



54rd Year, 1971-2025

# 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 \*\*

April 2025 Newsletter – Issue #334

Club Board Meeting: ..... \*\* Board will be Notified if Scheduled \*\*

General Membership Meeting: ..... Wed., Apr. 16, 2025 – 1:00 pm. @ The Bentley.



## Happy Easter, Buona Pasqua – April 20<sup>th</sup>



### 2025 - 2026 CLUB OFFICERS & TRUSTEES

President  
**LESLIE G. LUPO**

Vice President  
**SAM RANDAZZO**  
Recording Secretary

Financial Correspondent  
Secretary  
**FRANK A GIANNOTTI**

Treasurer  
**NINO TRUPIANO**  
Assistant Treasurer

Inside Guard  
**CHARLES M LUPO**

Outside Guard  
**DAMIANO VITALE**

Guide  
**GRACE PIZZO**

TRUSTEES  
**JAMES BADEMIAN**  
**JULIANN BADEMIAN**  
**SUE BYRD**

**PATRICK FLAHERTY**  
**ALICE PATTON**  
**DENNIS P ATTON**  
**PAULA F. RICE**  
**KARL UNDERWOOD**

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



Scan Here to Access Club Website



### A Message from Club President



Ciao Club Members:

Thank you all for attending the **St. Joseph Celebration** on March 23rd! Our Vice President, **Sam Randazzo**, and his team of volunteers put together a fabulous program, and of course, it wouldn't have been a success without your participation. All proceeds from this event will be donated to charity at the end of the year.

The **Social Committee** has been hard at work planning exciting events for you to enjoy, including card parties, plays, casino trips, and, in May, a visit to the **Tulip Festival** in Holland, Michigan. Be sure to check the schedule so you can plan ahead and join in on the fun!

We hope you've been enjoying the club events, and if you have any suggestions for the **Social Committee**, please don't hesitate to share them at our next meeting.

Let's cherish every moment—after all, as the saying goes, *“Enjoy life while you can—it can be taken in a heartbeat.”*

Ciao, - Leslie Lupo – Club President

### 2025 Club Membership Dues



If you haven't yet paid your 2025 dues, please note the reminder included in this newsletter. A grace period is available until **April 15,**

2025, to submit your payment. Failure to pay by this date will result in the termination of your membership and seniority years. To rejoin after this date, a new membership application is required.

Dues are \$40.00 for individual members and \$80.00 for married couples. Please send your

check or money order (made payable to the **Downriver Italian-American Club**) to the address:

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

### Monthly Luncheon @ Bentley



The Club's luncheon is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at 12:00 noon**, and will be held at **The Bentley Conference Center, located at 646 Biddle Ave., Wyandotte, MI 48192.** Following the luncheon, the monthly General Membership meeting will take place.

The cost for the luncheon is **\$15.00 per person**, which includes the meal and gratuity. To reserve your spot, please contact **Leslie Lupo at (734) 282-1257** no later than one week prior to the event.

### Card Party at K of C



A **Club Card Party** is set for **Tuesday, April 1, 2025, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, located at 3530 Biddle Avenue, Wyandotte, MI 48192.** The event begins at **6:30 p.m.**, and all Club members and their guests are invited. Light snacks, including chips, pretzels, and fruits, will be provided, and a cash bar will be available.

This month's attire theme is **Wear Your Clothes Backwards.** A **\$2.00 service charge per person** will apply to cover the hall facility use and gratuity.

To RSVP, please contact the event chairperson, **Sue Byrd, at (734) 258-2822** and let her know you'll be attending.



## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

## Downriver Italian-American Club

### Easter Brunch at Silver Shores



Silver Shores Banquet and Catering Center is hosting an Easter Sunday Luncheon on April 20, 2025. Tickets are available for purchase at Silver Shores, located at 1 James Desana Drive, Wyandotte, MI 48192, or by calling (734) 246-4800. Please note that this is **not a Club-sponsored event**, but we encourage you to share the details with family and friends. Reservations are required.

For meal options, seating times, pricing, and additional information, please refer to the attached flyer. To reserve your spot, contact the Silver Shores office at (734) 246-4800 and specify your preferred seating time.

For more details, visit the Silver Shores Banquet & Catering website: <https://www.silvershoreswaterfront.com/>.

### "Nunsense" Turkeyville Bus Trip



A bus trip to see the play "Nunsense" at Cornwell's Turkeyville in Marshall, MI, is planned for Thursday, May 22, 2025. The trip includes a meal and is sponsored by Custom Holidays. The Club contact for this event is Grace Pizzo, who can be reached at (734) 379-9491.

The cost is \$109.00 for club members and \$139.00 for non-members. Keep an eye out for the upcoming flyer with additional details.

### Tulip Time Festival – Overnight Bus Trip



The Social Committee is organizing an overnight trip for Club members and guests on May 2-3, 2025, with a \$50 cash subsidy provided to club members on the bus.

Club members are responsible for booking and making deposits directly with Custom Holidays at (313) 388-0448. For questions about the trip, please contact Custom Holidays. For subsidy-related inquiries, reach out to Social Committee member Sue Byrd at (734) 258-2822.

To ensure you receive the \$50 cash subsidy on the bus, please notify Sue Byrd of your attendance so she can track the number of participants and arrange the subsidy. For a detailed flyer, contact Sue Byrd at (734) 258-2822.



### 2025 Scholarship to Be Awarded



A \$1,000 scholarship is available to a son or daughter of a Club member who is a **graduating high school senior** and planning to pursue higher education at a college or university.

