



42nd Year, 1971-2013

The Downriver Italian-American Club®

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

** IMPORTANT DATES **

January 2013 NEWSLETTER

Club Board of Directors Meeting Tuesday, January 8, 2013 – 7:00 p.m.
General Membership Meeting..... Sunday, January 27, 2013 – 6:30 p.m.



Felice Anno Nuovo - Happy New Year!

It's a New Year!

*May your New Year be the best you've ever had,
and may you have many more New Years
that are even better!*

A Safe, Prosperous and a Happy 2013

2013 Club Membership Dues



The 2013 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: **Frank A. Giannotti, 14823 Williamsburg Blvd., Riverview, MI 48193-7703.** The deadline for dues is **March 31, 2013.**

For **Honorary Members**, (those with 25+ years of continued membership), the dues are \$15.00 for a single member and \$30.00 for a married couple.

One copy of the newsletter is mailed (or hand delivered) to the member's household. A color version of the newsletter is available at the club website, www.diac.us. Members that have internet access can read and download the newsletter, while saving printing and postage cost. Let **Frank Giannotti** know if you want this option and wish to be notified by email when the newsletter becomes available at the website.

Attached with this newsletter is an invoice to be returned with your dues. Your dues receipt and membership card(s) will be mailed with the upcoming newsletter.

Message from the New Club President



This being my very first newsletter, I would like to thank **Mark and Mary Jane Grazioli** for their hard work and dedication for our Club. I also would like to thank outgoing board members **Mike Palazzolo** and **Linda Kerr** for their participation and contributions during the past years. In addition, I extend a

THANK YOU to all DIAC Board Members, Hall Club

Members and all general members for their past and future contributions to the Club in our continuing efforts to operate one of the best Italian Clubs in the State of Michigan.

In 1971, our club was formed and meetings were held at the Trenton K of C. I was DIAC President in 1978 and 1979, and at that time, the former Purple Heart was purchased, which is now our Club. We have come a long way in 34 years and our future will prosper with your continued efforts and support.

As we begin this New Year, it is important to keep our club moving forward. If you have not been active in the past, please try to set aside some time to join us at future club meetings and events.

I'm very honored to be your club President for the next two years and I would like to thank each and every one of you in advance for your support.

Ciao, **Charley (Ciro), Club President**

DIAC Membership Drive



DIAC Board approved a resolution to waive new membership initiation fees (\$50.00), starting December 1, 2012. If you know of friend(s) who are of Italian heritage, please let them know of this special membership discount offer. This is a limited time offer.

DIAC 2013 Honorary Member



The following Club member has attained twenty-five (25) consecutive years in the Downriver Italian-American Club and are eligible to the position of "**Honorary Member.**"

In accordance to the By-Laws, Article I-Membership, Section 2-C, such member(s) shall have all the rights enjoyed by a Regular Member, but shall pay reduced dues.

The following member, in good-standing since 1988, qualify to the status of "**Honorary Member.**"

**Linda Carrier
Angela Vassallo
Margaret Vitale**

DIAC Certificate of Deposit News



During the month of January, past Treasurer, **Leslie Lupo**, will be mailing the interest earned on the DIAC Bond Certificate for the year 2012. If you do not receive your letter by the end of January, please contact Leslie at (734) 282-1257.

Notice of Appreciation



The **Downriver Italian-American Club**, including its Officers and the general membership, wish to extend sincere gratitude for the hard work, dedication and direction to the **DIA Hall Board**. The Board consist of: Chairman **Nino Trupiano**; Vice Chairman **Tony Pietrangelo**; Secretary **Rocky Kaune**; Treasurer and Hall Setup **Mary Cottone**; and Directors **Tony Lumia** and **Sam Randazzo**. Their effort is greatly appreciated at operating the Hall Business on a day-to-day basis. Best Wishes for a brighter 2013.

Many Thanks to Hall Coordinator, **Diana Holmes**, for the many years of continued service.

Vacancies in the Club Board



There exist four (4) vacancies in the Club Board – the position of **Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer and Trustee**, for the upcoming 2013-2014 term. Any club member in good standing can apply to be appointed by the Club Board. Your request must be received no later than January 8, 2013 to be considered. Contact Club president, **Charlie Lupo**, at (734)282-1257.

Oath of Office for 2013-2014



Honorable Judge Christopher Dingell will preside over the Oath of Office ceremony to the 2013-2014 Club Officers and Trustees, as well as the Hall Board Officers, at the January 27, 2013 membership meeting. Please be present to witness this occasion and congratulate the new Board Officers.

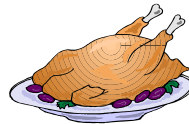
Undoing the Christmas Decorations



Mary Cottone needs help from the membership (and their friends) to take down and put-away the Christmas ornaments at the Hall. The date is

Monday, January 7th at 10:00 am. Please make an effort to be there and help.

A Winter Luncheon at the Hall



Mary Cottone is scheduling a **Winter Luncheon** for members and their friends, on **Wednesday, January 16, 2013, starting at 11:00 am**. Plans are for a chicken dish along with a luncheon meat tray and salad – coffee, tea and soda beverage is provided. Members and friends can bring a dessert to share.

The cost is \$5.00 per person. Make check payable to **Downriver Italian-American Hall**. Please send your reservation to: **Mary Cottone, 478 Mulberry, Wyandotte, MI 48192**, no later than January 14, 2013. She needs a minimum of 50 people. Come join the fun. Card playing is allowed. The party will be over when the last person leaves and turns out the lights.

Sick and Good Will



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

Mary Wierzba who fell and injured herself. **Vincenzo Mannino** was hospitalized. **Johnny Mitra** fell and broke his leg,

requiring hospitalization and rehab. **Mike T. Palazzolo who** is recuperating at a nursing home.

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

Condolences to the family of **Pauline Barraco** on the loss of her husband, **Bill Barraco**, who passed away on November 29, 2012, at the age of 83. Bill and Pauline became members in June 1974. They both gave a lot of their effort towards the Italian Festivals at Yack Arena and were very active in the club. They helped very much toward the Pasta Event. Bill became a legend - you would see Bill issue meal tickets to customers as they entered the door. He was very active in sports and would know the ins and out of the Detroit Tigers of the past. Bill was a founding father to the club. It is unfortunate that Bill became ill and no longer was able to help out. We will all miss **Bill Barraco** and his many contributions. May he rest in peace.

Thank-You to our Members



Special thanks to the members who help prepare the snack at the monthly membership meetings – those include:

The Downriver Italian-American Hall - Banquet & Conference Center

Nancy Marcantonio, Mary Cottone, Pina Milewski, Shirley Cavataio, Stella Marzano, Grace Pizzo, Miriam Lumia, Jeanette Schiraldi and Rose Pagano.

And last, but not least, the gentlemen who helped set up the tables: **Sam Pizzo, Damiano Vitale and Vincenzo Vitale.**

Many Thanks to **all the ladies** that brought dessert to the membership meetings this year – everything was delicious.

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>Nancy Cosentino (1/1)</i>	<i>Angela Scott (1/14)</i>
<i>Anthony V. Vitale (1/2)</i>	<i>Grace Pizzo (1/16)</i>
<i>Emma Checchio (1/4)</i>	<i>Vincenzo Mannino (1/20)</i>
<i>Pat Mastrogiacomo (1/4)</i>	<i>Rose Pagano (1/20)</i>
<i>Gianna Trupiano (1/4)</i>	<i>Mark Grazioli (1/22)</i>
<i>Frank Giannotti (1/5)</i>	<i>Salvatore Randazzo (1/22)</i>
<i>Sam Randazzo (1/5)</i>	<i>Joyce Pietrangelo (1/23)</i>
<i>Jack Favazza (1/6)</i>	<i>Peter Badalamente (1/25)</i>
<i>Miriam Lumia (1/6)</i>	<i>Marty Shimkus (1/25)</i>
<i>Nino Vitale (1/6)</i>	<i>Alice Patton (1/26)</i>
<i>Johnpaul Finazzo (1/9)</i>	<i>Nino Trupiano (1/28)</i>
<i>Frank Pizzo (1/11)</i>	<i>Catherine Bagnasco (1/30)</i>
<i>Lilla Vitale (1/13)</i>	<i>Larry Simone (1/30)</i>
<i>Pierina Franzese (1/14)</i>	<i>Mamie Vitale (1/31)</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.

Vincenzo and Lilla Vitale (1/4)
Frank and Barbara Bianchi (1/9)
Fioravante and Hermine Norscia (1/12)
Larry and Joan Luzac (1/20)

Natalizie from Italian Consul of Detroit

14 November, 2012

Dear Fellow Countrymen,

As the Christmas and year end holidays approach, I wish to extend to you my very best wishes for Happy Holidays.

The stock of the events which took place in our Consular jurisdiction during the year that we leave behind, is representative of the depth and strength of the relations

between Italy and the United States. The further strengthening of the high profile position taken by our companies within our Consular jurisdiction allows us to offer our partners the intrinsic strength of our country, even at a time of difficulty.

The expansion of the range of services offered to our Nationals, thanks to the increase of our presence in Cincinnati and Knoxville, allows us to look optimistically toward the future.

The meetings which took place in Detroit this past July between **Ambassador Bisogniero** and our community, provided the opportunity to personally experience the vitality of our society and the importance of the continued presence of our office in Detroit.

2013 presents itself to be equally abundant with activities. The Year of Italian Culture in the United States 2013, in particular, will highlight the contributions of Italy from the Renaissance to present and into the future, as Italy establishes itself in the forefront of the sciences, technology, research and innovation.

I wish to renew warmest wishes for a **Merry Christmas** and a **Happy New Year** - also on behalf of the entire staff of the Consulate.

Il Console
Marco Nobili

Location of the Italian Consul of Detroit

Honorable Marco Nobili

Consolato D'Italia

535 Griswold, Buhl Building, Suite 1840

Detroit, Michigan, 48226

PHONE: (313) 963-8560

FAX: (313) 963-8180

E-MAIL: inform.detroit@esteri.it

Just announced: The new Consulate is **Dott.ssa Maria Luisa Lapresa**, who will be replacing **Dott. Marco Nobili**.

A Special Thank-You to Our Members



A special thank-you to club members **Elisa Norscia, Jeanette Schiraldi and Maria Graziani** for bringing dessert to the November membership meeting. The desserts were very much appreciated and delicious.

Hermine Norscia, Carmela Stralle and Lisa Vespa have volunteered to bring dessert to the **January 27th membership** meeting.



Family Rules

*Be Kind
Try New Things
Love One Another
Give Bear Hugs
Be Happy
Smile*

Wording found on poster at Meijer – Southgate, MI

GO WITH GRACE TOURS

Upcoming tours by **GO WITH GRACE TOURS**:

FIREKEEPER'S HOTEL OVERNIGHT Jan 22/23, 2013
Call for details \$135.00 PP

VALENTINE - TURTLE CREEK Cas. Feb. 12-14 2013
Receive \$101 in casino money & food. \$165.00 PP

PRESIDENTS DAY – FIREKEEPER'S Cas. Feb. 18, 2013
Receive \$20 casino credit and \$5 food. \$30.00 PP

WINTER GETAWAY – KEWADIN Cas. Mar. 5-7, 2013
Receive \$80 casino \$\$ & food & 2 Breakfasts \$130.00 PP

GO WITH GRACE TOURS (Att: Grace Cibulskis)

28020 Charlemagne St.

Romulus, MI 48174

(734)306-2072

www.gowithgrace55@yahoo.com

Call and ask for current tour flyer with details on the above and future trips and requirements.

Hall Business Board Seeking a Table Setup/Maintenance Person



The Hall Business Board is seeking a person(s) to setup tables for events and/or perform minor maintenance at the hall building. If you wish to apply for either position(s) (or know of someone who might be interested), please contact **Diana Holmes** or **Mary Cottone** at (734) 285-4044.

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 – they will receive the same discount price as a club member. The Hall is willing to work very close with them. The Hall 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.

Winter Thoughts

*"Look into the garden,
Where the grass was green;
Covered by the snowflakes,
Not a blade is seen.*

*Now the bare black bushes
All look soft and white.
Every twig is laden-
What a pretty sight!"*

*"The first of January rolls around
Like clockwork it appears
I find it's timing most profound
As it brings us each new year*

*Right on time, It's never late
Has never ever blown it
Apparently this wise old date
Refuses to postpone it*

*Drink a toast to January one
For annual consistence*

*It's coming means the old year's done
Let's drink to it's persistence."*



Membership Email Notification



If you have an e-mail address and wish to be notified by email in the event of a club emergency or a member's death, please contact **Leslie Lupo** at (734)282-1257 or via her email address lupo2390@att.net.

