



50th Year, 1971-2021

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 ** DECEMBER 2021 Newsletter – Issue #304

Club Board Meeting	*** CANCELLED ***
General Membership Meeting	*** CANCELLED ***



Merry Christmas – Buon Natale a Tutti



2021-2022 CLUB OFFICERS & TRUSTEES

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Recording Secretary
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JULIANN BADEMIAN
GRACE PIZZO
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PAULA F RICE

SOCIAL COMMITTEE
JULIE BADEMIAN
ALICE PATTON
GRACE PIZZO
PAULA RICE



HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO OUR MEMBERS & THEIR FAMILIES



The Club Board wishes all of our members and their families a **Merry Christmas** and a **Joyous New Year**. Be safe, be healthy, and keep hope 2022 for a better year.

A Message from our President



It's the most wonderful time of the year. At least, that's what the song says. Christmas is coming very soon, and as much as I love family celebrations, I have to be a little sad that 2021 is coming to a close.

Just when it seemed like our activities were picking up. I am grateful that we had the opportunity to celebrate the Club **50th Anniversary**, the **Card Parties**, and our monthly lunches and meetings, which were all well attended. We are now taking December and January off and hope to reconvene in February. That is, after we

have our own **Christmas Party** on December 12.

We have big plans for 2022. The Board and Social Committee will meet soon to put together a budget and calendar of events. Hopefully, the pandemic will be under control as best as possible, and more and more of us will be able to participate.

May God continue to bless all of you. Stay safe and in good health.

Buon Natale e felice anno nuovo a tutti.

Salvatore (Sam) Randazzo – Club President

Firekeeper Casino Bus Trip



A bus trip to **Firekeeper Casino** has been scheduled for **Monday, February 21, 2022**. **Grace Tours** will be handling trip details. An upcoming

newsletter will provide further details. The trip is \$43.00 per person. You'll receive \$20.00 in free play and a \$5.00 food voucher. **Grace Pizzo** will be taking reservations for this trip. Grace can be reached at (734)379-9491. **Make the reservation remittance out to DIAC.**

Jan. Card Party at K of C



There is a **Card Party** scheduled for. Tuesday, January 18, 2022. Future dates will be determined by how well

the January event is attended. The **Card Party** will be at the **Knights of Columbus Hall, 3530 Biddle Avenue, Wyandotte, MI 48192.**

The event starts at 6:30 p.m. Club members and their guests are welcome. **K of C** has **Taco Night** that evening; tacos are \$1.00 each. In addition, the Club is providing chips and pretzels. A cash bar service is available.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Downriver Italian-American Club

There's a service charge of \$2.00 per person for the use of the hall facility and gratuity. The event is chaired by **Julie and Jim Bademian**; give them a call at (313)388-2264 and let them know you are attending. Bring your own board and card games. Future card parties will be shown in an upcoming newsletter.

*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*

Christmas Party – Dec. 12, 2021



This Christmas Party will take place on **Sunday, December 12, 2021**. Chairpersons are **Grace Pizzo, Paula Rice, Julie Bademian, and Alice Patton**. Live entertainment by **Pino Marelli**. The event is held at the **Bentley Conference Center**, located at 646 Biddle Ave., Wyandotte, MI 48192. (734)246-4800.

The doors open at 4:00 p.m, with a buffet-style dinner at 4:30 p.m. A wonderful meal has been selected. The cost is **\$40.00 for members and \$55.00 for a non-member**. There are door prizes and a raffle; table seating of 10 to a table. The deadline for reservation is November 30, 2021. See the flyer in the November newsletter. Send your reservation early to help the committee accommodate the seating arrangement.

Please be advised, if you do not reserve a full table, your seating and table location will be assigned to you.

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 having surgeries. Also, special blessings to all of our many caretakers of ailing family members. May

God bless them all. May God bless our troops. **Get Well Wishes** to members: **Florence Coleman, Sylvia Vitale Rosemary Prato**, and others??, who were/are ill or were in the hospital — wishing them a speedy recovery.

