



37th Year, 1971-2008

The Downriver Italian-American Club®

646 BIDDLE AVE ♣ WYANDOTTE, MICHIGAN 48192-2727 ♣ TEL. (734)285-4044 ♣ website: www.diac.us

** IMPORTANT DATES **

May 2008 NEWSLETTER

Board of Directors Meeting..... Tuesday, May 13, 2008, 7:00 p.m.
General Membership Meeting Sunday, May 25, 2008, 6:30 p.m.



Happy Mother's Day - Sunday, May 11, 2008

A Message from the Club President



As of April 15th, this has been the 4th snowiest winter in the Detroit Metro area, since 1880. It's nice to look forward to May and for most of us the beginning of the golf season.

During March, the **Easter Brunch** and **Bridal Show**, both went well.

Our first 2008 **Spaghetti Dinner** was held on Wednesday April 16th and we had a crowd of 725 people. More importantly, we had a sufficient number of volunteers to make the spaghetti and meatballs on Tuesday and serve the lunch and dinners on Wednesday. Remember it's always the third Wednesday of the month. If you can't work then round up some friends and enjoy the freshly made sauce and meat balls. These monthly dinners are open to the general public.

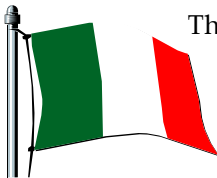
The **Taste of Italy**, with proceeds going to the **Penrickton Center for Blind Children**, will be on Wednesday May 7, 2008. The event features many local Italian Restaurants and is open to the public. See you there.

The **Mothers Day Buffet** will be held on Sunday May 11th.

Frank Checchio is the Club point of contact for the **American Legion Organ Donor Program**. Age is not a factor as some organs can be used for medical research as well as organ transplants. If you are interested in the program, give Frank a call at (734) 675-6424.

Mark S. Grazioli, Club President

A Taste of Italy - May 7, 2008



The 5th annual **Taste of Italy** event will be held at the DIA Hall on **Wednesday, May 7, 2008**, between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. The chairperson is **Tony and Miriam Lumia**. The event

will feature sampling of Italian cuisines from various local businesses. The vendors will be providing their food specialties. The serving will be buffet style. See attached

flyer for time, vendor and cost information. 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. **This event is open to the public.** Please attend and invite your friends.

Mother's Day Buffet - Sunday, May 11



There will be a Mother's Day Dinner Buffet on **Mother's Day, Sunday, May 11, 2008** between the hours of 12:00 noon and 5:00 p.m. at the **Downriver Italian-American Hall**. See the attached flyer for the meal selection. Advanced tickets are:

\$18.00 per Adult, \$16.00 for Seniors, and \$8.00 for Children between 4 and 10 years of age. Tickets purchased at the door are \$1.00 more. See the attached flyer for further information. It is suggested you call early and make your reservation. Last reservation is at 4:00 pm.

This event is open to the **General Public**. Advise your family, friends and neighbors. There is no need to spend waiting in long lines at restaurants, when you can be accommodated immediately at the Hall. Your seating time will be based on a schedule to avoid over-crowding. Make your reservations early.

For further information and ticket sales, please contact **Diana Holmes** at the Hall (734) 285-4044.

Pasta Event - May 21, 2008



The next Pasta luncheon and dinners for 2008 will once again be starting on **Wednesday May 21, 2008**. The dinners are on the third (3rd) Wednesday of the month through October.

The April Pasta event was a success with 725 meals served. It was a long and busy evening.

We do get a lot of help from the membership, but it's always the same people. We are looking for new faces to be part of this fund raising. You will be in good company.

Please devote a few hours of your time during food preparation and the serving. You have everything to gain and nothing to lose.

DIAC Golf Outing – Aug. 9, 2008



The Young Members of the Club are sponsoring a **Golf Outing on Saturday, August 9, 2008, at Westburn Golf Club** in South Rockwood. It includes 18 holes of Golf, a Power Cart, Lunch prior to shotgun start, and Steak/Chicken Barbeque Dinner after the golf. It will be a team (4 Person) scramble with a shotgun start in the morning.

The cost is \$65 for members and \$70 for non-members.

We are also looking for companies to sponsor a hole. The cost is minimal. What a deal! See the attached flyer for more details.

If you want to golf, but do not have a foursome give us a call and we will fit you in with other golfers.

Deadline for reservation and payment is July 31st.