Basic requirements include:

- A minimum B (3.0) grade point average.
- The applicant's parent(s) must be Club member(s) in good standing for two (2) consecutive years (membership must be established before June 30 of the membership year).

For more information, contact Frank Giannotti at (734) 283-7394 or by email at [frankgiannotti@comcast.net](mailto:frankgiannotti@comcast.net).

Completed applications must be submitted no later than June 30, 2025.

### April's Awakening

April tiptoes in with grace,  
The world stirs from its wintered face.  
Bare trees wear their green attire,  
And flowers bloom, never to tire.  
Birds return with melodies sweet,  
Their songs of joy, a rhythmic beat.  
The sun caresses the earth's broad span,  
Whispering life, as only it can.  
The air, fragrant with blooms anew,  
Every breeze feels fresh and true.  
April heralds spring's embrace tight,  
Chasing away the cold, stark night.

### Happy Birthday - Buon Compleanno



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

Paola Ventimiglia (4/03)

Linda Carrier (4/06)

Maria Giammalva (4/06)

Nina Liberati (4/08)

Mary Caparaotta (4/09)

Janet Hughes (4/9)

John Parisi (4/12)

Vito Badalamente (4/17)

Josie Palazzolo (4/21)

Joseph Pizzo (4/27)

Norm Tabaka Jr. (4/27)

Maria Vitale (4/29)

Theresa Herbert (4/30)

Joseph A. Pagano (4/30)

APRIL  
**AUTISM**  
AWARENESS MONTH



**MEMBERSHIP NEWS**

**Downriver Italian-American Club**

**Happy Anniversary – Buon Anniversario**



We extend our best wishes for many happy and healthy years to our members who are celebrating their anniversary this-month.

*Joseph and Nicolina Susin (4/23) 65<sup>th</sup>*

*John and Anna Finazzo (4/24)*

*Vito and Jessica Trupiano (4/25) 10<sup>th</sup>*

*Patrick and Patricia Mastrogiacomo (4/28) 25<sup>th</sup>*

commitment to the Club left a lasting impact on all who knew them. Grace will be greatly missed. *May her memory be a blessing to us all.*



**Children are Like Flowers**

Children are like flowers,  
Water them with love.  
Nourish them with praise,  
Give them a compliment,  
Each and every day,  
Be their sun.  
When all you see is rain,  
Protect them from storms,  
And shelter their pain  
Children are like flowers,  
That blossom everyday,  
Little pieces of us,  
And everything we say.

- Author Unknown -

**April's Embrace**

April's soft whisper, a gentle hush,  
Nature awakens with a subtle blush.  
From winter's grasp, the earth does flee,  
Embracing warmth, the world feels free.

Petals bloom, the colors they spill,  
On every meadow, valley, and hill.  
The skies so blue, the clouds so frail,  
April's song, a springtime tale.

Morning dew on the grass so green,  
A tranquil scene, so pure, unseen.  
April, you bring a world so bright,  
Banishing darkness, embracing light.

Poem by Maya Anthony

**Sick and GoodWill Notice**



Our **thoughts and prayers** are with our members and their families who may be facing health challenges, undergoing tests, receiving treatments, or preparing for surgeries. We also extend **special blessings** to the many caretakers who

selflessly support their ailing loved ones. May God bless them all, and may He continue to watch over and protect our troops.

We send **get-well wishes** to our members and their families who are not feeling well, including **Millie McGowan, Randy Rice, Charles Lupo** and others who may be facing difficulties. May they find strength, healing, and comfort during this time.

**Calendar of Future Events**

- Apr. 1, 2025, .....** DIAC April Card Party  
Paula Rice, (734)748-0998
- Apr. 16, 2025, .....** DIAC Luncheon/GM Meeting  
Leslie Lupo, (734)282-1257
- May 2-3, 2025, ....** Tulip Time Festival, Holland, MI  
Sue Byrd, (734)258-2822
- May 22, 2025, .....** "Nunsense" Turkeyville Bus Trip  
Grace Pizzo, (734)379-9491

**The Downriver Italian-American Club Newsletter**

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

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Club email [diac1971@gmail.com](mailto:diac1971@gmail.com)  
Leslie Lupo - President (734)282-1257



We extend our heartfelt **condolences to the Asteriou family** on the passing of **Grace Asteriou**, who died on **February 25, 2025**, at the age of 98. Grace and her late husband, **James Asteriou** (who passed away on **October 18, 1998**), joined the Club in **February 1973**.

Together, they were deeply dedicated to the Club, actively participating in **Italian festivals** at **Yack Arena**, volunteering at pasta events, and regularly attending numerous Club functions. Their passion and

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**SILVER  
SHORES**

BANQUET & CATERING

**APRIL 20TH,  
2025**

JOIN US FOR A

# **Easter Sunday**

LUNCH

Warm Rolls

Salads

Made to Order Pasta Station

Pork Tenderloin with Mushroom Cognac Sauce

Braised Beef with French Onion Sauce

Chicken Piccata

Creamy Mac n' Cheese

Garlic Redskin Mashed Potatoes

Honey Glazed Carrots & Zucchini

Fresh Seasonal Vegetables

Fresh Fruits, Desserts...and More!

**RSVP TODAY! 734.246.4800**

**Seating Times: 11:30am and 2:30pm**

**Adults: \$45**

**Seniors: \$40 (60+)**

**Children: \$21 (ages 4-10yrs)**

1 JAMES DESANA DR, WYANDOTTE MI 48192

TEL: 734.246.4800

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED