



49th Year, 1971-2020

The Downriver Italian - American Club®

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

**** IMPORTANT DATES **** AUG./SEPT. 2020 Newsletter – Issue #294
Club Board Meeting ** CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE **
General Membership Meeting ** CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE **



2020 – A COVID-19 Pandemic Summer



2019-2020
CLUB OFFICERS
& TRUSTEES

President
SAM RANDAZZO

Vice President
LESLIE LUPO

Recording Secretary
MARILYN BOMARITO

Financial Correspondent
FRANK A GIANNOTTI

Treasurer
PAULA F RICE

Assistant Treasurer
MARK S GRAZIOLI

Inside Guard
CHARLES M LUPO

Outside Guard
DAMIANO VITALE

Guide
GRACE PIZZO

TRUSTEES
JAMES BADEMIAN

JULIANN BADEMIAN

FLORENCE COLEMAN

PAOLA HILLEBRAND

ALICE PATTON

DENNIS PATTON

TOM A RANDAZZO

LEONA M. VIZZINI

SCHOLARSHIP
COMMITTEE
FRANK GIANNOTTI

JULIANN BADEMIAN

GRACE PIZZO

PAULA F RICE

SOCIAL
COMMITTEE
JULIE BADEMIAN

ALICE PATTON

GRACE PIZZO

PAULA RICE



A Message from our President



I hope everyone is having a healthy, safe summer. Does it seem hotter than usual, or is my heat tolerance and humidity getting to be less and less as I gracefully age?

There isn't much to write about in terms of our club. This isn't the best of times to be a social organization. It will be nice to look back on this time period and realize it is temporary.

The important thing is to stay safe so that we can all enjoy each other's company as Italians often do.

The Board met in late June, using social distance guidelines and masks, in the **Charley Lupo's** plush garage, to discuss the possibilities of having any social events this year. We have decided to cancel everything except the **Christmas Party**. I am holding out hope that we can safely have one, but perhaps I'm being optimistic.

The Board has decided to wave membership dues in 2021. If you have paid your yearly dues, you are now good thru next year. We know that you have gotten no value for your money this year, and hopefully, we can resume some activities in 2021. Our **50th Anniversary** is next April, and we are hoping for a spectacular celebration to commemorate it.

Remember that there will be no elections this year. They have been temporarily suspended until this pandemic has passed. All current Board members have agreed to stay on until then. This gives us a sense of stability during this unstable time. As your president, I have agreed to take a pay cut from \$90 to <\$0.

State tutti al sicuro,

Salvatore (Sam) Randazzo – Club President

Christopher Columbus Statues Removed in Chicago

Happy Columbus Day



Two (2) **Christopher Columbus** statues were removed overnight from separate parks in Chicago, according to **CBS WBBM**, after an executive order by

the city's Democratic mayor, **Lori Lightfoot**. Native American activists have long objected to honoring Columbus, saying his expeditions to the Americas led to the colonization and genocide of their ancestors. Several statues of Columbus have been removed across the United States in recent weeks, along with Confederate Civil War monuments.

Where the statue would be stored – and whether it will return anytime soon – wasn't immediately known.

What's next? The **Statue of Liberty**? Does she offend people too? This is a terrible thing to see!

2020 DIAC Scholarship Award



The DIAC 2020 Scholarship Award was split between twin-brothers, **Daniel Erno** and **Joshua Erno**. They were the only 2 applicants who filed for the award.

The brothers' are both graduates of **Novi High School**. They both played varsity football, were members of the **National Honor Society**, and helped in many community charitable organizations. They met all requirements for the scholarship.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Downriver Italian-American Club

Their parents are **Steven and Marlene Erno**, of Novi MI. Congratulations to the applicants, **Daniel and Joshua Erno**. They will both be attending Michigan State University this fall.

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 members who were/are ill or were in the hospital. To us, who are following Shelter-in-Place and Stay at Home orders, facial mask in public, social distance, as well smaller than (10) group size.