Condolences to the family of **Gail and Doug Melzer** on the death of Gails' mother, **Dolores Davis**, who passed

away on October 28, 2021, at the age of 91. May she rest in peace. *May her memory be a Blessing!*

Condolences to the family of **Rose Gaglio** on the death of Rose's twin sister, **Mary Cottone**, who passed away on November 16, 2021, at the age of 79. Mary joined the Club in March 1976 (Honorary Membership). Mary was very active in the Club. Mary held many positions; She was on the Hall Board for so many years. She oversaw the hall bookings, managed the hall financials, managed and maintained the club building, etc., was a bartender, hall setups, hall coordinator, and so many other duties. She was one hard-working great lady! May she rest in peace. *May her memory be a Blessing!*

Happy Anniversary – Buon Anniversario



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

*Michael and Susan Shields (12/18)**Don and Mimi Kerr (12/31)**Vincenzo and Lilla Vitale (01/04) 50th**Jack and Filippina Rubino (01/05)*

Happy Birthday - Buon Compleanno



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

*Daniel Galeski (12/04)**Bruce Yinger (12/5)**Sylvia Vitale (12/6)**David Esordi (12/8)**Gerry Wenzel (12/10)**Anthony Kause (12/12)**Giovanna Vitale (12/14)**James Waltz (12/15)**Tom Talluto (12/17)**Giuseppe Alastra (12/19)**Paul Consiglio (12/19)**Giavanna Palazzolo (12/19)**Joanne Wolfgang (12/19)**Angela M Palazzolo (12/20)**Vivian Cacioppo (12/22)**Shirley Cavataio (12/22)**Marian Maniaci (12/28)**Steven Vitale (12/28)**Pete Perniciaro (12/29)**Robyn Vitale (12/30)**Nancy Cosentino (01/01)**Anthony V. Vitale (01/02)**Margaret Waltz (01/03)**Pat Mastrogiacomo (01/03)**Gianna Trupiano (01/04)**Frank Giannotti (01/05)**Miriam Lumia (01/06)**Nino Vitale (01/06)**Susan Fuchs (01/10)**Margaret LoDuca (01/11)**Honor Schemaker (01/12)**Lilla Vitale (01/13)**Susan Herbert (01/14)**Grace Pizzo (01/16)**Andrea Prato (01/18)**Mark Grazioli (01/22)**Sam Randazzo (01/22)**Jack Rubino (01/22)**Joyce Pietrangelo (01/23)**Claudia Ferra (01/24)**Alice Patton (01/26)**Catherine Rotondo (01/26)**Nino Trupiano (01/28)**Larry Simone (01/30)*

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Downriver Italian-American Club

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 6th, 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.



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



Calendar of Future Events

- Dec. 12, 2021,** Club Christmas Party
Grace Pizzo, (734) 379-9491
- Jan. 18, 2022,** Card Party at K of C
Julie Bademian, (313) 388-2264
- Feb. 21, 2022,** Firekeeper Casino Bus Trip
Grace Pizzo, (734) 379-9491

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

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
 (734)283-7394
 Editor Phone
 Editor Email frankgiannotti@comcast.net
 Club Website www.diac.us
 Club Email diac1971@gmail.com

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DOWNRIVER ITALIAN-AMERICAN CLUB

P.O. Box 1797, Southgate, MI 48195-0707



2022 Card Parties

Tuesday, January 18, 2022	Join Us

Knights of Columbus Hall

3530 Biddle Avenue, Wyandotte, MI 48192

Card, Board Games, and Social Conversation

Time: 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM or 9:30 PM

Club Members and their guests are welcome.



Snacks, Soft Beverage & Coffee Provided

Bring your Board and Card Games

Taco Night by K of C – Tacos \$1.00 each

Cash Bar Available



For further information, contact Julie Bademian (313)388-2264

A Service Charge of \$2.00 Per Person for the Use of the Hall Facility

