



41st Year, 1971-2012

# The Downriver Italian-American Club®

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

## \*\* IMPORTANT DATES \*\*

## April 2012 NEWSLETTER

Club Board of Directors Meeting ..... Tuesday, April 10, 2012, 7:00 p.m.  
General Membership Meeting..... Sunday, April 22, 2012, 6:30 p.m.



## Club First Pasta Event – April 18, 2012

### Message from the Club President



We had some record setting unseasonably warm weather in March and now April has arrived. It's time to start fertilizing your lawns, which is then followed by cutting the grass. Also in April, we begin our popular Spaghetti Dinners.

On Sunday March 25<sup>th</sup>, several Club members attended a 3:00 p.m. Mass at **Holy Family Catholic Church** in downtown Detroit. The Mass was sponsored by the **Santa Rosalia Club** and the **Downriver Italian-American Club**. To boost attendance at Holy Family, various Italian Clubs in the Detroit Metropolitan Area are periodically sponsoring Mass at the church. I encourage you to attend one of these future Masses.

Again, like last year, members from the Santa Rosalia Club will be marching with us in the Wyandotte Fourth of July Parade. At the March General Membership meeting it was decided that the Club Picnic will take place on Sunday July 29 2012, at the Club. **Tony Lumia** and **Sam Pizzo** have agreed to chair the event.

Upcoming events include:

**April Spaghetti Dinner** – Wednesday, April 18, 2012.

**Taste of Italy** – Wednesday, May 9, 2012.

I would like to wish all of you and your families a Happy and Holy Easter. **Mark S. Grazioli, Club President**

### Club First Pasta Event - April 18, 2012



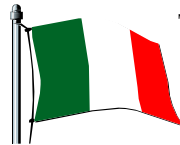
Our first Spaghetti Lunch and Dinner for 2012 will be on **Wednesday, April 18**. Last year the Club was successful with the pasta fundraising effort. This year should be as successful and can sustain some growth.

This is an excellent opportunity for new (and existing) members to meet and socialize with Club members. The workday begins on Tuesday morning, at about 8-9 am with the preparation of sauce and meatballs, as well as set-up. The men come in at 6 pm on Tuesday evening to

pre-cook the pasta. On Wednesday, we start about 8 am, with Lunch being served from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and Dinner from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

If you cannot work, another way to support our Spaghetti Dinners is to come yourself or as many of you do, bring some friends.

### A Taste of Italy – May 9, 2012



The Eight (8<sup>th</sup>) annual **Taste of Italy** event will be held at the **DIA Hall** on **Wednesday, May 9, 2012**. Serving begins at 6:00 p.m. The chairperson for this

event is **Tony Lumia**. The festivity will feature sampling of Italian cuisines from various local businesses. The vendors each will provide their specialties. All proceeds go to benefit the **Penrickton School for Blind Children**.

For ticket sales, contact **Diana Holmes** at the DIA Hall (734)285-4044 or **Tony Lumia** (313) 565-0671. This event is open to the public. Please attend and invite your family and friends. A flyer will appear in the April newsletter.

### News about the Club Facility



The 120-gallon hot water holding tank in the kitchen area was replaced in early March. The existing tank (installed in 1998) showed many signs of aging. The Club Board approved funding for the replacement tank in late February. Piping material changes were made to minimize contaminant. The pasta events will greatly appreciate the new hot water supply. The kitchen hot water system is heated by a natural gas fired boiler and the water is stored in a holding tank for use in the kitchen and the restroom facilities.

### Sick and Good Will



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

**Joe Agrusa, Linda Kerr, Mike T. Palazzolo, and Sam G. Randazzo.**

We wish good health to all our members who are not feeling well – especially those who are living alone

and those living in assisted living. Please advise **Grace Pizzo** (734) 379-9491 if you know of a member who is ill or if there is a death in their family.

**A Special Thank-You to Our Members**



A special thank-you to club members **Mary Cottone, Rosalie Shimkus** and **Frances (Ciccina) Vitale** for bringing dessert to the March 25<sup>th</sup> membership meeting. The sweet desserts were very much appreciated and were very delicious.

**Maria Graziani, Elisa Norscia** and **Alessandra (Lisa) Vespa** have volunteered to bring dessert to the **April 22<sup>nd</sup>** membership meeting.

**Happy Birthday - Buon Compleanno**



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

- |                                  |                                   |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <i>Salvatore Curcuru (4/1)</i>   | <i>Lia Giannotti (4/12)</i>       |
| <i>Rosina Martino (4/01)</i>     | <i>John Parisi (4/12)</i>         |
| <i>Paola Ventimiglia (4/3)</i>   | <i>Eugene Kling (4/13)</i>        |
| <i>Philip Tocco (4/4)</i>        | <i>Vito Badalamente (4/17)</i>    |
| <i>Phillip Mendis (4/5)</i>      | <i>Phillip Lupo (4/20)</i>        |
| <i>Angela Vassallo (4/5)</i>     | <i>Augustino Iacopelli (4/21)</i> |
| <i>Linda Carrier (4/6)</i>       | <i>Josephine Palazzolo (4/21)</i> |
| <i>Maria Giammalva (4/6)</i>     | <i>Louise Myslisz (4/22)</i>      |
| <i>Fannie Randazzo (4/7)</i>     | <i>Fred Marzano (4/23)</i>        |
| <i>Nina Liberati (4/8)</i>       | <i>Angela Palazzolo (4/26)</i>    |
| <i>Joseph V. Palazzolo (4/8)</i> | <i>Norman Tabaka Jr. (4/27)</i>   |
| <i>Grace Randazzo (4/8)</i>      | <i>Joyce Mitra (4/29)</i>         |
| <i>Mary Caparaotta (4/9)</i>     | <i>Maria Vitale (4/29)</i>        |
| <i>Giuseppe LaFata (4/9)</i>     | <i>Theresa Herbert (4/30)</i>     |
| <i>Lina Frassetto (4/10)</i>     | <i>Joseph A. Pagano (4/30)</i>    |
| <i>Janice Labadie (4/11)</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 anniversary.

- |   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| <i>Phil and Sue Lupo (4/7)</i>              |                  |
| <i>Gino and Wynnith Martino (4/8)</i>       |                  |
| <i>Augustino and Loni Iacopelli (4/14)</i>  |                  |
| <i>Giuseppe and Providence Evola (4/15)</i> | 45 <sup>th</sup> |
| <i>John and Joan Cadorin (4/19)</i>         | 62 <sup>nd</sup> |
| <i>Sam and Fannie Randazzo (4/23)</i>       |                  |
| <i>Joseph and Nicolina Susin (4/23)</i>     |                  |

- |  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| <i>Bill and Pauline Barraco (4/24)</i>           |                  |
| <i>John and Anna Finazzo (4/24)</i>              |                  |
| <i>Jim and Shirley Bommarito (4/28)</i>          | 50 <sup>th</sup> |
| <i>Patrick and Patricia Mastrogiacomo (4/28)</i> |                  |
| <i>Vincenzo and Catherine Mannino (4/29)</i>     | 62 <sup>nd</sup> |
| <i>Gene and Michelle Hamel (4/30)</i>            | 30 <sup>th</sup> |

**Along Comes April**

*Along comes April  
The sweetest month of all  
"Perche", you say, when rain will surely fall.  
Yet daffodil and tulip, deep in slumber-sound  
Lay just beneath the surface ground.  
And Oh! What promises they keep  
When they arouse from drowsy sleep.  
And poke their heads through springtime thaw  
To bring us crimson joy and golden awe.*

*Chava Kaye - April 2012*

**DIA Hall Banquet Facility**



Club members who have a relative, such as a niece, nephew, or grandchild, who is getting married and looking for a good place to hold a party - we will give them the same discount price as a club member. The Hall is willing to work very closely with them. The Club 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. Give us an opportunity to serve you.

