



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 \*\*

## December 2010 NEWSLETTER

Club Board of Directors Meeting ..... Tuesday, Dec. 14, 2010, 7:00 p.m.  
General Membership Meeting..... \*\*\*\* CANCELLED \*\*\*\*



## Buon Natale a Tutti – Merry Christmas to All

### No Membership Meeting in December

There is no membership meeting in December due to the Christmas Holiday – the meetings will resume in January. We wish our members and their families the Very Best for the Holidays. Be safe, be healthy, and see you next year.

*May you have the Spirit of Christmas, which is*

**Peace**

*the Gladness of Christmas, which is*

**Hope**

*the Warmth of Christmas, which is*

**Friendship**

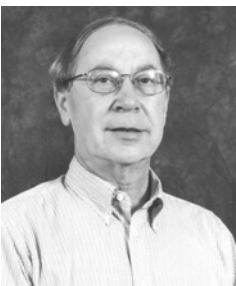
*the Heart of Christmas, which is*

**Joy**

*the Blessing of Christmas, which is*

**Love**

### A Message from the Club President



I hope you all had a nice Thanksgiving day with your family and friends. This holiday is traditionally spent at my house, with our son and daughter (and their spouses), my sister and my niece's family. My pride and joy is seeing my grandson, **Nicholas**, walking and growing day by day.

There's a saying that I've come to realize is so true: "If I had known how wonderful it would be to have grandchildren, I'd have had them first!"

My term as your club president will soon come to an end on December 31. I hope that I've made an impact in moving the Club forward during the past 2 years. The Hall business remains extremely vulnerable to these poor economic times. I am hopeful there will be a turnaround in the near future.

I congratulate the new administration for the next two years. I congratulate the club members who worked the pasta events and attended many of the club functions. .

Please keep our Hall in mind when you have an event and promote our Hall to family and friends.

We had a good **Pasta Event** in November. We had a strong turnout of members who helped during the prep day and the day of the event. Remember, a club is not a club without the support from its members.

The **Memorial Mass** event was a success. This was our second year at honoring deceased club members. Many members and guests attended the mass and enjoyed a fine luncheon at the hall. Many thanks to **Florence Coleman** for chairing this event.

The **Legends Live Dinner Show** of November 6<sup>th</sup> proved to be extremely successful. The main banquet hall looked magnificent with the lighting, the great performance by the singers and a great audience. A great job by the chairpersons **Nick Caputo** and **Tony Lumia**.

The **Arts and Craft Show** also proved to be successful. There were many vendors selling their goods and there was a steady stream of customers all day long. Many thanks to **Emalie Shifflett** for chairing this event.

The December events include the Member's Christmas Party on December 11, and the Children's Christmas Party on December 12. If you have not purchased your tickets, please do so as soon as possible. Then on January 22, the **Presidential Ball** will take place, honoring the new President **Mark Grazioli** and new administration.

I hope this newsletter finds all of you in good health. God Bless you and your family. Have a delightful **Christmas** and a **Joyous New Year. Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo**, from my family to yours.

Frank A. Giannotti, Club President

### Member's Christmas Party



The Member's Christmas Dinner Dance has been set for Saturday, December 11, 2010. **Miriam Lumia**, along with **Mary Cottone** are the chairpersons. This is a fine event with live music by the Blue Genes, a great meal and lots of time to dance and socialize with friends. You may purchase individual tickets or reserve for a table for 10 people. Tickets will soon be available. Make your reservation early for the good table seating. The event is

open to member's family and their friends (16 years and older). A flyer is contained in this newsletter.

## A MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR

To Our Membership and their Families!



### Children's Christmas Party



**Rosalie (Vitale) Karawan** will be chairing the **Children's Christmas Party** set for **Sunday, December 12, 2010**. **Santa Claus** has been booked and will be the special guest of honor. As in the past, this event is open to the DIAC members who have children that are 10 years and under.

