be paid at the general membership meeting or you can send a check or money order, payable to: **Downriver Italian-American Club.** Mail the dues to: **Frank Giannotti, 14823 Williamsburg Blvd., Riverview, MI 48193-7703.** Your receipt and membership card(s) will be mailed with the upcoming newsletter. The deadline for the dues is **March 31, 2007.** Attach your dues with the invoice (sent in January), so we have your current address information. Please make an effort to pay your dues by this date.

A Message from our Club President



The **Mardi Gras Event**, chaired by our young members, was a great success. A big thanks to the chairpersons **Lina Giannotti** and **Rita (Trupiano) Dauss.** There were 153 attending including many of our members. Thanks for your support.

February was the month for equipment failures. The furnace (installed in 1992) for the office, went out and was replaced (about \$2,500). The Menna Room refrigerator (purchased in 1992) needs \$500 in repairs. We are looking into replacing it with a non-commercial refrigerator.

Rentals for the Hall are down this year and with the economy in Michigan - it is going to be a difficult year. We still need your help with the rentals. If you know of someone needing a hall, have them call **Diana Holmes, Nino Trupiano** or myself. The Club Board at its January meeting approved a finder's fee for members for a referral that results in a rental in 2007. For each rental referred by a member, that member will receive \$100 - if the rental is for a Saturday and \$50 if that rental is for a Sunday.

The Hall will be sponsoring an "all you can eat" Fish (both fried and baked) Buffet Dinners during Lent, as a

means of gaining revenue. We as members need to support these dinners by bringing neighbors, friends and family.

Yes, there will be an **Easter Brunch** (Sunday, April 8th). Mark your calendar. More information will be forthcoming.

We will be working with the **Wyandotte Warriors Hockey Association** to put on a Spaghetti Dinner Fund Raiser. It will be Wednesday March 28, 2007 (last Wednesday in March); 4 pm to 8 pm; \$9.00 Adults, \$5.00 Kids. Your support will be appreciated. The league has 170 kids. This will be a joint effort between our members and the hockey parents, both working together. If you cannot work - please come and enjoy the dinner.

Our **Spaghetti Dinners** will start in April on the third Wednesdays of the month, through October.

The Board passed a motion to allow members that dropped out in 2005 and 2006 to rejoin without an initiation fee. If you know of someone that is interested have them contact **Frank Giannotti** at (734)383-7394.

The General Membership meeting in February was attended by 61 members, which was fantastic, considering the weather. A plaque was presented to **Florence Coleman** in recognition of her past contributions to the success of the Club.

Mark S. Grazioli, President

St. Joseph Day Celebration - Mar. 18



The 34th Annual St. Joseph Day Celebration - Sunday, March 18, 2007.

Pageant Admission Free - 2:00 p.m.
- Dinner follows the pageant.

Adults \$7.00 - Children 10 and under \$3.50.

We will be celebrating St. Joseph Day on March 18th. As most of you know this is a Sicilian custom passed down by our parents and grandparents. They set up an altar with statues of saints and opened their homes to friends and

neighbors. After a short pageant, they had a meal and left a donation to help a needy family. We follow the same tradition, an altar is set up on our stage with statues brought in by members - candles, bread, and fruit are placed on the altar. We serve a meal of pasta and beans. Each person is given a roll, grapefruit, an orange and a few homemade cookies. There is a short pageant and blessing of the food before we eat. We follow the tradition of our families as much as possible. We have held this event for the past 33 years. We have donated over \$90,000.00. All donations made are given to needy families and organizations helping children. If you would like to make cookies, or help us in any way, please contact one of us. Invite your friends and family and help us celebrate our 33rd year. This is a family event. If you are unable to attend, you may still make a donation. Make your check payable to Downriver Italian American Club, and please note at the bottom that it is for St. Joseph Celebration. **Please call Rose Vitale (734) 282-2803, if you would like to donate cookies.**

We would love to have you, your family and friends celebrate this event with us. Remember all donations go to help the needy families in this area.

Florence Coleman -- (734) 281-7126

Nancy Cosentino -- (313) 383-0350

Sal DiPasquale -- (734) 282-1644

Grace Pizzo -- (734) 379-9491

Winter Luncheon Event at the Club



Lunch at the Club - Wednesday - March 21, 2007 - 12:00 noon.