Another way of being notified is by the Member's telephone notification list, which is administered by **Rose Pagano**, (734)282-2331. Your name will be placed on the list and someone will call you.

Contacting the Hall During an Emergency



Members who wish to contact the Hall during an emergency situation, (when the Hall is not staffed), can contact **Mary Cottone** at (313)689-5313 (cell); **Nino Trupiano** at (734)837-6959 (cell) or **Mark Grazioli** at (734)787-0666 (cell).

The information will be forward to the Hall Secretary/ Receptionist, **Diana Holmes**, the next day. Diana will contact the people and she will make the necessary arrangement. Please provide as much lead time as possible. The Hall telephone number is (734)285-4044.

Kitchen Rule

Chew With Your Mouth Closed

Clean Up After Yourself

Wash Your Hands

Say Grace

Keep Elbows Off the Table

Eat Until You're Full

Say "Please" and "Thank-You"

Don't Be Late

Help Clean Up

Put Napkin on Your Lap

Speak Kindly

Kiss the Cook

Wording found on poster at Meijer – Southgate, MI

An Interview Success

A business man was interviewing applicants for the position of divisional manager. He devised a simple test to select the most suitable candidate for the job. He asked each applicant the question, "What is two and two?"

The first interviewee was a journalist. His answer was "Twenty-two."

The second applicant was an engineer, He pulled out a calculator and showed the answer to be between 3.999 and 4.001.

The next person was a lawyer. He stated that in the case of Jenkins vs Commr. of Stamp Duties, two and two was proven to be four.

The last applicant was an accountant. The business man asked him, "How much is two and two?"

The accountant got up from his chair, went over to the door and closed it, then came back and sat down. He leaned across the desk and said in a low voice... "How much do you want it to be?"

He got the job.

A Day on the Farm

A Department of Water Resources representative stops at a Texas ranch and talks with an old rancher. He tells the rancher, I need to inspect your ranch for your water allocation. The old rancher says, 'Okay, but don't go in that field over there.

The Water representative says, 'Mister, I have the authority of the Federal Government with me. See this

badge? This badge means I am allowed to go WHEREVER I WISH on any agricultural land. No questions asked or answered. Have I made myself clear? Do you understand?'

The old rancher nods politely and goes about his chores.

Later, the old rancher hears loud screams and spies the Water Rep running for his life and close behind is the rancher's bull. The bull is gaining with every step. The Rep is clearly terrified, So the old rancher immediately throws down his tools, runs to the fence and yells at the top of his lungs.....

'Your badge! Show him Your badge!

The Mirror

*The other day, I happened by chance,
As I passed a mirror, to give it a glance.
And I wondered who that old man could be,
Who, with his mouth wide open, was looking at me.
His bald head was sprinkled with a little gray fuzz,
And he wasn't at all handsome (like I always was).
He looked like a sack of mismatched parts,
Put together without aid of instructions or charts.
And while I know that my shoulders don't slump,
This person's were misshapen in one ugly hump!
Now, if that was my image, I only can say,
They don't make mirrors like they did in my day.*

— John T. West Jr. —

Friends vs. Italian Friends

Friends: Move out when they're 18, with the full support of their parents.

Italian Friends: Move out when they're 28, having saved for that nice house and are a week away from getting married... Unless, there's room in the basement for the newlyweds.

Friends: When their mom visits them, she brings a nice bunt cake and you sip coffee and chat.

Italian Friends: When their mom visits them, she brings 3 days worth of food and begins to immediately tidy up, dust, do the laundry or rearrange the furniture.

Friends: Their dads always call before they come over to visit them and its usually only on special occasions.

Italian Friends: Are not at all fazed when their dads come over, unannounced, on a Saturday morning at 8:00 am and start pruning the trees with a chainsaw or renovating the garage.

Friends: You can leave your kids with them and you always worry if everything is going to be ok and you have to feed them after you pick them up.

Italian Friends: No problem, leave the kids there and if they get out of line the Italian friend can set them straight - plus, they get fed.

Friends: Always pay retail and look in the yellow pages when they need something done.