For further information, please contact:

Gaetano (Guy) Vitale (734) 675-0169

Tony Lumia (313) 565-0671

Club Website

Club members wanting to know information regarding the club events and other functions; please point your web browser to our club website:

www.diac.us

You will be amazed at the amount of information available. Photos of our past club events are available for viewing. Current and past newsletters are available for viewing. Recent addition includes a recipe section. Let the webmaster, **Anthony Vitale**, know regarding any additions/changes you'd like to see. His email address is located at the website.

Bus Trips on the Horizon



**Point Edward Charity Casino –
Wednesday, May 14, 2008 –
Sarnia, Ontario Canada.**

This is a one day event. Round Trip transportation provided via deluxe highway motor coach. Restroom equipped and reclining seats.

Point Edward Charity Casino – Beneath the graceful arches of the Blue Water Bridge, resting on the St. Clair River, this new \$35 million dollar landmark opened in early 200 with 450 slots and 36 gaming tables.

The cost is \$10.00 per person. You will get a \$10.00 Food Voucher and \$10.00 Cash Back. How can you lose on this deal!

The Bianco Bus will be departing and returning at the Club parking lot.

DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENT:

Your tour will be taking you into Canada. All passengers are required to present proof of citizenship. The following forms are acceptable:

- 1 – Passport.
- 2 - Certified Birth Certificate (not a photocopy).
- 3 - Certificate of Naturalization or Certificate of Citizenship.

You should ALSO have a **valid driver's license** or **government I.D. card**. It is essential that you have on of these forms of proof. A passport is the best documentation. Resident Aliens need Alien Resident Card. Aliens need valid passport and Re-Entry Permit.

For reservation and further information, please contact **Nancy DiPasquale at (734) 282-1644**. Mail your check (made out to: **Bianco Tours**) to:

Nancy DiPasquale
13426 Mulberry
Southgate, MI 48195-2499.

Festa Della Repubblica

The **Italian-American Cultural Society** will once again be hosting the **Italian Independence Day, Festa Della Repubblica**, on Sunday, June 1, 2008, at the **Italian American Cultural Center, 43843 Romeo Plank Rd, Clinton Township, MI 48038**. The program begins at 2:00 p.m. and ends at 6:00 p.m. This is a yearly event at the Cultural Center. Many Italian clubs will be represented, along with prominent guest speakers, live entertainment, with ethnic food and desserts from the various clubs. The event is open to the general public.

This event is co-sponsored by **The Council of Presidents, COMITES, I.C.S.A. and the Italian-American Cultural Society**.

The Club would like to charter a shuttle bus to take club members and/or guests to this event, from the club parking lot. The cost for this transportation is \$17.00 per person. The 25 passenger bus needs to be filled to capacity or the trip will be cancelled. Please reserve and pay for your seat immediately.

If you are interested, send your check to **Nancy DiPasquale, at 13426 Mulberry, Southgate, MI**, no later than May 7, 2008. Please call **Nancy at (734) 282-1644** if you need further information.

Italian Heritage Celebration – Carey OH

On Sunday, May 18, 2008, the **Basilica and the National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation** will celebrate an **Italian Heritage Day**. The Shrine is a place of faith, hope and healing. We ask that you share this information with family and friends.

The sacrament of reconciliation will begin at 10:30 a.m. The day will begin with the celebration of the 12:00 noon

Mass in Italian. This Mass will be celebrated in the Upper Basilica. After Mass, lunch will be available in the Shrine Cafeteria.

Basilica & National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation, 315 Clay Street, Carey, Ohio, 43316.

Information at (419) 396-7107 or www.olcshrine.com

Solanus Casey Center Tour

The **Father Solanus Guild/Holy Family Circle** is sponsoring a tour of the **Solanus Casey Center** and a Healing Service on **Wednesday, May 28, 2008**. Leaving Our Lady of Mt. Carmel School back parking lot (10th and Superior Blvd. in Wyandotte) at 8:45 a.m. sharp and returning at approximately 4:00 p.m. The day will begin with a tour of the Father Solanus Casey Center, gardens and video. After lunch, time will be permitted on your own, for browsing the gallery, museum and gift shop, followed by a Healing Service. Bus transportation and lunch is \$30.00 for members and \$40.00 for non-members.

Please call **Rosalie Shimkus** at (734) 281-8520 for reservation. Reservations must be paid by May 19, 2008.

Sick and Good Will



Belated Get Well Wishes to the following members who were ill or hospitalized:

Florence Coleman, Phyllis Cottone, Delores DeJohn, Theresa Klavon, Jim Morrin, Rose Pagano, Sam Randazzo and Giovanna Vitale.

