



39th Year, 1971-2010



The Downriver Italian-American Club®

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

** IMPORTANT DATES **

February 2010 NEWSLETTER

Board of Directors Meeting..... Tuesday, Feb. 9, 2010, 7:00 p.m.
General Membership Meeting..... Sunday, Feb. 28, 2010, 6:30 p.m.

Happy Valentine's Day - Feb. 14, 2010!

2010 Club Membership Dues

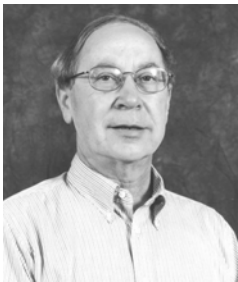
The 2010 membership dues are now payable. The dues are \$30.00 for a member who is single and \$60.00 for a married couple. The dues can be paid at the general membership meeting or you can mail a check or money order, payable to: **Downriver Italian-American Club**, to: **Leslie Lupo, 459 Cedar, Wyandotte, MI 48192-4301**. Your receipt and membership card(s) will be mailed with the upcoming newsletter the month after we process your dues. The deadline for dues is **March 31, 2010**.

For Honorary Members, the dues are \$15.00 for a single member and \$30.00 for a married couple. Members who pay dues will receive the newsletter mailed to their house. The deadline for dues is **March 31, 2010**.

The newsletter is available at the club website, www.diac.us. Members that have internet access, can read or download the newsletter and thus save the club printing and postage cost. Let **Frank Giannotti** know.

Attached with this newsletter is an invoice to be returned with your dues.

A Message from the Club President



The month of January was not too bad in terms of snow. But who knows what February and March may bring. We can only wish for mild temperatures.

Hoping you are all healthy and keeping warm. I wish some of that warm Florida weather could find its way in Michigan one of these days.

For now, we wish our members who are Florida-bound to keep us in mind.

The first **Soup and Salad Winter Luncheon** went well. We hoped for a bigger turnout, perhaps more members and guests will attend the February 24th event. The meal is excellent for the two types of soups and the antipasto salad provided. **Mary Cottone** has done an excellent job at making this event possible.

Our next big club event is the **St. Joseph Celebration**. This is our 36th year and it is getting better each year. The

event is on March 21, 2010. All the profit goes to needy families and charitable organizations - helping kids in our communities. See article and flyer in this newsletter

Also, on March 27th, the Hall Board will be hosting the "**Bring on the Spring**" **Dinner Show**, featuring famous past and current personalities of celebrities. Please make an extra effort to come and invite your family and friends.

Mark Grazioli would like to have a short pre-pasta meeting on March 28, immediately following the general membership meeting - with members who will be helping with the pasta events this year. He will be discussing "what works" and areas for improvement. The pasta events are the biggest fundraiser the club has. Our pasta events are successful and people in our communities are well aware of the great food we serve.

We hope this newsletter finds all of you in good health. God Bless you and your family.

Frank A. Giannotti, Club President

St. Joseph Day Celebration - Mar. 21



The 37th Annual St. Joseph Day Celebration - Sunday, March 21, 2010.

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

Adults \$7.00 - Children (10 & under) \$3.50.

We will be celebrating St. Joseph Day on March 21st. 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 the 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 36 years. We have donated more than \$90,000.00 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 37th 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** (Cora St.) at (734) 282-2803 if you would like to bring cookies.

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

Florence Coleman -- (734) 281-7126

Nancy Cosentino -- (313) 383-0350

Grace Pizzo -- (734) 379-9491

Soup and Salad Luncheon



The Hall Board will once again be sponsoring a **Winter Luncheon** on Feb. 24 and Mar. 17. The meal entries are: Chicken Noodle Soup, Minestrone Soup, Antipasto Salad along with a dessert. On March 17, the meal is Corned Beef and Cabbage.

Mary Cottone is chairing this event. Club Chef **Jeanne Liedel** will prepare the food. **Mary** is looking for volunteers to help out. See attached flyer and make the flyer available for display at bulletin boards of your favorite business establishment.

Contact **Mary Cottone** at (734)285-1563 or (734)285-4044.

"Bring in the Spring" Dinner Show

There will be a "**Bring in the Spring Dinner Show**" at the DIA Hall on Saturday, March 27, 2010. The show will host the personalities of celebrities like **Dean Martin, Frank Sinatra, Buddy Holly, Cal Roberts** (the Platters) and **Gene Pitney**. They will sing songs that made them famous. It will be like walking back in time and remembering the moments in your life when they were popular hits.

The chairpersons for this event are **Nick Caputo** and **Tony Lumia**. The show will begin with a fine buffet meal. See attached flyer for details.

Be sure to advise your family and friends. This will be a fun night. Tickets are now available at the Hall office. (734)285-4044. Please send your reservation to:

Nick Caputo

16400 Dix-Toledo Rd. Apt 401

Southgate, MI 48195-2992

A Message from Fay Palazzolo

Fay would like to thank **Phyllis Gandol, Mary Lavine and Frances (Ciccina) Vitale** for bringing dessert to the

January membership meeting. The dessert was very delicious – had many compliments from the members.

Karen Caputo, Edith Gendron and Miriam Lumia have volunteered to bring dessert to the February 28th membership meeting. If you would like to bring a dessert, please contact **Fay Palazzolo** at (734) 282-0539.

Fundraiser for Rose (Passalacqua) Bailey

There is a fundraiser for **Rose (Passalacqua) Bailey** on Sunday, February 7, 2010 at the **Southgate Civic Center**, 14700 Reaume Parkway, Southgate, MI from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. There will be a DJ, dinner, a bake sale, silent auction, raffles and a 50/50 raffle. Rose is battling an inoperable stage 4 liver cancer. This effort is to help Rose offset her medical expenses.

The cost is \$10.00 for adult and \$5.00 for children (10 year and younger.) Tickets are available at the door or for advanced sales, call **Grace (Passalacqua) Kachinski**, (734)225-1237 (home) (734)558-9911 (cell) or **Nancy Passalacqua** at (313)801-7212 (cell). Please help for this needy cause.

Evola Twins Birth Announcement

Joe and Pearl Evola proudly announce the birth of their twin granddaughters, **Sicilia Bella** and **Francesca Lena Evola**, born on January 8, 2010. The parents are **Carlo and Linda Evola**.

Best Wishes to the Evola families.

Sick and Good Will



Belated Get Well Wishes to the following members who were ill or hospitalized: **Catherine Mannino** broke her arm; **Leona Vizzini** broke her hand; **Joe Kusic** had an ICD installed; **Lisa Vespa** had shoulder surgery; **Florence Coleman** was hospitalized; **Maria Sclafani** was hospitalized; **Angelo Giannotti (Sr.)** was hospitalized.

Grace Pizzo received a thank-you card from **Piera and Damiano Vitale**, regarding Piera's sister who passed away in Cinisi, Sicily.

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 families of **Salvatore (Giovanna) Vitale** (St. Johns St.), **Bettina Vitale** and **Caterina (Antonino) Vitale** on the death of their mother, **Anna Vitale**, who passed away on January 21, 2010 at the age of 93, in Cinisi, Sicily.

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

Happy Birthday - Buon Compleanno

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

<i>Frances (Ciccina) Vitale (2/4)</i>	<i>Shirley Bommarito (2/19)</i>
<i>Grace Asteriou (2/5)</i>	<i>Gerald Conz (2/19)</i>
<i>Elisa Norscia (2/6)</i>	<i>Anthony Salvati (2/19)</i>
<i>Marianna Curcuru (2/7)</i>	<i>Leona Vizzini (2/19)</i>
<i>Frank Liberati (2/7)</i>	<i>Stephanie Parrino (2/22)</i>
<i>Michael Olevnik (2/9)</i>	<i>Ted Brockway (2/23)</i>
<i>Rose Prato (2/9)</i>	<i>Florence Coleman (2/23)</i>
<i>Don Capezza (2/12)</i>	<i>Fara Parrino (2/23)</i>
<i>Fara DiMaria (2/12)</i>	<i>Connie Militello (2/24)</i>
<i>Gloria Frassetto (2/12)</i>	<i>Henry LeSage (2/25)</i>
<i>Appolonia Lentini (2/12)</i>	<i>Pat Mastrogiacomo (2/25)</i>
<i>Joan Cadorin (2/13)</i>	<i>Don Jenson (2/26)</i>
<i>Christopher Dingell (2/13)</i>	<i>Marie Pagnucco (2/26)</i>
<i>Rose Lupo (2/13)</i>	<i>Sam Cosentino (2/27)</i>
<i>Antonio Palazzolo (2/13)</i>	<i>Sue Lupo (2/27)</i>
<i>Frank Bianchi (2/15)</i>	<i>James Morrin (2/27)</i>
<i>Raymond Lucarelli (2/15)</i>	<i>Sam G. Randazzo (2/27)</i>
<i>Norman Tabaka Sr. (2/16)</i>	<i>Joe J. Agrusa (2/28)</i>
<i>Anthony Militello (2/17)</i>	<i>Vita Alastra (2/28)</i>
<i>Rosalie Lopetrone (2/18)</i>	<i>Maria Chirco (2/28)</i>

DIA Hall Banquet Facility

If you have a relative, such as a niece, nephew, or grandchildren who are getting married and looking for a nice place to hold a party - we will give them the same discount price as a club member. The Hall is willing to work very close with them. The Club does need the business. DIA Hall is a beautiful banquet facility and provides long lasting memories for those special occasions.

For further information, please call **Diana Holmes** or **Mary Cottone** at (734) 285-4044. We would like to book your party and give us an opportunity to serve you.

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 anniversaries this month.

Robert and Jacqueline Jagiello (2/1)
Salvatore and Caterina Vitale (2/14)
Pietro and Filocia Biundo (2/23)
Gaetano (Tony) and Gina DiCarlo (2/25)
Martin and Rosalie Shimkus (2/25)

The Downriver Italian-American Hall - Banquet & Conference Center

Valentine's Love Quotations

"To fear love is to fear life, and those who fear life are already three parts dead." *Bertrand Russell*

"Love is friendship set to music." *E. Joseph Crossmann*

"Friendship often ends in love; but love in friendship - never." *Charles Caleb Colton*

Words Are Not Enough

No words could ever tell you,
 No action could express
 The way I feel about you,
 With you, my life is blessed.

You're the light in my tunnel.
 You are my pot of gold.
 You are the strength that gets me through
 When despair has taken hold.

You're my once in a lifetime.
 You make my life complete.
 You are my blue ribbon
 In the shadow of defeat.

There's nothing I could ever say,
 And nothing I could do
 To let you know just how much
 Love is in my heart for you.

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Calendar of Coming Club Events

Feb. 24, 2010 **2010 Winter Buffet Luncheon.**

Mary Cottone, Helpers, DIA Hall Board.

Mar. 17, 2010 **St. Patrick's Corned Beef Buffet Meal.**

Mary Cottone, Helpers, DIA Hall Board.

Mar. 21, 2010 **St. Joseph Day Celebration.**

F. Coleman, N. Cosentino and G. Pizzo families and Others.

Mar. 27, 2010 **"Bring in the Spring Dinner Show."**

Nick Caputo, Tony Lumia and Others.

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:

DIA Newsletter, c/o Frank A. Giannotti
 14823 Williamsburg Blvd.
 Riverview, MI 48193-7703

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Downriver Italian-American Banquet Hall

646 Biddle Ave. Wyandotte, MI 48192

Proudly Presents

Bring in the Spring Dinner Show

Saturday, March 27, 2010

Featuring:

LEGENDS LIVE

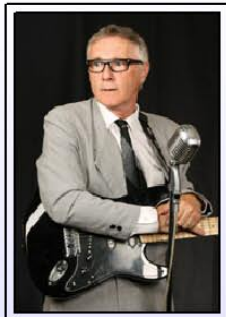
Michigan's #1 Tribute Show



Dean Martin



Frank Sinatra



Buddy Holly

Cal Roberts



Gene Pitney



Singing the hits of the Platters

TICKETS \$38.00 Includes Dinner & Show (Cash Bar) Beer \$2.00 / Well Mix Drinks \$3.00

DINNER @ 6:30 PM - SHOW @ 8:00 PM

For reservations or more information please call

D.I.A Banquet Hall 734-285-4044 / Nick Caputo 734-281-3556 / Tony Lumia 313-565-0671

Legends Live is produced by Empire Entertainment & JC Productions (www.legendslive.com)

The 37th Annual

St. Joseph Day Celebration

Sunday, March 21, 2010



Presented by:

The Downriver Italian-American Club

646 Biddle Avenue

Wyandotte, MI 48192

Pageant at 2:00 pm – Admission Free

Buffet Dinner following the Pageant

Adults: \$7.00

Children (10 yrs and under): \$3.50

All Donations given to charities.

Helping children and needy families in our
community.

This event is open to the public.

Invite your family and friends!

Tickets are available for purchase at the door.

For more information, call (734) 285-4044

May St. Joseph Bless You and Bring You Joy

The Downriver Italian-American Hall®

646 BIDDLE AVE ♣ WYANDOTTE, MICHIGAN 48192-2727 ♣ TEL. (734)285-4044 ♣

2010 Winter Luncheon

Wednesday - February 24, 2010

Meal prepared by Hall Chef Jeanne Liedel

Buffet Luncheon from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm



~ Menu ~

Chicken Soup
Minestrone Soup
Antipasto Salad
Coffee or Tea
Dessert



Beverage Available

\$8.00 per Person

Wednesday - March 17, 2010

St. Patrick Celebration

Buffet Meal from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm



~ Menu ~

Corned Beef and Cabbage
Coffee or Tea
Dessert



Beverage Available

♣ **Open to the General Public** ♣

\$8.00 per Person



Bring your family and friends

For sales & information, please contact:



Diana Holmes or Mary Cottone – Hall Office at (734)285-4044

The Downriver Italian-American Banquet and Conference Center®