



47th Year, 1971-2018



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 **

February 2018 Newsletter

Club Board Meeting Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2018 – 3:00 p.m., Knights of Columbus
General Membership Meeting Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2018 – 1:00 p.m., The Bentley

Happy Valentine's Day – Feb. 14, 2018



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



February 4, 2018
Us Bank Stadium
Minneapolis, Mn

Message from the President



I guess my memory gets shorter with age. I don't remember Michigan winters being so miserable. I must admit that I am a little jealous of our snowbirds. It makes me appreciate our members that made it to the January lunch and meeting. It was pretty darn cold, but we had over 50 in attendance. Amazing turnout if you ask me.

February is shaping up to be a busy month for our club. We have lunch and the play, **Honky Tonk Angels** at the **Daly Theatre** on Superbowl Sunday. Since the **Valentine's Day** event at the Bentley was cancelled, the **Social Committee** is planning a Club Card night at the **Knights of Columbus**. We can't forget that Fat Tuesday is February 13. I like my paczki!!!

Looking ahead in March, we will celebrate the **Feast of St. Joseph** on March 18. I'm happy to say that all of the proceeds from the dinner will be going to charity. We can never forget how blessed we are.

All of our bondholders have been paid so now we can see how we are set financially this year and going forward. We plan to be responsible for the remaining funds but still enjoy the fruits of this clubs labor for years to come. I encourage all of us to take advantage of the events that are scheduled. There is something for every club member to enjoy.

La vita è bella, eh!

Sam Randazzo – Club President



Monthly Luncheon @ Bentley



The Club luncheon this month will be on **Wednesday, February 21, 2018 at 12:00 noon**, at **The Bentley, 646 Biddle Ave., Wyandotte, MI 48192**. This location is the former club building.

The cost of the luncheon is \$9.00 per person. Make your lunch reservation by calling **Sam Randazzo** at (734)676-8463, no later than **one week before**.

2018 Club Membership Dues



Your 2018 membership dues are now payable. The dues are \$30.00 for a single member 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**). Mail to:

Frank A. Giannotti
14823 Williamsburg Blvd.
Riverview, MI 48193-7703.

The deadline for dues is **March 31, 2018**.

~ Greektown Casino Trips ~



The upcoming **Greektown Casino** trips are on **Wednesday, Feb. 14th** and **Wednesday, Mar. 14th**. 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

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Downriver Italian American Club

Feast of St. Joseph - March 18, 2018



The 43rd Annual Feast of St. Joseph Celebration - Sunday, March 18, 2018.

The Celebration starts at 1:00 p.m.

Donation: \$10.00 per person.

This is a Sicilian tradition passed down by our parents and grandparents. They set up altars with statues of saints and opened their homes to friends and neighbors. After a short pageant, they enjoyed a meal and left a donation to help a needy family. We follow the same tradition. An altar is set up with statues brought in by members - candles, bread, and fruits are placed on the Altar. We serve a meal of pasta and beans. Each person is given a package of a roll, a grapefruit, an orange and a few cookies. There is a blessing of the food before the meal. We follow the tradition of our families as much as possible. We have held this event for the past 42 years. All donations are given to needy families and organizations, helping children. If you would like to make cookies or help us in any way, please contact Sam Randazzo (734)676-8463 or Grace Pizzo (734)379-9491. Invite your friends and family and help us celebrate this charitable club event. If you are unable to attend, you may still donate. Make your check payable to **Downriver Italian American Club**, and please note at the bottom that it is for the **Feast of St. Joseph**. Send your donation to: **Sam Randazzo**

**3391 Brookshire
Trenton, MI 48183-3970.**

We need members to donate cookies – please call **Rose Pagano (734) 365-1310**. RSVP your reservation by calling **Sam or Grace** no later than March 11, 2018, so a headcount can be established.

**Sam Randazzo - (734) 676-8463
Grace Pizzo - (734) 379-9491**

Easter Sunday Brunch at the Bentley



The **Bentley Banquet and Conference Center** is hosting an **Easter Sunday Brunch** on **Sunday, April 1, 2018**. Tickets can be purchased 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.

There are three (3) seating times: 10:00 a.m., 12:00 noon, and 2:00 p.m. Make your reservation by calling the Bentley office at (734)285-4044 with your seating time.

The meal menu will appear in the March newsletter.

The Bentley website is: www.Bentleybanquet.com.

Joyce Mitra – New Great-Grandmother



Joyce Mitra proudly announces the birth of her third great-grandchild, **Scott Michael Kraft**, who was born on January 12, 2018. Scott weighed more than 8 pounds. The proud parents are **Jessica and Ray Kraft**. Joyce Mitra great-grandkids are all boys. **Congratulations to the Mitra and the Kraft families.**

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: **Jim Bademian, Shirley Cavataio, Emma Checchio, MaryJane Grazioli, Lena Menna, Joe Pagano, Emily Shifflett, Lena Susin, and Sylvia Vitale.**

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

Condolences to the family of **Emanuele Maniaci**, who passed away on December 27, 2017, at the age of 89. Emanuele was a long-time member of the Club, since September 1986. Both he and his wife, Marian were very active in the club in the early years and have been continuous members since. May he rest in peace.