Rosalie is looking for members who can donate cookies and other baked goods

### November Pasta Event Report



In November, we served 556 spaghetti dinners, which gives us a total of 4,540 dinners for the year. This is only 8% lower than last year. A big thanks to the many Club members that helped out with the dinners, without your support there would be no Spaghetti Dinners. There were 8 Club members that worked every Tuesday and Wednesday and 26 Club members that worked every month. Again, thanks for your support.

The money from the November dinner will more than the cost of the roof repairs over the kitchen. We will again be doing the Pasta Dinners in 2011, on the third Wednesday of every month from April through October. Thank You.

**Mark Grazioli – Chairman**

### Toys for Tots



The family of **Joe and Anita Vitale** of Woodhaven are once again collecting toys for their Christmas tradition, **Toys for Tots**. If you would like to contribute, please bring an unwrapped toy to the Downriver Italian American Hall and drop it off into the large collection box near the front door – no

later than Dec. 5, 2010. The toys will be donated to area needy children.

*Joe, Anita and Mary-Beth Vitale.*

### Legends Live Valentine Dinner Show



The Downriver Italian-American Hall will once again host the "Legends Live" on Saturday, February 12, 2011. This will be the **Valentine Show**, complete with dinner, featuring tributes to: **Patsy Kline, the Everly Brothers, Roy Orbison, Johnny Mathis and Gene Pitney**. It's a wonderful combo of their oldies songs and performance. A great opportunity to reflect on the moments in your life when they were a huge hit.

**Nick Caputo** and **Tony Lumia** are chairing this show. The event begins with a superb dinner. Tickets and table reservations are currently available. A flyer will appear in the January newsletter.

Be sure to advise your family and friends. **The event is open to the public**. This will be a fun night. Tickets are now available by calling **Nick Caputo** at (734)281-3556, or **Tony Lumia** (313)565-0671 or by calling the Hall office. (734)285-4044.

### Gifts I'd Leave You

The gifts I'd leave beneath your tree,  
Aren't those that you can touch nor see.  
Not wrapped in Christmas tissue gray,  
But gifts to bless you every day.

The gift of friendship, warm and true,  
Is one that I would leave for you.  
Good health and happiness and cheer,  
To keep you smiling through the year.

The gift of peace that comes from God,  
With prayer to guide each path you trod,  
And when your heart has lost it's song,  
The gift of hope to cheer you on.

These are the gifts I'd leave for you  
To bring you joy your whole life through.

— Kay Hoffman —

### Menna Room Rental to Club Members

The Club **Menna Room** can be rented to a club member without having the club chef provide the cooking. The food must be catered, and the kitchen is not to be used for cooking or heating the food.

For pricing and the various options, contact the Hall Office – **Diana Holmes** or **Mary Cottone** at (734)285-4044.

### Sick and Good Will



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

**Algie Prato, Francesca (Ciccina) Vitale, Rose Lupo, Mary Wierzba and Tony Pietrangelo** who were hospitalized or ill. A special Holiday Wishes to our members who are in nursing homes.

Get Well Wishes to all our members who are not feeling well. Please advise **Grace Pizzo** (734)379-9491 if you know of anyone who is ill OR if there is a death in the family. Please notify the Hall Office regarding a death in the family (734)285-4044. This is a minimum for the Club to spread the news to the membership.

Condolences to the family of **Vincenza (Vinnie) DiClaudio** on the death of her mother, **Maria DellaGrotta**, who passed away on September 7, 2010 at the age of 102, in Australia.

Condolences to the family of **Jim Jenson** on the death of his wife, **Violet Jenson**, who passed away on November 16, 2010, at the age of 87. Jim and Violet joined the club in April, 1972. They were active members that helped a lot at the Italian festivals at Yack Arena and later with the club monthly pasta events. They attended many club functions. Condolences to their son, **Don Jenson**.

Condolences to the families of **Margaret Kling** and **Catherine (Eugene) Kling**, on the death of their brother, **Joseph Tola**, who passed away on October 21, 2010, at the age of 85.

Condolences to the family of **Vincenzo and Lilla Vitale** on the death of Lilla's nephew, **Mario Giammanco**, who passed away on October 25, 2010, at the age of 42, in Palermo, Sicily.