The luncheon is in the Menna Room. The menu will be same as previous months. If you would like to bring your favorite desert or salad, please let us know so we won't buy as much; if not, just bring yourself. Remember, we divide the cost of the lunch by the people present; so, it is very important for you to let us know if you will be attending. It is not fair for us to order food for you and you don't show up. This is for members ONLY. If you wish to stay and visit friends, play your favorite games or just talk, you are welcome to do so; there is no reason to rush off after lunch. If you have any questions, please call one of us anytime. Let us know if you plan on attending no later than Thursday, March 15th.

We need volunteers (at the end) to clean up and put away the tables and chairs, if necessary. Please contact:

Florence Coleman (734) 281-7126

Grace Pizzo (734) 379-9491

Fabulous Fish Buffets During Lent

The Hall Business Board will be presenting **Fabulous Fish Buffet** events during the Easter Lent Fridays. The menu is

as follows: Baked or fried fish, soup, cole slaw, pasta, tossed salad, potatoes, vegetables, rolls, coffee, tea and dessert. Cash bar available. The buffet is served from 4:00 pm till 7:00 pm. This event is open to the general public.

Pricing: **Adults – \$10.00**

Children 4 - 12 years – \$6.00

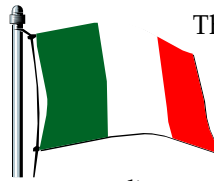
Children under 4 years – Free.

Dates: **March 2, 2007, March 9, 2007, March 16, 2007,**

March 23, 2007, March 30, 2007, April 2, 2007.

Please contact **Diana Holmes** to make your reservation, (734) 285-4044, no later than Wednesday, preceding the dinner event.

A Taste of Italy Event – May 9, 2007



There will be a **Taste of Italy event at the DIAC Hall on Wednesday, May 9, 2007**, between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. The chairperson is **Tony Lumia**. The event will feature

sampling of Italian cuisines from various local businesses. The vendors will provide their food specialties. The serving will be buffet style. Further information will be forthcoming in the April newsletter. All proceeds to benefit the Penrickton School for the Blind.

For further information and ticket sales, contact **Diana Holmes** at the DIAC Hall (734)285-4044. Please attend this fine charitable event and invite your friends.

Attention Spaghetti Workers

The Spaghetti Dinners will be starting one month earlier this year in March 2007. We will be working with the **Wyandotte Warriors Hockey Association** to put on a Spaghetti Dinner Fund Raiser. It will be on **Wednesday March 28, 2007** (last Wednesday in March). The time is from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm - \$9.00 Adults, \$5.00 Kids.

The Hockey League has 170 kids. This will be a joint effort between the Club members and the Hockey parents.

Duties as follows:

Tuesday Morning: Club members prepare the sauce and meatballs.

Tuesday afternoon: Club members and the hockey parents cook the pasta.

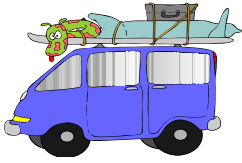
Wednesday, All Day:

The Club will do the cooking, sell meal tickets, attend bar, serve pasta & salads, provide carryout, including the sale of sauce & meatballs.

The Hockey parents will provide 4 people in the kitchen, 2 people for dishwashing and kitchen cleaning. 4 people for carryout, 4 runners and 9 people cleaning tables.

Your support is appreciated, especially on Tuesday morning, when the Club members do all the preparation.

Bus Trips on the Horizon



Soaring Eagle Casino – Sunday, April 15, 2007 – Mt. Pleasant, Michigan.

This event is sponsored by **Santa Rosalia Club**. This is a one day round trip transportation to the fabulous Soaring Eagle Casino. Price is \$25.00 per person. Everyone will receive an incentive package, that includes: \$15.00 on slot card, and a \$3.00 food voucher. The **Bianco Tour** bus departs at Sam's Club, (Northline and I-75) at 7:30 a.m. and returns at 9:00 p.m. The deadline for reservation is March 1, 2007. Reservations accepted with payments only, on a first come basis.

For further information, please contact:

Stella Marzano – (734) 379-5901

Nancy DiPasquale – (734) 282-1644

Francis (**Ciccina**) **Palazzolo** – (734) 283-4588

Make checks or money order payable to:

Francis Palazzolo

1602 8th Street

Wyandotte, MI 48192-3316

Vacancies in the Business (Hall) Board

The terms of two officers of the Business (Hall) Board will expire in March 2007. One of the members has indicated a willingness to continue. The other, after several years of service, has expressed a desire to step down. The terms are three years.

If you are interested in serving on the Business (Hall) Board, please contact the President, **Mark Grazioli**, at (734) 671-5884.