Condolences to the family of **Nancy J. Capezza**, who passed away on September 26, 2017, at the age of 82. Nancy and her late husband, **Donald Capezza** were long-term members of the Club, since February 1, 1981. **Don Capezza was the Club president, 1987-1988 and 1991-1992, during the renovation of the club building.** Don passed away on January 2, 2012. They were both very active in the club. May she rest in peace.

Condolences to the family of **Vincenzo and Lilla Vitale** on the death of Vincenzo's brother, **Paolo Vitale**, who passed away on December 25, 2017, at the age of 83, in Cinisi, Sicily. May he rest in peace.

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

It is customary to honor the loss of DIAC members by displaying the Downriver Italian-American Club flag and provide a floral procession during the family funeral home visitation. Club members are encouraged to attend. Please contact club president **Sam Randazzo** at (734)676-8463 with at least a two-day notice, if possible.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Downriver Italian American Club



Calendar of Upcoming Events

- Feb. 4, 2018, **Honky Tonk Angels**
Grace Pizzo, Paula Rice.
- Feb. 14, 2018, **Greektown Casino Trip**
Indian Trails, (800) 292-3831
- Mar. 14, 2018, **Greektown Casino Trip**
Indian Trails, (800) 292-3831
- Mar. 18, 2018, **St. Joseph Celebration**
Sam and Darlene Randazzo.
- Apr. 1, 2018, **Easter Day Brunch**
Leslie Lupo, The Bentley
- May 9, 2018, **Greektown Casino Trip**
Indian Trails, (800) 292-3831
- June 13, 2018, **Greektown Casino Trip**
Indian Trails, (800) 292-3831
- June 20, 2018, **Evening GM Meeting, Silver Shore**
Sam Randazzo, (734)676-8463
- July 11, 2018, **Greektown Casino Trip**
Indian Trails, (800) 292-3831
- July 25, 2018, **Diamond Jack Boat Ride**
Frank Giannotti, (734)283-7394
- Aug. 8, 2018, **Greektown Casino Trip**
Indian Trails, (800) 292-3831
- Aug. 12, 2018, **Club Picnic**
Randazzo, Lumia, Patton, Pizzo
- Oct. 8, 2018, **Columbus Day Dinner**
Charles and Leslie Lupo

Happy Birthday - Buon Compleanno



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

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <i>Mona Austin (2/3)</i> | <i>Shirley Bommarito (2/19)</i> |
| <i>Ciccina Vitale (2/4)</i> | <i>Leona Vizzini (2/19)</i> |
| <i>Grace Asteriou (2/5)</i> | <i>Ted Brockway (2/23)</i> |
| <i>Elisa Norscia (2/6)</i> | <i>Florence Coleman (2/23)</i> |
| <i>Frank Liberati (2/7)</i> | <i>Henry LeSage (2/25)</i> |
| <i>Rosemary Prato (2/9)</i> | <i>Pat Mastrogiacomo (2/25)</i> |
| <i>Delores Phillips (2/11)</i> | <i>Don Jenson (2/26)</i> |
| <i>Chris Dingell (2/13)</i> | <i>Marie Pagnucco (2/26)</i> |
| <i>Rose Lupo (2/13)</i> | <i>Sam Cosentino (2/27)</i> |
| <i>Tony Palazzolo (2/13)</i> | <i>Sue Lupo (2/27)</i> |
| <i>Dennis Randazzo (2/14)</i> | <i>Joseph J. Agrusa (2/28)</i> |
| <i>Marlene Wellman (2/18)</i> | <i>Vita Alastria (2/28)</i> |

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 14823 Williamsburg Blvd. Riverview, MI 48193-7703 (734)283-7394

(Newsletter Editor)

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Happy Anniversary - Buon Anniversario



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

Robert and Jacqueline Jagiello (2/1)



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The 43rd Annual
Downriver Italian-American Club
Feast of St. Joseph Day

Sunday, March 18, 2018

Presented at:

Silver Shores Waterfront Banquet Ctr.

1 James DeSana Dr.

Wyandotte, MI 48192

(734) 246-4800



Celebration starts at 1:00 PM

A traditional Sicilian Pasta & Beans Dish is served, including a Grapefruit, Orange and Bread Roll.

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

Donation: \$10.00 per Person

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.

RSVP your reservation (No later than March 11) by calling:

Sam Randazzo - (734) 676-8463 or

Grace Pizzo - (734) 379-9491

May St. Joseph Bless You & Bring You Joy and Peace