Condolences to the family of **Russ LoDuca** on the death of his mother, **Liboria LoDuca**, who passed away on November 9, 2010, at the age of 96.

Condolences to the family of **Vito Trupiano Sr.** on the death of his sister, **Grazia Trupiano**, who passed away on November 9, 2010, at the age of 87. Condolences to: **Nino and Gianna Trupiano, Vito A. Trupiano, Steve and Rita Dauss and Mike and Luisa Dunlap.**

Condolences to the family of **Jim and Juliann Bademian** on the death of Jim's mother, **Julia Pankas**, who passed away on November 22, 2010, at the age of 88.

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>Mary Wierzba (12/03)</i>	<i>Rosalie Aluia (12/18)</i>
<i>Gina Cosner (12/04)</i>	<i>Giuseppe Alastra (12/19)</i>
<i>Bruce Yinger (12/05)</i>	<i>John Cadorin (12/19)</i>
<i>Roger Zampieri (12/05)</i>	<i>Paul Consiglio (12/19)</i>
<i>Sylvia Vitale (12/06)</i>	<i>Angela Palazzolo (12/20)</i>
<i>Vincenza DiClaudio (12/11)</i>	<i>Vivian Cacioppo (12/22)</i>
<i>Lina M. Rigney (12/11)</i>	<i>Shirley Cavataio (12/22)</i>
<i>Domenick Forte (12/14)</i>	<i>Salvatore Lentini (12/22)</i>
<i>Giovanna Vitale (12/14)</i>	<i>Nancy DiPasquale (12/26)</i>
<i>Aldo Gerbi (12/15)</i>	<i>George Lavine (12/26)</i>
<i>Richard Kaune (12/15)</i>	<i>Marian Maniaci (12/28)</i>
<i>Francesco DeMelis (12/16)</i>	<i>Algie Prato (12/28)</i>
<i>Julian LoRusso (12/16)</i>	<i>Steven Vitale (12/28)</i>
<i>Tom Talluto (12/17)</i>	<i>Robyn Vitale (12/30)</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 anniversaries this month.

*Don and Emilia (Mimi) Kerr (12/31)*

### A Special Thank-You to our Members

A special thank-you to club members: **Nancy Cosentino, Miriam Lumia and Rosalie Shimkus** for bringing dessert to the November membership meeting. The desserts were delicious.

**Shirley Cavataio, Mary Lavine and Joyce Mitra** have volunteered to bring dessert to the January 23<sup>rd</sup> membership meeting.

### 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 Hall does need the business. **DIA Hall** is a beautiful banquet facility and provides long lasting memories for those special occasions in your life.

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.



### Analyzing Dreams

After she woke up, a woman told her husband, "I just dreamed that you gave me a pearl necklace for our anniversary. What do you think it means?"

"You'll know tonight." he said.

That evening, the man came home with a small package and gave it to his wife.

Delighted, she opened it to find a book entitled "The Meaning of Dreams."

### On Christmas Time

How lovely 'tis to take this time  
To greet our dearest friends,  
To wish them health and happiness  
Before the old year ends.

Darkness comes late afternoon  
And winter lies ahead,  
But friendship is a glowing fire  
When all seems cold and dead.

Just as in some vacant barn,  
Unnoticed in the night,  
The whole of human history turns,  
So we, too, make things right.

We must keep alive the flame  
Though darkness grip the Earth;  
For in the love we find in friends  
Is our chance for rebirth.

### You Know You Must be Old When...

Your friend compliments you on your new alligator shoes and you are barefoot.

You don't care where your spouse goes, just as long as you don't have to go along.

A sexy babe catches your fancy and your pacemaker opens the garage door.

"Getting a little on" means, "I don't need to take any fiber today."

You are cautioned to slow down by the doctor instead of the police.

An "all nighter" means not getting up to go use the bathroom!

"Getting lucky" means you find your car in the parking lot.

### Festa di Natale

Natale è festa di gioia e pace,  
ogni rancore si spegne o tace;  
tutto si scorda, tutto si oblia,  
deve esser giorno sol d'allegria.