Get Well Wishes to all our members who are not feeling well. Please advise **Grace Pizzo** (734) 379-9491 of anyone who is ill.

Condolences to the family of **Rocky and Nancy Kaune** and the death of Nancy's brother, **Gaetano (Tom) Vitale**, who passed away on April 7, 2008, at the age of 87. Condolences also to the family of **Richard and Tammy Kaune**. May he rest in peace.

Our deepest sympathy and condolences to the families of our deceased members. May their soul and all the souls of the faithful departed thru the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Eternal rest grant unto them, Lord, and may the perpetual light shine upon them.

Carina M DeMelis – Born Feb. 23, 2008

Congratulations to **Francesco and Rena DeMelis** on the birth of their daughter, **Carina Maria DeMelis** – born February 23, 2008. Carina weighed in at 7 lbs – 1 oz, and was 19 ½ inches long. Congratulations to grandmother, **Maria Horvath**.



The Downriver Italian-American Hall - Banquet & Conference Center

Wedding Congratulations

Sal and Nancy DiPasquale proudly announce the wedding celebration of their son **Nino DiPasquale** to **Kristy Horen**. The wedding ceremony took place on April 8, 2008, at Wynn Resort in Las Vegas, Nevada. They will travel to Palm Springs California for their honeymoon and will reside in Las Vegas.

Congratulations to the DiPasquale families.

Congratulating New DIAC Member

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

Robert and Pierina (Salvatore) Franzese of Trenton, MI - Sponsored by **Angelo Giannotti**.

Happy Birthday - Buon Compleanno

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

<i>Steven Erno (5/1)</i>	<i>Nancy McFaul (5/19)</i>
<i>Michael Loria (5/1)</i>	<i>Rose Vitale (5/20)</i>
<i>Mamie Misuraca (5/1)</i>	<i>Alfonso Stralle (5/21)</i>
<i>Rosalie Shimkus (5/1)</i>	<i>Guy A. Vitale (5/21)</i>
<i>Salvatore Finazzo (5/2)</i>	<i>Rose Zerilli (5/21)</i>
<i>Diana Giaimo (5/2)</i>	<i>Teresa LeSage (5/22)</i>
<i>Vivian Palazzolo (5/2)</i>	<i>Sam Badalamenti (5/23)</i>
<i>Bily Tsikaris (5/2)</i>	<i>Milteo (Leo) DeJohn (5/23)</i>
<i>Frank Checchio (5/3)</i>	<i>Catherine Sclafani (5/23)</i>
<i>Colleen Tabaka (5/5)</i>	<i>Joseph Ventimiglia (5/24)</i>
<i>Theresa Talluto (5/8)</i>	<i>Salvatore Vitale (5/24)</i>
<i>John Fracassa (5/11)</i>	<i>Joseph Cacioppo (5/25)</i>
<i>Theresa Klavon (5/11)</i>	<i>Grace Badalamente (5/26)</i>
<i>Susan Palermo (5/12)</i>	<i>Amy Cosentino (5/27)</i>
<i>Viola Birkett (5/13)</i>	<i>Gail Melzer (5/27)</i>
<i>Joseph Caparaotta (5/13)</i>	<i>Jeanette Schiraldi (5/28)</i>
<i>Barbara Biundo (5/14)</i>	<i>Veto Giannola (5/29)</i>
<i>Annette Fracassa (4/14)</i>	<i>Lisa Vespa (5/29)</i>
<i>Giovanni Russo (5/14)</i>	<i>Anthony Lazzarino (5/30)</i>
<i>Pina Tsikaris (5/14)</i>	<i>Carmela Stralle (5/31)</i>
<i>Martha Guastella (5/16)</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.

<i>Kenneth and Angela Scott (5/01)</i>	
<i>Gerald and Susan Conz (5/02)</i>	
<i>Eugene and Catherine Kling (5/05)</i>	
<i>Gaetano and Laurie Randazzo (5/09)</i>	
<i>Charles and Gina Cosner (5/12)</i>	<i>30th</i>
<i>Patrick and Nina McMahan (5/12)</i>	<i>35th</i>

Anthony and Robyn Vitale (5/15)
Steven and Marlene Erno (5/17)
Antonio and Anna Ventura (5/17)
Larry and Karen Mitchell (5/21)
Giovanni and Gertrude Ventura (5/24)
Salvatore and Giovanna Vitale (5/24)
Marco and Jennifer Vitale (5/24)
Douglas and Gail Melzer (5/27)
Mike and Nina Palazzolo (5/29)
Frank and Emma Checchio (5/31) 50th
Frank and Fara Pizzo (5/31)

Words of Wisdom

"It is not what we read, but what we remember that makes us learned. It is not what we intend, but what we do that makes us useful. And, it is not a few faint wishes, but a lifelong struggle that makes us valiant."