Congratulating New DIAC Members

Please welcome the following new members who recently joined the DIAC membership:

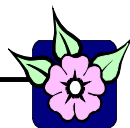
Giacomo (Jack) and Angela (Chirco) Palazzolo of Southgate, MI. They are sponsored by **Frank and Liliana Giannotti** – their aunt and uncle.

Sick and Good Will



Belated Get Well Wishes to the following members who were hospitalized: **Margaret Passalacqua, Ray Gonella, Mary Giaimo, Josie Manzella and Nancy Kaune**. Get Well

Wishes to all our members who are not feeling well. Please advise **Grace Pizzo** of anyone who is ill.



Happy Birthday - Buon Compleanno

We wish to extend our Congratulations and Best Wishes to our members who are celebrating their Birthday this month.

<i>Rosalie Giammalva (3/4)</i>	<i>Rose Donofrio (3/18)</i>
<i>Helen Grasso (3/4)</i>	<i>Vito Gaglio (3/19)</i>
<i>Ann Lepidi (3/4)</i>	<i>Joseph Leone (3/19)</i>
<i>James Jenson (3/5)</i>	<i>Joseph Susin (3/19)</i>
<i>Nancy Marcantonio (3/6)</i>	<i>Anna Iacopelli (3/21)</i>
<i>Giovanni Ventura (3/6)</i>	<i>Charlie Lupo (3/22)</i>
<i>Margaret Trupiano (3/8)</i>	<i>Sal DiPasquale (3/24)</i>
<i>Stephanie Badalamenti (3/10)</i>	<i>Jason Karawan (3/24)</i>
<i>Josephine Favazza (3/10)</i>	<i>Samuel Vitale (3/24)</i>
<i>Rose Vitale (3/10)</i>	<i>Joe Chirco (3/25)</i>
<i>Quirino (Jerry) Stralle (3/11)</i>	<i>Filicia Biundo (3/26)</i>
<i>Connie DeLiz (3/13)</i>	<i>Angelo Giannotti (3/26)</i>
<i>Nicola DiClaudio (3/13)</i>	<i>Caroline Barrett (3/27)</i>
<i>Aline Palamara (3/13)</i>	<i>Luigi Biundo (3/28)</i>
<i>Vincenzo Pizzo (3/13)</i>	<i>Delores DeJohn (3/28)</i>
<i>Matteo Giaimo (3/15)</i>	<i>Brenda Mangiapane (3/28)</i>
<i>Joe Evola (3/16)</i>	<i>Florence Costa (3/29)</i>
<i>Edward Klube (3/17)</i>	<i>Gaetano Vitale (3/29)</i>
<i>Anthony Vitale (3/17)</i>	<i>Douglas Melzer (3/30)</i>

Happy Anniversary – Felice Anniversario

We wish to extend our Best Wishes for many Happy and Healthy Years together, to our couples who will be celebrating their Wedding Anniversary this month.

George and Rosemary Menna (3/3)
Johnpaul and Liesa Finazzo (3/4)
Angelo and Lina Giannotti (3/9)
Salvatore and Nancy DiPasquale (3/22)

Advertisement in the Newsletter

A discussion was held at the February Club meetings regarding having paid business card advertisement in this newsletter. It was decided to proceed, in offsetting the costs of printing and mailing the newsletter.

If any business wishes to place such an ad, please contact **Frank Giannotti**, at (734) 283-7394. The ad can be from any legitimate business.

A Message from Fay Palazzolo

Fay Palazzolo is asking if anyone in the membership would like to bring homemade cookies and bundt cakes to the membership meetings – as dessert, with the snack at the end of the meeting.

For further information, please contact Fay Palazzolo at (734) 282-0539.

Meaning of Colors

Purple – Justice

Green – Faith

Gold – Power

Pink – Pure Love

Blue – Wisdom

Orange – Energy

Provided by Jim and Phyllis Gandol

A Senior Moment

A senior couple had dinner at another couple's house and after eating; the wives left the table and went into the kitchen. The two husbands were talking and one said, "Last night we were out to a new restaurant and it was really great – I would recommend it very highly."

The other man said, "What is the name of the restaurant?"

The first man thought and thought and finally said, "What is the name of that flower you give someone you love? You know... the one that's red and has thorns."

"Do you mean a rose?"

"Yes, that's the one," replied the man. He then turned toward the kitchen and yelled, "Rose, what's the name of that restaurant we went to last night?"

Humor provided by Fay Palazzolo

A Friendship Poem

Standing by,
All the way.
Here to help you through your day.
Holding you up,
When you are weak,
Helping you find what it is you seek.
Catching your tears,
When you cry.
Pulling you through when the tide is high.
Just being there,
Through thick and thin,
All just to say, you are my friend.

- Brittani Kokko -

Who Says Men Don't Remember Anniversaries

A woman awakes during the night to find that her husband was not in their bed. She puts on her robe and goes downstairs to look for him.

She finds him sitting at the kitchen table with a hot cup of coffee in front of him. He appears to be in deep thought, just staring at the wall.

She watches as he wipes a tear from his eye and takes a sip of his coffee. "What's the matter, dear?" she whispers as she steps into the room, "Why are you down here at this time of night?"

The husband looks up from his coffee, "I am just remembering when we first met 20 years ago and started dating. You were only 16. Do you remember back then?" he says solemnly.

The wife is touched to tears thinking that her husband is so caring, so sensitive. "Yes, I do" she replies.

The husband pauses.

The words were not coming easily.

"Do you remember when your father caught us in the back seat of my car?"

"Yes, I remember," said the wife, lowering herself into a chair beside him.

The husband continues.

"Do you remember when he shoved the shotgun in my face and said, "Either you marry my daughter, or I will send you to jail for 20 years?"

"I remember that too" she replies softly.

"I would have gotten out today!"

A Political Moment

George Bush, Dick Cheney and Donald Rumsfeld are flying on Air Force One.

The President looks at the Vice President, chuckles and says, "You know, I could throw a \$1,000 bill out the window right now and make somebody very happy."

The Vice President shrugs and says, "Well, I could throw ten (10) \$100 bills out the window and make 10 people very happy."

Not to be outdone, the Secretary of Defense says, "OK then, I could throw one hundred (100) \$10 bills out the window and make a hundred people very happy."

The pilot, rolls his eyes and says to the co-pilot, "Such arrogant asses back there. Hell, I could throw the three of them out the window and make 56 million people really happy."

Humor provided by Fay Palazzolo

Inner Peace

I am passing this on to you because it definitely works, and we could all use a little more calmness in our lives. By following simple advice heard on the Dr. Phil show, you too can find inner peace.

Dr. Phil proclaimed, "The way to achieve inner peace is to finish all the things you have started and have never finished."

So, I looked around my house to see all the things I started and hadn't finished, and before leaving the house this morning, I finished off a bottle of Merlot, a bottle of White Zinfandel, a bottle of Bailey's Irish Cream, a bottle of Kahlua, a package of Oreos, the remainder of my old Prozac prescription, the rest of the cheesecake, the Doritos and a box of chocolates.

You have no idea how good I feel.

Submitted by Nancy DiPasquale

Friends

A friend is someone we turn to
when our spirits need a lift.
A friend is someone we treasure
for our friendship is a gift.
A friend is someone who fills our lives
with beauty, joy, and grace.
And makes the whole world we live in
a better and happier place.

- Jean Kyler McManus -

Location, Location, Location!

Many folks can't understand how we came to have an oil shortage here in our country. Well, there's a very simple answer. Nobody bothered to check the oil. We just didn't know we were getting low.

The reason for that is purely geographical. Our oil is located in Alaska, California, Oklahoma and Texas while our dipsticks are located in Washington D.C.

Friendship

You are friendly, kind and caring
Sensitive, loyal and understanding
Humorous, fun, secure and true
Always there... yes that's you.
Special, accepting, exciting and wise
Truthful and helpful, with honest blue eyes
Confiding, forgiving, cheerful and bright
Yes that's you... not one bit of spite.
You're one of a kind, different from others
Generous, charming, but not one that smothers
Optimistic, thoughtful, happy and game
But not just another... in the long chain.
Appreciative, warm and precious like gold
Our friendship won't tarnish or ever grow old
You'll always be there, I know that is true
I'll always be here... always for you.

- Written by Angela Lee Hillsley -

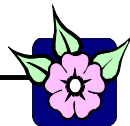
Calendar of Coming Events

- Mar. 2, 2007** **Fish Buffet – 2nd Friday of Lent**
DIA Hall Board w/Members.
- Mar. 9, 2007** **Fish Buffet – 3rd Friday of Lent**
DIA Hall Board w/Members.
- Mar. 16, 2007** **Fish Buffet – 4th Friday of Lent**
DIA Hall Board w/Members.
- Mar. 18, 2007** **St. Joseph Day Celebration**
Florence Coleman, Nancy Cosentino,
Sal DiPasquale, Grace Pizzo.
- Mar. 23, 2007** **Fish Buffet – 5th Friday of Lent**
DIA Hall Board w/Members.
- Mar. 30, 2007** **Fish Buffet – 6th Friday of Lent**
DIA Hall Board w/Members.
- Apr. 6, 2007** **Fish Buffet – Good Friday**
DIA Hall Board w/Members.
- Apr. 8, 2007** **Easter Day Brunch**
DIA Hall Board w/Members.
- Apr. 15, 2007** **Soaring Eagle Casino Trip**
Ciccina Palazzolo (734) 283-4588.
- May 9, 2007** **Taste of Italy – Charity Event.**
Tony & Miriam Lumia (313) 565-0671.
- July 4, 2007** **Wyandotte Independence Parade**
Mary Cottone and Board.
- July 29, 2007** **Membership Annual Picnic.**
Vivian & Mike Palazzolo.
- Oct. 12, 2007** **Fall Wine Dance**
Fay Palazzolo, Grace Pizzo.
- Dec. 14, 2007** **Adult Member Xmas Party**
Sadie Kusic, Leona Vizzini.
- Dec. 16, 2007** **Children Xmas Party**
Rosalie (Vitale) Karawan.
- Dec. 31, 2007** **New Years Eve Party**
DIA Hall Board.

The *Downriver Italian-American Club Newsletter* is Published Monthly for the Downriver Italian-American Club Membership. Editors: Frank and Liliana Giannotti. (734)283-7394. Forward your comments, corrections and items of interest to:
DIAC Newsletter
c/o Frank A. Giannotti
14823 Williamsburg Blvd.
Riverview, MI 48193-7703

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Wyandotte Warriors Hockey Association Spaghetti Dinner



Choice of Spaghetti or Mostaccioli
Meatballs, Salad, Roll, Dessert, Coffee or Tea

The Downriver Italian-American Club

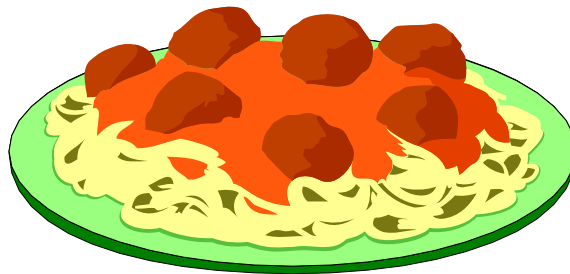
646 Biddle Avenue (North of Goddard)
Wyandotte, MI 48192-2727
(734) 285-4044

Wednesday, March 28, 2007

Dinner: 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Adults: \$9.00

Children 12 & Under: \$5.00

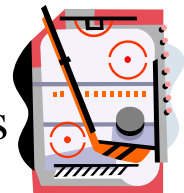


Carryout and Curbside Pickup is Available

The Delicious Meat Sauce is Available for Purchase

Enjoy a Delicious Italian Home Cooked Meal

Public Welcome – Advise and Bring Your Friends



The Downriver Italian American Club

*Presents its
34th Annual*



St. Joseph Day Celebration

Sunday, March 18, 2007

*Downriver Italian-American Hall
646 Biddle Avenue
Wyandotte, MI 48192
(734) 285-4044*

*Pageant at 2:00 p.m. - Admission Free
Dinner - Follows the Pageant*

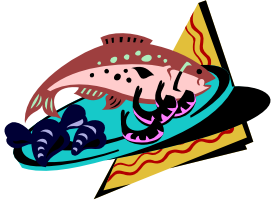
*Adults: \$7.00
Children – 10 and under: \$3.50*

*All donations are given to charities helping children
and for needy local families.*

May St. Joseph Bless You and Bring You Joy

Downriver Italian-American Hall

646 Biddle Avenue
Wyandotte, MI 48192



Fabulous Fish Buffets During Lent Fridays

Friday, March 2, 2007

Friday, March 9, 2007

Friday, March 16, 2007

Friday, March 23, 2007

Friday, March 30, 2007

Friday, April 2, 2007

4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Open to the Public,

Bring your Family and Friends

Adults - \$10.00

Children 4-12 years - \$6.00

Children under 4 - Free

Menu:

Baked or fried fish

Soup, Cole Slaw, Pasta,

Tossed Salad, Potatoes, Vegetables,

Rolls, Coffee, Tea and Dessert.

Cash Bar Available

For Further Information Contact:

DIAC Hall, Diana Holmes (734) 285-4044

