



52nd Year, 1971-2023

# The Downriver Italian - American Club®

P.O. Box 1797 ♣ Southgate, MI 48195-0797 ♣ Tel. (734) 282-1257 ♣ Email: diac1971@gmail.com ♣ Web: www.diac.us

**\*\* IMPORTANT DATES \*\* FEBRUARY/MARCH 2023 Newsletter – Issue #315**  
Club Board Meeting: ..... Feb. Cancelled / March 7, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. @ KoC  
General Membership Meeting: Feb. Cancelled / March 12, Following St. Joseph Event



## The Feast of St. Joseph, March 12, 2023

### ◆ No Meetings in February ◆



The Club Board and General Membership meetings for February are canceled. The next general membership meeting will be on Sunday, March 12, 2023, following the **Feast of St. Joseph** event.

### 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 2023*

The **Club Board** wishes our members and their families a Happy New Year.

### A Message from our President



As we say goodbye to 2022, I would like to thank all members who have helped in the successful coordination of our events for the

enjoyment of our club members. Your dedication and support has been so important to keeping this club one we can all be extremely proud to be a part of. **THANK YOU!**

Hello 2023, I have enjoyed being a part of this Club for 50+ years and loved every minute of it. It is an honor for me to serve as your President. We have an excellent Board and we all will be working very hard to schedule the many fun events we have come to enjoy, such as Luncheons, Dinners, Card Nights, Picnics, Parties, etc.

I look forward to the continued success of the DIAC, and I wish each of you a healthy, cheerful, and memorable year.

*Saluti*

Leslie Luopio – Club President

### 2023 Club Membership Dues



The 2023 club 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 a 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.

For regular members, contained with this newsletter is your 2023 Dues Invoice.

For **Honorary Members** (those with 25+ years of continued membership), there are **NO dues** to be paid. A listing of **new** (and all) Honorary Members is included in this newsletter.

The deadline for dues is **March 31, 2023**

### DIAC 2023 Honorary Members



The following Club members have attained twenty-five (25) consecutive years in the **Downriver Italian-American Club** and are eligible for the position of "Honorary Member." In accordance with the By-Laws, Article I-Membership, Section 2-C, such member(s) shall have all the rights enjoyed by a Regular Member **but shall not pay dues.**

The following members, in good standing since 1998, qualify to the status of **Honorary Member.**

**James and Juliann Bademian (12/98)**  
**Angelo and Elisa Norscia (06/98)**  
**Vito Trupiano (03/98)**



### 2023-2024 CLUB OFFICERS & TRUSTEES

President  
**LESLIE G. LUPO**  
Vice President  
**SAM RANDAZZO**  
Recording Secretary  
**MARILYN BOMARITO**  
Financial Correspondent  
Secretary  
**FRANK A. GIANNOTTI**  
Treasurer  
**NINO TRUPIANO**  
Assistant Treasurer  
**MARK S. GRAZIOLI**  
Inside Guard  
**CHARLES M. LUPO**  
Outside Guard  
**DAMIANO VITALE**  
Guide  
**GRACE PIZZO**

TRUSTEES  
**JAMES BADEMIAN**  
**JULIANN BADEMIAN**  
**PATRICK FLAHERTY**  
**PAOLA HILLEBRAND**  
**ALICE PATTON**  
**DENNIS PATTON**  
**TOM A. RANDAZZO**  
**PAULA F. RICE**

SOCIAL COMMITTEE  
**JULIE BADEMIAN**  
**ALICE PATTON**  
**GRACE PIZZO**  
**PAULA RICE**

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE  
**FRANK GIANNOTTI**  
**GRACE PIZZO**  
**PAULA RICE**

CHARITY COMMITTEE  
**CHARLES LUPO**  
**JULIE BADEMIAN**  
**PAULA RICE**



## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

## Downriver Italian-American Club

### February 7 Card Party at Knights of Columbus



A Card Party is scheduled for Tuesday, February 7, 2023, 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. Snack, soft beverage, and coffee is provided. A cash bar service is available. Tuesday is Taco night. The March card party is on March 7 at 6:30 p.m.

There is 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 board and/or card games. See you there.

### Feast of St. Joseph - March 12, 2023



The 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Feast of St. Joseph Celebration - Sunday, March 12, 2023. The event will be held at Copeland Center, 2306 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Wyandotte, MI 48192. The Celebration starts at 2:00 p.m. The cost of \$15.00 per person. Personal donations can be made at the Alter of

the Saints. The Club will match 100% of the donated money. The March membership meeting will immediately follow the **St. Joseph** event.

This event 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, beans, and veggies. Each person is given a package of a roll, 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 44 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 can still donate. Make your check payable to **Downriver Italian American Club**, and please write at the bottom that it is for the **Feast of St. Joseph**. Send your donation to

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

Again, we need members to donate cookies – please call **Grace Pizzo at (734)379-9491**. RSVP your reservation by calling **Sam or Grace no later than March 3, 2023**, so a headcount can be established.

**Sam Randazzo - (734) 676-8463**

**Grace Pizzo - (734) 379-9491**

### DIAC 2023 Honorary Member List



Below are the names of Club Members who have attained 25 years of continuous membership and are classified as **Honorary Members**. As such, they no longer pay membership dues.

*Giuseppe & Vita Alastra (04/90)*  
*Grace Asteriou (02/73)*  
*Josephine Badalamenti (09/92)*  
*Stephanie Badalamenti (03/95)*  
**James and Julieann Bademian (12/98)**  
*Pauline Barraco (06/74)*  
*Connie Becker (10/95)*  
*Barbara Bianchi (01/76)*  
*Joseph Bozzo (04/90)*  
*Vivian Cacioppo (11/73)*  
*Angelina Carlone (12/80)*  
*Robert and Linda Carrier (01/93, 07/80)*  
*Dolly Chirco (04/74)*  
*Robert and Susie Coch (03/93)*  
*Florence Coleman (02/73)*  
*Paul Consiglio (10/97)*  
*Nancy Cosentino (02/81)*  
*Chris and Cindy Dingell ((07/96)*  
*Sal DiPasquale (07/71)*  
*BettyJean Ferraiuolo (04/90)*  
*John and Anna Finazzo (10/86)*  
*Elda Fracassa (03/75)*  
*Rose Gaglio (11/85)*  
*Giorlando and Rosalie Giammalva (01/91)*  
*Giuseppe and Maria Giammalva (06/75)*  
*Frank and Liliana Giannotti (03/80)*  
*Emilia Gonella (02/81)*  
*Mark and MaryJane Grazioli (11/73)*  
*Martha Guastella (03/79)*  
*Maria Horvath (04/90)*  
*Robert and Jacqueline Jagiello (01/93, 04/87)*  
*Rocky Kaune (12/72)*  
*Theresa Klavon (04/94)*  
*Josie Klube (05/73)*  
*Mary Lavine (06/94)*  
*Grace Lewis (03/81)*  
*Frank and Nina Liberati (11/96)*  
*Charlie and Leslie Lupo (07/73)*  
*Joan Luzac (03/79)*  
*Marian Maniaci (09/86)*  
*Stella Marzano (02/75)*

**MEMBERSHIP NEWS**

**Downriver Italian-American Club**

- Michael and Kelli McNally (02/95)*  
*Pina Milewski (10/97)*  
**Angelo and Elisa Norscia (06/98)**  
*Angela M Palazzolo (06/76)*  
*Josephine Palazzolo (01/92)*  
*Nina Palazzolo (04/90)*  
*Vivian Palazzolo (05/72)*  
*John and Diana Parisi (12/91)*  
*Sam and Grace Pizzo (02/73)*  
*Fannie Randazzo (05/79)*  
*Gaetano (Tom) and Laurie Randazzo (06/78)*  
*Sam and Darlene Randazzo (05/93)*  
*Randall and Paula Rice (02/81)*  
*Catherine Sclafani (02/73)*  
*Rosalie Shimkus (05/90)*  
*Theresa Simone (12/76)*  
*Joseph and Nicolina Susin (11/72)*  
*Nino and Gianna Trupiano (01/74)*  
**Vito Trupiano (03/98)**  
*Joe and Paola Ventimiglia (02/91)*  
*Anthony J and Robyn Vitale (02/87, 01/92)*  
*Gaetano A. Vitale (06/93)*  
*Guy A. Vitale (01/93)*  
*Nino Vitale (04/90)*  
*Benedetta Vitale (05/91)*  
*Damiano and Piera Vitale (04/90)*  
*Marco Vitale (05/90)*  
*Margaret Vitale (01/88)*  
*Rose Vitale (10/72)*  
*Salvatore and Giovanna Vitale (12/91)*  
*Steven and Sylvia Vitale (09/95)*  
*Vincenzo and Francesca Vitale (02/91)*  
*Vincenzo and Lilla Vitale (06/90)*  
*Leonard and Rose Zerilli (12/73)*