**Santa Rosalia Club Comedy Event**



The **Santa Rosalia Club** is hosting a comedy show featuring Joe Cacchione on Friday, April 20 2012. Everyone is welcome. Tickets are \$50.00 per person - includes a comedy show, dinner, dancing and cash bar. The event is held at Arnaldo's Banquet Center, Riverview MI. Doors open at 6:30 PM /Dinner at 7:00 PM. Further information, call 734-374-9568

**Questions for Members to Ponder**



... Am I an active and involved member of the Downriver Italian-American Club?

... Am I doing my part to keep our club a strong community for future Italian-

American generations, as the founders of our club did for us?

... Am I providing my children and grandchildren with the proper foundation to keep our traditions alive?

... Will the tree that I plant today bear fruit for future generations?

... There are many ways to get involved and support the DIAC! Come out for the Events! Donate your time and your skills where needed! Make and sustain friendships with other members! See you soon!

**A Story of a Carob Tree  
(A famous Talmudic story)**



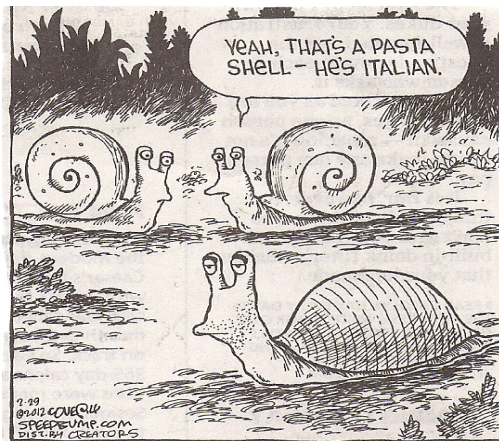
A young boy was walking on a road and saw a man of many years planting a carob tree.

He asked the man, "How long will it take for this tree to bear fruit?"

The man replied, "Seventy years."

He then asked the man, "And do you think you will live another seventy years and eat the fruit of this tree?"

The man answered, "Perhaps not. However, when I was born into this world, I found many carob trees planted by my father and grandfather. Just as they planted trees for me, I am planting trees for my children and grandchildren, so they will be able to eat the fruit of these trees."



Detroit News/Detroit Free Press, Feb 2012

**On the Light Side**

Ha Ha Ha!



If you mix flour, water, and salt, you get glue. If you add eggs, baking powder, and oil, you get cake. Where does the glue go?

What do you get when you cross Lassie with a rose? A collie flower.

The main thing is keeping the main thing the

main thing.

Learning history is easy. Learning its lessons is almost impossible.

The first law of dieting seems to be that if it tastes good, it's bad for you.

The hardest years in life are those between ten and seventy.

Want to hear a joke about bowling? Spare me!

To solve the human equation, we need to add love, subtract hate, multiply good, - and divide between truth and error. Sure glad we're all good in math!

**Our Goal ...**

*Our goal should be to live life in radical amazement.  
To get up in the morning and look at the world in a way  
that takes nothing for granted.*

*Everything is phenomenal; everything is incredible; never  
treat life casually.*

*To be spiritual is to be amazed.*

*Abraham Joshua Heschel*

**Earth Day is Sunday, April 22, 2012**



Earth Day originated in the USA in 1970 to increase awareness of the Earth's environment and to encourage conservation efforts. In 1990, Earth Day became international. Today, more than 500 million people in 175 countries observe Earth Day. Each year on this day thousands of people celebrate the earth by being mindful of the effects our lifestyle is having on the planet.

Resolve to appreciate the earth in your own way on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, and every day throughout the year. Make small changes in your lifestyle that make a cumulative difference. Switch from incandescent lights to fluorescent lights in your home. Reuse and recycle. Be aware of the effects of air and water pollution. Reduce the carbon imprint by driving less and walking more. The Earth is a gift. Keep it clean for the next generation.

