



# The Downriver Italian-American Club®

P.O. Box 1797 ♣ Southgate, MI 48195-0797 ♣ Tel. (734) 676-8463 ♣ Email: diac1971@gmail.com ♣ Web: diac.us

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

Club Board Meeting ..... \*\*\* CANCELLED \*\*\*  
General Membership Meeting ..... \*\*\* CANCELLED \*\*\*

## December 2017 Newsletter

46th Year, 1971-2017



## Merry Christmas – Buon Natale to All

### ◆ No Meetings in December ◆



The Club Board and General Membership meetings for December are canceled. The next general meeting is on Wednesday, January 17, 2018, 1:00 p.m.

The Club Officers and Trustees wish all of our members and their families a **Merry Christmas** and a **Joyous New Year**. Be safe, be healthy and see you next year

### *It's Christmas, it's Christmas*

*Each merry bell chimes*

*A time for remembering*

*Old friends and old times*

*A time for warm greetings*

*Old ties to renew*

*Moreover, a time for good wishes*

*For good folks like you!*

*Merry Christmas*

### Message from the President



The year is rapidly coming to a close. I can't believe it's Christmas time. This year has gone by so fast but I must say as year one of my term as President comes to an end, I couldn't be more proud of this Club's transition from a business model to a social one. The **Social Committee** has done an extraordinary job in bringing to us a variety of different venues to enjoy. The membership lunch and meetings have been quality meals and the meetings are typically easy going and fast. A special thanks to **Chef Ziad Nakad** and his staff for being so accommodating. We couldn't have dreamed for a better relationship.

Looking ahead to 2018, we will be paying off the remaining bondholders in January and that will temporarily deplete our treasury. The **Executive Board** will be meeting to put together a budget that will reflect all the traditional things we do as a club. We want to be social and charitable at the same time. Our membership is beginning to grow again as more and more of our friends and family see the value and fun of being associated with us. It's always great to get together, share a good meal and have a good time.

Due to the busy holiday season, we are canceling the December meeting. We will meet again on **January 17, 2018** at the **Bentley** to discuss the upcoming events. I hope to see you all then.

*Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo a tutti,*  
Sam Randazzo – Club President

### ♣ Greektown Casino Trips ♣



The upcoming Greektown Casino trips are on Wednesday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, Jan. 10<sup>th</sup>. The pickup/drop off points are: **Meijer's (Southgate) parking lot (@12:50 p.m.); Meijer's (Lincoln Park) parking lot (@1:10 p.m.)**. The bus departs from the casino at 7:00 p.m. Call **Indian Trails** at (800) 292-3831 and let them know where you want to be picked up. You must now use a credit card to make your reservation. The Club is subsidizing part of the cost. Future trips are set for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month.

### Christmas Party – Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>



This year's Christmas Party will take place on **Sunday, December 17, 2017**. Chairpersons are **Grace Pizzo, Paula Rice, and Julie Bademan**, with the help from the other



### 2017-2018 CLUB OFFICERS & TRUSTEES

President  
**SAM RANDAZZO**  
Vice President  
**PAULA F RICE**  
Recording Secretary  
**MARILYN BOMARITO**  
Financial Corresponding Secretary  
**FRANK A GIANNOTTI**  
Treasurer  
**MARK S GRAZIOLI**  
Assistant Treasurer  
**FLORENCE COLEMAN**  
Inside Guard  
**CHARLES M LUPO**  
Outside Guard  
**DAMIANO VITALE**  
Guide  
**GRACE PIZZO**  
TRUSTEES  
**JAMES BADEMIAN**  
**JULIANN BADEMIAN**  
**SADIE KUSIC**  
**TONY LUMIA**  
**ALICE PATTON**  
**DENNIS PATTON, SR.**  
**TONY PIETRANGELO**  
**LEONA M. VIZZINI**  
HALL ACCOUNT COMMITTEE  
**MARY COTTONE**  
**NINO TRUPIANO**  
**MARK S GRAZIOLI**  
SOCIAL COMMITTEE  
**JULIE BADEMIAN**  
**MIRIAM LUMIA**  
**ALICE PATTON**  
**GRACE PIZZO**  
**PAULA RICE**



social committee members. Live entertainment by the **3-Swing Band**. The location is **Silver Shores Waterfront, 1 James DeSana Dr. Wyandotte MI 48192** (behind Wyandotte Hospital).

You may purchase individual tickets with open seating. The deadline is **Friday, Dec. 1, 2017**. Show up early for good table location. The event is open to member's family and their friends. See flyer in the Dec. newsletter.

### **New Year's Eve Party at the Bentley**



The Bentley Banquet and Conference Center is hosting a New Year's Eve - Legends Live Show on **Sunday, December 31, 2017**. Tickets can be purchased from Leslie Lupo (734) 282-1257 or at **The Bentley, 646 Biddle Ave., Wyandotte, MI 48192 (734) 285-4044**. This is a non-club sponsored event. Please advise your family and friends.