Henry Ward Beecher

1813-1887, American Preacher, Orator, Writer

Provided by Tom Talluto

A Stunning Senior Moment

Apparently, a self-important college freshman attending a recent football game took it upon himself to explain to a senior citizen sitting next to him why it was impossible for the older generation to understand his generation.

"You grew up in a different world, actually an almost primitive one," the student said, loud enough for many of those nearby to hear.

"The young people of today grew up with television, jet planes, space travel, man walking on the moon. Our space probes have visited Mars. We have nuclear energy, ships and electric and hydrogen cars, cell phones. Computers with light-speed processing...and more."

After a brief silence the senior citizen responded as follows: "You're right, son. We didn't have those things when we were young.....so we invented them. Now, you arrogant little (beep), what are you doing for the next generation?"

The applause was amazing.....

Humor provided by Joe Agrusa

When Grandma Goes to Court

Lawyers should never ask a Mississippi grandma a question if they aren't prepared for the answer.

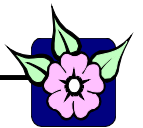
In a trial, a Southern small-town prosecuting attorney called his first witness, a grandmotherly, elderly woman to the stand. He approached her and asked, "Mrs. Jones, do you know me?" She responded, "Why, yes, I do know you, Mr. Williams. I've known you since you were a boy, and frankly, you've been a big disappointment to me. You lie, you cheat on your wife, and you manipulate people

and talk about them behind their backs. You think you're a big shot when you haven't the brains to realize you'll never amount to anything more than a two-bit paper pusher. Yes, I know you."

The lawyer was stunned. Not knowing what to ask next, he pointed across the room and asked, "Mrs. Jones, do you know the defense attorney?"

She again replied, "Why yes, I do. I've known Mr. Bradley since he was a youngster, too. He's lazy, bigoted, and he has a drinking problem. He can't build a normal relationship with anyone, and his law practice is one of the worst in the entire state. Not to mention he cheated on his wife with three different women. One of them was your wife. Yes, I know him."

The judge asked both counselors to approach the bench and, in a very quiet voice, said, "If either of you idiots asks her if she knows me, I'll send you both to the electric chair!"



Calendar of Coming Events

- May 7, 2008** **Taste of Italy.**
Tony Lumia and Members.
- May 11, 2008** **Mother's Day Dinner.**
Jeanne's Catering and DIA Hall.
- July 4, 2008** **Wyandotte Independence Day Parade.**
Mary Cottone and Members.
- Jul. 27, 2008** **Membership Summer Picnic.**
- Aug. 9, 2008** **Annual DIAC Golf Outing.**
Gaetano Vitale, Tony Lumia.
- Dec. 12, 2008** **Member's Xmas Party.**
Grace Pizzo, Leona Vizzini.
- Dec. 14, 2008** **Member's Children Xmas Party.**
Rosalie (Vitale) Karawan.
- Dec. 31, 2008** **New Year's Eve Celebration.**
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

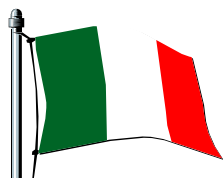
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"A TASTE OF ITALY"

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

DOWNRIVER ITALIAN-AMERICAN HALL

646 Biddle Avenue
Wyandotte, Michigan 48192
(734)285-4044



Featuring a Sampling of Italian Cuisine From:

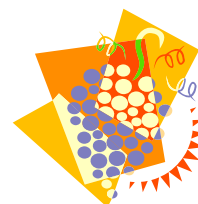
- * DOLCE VITA RESTAURANT
- * FRATELLO'S RESTAURANT
- * JACK'S BAKERY
- * JEANNE'S CATERING
- * PANERA BREAD
- * SIBLEY GARDENS
- * MICHELANGELO'S ITALIAN BISTRO
- * CHEESECAKE MAGIC
- * FRANK'S RESTAURANT
- * ROMAN VILLAGE RESTAURANT
- * LIBERATI'S DELI & BAKERY
- * VITALE RESTAURANT
- * THE FISH MARKET
- * ANDIAMO'S RESTAURANT

A sampling of wines from DISCOUNT DRINKS of Wyandotte



Serving 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

DONATIONS - \$ 35.00



ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE PENRICKTON SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

For more information and ticket sales - contact:

DIANA HOLMES - DIAC OFFICE - (734)285-4044

PUBLIC WELCOME - BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

**Jeanne's Catering and the
Downriver Italian-American Hall**



646 Biddle Avenue
Wyandotte, MI 48192



**Mother's Day Buffet
(All You Can Eat)**

Sunday May 11, 2008

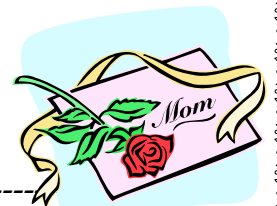
12:00 noon – 5:00 pm (Last Reservation at 4:00 pm)

Call Now for Your Reservations (734) 285-4044

Chef Carved Beef Sirloin, Baked Ham with Pineapple Sauce,
Fish Monterey, Italian Sausage w/Peppers and Onions,
Chicken Picante, Pork Marsale, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy,
Bow Tie Pasta with Pesto Sauce, Salads, Relishes,
Cheese & Crackers, Chicken Noodle Soup, Peel & Eat Shrimp.
Dessert Table Which Includes Jeanne's Signature

"Carmel French Toast," Coffee & Tea

Cash Bar Available



Adults – \$18.00 in Advance / \$19.00 at the Door

Seniors (62+) – \$16.00 in Advance / \$17.00 at the Door

Children (4 to 10 Years) – \$8.00 in Advance / \$9.00 at the Door

Public Welcome – Bring Your Family and Friends



Downriver Italian-American Club

Presents the Fourth Annual:

2008 DIAC Golf Outing "Get into the Swing of Things" Golf Scramble



Saturday, August 9th, 2008

Westburn Golf Club

5617 S. Huron River Drive
South Rockwood, MI

(Located between Telegraph & I-75, Exit 26)

Registration and Lunch: 12:30-1:30pm

Shotgun Start: 1:30pm

Dinner & Awards immediately following



Includes:

18 holes of golf

Powered golf cart

Lunch prior to shotgun start

Steak/Chicken Barbeque Dinner

Contests, raffles and prizes!



Cost: \$65 per member & \$70 per non-member

Reservations with payment only, due: July 31st, 2008

Four-some groups preferred.

Sign Sponsorship: Have your company sign advertised at a tee box for only \$50.

(Non-members will receive member's cost for golf with a sign sponsorship)

For more information, contact: Gaetano Vitale – (734) 675-0169

Tony Lumia – (313)565-0671

✂ ----- ✂ ----- ✂

I (We) will be attending the **DIAC Golf Scramble on Saturday, August 9th, 2008**

This ticket and payment must be received no later than July 31st, 2008.

Team Members (Player1 to be main contact)	Steak or Chicken?	Phone Number	Payment Enclosed?
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

Sign Sponsorship – Company Name: _____ Contact Phone #: _____

Make checks payable to: **Downriver Italian-American Club**. Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Mail form and check to: Gaetano Vitale ♣ 23765 Joey Drive ♣ Brownstown, MI 48137-9320



2008 Pasta Events

Choice of Spaghetti or Penne Pasta
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

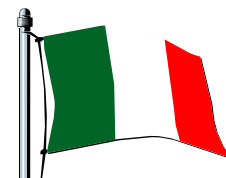
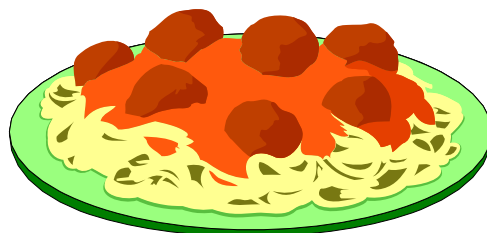
Wednesday, May 21, 2008	Wednesday, June 18, 2008
Wednesday, July 16, 2008	Wednesday, August 20, 2008
Wednesday, September 17, 2008	Wednesday, October 15, 2008
3 rd Wednesday of each Month	3 rd Wednesday of each Month

Luncheon: 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Dinner: 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Adults: \$7.00

Children 10 & Under: \$4.00



Carryout is Available

Our Delicious Meat Sauce is Now Available for Purchase

Enjoy a Delicious Italian Home Cooked Meal

Public Welcome – Advise and Bring Your Friends