For more information about Earth Day 2012 and the various campaigns, visit <http://www.earthday.org/2012>

**A Woman Should Have...**

... One old love she can imagine going back to... and one which reminds her how far she has come.

... Enough money within her control to move out and rent a place of her own even if she never wants to or needs to.

... Something perfect to wear if the employer or date of her dreams wants to see her in an hour.

- ... A youth she's content to leave behind.
- ... A past juicy enough that she's looking forward to retelling it in her old age.
- ... A set of screwdrivers, a cordless drill, and a black lace bra.
- ... One friend who always makes her laugh... and one who lets her cry.
- ... A good piece of furniture not previously owned by anyone else in her family.
- ... Eight matching plates, wine glasses with stems, and a recipe for a meal that will make her guests feel honored.
- ... A feeling of control over her destiny.

### The Voice Within

*There's a voice that lives within my heart  
And talks to me each day  
And helps me guide my wayward steps  
Along life's treacherous way.  
It speaks to me of virtues  
And Shispers words of hope.  
It keeps my flagging spirits high  
When I have failed to cope.  
This voice beguiles my very soul  
And stills the demons there.  
It makes me know that in this world  
There's worlds of love to share.  
And I know peace in turmoil's midst,  
Strength beyond my own,  
Joy too great to put in words,  
For I know I'm not alone.  
If you but listen to your heart,  
You'll hear this voice I share,  
For it speaks not to me alone,  
It's there for all who care.  
And the dawning of a brave new age  
Is waiting to begin  
When each of us can hear and heed  
That little voice within.*

– Bill Hazel –

### Some Great Truths About Life

- 1) Raising teenagers is like nailing Jell-O to a tree.
- 2) Wrinkles don't hurt.
- 3) Families are like fudge - mostly sweet, with a few nuts.
- 4) Today's mighty oak is just yesterday's nut, that held its ground.
- 5) Laughing is good exercise. It's like jogging on the inside.

6) Middle age is when you choose your cereal for the fiber, not the toy.

### Calendar of Coming Club/Hall Events

- Apr. 18, 2012** ..... **April Pasta Event.**  
Pasta Committee & Membership.
- May 9, 2012** ..... **Taste of Italy – Charity Event.**  
Tony & Miriam Lumia.
- May 16, 2012** ..... **May Pasta Event.**  
Pasta Committee & Membership.
- June 20, 2012** ..... **June Pasta Event.**  
Pasta Committee & Membership.
- July 4, 2012** ..... **Independence Day Parade.**  
Mary Cottone & Membership.
- Jul. 18, 2012** ..... **July Pasta Event.**  
Pasta Committee & Membership.
- July 21, 2012** ..... **DIAC Annual Golf Outing**  
Gaetano Vitale, T. Lumia, M. Grazioli
- July 29, 2012** ..... **DIAC Annual Picnic**  
Tony Lumia, Sam Pizzo
- Aug. 15, 2012** ..... **August Pasta Event.**  
Pasta Committee & Membership.
- Sept. 19, 2012** ..... **September Pasta Event.**  
Pasta Committee & Membership.
- Oct. 13, 2012** ..... **“Legends Live” Fall Dinner Show.**  
Nino Trupiano, Tony Lumia.
- Oct. 17, 2012** ..... **October Pasta Event.**  
Pasta Committee & Membership.
- Nov. 4, 2012** ..... **Memorial Mass.**  
Florence Coleman & Membership.
- Nov. 11, 2012** ..... **Arts & Craft Show.**  
Emily Shifflet & Membership.
- Dec. 15, 2012** ..... **Member’s Christmas Party.**
- Dec. 16, 2012** ..... **Children’s Christmas Party.**  
Rosalie Karawan & Helpers.
- Dec. 31, 2012** ..... **“Legends Live” New Year’s Eve Party.**  
Tony Lumia, Nino Trupiano