Italian Friends: Just call their dad or uncle and ask for another dad's or uncle's phone number to get it done - cash deal, know what I mean?

Friends: Will come over for cake and coffee and expect cake and coffee, no more.

Italian Friends: Will come over for cake and coffee and expect an antipasto, a few bottles of wine, a pasta dish, a choice of two meats, salad, bread, potatoes, a nice dessert cake, fruit, coffee and a few after dinner drinks - time permitting there will be a late lunch as well.

Friends: Think that being Italian is a great thing.

Italian Friends: Know that being Italian is a great thing

Friends: Never ask for food.

Italian Friends: Are the reason you have no food.

Friends: Will say "hello."

Italian Friends: Will give you a big hug and a kiss.

Friends: Call your parents Mr. and Mrs.

Italian Friends: Call your parent's mom and dad.

Friends: Have never seen you cry.

Italian Friends: Cry with you.

Friends: Will eat at your dinner table and leave.

Italian Friends: Will spend hours there, talking, laughing and just being together.

Friends: Know a few things about you.

Italian Friends: Could write a book with direct quotes from you.

Friends: Will leave you behind if that is what the crowd is doing.

Italian Friends: Will kick the whole crowd's butt that left you.

Friends: Would knock on your door.

Italian Friends: Walk right in and say, "I'm home!"

Friends: Are for a while.

Italian Friends: Are for life.

Friends: Will ignore these thoughts.

Italian Friends: Will pass these thoughts to their friends.

A Senior Moment

The doctor tells his patient: "Well I have good news and bad news..."

The patient says, "Lay it on me Doc. What's the bad news?"

"You have Alzheimer's disease."

"Good heavens! What's the good news?"

"You can go home and forget about it!"

On Being Yourself

Be Adorable

Be Brilliant

Be Crazy

Be Daring

Be Energetic

Be Fun

Be Good Hearted

Be Humble

Be Impressive

Be Joyful

Be Kind

Be Loving

Be Moving

Be Nice

Be Original

Be Punctual

Be Quiet

Be random

Be Responsible

Be Spontaneous

Be Thankful

Be Unique

Be Vivacious

Be Watchful

Be Extravagant

Be Yourself

Be Zealous

Wording found on poster at Meijer – Southgate, MI

Calendar of Coming Club/Hall Events

Jan. 16, 2013 **Winter Luncheon at the Hall**
Mary Cottone and Helpers

Feb. 16, 2013 **Bridal Show at the Hall**
DIA Hall Board & Helpers

Mar. 17, 2013 **40th Annual St. Joseph Celebration**
F. Coleman, N. Cosentino, G. Pizzo

The *Downriver Italian-American Club Newsletter* is published monthly for the Downriver Italian-American Club membership. Editor: 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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The Downriver Italian-American Hall®

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

Luncheon at the Hall

Wednesday, January 16, 2013

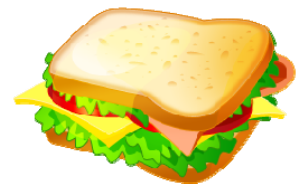
Buffet Luncheon from 11:00 a.m. to “Last One to Leave”

♣ **Open to the General Public** ♣

\$5.00 per Person



~ Menu ~
Baked Chicken
Various Lunch Meats
Salad
Coffee or Tea
Soft Beverage
Bring Your Favorite Dessert



Deadline for Reservation is January 11, 2013

Make check payable to: **Downriver Italian-American Hall**

For further information, please contact:

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

The Downriver Italian-American Banquet Hall®

The 40th Annual
St. Joseph Day Celebration

Sunday, March 17, 2013



Presented by:

The Downriver Italian-American Club

646 Biddle Avenue
Wyandotte, MI 48192

Pageant at 2:00 pm - Admission Free

Following the Pageant, a traditional Sicilian Pasta & Beans Dish will be served, including a Grapefruit, Orange and Roll.

By tradition, the food is blessed in the kitchen by a Catholic priest.

Adults: \$7.00

Children (10 years and under): \$3.50

All Donations go 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, contact:

Hall Office: Diana Holmes - (734) 285-4044

Florence Coleman - (734) 281-7126

Nancy Cosentino - (313) 383-0350

Grace Pizzo - (734) 379-9491

May St. Joseph Bless You and Bring You Joy