Dunque scordatevi, o miei diletti,  
le mie mancanze e i miei difetti.  
Se io promettessi di essere buono,  
mi neghereste forse il perdono?

Tace la mamma, tu, babbo, taci.  
Son dunque assolto: che io vi baci!

### Message from Italian Consul of Detroit

15 novembre 2010

Cari Connazionali,

In occasione del Santo Natale e delle festività di fine anno formulo a tutti voi i miei migliori auguri.

Nel 2010, l'attività del Consolato e dei connazionali è stata ancora più intensa che negli anni precedenti. Ricordo in particolare l'intenso programma di visite in tutti gli Stati nel territorio di competenza, le celebrazioni per il 2 giugno a Cleveland, l'ampliamento della gamma di servizi d'informazione a disposizione dei connazionali, la capillare diffusione dell'informatica che consente di utilizzare molti dei servizi 24/7.

Proseguiranno per tutto il 2011 le celebrazioni per i 150 anni dell'Unità d'Italia, con un programma che toccherà i luoghi della memoria del processo unitario italiano, valorizzando la ricchezza e molteplicità delle sue ispirazioni e delle sue componenti.

Rinnovo a tutti Voi i piú calorosi auguri di Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo anche a nome dell'intero Personale del Consolato.

Il Console  
Marco Nobili

### Holding On

Hold on to what is good  
Even if it is a handful of earth.  
Hold on what you believe  
Even if it is a tree which stands by itself.  
Hold on what you must do  
Even if it is a long way from here.  
Hold on to life  
Een when it is easier letting go.  
Hold on to my hand  
Even when I have gone away from you.  
~ Native American Prayer ~

### A Senior Moment

Two elderly ladies had been friends for many decades. Over the years they had shared all kinds of activities and adventures. Lately, their activities had been limited to meeting a few times a week to play cards.

One day they were playing cards when one looked at the other and said, "Now don't get mad at me. I know we've been friends for a long time, but I just can't think of your name. I've thought and thought, but I can't remember it. Please tell me what your name is."

Her friend glared at her. For at least three minutes she just stared and glared at her. Finally she said, "How soon do you need to know?"



### Pensiere Fisso

Quando mi sveglio al mattina  
Sei il mio primo pensiero  
Quando vado al lavoro  
Sai sempre nei miei pensieri;  
Quando la sera vado a letto  
Sei il mio ultimo pensiero:  
Che bella la vita spensierata

La Rubrica di Antonello

### I Am Thankful for...

...the mess to clean up after thanksgiving dinner, because it means that I have been surrounded by family.

...for the clothes that fit a little too snug, because it means that I have enough to eat.

...for a lawn that needs mowing, windows that need cleaning, and gutters that need fixing, because it means I have a home.

...for all the complaining I hear about the government, because it means that we have freedom of speech.

...for the parking spot I find at the far end of the parking lot, because it means that I am capable of walking and have been blessed with transportation.

...for a large heating bill, because it means I am warm.

...for the pile of laundry and ironing, because it means I have clothes to wear.

...for weariness and aching muscles at the end of the day, because it means I have been capable of working hard.

...for the bills after Christmas, because it means I have a little extra money and friends to spend it on.

...for the alarm that goes off in the early morning hours, because it means I am alive.

### Calendar of Coming Club/Hall Events

**Dec. 11, 2010** ..... **Adult Christmas Party**  
Miriam Lumia, Mary Cottone

**Dec. 12, 2010** ..... **Member's Children Christmas Party**  
Rosalie (Vitale) Karawan and Helper(s)

**Jan. 22, 2011** ..... **Presidential Ball**  
Frank Giannotti & Tony Lumia

**Feb. 12, 2011** ..... **"Legends Live" Valentine Show.**  
Nick Caputo & Tony Lumia

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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# DIAC Adult Christmas Party