The **Downriver Italian-American Club Newsletter** is published monthly for the Downriver Italian-American Club membership. Editors: Frank A. Giannotti. (734) 283-7394  
Forward your comment, correction and items of interest to:

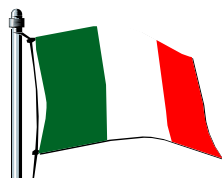
DIAC Newsletter,  
c/o Frank A. Giannotti  
14823 Williamsburg Blvd.  
Riverview, MI 48193-7703

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# "A TASTE OF ITALY"

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

DOWNRIVER ITALIAN-AMERICAN HALL



646 Biddle Avenue  
Wyandotte, Michigan 48192-2727  
(734) 285-4044



Featuring a Sampling of Italian Cuisine From:

- ❖ ANDIAMO'S DEARBORN
- ❖ SAMMY'S CUCINA
- ❖ FRATELLO'S RESTAURANT
- ❖ FRANK'S RESTAURANT
- ❖ CIAO GRAPPA LOUNGE
- ❖ CARINO'S ITALIAN GRILL
- ❖ THE FISH MARKET
- ❖ LIBERATI'S DELI & BAKERY
- ❖ SIBLEY GARDENS
- ❖ BRAVO CUCINA ITALIANA
- ❖ JACK'S BAKERY
- ❖ ROMAN VILLAGE
- ❖ ANTONIO'S RESTAURANT

A sampling of Italian and California wines from

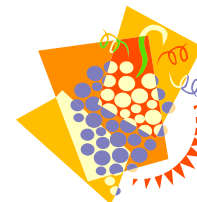
*DISCOUNT DRINKS of Wyandotte*

*"Travel to Italy" Information by AAA TRAVEL AGENCY*



Serving at 6:00 p.m.

**DONATIONS - \$ 35.00**



TO BENEFIT THE PENRICKTON CENTER FOR BLIND CHILDREN

For more information and ticket sales - contact:

Diana Holmes - DIA HALL OFFICE - (734) 285-4044 or

Tony Lumia - Chairperson - (313) 565-0671

**PUBLIC WELCOME - BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS**



# 2012 Pasta Events

## “Downriver Best Kept Secret”<sup>©</sup>

Choice of Spaghetti and/or Penne Pasta with House Meat Sauce  
Meatballs, Salad, Roll, Dessert, Coffee or Tea

### The Downriver Italian-American Hall

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

Tel. (734) 285-4044 – Fax (734) 285-3752 – Web: [www.diahall.com](http://www.diahall.com)

Wednesday, April 18, 2012	Wednesday, May 16 2012
Wednesday, June 20, 2012	Wednesday, July 18, 2012
Wednesday, August 15, 2012	Wednesday, September 19, 2012
Wednesday, October 17, 2012	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each Month



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

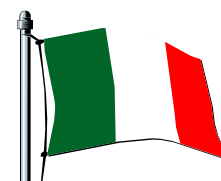
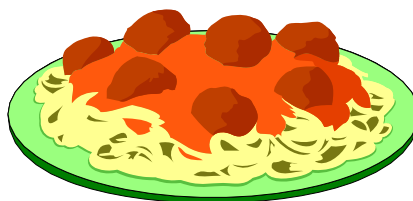
Dinner: 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Adults: \$8.00

Children 10 & Under: \$4.00

Sausage addition for \$1.50

Italian Cannoli Dessert for \$1.25



### Delicious Meat Sauce and Meatballs Available for Take-Home

Enjoy a Delicious Italian Home Cooked Meal  
Public Welcome – Advise and Bring Your Friends

**We Deliver Carry-Outs Orders of 8 or More Meals**

**During the Luncheon Period Only.**

**Banquet Hall Available for Your Needs**



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