Complete with dinner, beer, wine & champagne toast, complimentary valet & coat check, and featuring tributes to **George Michaels, Trisha Yearwood, Trill Group, Blake Shelton and Bobby Vinton**.

Tickets are \$85.00 per person. The Club will subsidize \$15.00 to club members. Doors open at 6:00 p.m., with dinner at 7:00 p.m. and the featured show starting at 8:30 p.m. See flyer in the December newsletter.

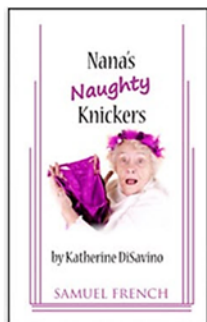
### **\$ DIAC Bonds Maturity/Redemption \$**



#### **Another milestone in our Club history!**

The DIAC bonds will mature on December 31, 2017. The Club no longer needs the funds - the principal bond amount will be returned to the bondholder. Special thanks to those who invested in the Club over the past years.

### **Nana's Naughty Knickers – Jan. 24<sup>th</sup>**



The Social Committee has chosen another excellent event for our membership; **Nana's Naughty Knickers at Meadow Brook Theatre, 378 Meadow Brook Rd., Rochester, MI 48309 on Wednesday, January 24, 2018**. This includes a bus trip, a buffet luncheon at **King's Court Castle Grille** and a hilarious fun-filled comedy show that will

leave the audience in stitches. Details of the show are shown in the attached flyer. The bus leaves **The Bentley Banquet Center** parking lot at 9:00 a.m. and returns at 6:00 p.m. The club will subsidize part of the cost for members only. Price is \$55.00 for Members and \$78.00 for Non-members. Send the completed coupon and your check, payable to **Custom Holidays, to Grace**

**Pizzo, 32050 Liparoto Dr., Rockwood, MI, 48173-8618.** Your reservation must be received no later than December 15, 2017, or until the trip is sold out. For further information, call **Grace Pizzo** at (734)379-9491 or **Alice Patton** at (734)697-7902. See attached flyer.

### **Honky Tonk Angels – Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>**



The Social Committee has chosen another excellent event for our membership; at the **Catherine A. Daly – The Avenue Theatre, 2656 Biddle Ave., Wyandotte, MI on Sunday, February 4, 2018**. The musical comedy is titled "**Honky Tonk Angels**". The Play starts at 3:00 p.m. Ticket cost is \$11.00 per person. The meal is before the show. The restaurant location has not been finalized.

The club will subsidize \$10.00, to club members, toward the cost of your meal (but you must attend the play and the dinner).

Call **Paula Rice** at (734)285-8516 to select your pre-order meal. See attached flyer for further information.

### **Sick and Good Will**



Our thoughts and prayers to our members and their families, who may be under the weather, having tests, getting treatments or surgeries. Also, special blessings to all of our many caretakers of ailing family members. May God bless you all.

**Get Well Wishes** to our members who recently have (or have had) health issues: **Mary Cottone, Sadie Kusic, Sylvia Vitale**.

Please advise **Grace Pizzo (734) 379-9491**, of any illness.

If you would like to be on our email list for notifications of deceased members, please email **Frank Giannotti at frankgiannotti@comcast.net**

### **Dear Santa**

This year, please give me  
a big fat bank account,  
and a slim body. PLEASE  
don't mix those two up,  
like you did last year.

Thank You

### **La Befana – An Italian Christmas Tale**

In Italian folklore, **La Befana** is the story of the three wise men who stopped at her house (a widower) to ask directions on their way to Bethlehem.

They invited her to join them, but she refused, as she was busy cleaning. She promised that she would catch

up with them when she was finished; but by that time, they were long gone.

She frantically began running after them still carrying her broom with presents for baby Jesus. *Magically*, she began to fly on her broomstick but still could not find the wise men or baby Jesus.

Since then, in Italy on January 6<sup>th</sup>, the Feast of the Epiphany, *La Befana* flies on her broom leaving gifts for children. She brings candies and presents to the boys and girls who were good; and pieces of coal and ashes for those who were bad, in a similar way as St. Nicholas or Santa Claus.

**Christmas Lesson**

*Christmas is a special time  
To give, to serve, to love  
It isn't just about yourself,  
But others that you think of.*

*The presents, the trees, the glowing lights  
Are fun but have no part  
In what the real meaning of Christmas is...  
That is in your heart.*

*Even if other people don't,  
You should try to do  
The things that you would want  
Them to do to you!*

*The holidays are a busy time  
But they are sometimes good  
Because they keep you thinking  
About others like you should.*

*So this year, try to not think about yourself  
But think of the things you can do  
To help others have a wonderful Christmas  
And you will find that you will be happy too.*

Poem by Julesies, 2014

**Congratulating New Club Members**



Please welcome the following new members who recently joined the Club. **William (Bill) and Susan (Sue) Herbert** of Woodhaven, sponsored by parents **Danny and Theresa Herbert**.

**Happy Anniversary – Buon Anniversario**



month.