Downriver Italian-American Hall, 646 Biddle Ave., Wyandotte, MI 48192-2727

## Saturday, December 11, 2010

Live Music: The Blue Genes Band

Family Style Dinner by Chef Jeanne Liedel

6:00 pm Hors D'oeuvre, 7:00 pm Dinner



**Hors D'oeuvre**  
Cheese, Relish, Cracker Dish Centerpiece

**Main Entrées:**  
Wedding Soup  
Tossed Salad, Italian Bread /w Olive Oil  
Tortellini with Pesto Sauce  
Roasted Chicken  
Italian Sausage with peppers and Onions  
Beef Sirloin Tips  
Santa Anna Potatoes  
Mixed Vegetables

**Dessert**  
Cheese Cake with Strawberries  
Beverage, Coffee or Tea  
Your Favorite Beverage  
Wine Carafe Available

Invitation to Family and Friends

\$30.00 per Adult (16 years and Older)

Reserved tables of 10 only. All other seated where available. Door Prizes

Tickets must be paid at time of reservation:

Make check or money order payable to: **Downriver Italian-American Club**



Mail to: Miriam Lumia  
2428 Geneva  
Dearborn, MI 48124-2558



For further information call: Miriam Lumia at (313) 565-0671

Mary Cottone at (734) 285-1563

✂ ----- ✂ ----- ✂

I (We) will be attending the DIAC 2010 Adult Christmas Party on Saturday, December 11, 2010.  
This coupon and payment must be received no later than November 30, 2010.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of people Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: **Downriver Italian-American Club.** Table No. \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form and check to: Miriam Lumia ♣ 2428 Geneva ♣ Dearborn, MI 48124-2558

If you would like to sit with a friend (at their table), please print their names on the back of this coupon.

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## Member's Children Christmas Party



Sunday, December 12, 2010 at 1:00 p.m.

This Party is for **Member's Children Only**. The child must be 10 years and under.

This year's party will again consist of fun hands-on activities for all the children and a pizza luncheon. Directly from the North Pole, Santa Claus will be the special guest. Moms and dads, don't forget to bring your camera and catch those special moment with Santa.

**If you wish to donate cookies, please call Rosalie Vitale-Karawan at (734)285-7406.**

Return the coupon below to:

Rosalie Vitale Karawan  
17120 Kennebec  
Riverview, MI 48193-7608

**\*\*This form must be received no later than December 1, 2010 This deadline must be strictly enforced to ensure your child will receive a gift.**

✂ ----- ✂ ----- ✂

Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Print Child's Name	Age	Girl	Boy
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Mail to: Rosalie Vitale Karawan, 17120 Kennebec, Riverview, MI 48193-7608

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# The Downriver Italian-American Club

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

Presents

## 2011 Presidential Ball

Saturday, January 22, 2011

Music by *The Blue Genes from Windsor*

Hors D'oeuvre/Cocktails begins at 5:30 pm

Cheese, Fruits, Sausage, Shrimp Cocktail

Dinner 6:30 p.m.

Family Style Dinner by Jeanne Liedel

~~~~ **Main Entrée** ~~~~

Relish Tray

Wedding Soup

Salad with House Dressing

Linguini with Club Sauce

Stuffed Chicken Breast

Pork Loin Siciliano

Roasted Potatoes

Sautéed Green Beans with Almonds

Coffee, Tea, Rolls, Butter

Napoleon Dessert

Carafe of Wine Available

Tickets: \$35.00 per person

Event is Open to the Public. Invite your Family and Friends

Tickets must be paid at the time of reservation

Reserved tables of 10 only, all others seated where available

**Deadline for reservations is January 12, 2011**

Make checks payable to: Downriver Italian-American Club

Further information: **Frank Giannotti, (734)283-7394**

**Tony Lumia, (313)565-0671**

**DIAC HALL – Diana Holmes, (734)285-4044**



I/We will be attending the **2011 Presidential Ball** event on Saturday, January 22, 2011  
This ticket and payment must be received **no later than Wednesday, January 12, 2011**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Number of People attending \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: **Downriver Italian-American Club**

Mail coupon and payment to: **Frank Giannotti, 14823 Williamsburg Blvd., Riverview, MI 48193-7703**

Note: If you would like to sit with a friend (at their table), please print their names on back of this coupon.