**106 Honorary Members at the beginning of 2023**

**Sick and GoodWill Notice**



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 our many caretakers of ailing family members. May God bless them all. May God bless our troops. **Get Well Wishes** to members: **Linda Burnett, Rocky Kaune, Emilia Gonella, Mimi Kerr, Pina Milewski, Tony and Miriam Lumia,** and others.

Condolences to **Marlene Wellman** on the death of her husband, **Don Wellman**, who passed away on Jan. 2, 2023 at the age of 84. *May his memory be a Blessing!*



**Happy Anniversary – Buon Anniversario**



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

- Robert and Jacqueline Jagiello (2/1)*  
*Gary and Arlene Roberts(2/22)*  
*Garry and Laura Lee (2/28)*

**Happy Birthday - Buon Compleanno**



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

- |                                   |                                   |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <i>Mona Austin (2/3)</i>          | <i>Antoinette Dominski (2/15)</i> |
| <i>Filippina Rubino (2/4)</i>     | <i>Tom Sasse (2/15)</i>           |
| <i>Ciccina Vitale (2/4)</i>       | <i>Marlene Wellman (2/18)</i>     |
| <i>Grace Asteriou (2/5)</i>       | <i>Nick Lonigro (2/19)</i>        |
| <i>Elisa Norscia (2/6)</i>        | <i>Leona Vizzini (2/19)</i>       |
| <i>Frank Liberati (2/7)</i>       | <i>Sandra DiSanto (2/20)</i>      |
| <i>Philip Barraco (2/9)</i>       | <i>Marco Palazzolo (2/20)</i>     |
| <i>Rosemary Prato (2/9)</i>       | <i>Florence Coleman (2/23)</i>    |
| <i>Delores Phillips (2/11)</i>    | <i>Henry LeSage (2/25)</i>        |
| <i>Daniel Prone (2/12)</i>        | <i>Pat Mastrogiacomo (2/25)</i>   |
| <i>Samantha De Yarman(2/13)</i>   | <i>Donald Jenson (2/26)</i>       |
| <i>Christopher Dingell (2/13)</i> | <i>Vita Alastria (2/28)</i>       |
| <i>Jennifer Perniciaro (2/14)</i> | <i>James Verdone (2/29)</i>       |
| <i>Dennis Randazzo (2/14)</i>     |                                   |

**Calendar of Future Events**

- Feb. 7, 2023, .....** DIAC February Card Party  
 Julie Bademian, (313) 388-2264
- Mar. 7, 2023, .....** DIAC March Card Party  
 Julie Bademian, (313) 388-2264
- Mar. 12, 2023, .....** Feast of St. Joseph Celebration  
 Sam Randazzo, (734) 676-8463  
 Grace Pizzo, (734) 379-9491

The **Downriver Italian-American Club Newsletter**  
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The 45<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Downriver Italian-American Club  
Feast of St. Joseph Celebration

Sunday, March 12, 2023



Presented at:  
The Copeland Center  
2306 Fourth Street  
Wyandotte, MI 48192  
(734) 324-7275



The Celebration starts at 2:00 p.m.

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

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

**Cost: \$15.00 per Person**

**Personal Donation Offer made at Alter of the Saints**

The Club will match 100% of the Donation Money

All Donations will go to Charities.

Helping children and needy families in our community.

**This event is open to the public.**

**Invite your family and friends!**

Cost payable at the door.

**RSVP your reservation (No later than March 3, 2023) by calling:**

**Sam Randazzo - (734) 676-8463 or**

**Grace Pizzo - (734) 379-9491**

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