Condolences to the family of **Nino and Fara Vitale** on the death of Nino's sister-in-law, **Giovanna Vitale**, who passed away on May 21, 2020, at the age of 87. May she rest in peace.

Condolences to the families of **Grace/Sam Pizzo** and **Stella Marzano** on the death of **Grace/Stella's** brother, **Joseph LoPiccolo**, who passed away on June 12, 2020, at the age of 82. Condolences to: **Margaret and Samantha Waltz**, **Francesca Wolski**, and **Joseph Pizzo**. May he rest in peace.

Rose Lupo broke her hip for the second time, as a result of a fall injury. We wish Rose a speedy recovery.

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**.

Thomas and Lisa Sasse (8/01)
Randy and Paula Rice (8/04) 30th
Anthony and Allison Vitale (8/08)
Joe and Paola Ventimiglia (8/12) 45th
Daniel and Rose Boileau (8/16)
Charlie and Leslie Lupo (8/16)
William and Susan Herbert (8/23) 15th
Arnaldo and Elda Fracassa (8/27) 60th
George and Mary Lavine (9/03)
Lenny and Rose Zerilli (9/03)
Damiano and Piera Vitale (9/06)
Anthony and Rosalie Lazzarino (9/10)
Donald and Marlene Wellman (9/16)
Patrick and Janet Flaherty (9/18)
Joseph and Maria Serra (9/23)
Joe and Rosalie Giammalva (9/24)
John and Diana Parisi (9/26)

Giacinto and Theresa Simone (9/28)

Roger and Emalie Shifflett (9/29)

Happy Birthday - Buon Compleanno



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

Rosalie Lazzarino (8/01) *Lenny Milewski (9/03)*
Joe Badalamenti (8/03) *Donald Wellman (9/03)*
Sharon Thibeau (8/03) *Vince Vitale (Mary St) (9/04)*
Don Kerr (8/04) *Diana Parisi (9/05)*
Joe J. Giammalva (8/05) *Lenny Zerilli (9/05)*
Margaret Vitale (8/05) *Amelia McGowan (9/10)*
Robert Carrier (8/07) *Theresa Simone (9/11)*
Elaine Cartrette (8/09) *Steven Badalamente (9/14)*
Victoria Meyring (8/09) *Joseph Serra (9/15)*
Gaetano Randazzo (8/10) *Valerie Yinger (9/17)*
Maria Horvath (8/12) *Roger Shifflett (9/19)*
Rose Zahara (8/12) *Mary Cottone (9/20)*
Sharon Pagano (8/14) *Rose Gaglio (9/20)*
Josie Badalamenti (8/15) *Kelli McNally (9/22)*
Linda Migliaccio (8/16) *Fara Vitale (9/22)*
Barbara Bianchi (8/17) *Paul Lupo (9/23)*
Jennifer Vitale (8/18) *Pauline Barraco (9/24)*
Grace Lewis (8/22) *Rocky Kaune (9/24)*
Emalie Shifflett (8/25) *Julie Bademian (9/26)*
Janet Flaherty (8/29) *Gloria Kaune (9/26)*
Joseph Bozzo (9/02) *Nicolina Susin (9/26)*
Arlene Roberts (9/02) *Robert Jagiello (9/30)*

Calendar of Future Events – On Hold

All club meetings and events are on HOLD pending the relaxing of the restrictions to the COVID 19 outbreak by Governor Gretchen Whitmer.

The Downriver Italian-American Club Newsletter

Published monthly for the Downriver Italian-American Club membership. Forward comment, correction, and items of interest to

(Newsletter Editor) Frank A. Giannotti
 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

Copyright© Downriver Italian-American Club 2020. All rights reserved. The DIAC logo is a trademark of the Downriver Italian-American Club. This newsletter, or any part thereof, may not be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, storage in an information retrieval system, or otherwise, without the prior written permission of the Downriver Italian-American Club.