We wish to extend our Best Wishes for the many Happy and Healthy years together, to our members who are celebrating their **Anniversary** this

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

**Happy Birthday - Buon Compleanno**



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

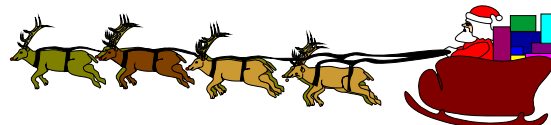
- |                                   |                                 |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <i>Bruce Yinger (12/5)</i>        | <i>Sharron Bryson (12/22)</i>   |
| <i>Sylvia Vitale (12/6)</i>       | <i>Vivian Cacioppo (12/22)</i>  |
| <i>Gerry Wenzel (12/10)</i>       | <i>Shirley Cavataio (12/22)</i> |
| <i>Giovanna Vitale (12/14)</i>    | <i>Nancy DiPasquale (12/26)</i> |
| <i>Tom Talluto (12/17)</i>        | <i>George Lavine (12/26)</i>    |
| <i>Giuseppe Alastra (12/19)</i>   | <i>Marian Maniaci (12/28)</i>   |
| <i>Paul Consiglio (12/19)</i>     | <i>Steven Vitale (11/28)</i>    |
| <i>Joanne Wolfgang (12/19)</i>    | <i>Robyn Vitale (12/30)</i>     |
| <i>Angela M Palazzolo (12/20)</i> |                                 |

**Calendar of Upcoming Events**

- Dec. 13, 2017, .....** **Greektown Casino Trip**  
Indian Trails, (800) 292-3831
- Dec. 17, 2017, .....** **Club Christmas Party**  
Grace Pizzo, Paula Rice
- Dec. 31, 2017, .....** **New Year's Eve @ The Bentley**  
Charles and Leslie Lupo
- Jan. 24, 2018, .....** **Nana's Naughty Knickers**  
Grace Pizzo, Alice Patton.
- Jan. 10, 2018, .....** **Greektown Casino Trip**  
Indian Trails, (800) 292-3831
- Feb. 4, 2018, .....** **Honky Tonk Angels**  
Grace Pizzo, Paula Rice.
- Feb. 14, 2018, .....** **Greektown Casino Trip**  
Indian Trails, (800) 292-3831
- Mar. 18, 2018, .....** **St. Joseph Celebration**  
Sam and Darlene Randazzo.

The **Downriver Italian-American Club Newsletter**  
Published monthly for the Downriver Italian-American Club membership. Forward comment, correction, and items of interest to Frank A. Giannotti (Newsletter Editor) 14823 Williamsburg Blvd. Riverview, MI 48193-7703  
Editor Phone (734)283-7394  
Editor Email frankgiannotti@comcast.net  
Club Website www.diac.us  
Club Email diac1971@gmail.com

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*Downriver Italian  
American Club*

# Nana's Naughty Knickers

Meadowbrook Theatre

**Wednesday**  
**January 24, 2018**  
**9:00 am—6:00pm**

**\$55-Members**

**\$78-Non-Members**

*Departure & Return:*  
646 Biddle Wyandotte

Activity Level: ① ② ③ ④ ⑤  
*Please note the baseball stadium does  
include some stairs but has an elevator.*

## Menu



Enjoy a buffet lunch  
at King's Court Castle  
Grille before the show.

Reservations need to be in by December 15  
or until sold out. Should you cancel prior to  
Dec 19, there is a \$10 fee. If you cancel Dec  
20- Jan 1 there is a \$25 fee. If you cancel  
Jan 2 or after there is no refund. You can get  
a substitute at any time and incur no penalty.

*Your price includes gratuities for above trip inclu-  
sions.  
Custom Holidays tour director & motor coach*

Bridget and her Grandmother are about to become room-mates. However, what Bridget saw as a unique opportunity to stay with her favorite Nana in New York for the summer, quickly turns into an experience she'll never forget. It seems her sweet Grandma is running an illegal boutique from her apartment, selling hand-made naughty knickers to every senior citizen in the Five Boroughs area! Join us for this fun-filled comedy show that will leave the audience in stitches!



Custom Holidays • 15250 Euclid, Allen Park, MI 48101 • (313) 388-0448 • [www.customholidaysonline.com](http://www.customholidaysonline.com)

Please fill in this form and make checks payable to Custom Holidays. Return to Grace Pizzo at 32050 Liparoto Dr. Rockwood, MI 48173 before December 15, 2017 or until trip is sold out. For more information call Alice at 734.697-7902 or Grace at 734.379.9491.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_ Trip: NNK180124DIAC

*Nana's Naughty Knickers*

In case of emergency, please notify: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Today my travel companion is: \_\_\_\_\_

In making arrangements for meals, transportation, accommodations, sight-seeing in this tour, Custom Holidays is acting only as an agent for the suppliers and is not liable for any accident, injury, damage, loss, delay, or other irregularity which may be caused by the defect of any vehicle or the negligence or default of any company or person engaged in conveying the passengers or carrying out the arrangements of this tour.