



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 **

May 2025 Newsletter – Issue #335

Club Board Meeting: ** Board will be Notified if Scheduled **
General Membership Meeting: Wed., May 21, 2025 – 1:00 pm. @ The Bentley.



Happy Mother's Day – Sun. May 11, 2025



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
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JULIANN BADEMIAN
SUE BYRD
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PAULA F. RICE
KARL UNDERWOOD

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



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A Message from Club President



Ciao Club Members:

This winter brought its *fair* share of snow and frigid temperatures, but it's finally time to defrost! I encourage everyone to get outdoors, feel renewed, and enjoy the lush green grass and vibrant colors of spring.

At our April Membership Meeting, an important change was made: the **September General Meeting** has been rescheduled from **September 21 to September 28 at 6 PM**, at the **Wyandotte Boat Club**. Please update your calendars accordingly.

Also, don't forget to mark your calendar for the **October 19th Legends Dinner Show!** We'll feature legendary performers—**Elvis, Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin**, and the **Blues Brothers**. The delicious menu includes a Chef attended **Prime Rib Carving Station, Island-Rubbed Pork Tenderloin, Chicken Marsala**, and much more. Save the date for what's sure to be an *entertaining* evening! Many activities are planned for your enjoyment—be sure to check out the **Calendar of Events** in this newsletter.

Let's cherish every moment. As the saying goes, *"Enjoy life while you can—it can be taken in a heartbeat."*

Ciao, - Leslie Lupo – Club President

Monthly Luncheon @ Bentley



The Club's luncheon is scheduled for **Wednesday, May 21, 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, May 6, 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 **crazy Kentucky Derby Hat**. 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.

June Evening Meeting @ Wyandotte Boat Club



The June membership meeting will be on **Sunday, June 22, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.** at **Wyandotte Boat Club, 1 Pine Street, Wyandotte, MI 48192**.

The membership meeting immediately follows the snack.

The meal is free for members and includes pizza, salad, and cookies; a cash bar is available. Make your reservation by calling **Leslie Lupo at (734)282-1257** no later than one week before the date.



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Downriver Italian-American Club

Diamond Jack Chartered Boat Ride



This year's **Diamond Jack Boat Ride** will be on **Wednesday, July 16, 2025**. The chairperson is **Frank Giannotti** (734)283-7394. The boat ride will be heading north, passing the new **International Bridge** crossing. The Club has chartered the **Diamond Jack** boat for the trip. Family and guests are invited. This is an afternoon ride from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. **Meet at Bishop Park no later than 2:30 p.m. Boat Boarding at 2:45 p.m.**

After the ride, there is pizza/salad at the **Wyandotte Boat Club (Across from Portofino Restaurant), 1 Pine Street, Wyandotte, MI, 48192 (734)284-5560**. The doors open at 5:00 p.m., with the meal served at 6:00 p.m. The beverage is cash-bar.

The cost of the boat ride is **\$25.00 per person**. For Club members who are riding on the boat, the pizza/salad is free. **Non-members (and Club members who did not ride the boat), the cost of the pizza and salad is \$5.00**. Return the coupon and monies **no later than July 7, 2024**. A flyer will appear in this newsletter. **The boat's capacity is 125 passengers. Paid reservations on a first-come, first-serve basis. Covid masking is optional (at your discretion)-e**

Membership Picnic – August 18, 2024



The **Annual Club Picnic** will be held on **Sunday, August 17, 2025**. The picnic location is at the **Young Patriots Park (Riverview Civic Center)**, at 14100 Civic Park Dr. (Sibley Road), in Riverview, MI 48193, same as in previous years.

The meal is prepared onsite by **Chef Joseph J. Pagano**.

The event is hosted by the **Social Committee, Jim and Julie Bademian, Sue Byrd, Grace Pizzo, Paula Rice, Sam and Darlene Randazzo**. This event has always been a great success. Family and friends are welcome. A flyer will appear in the June/July newsletter.

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 30th of their membership year).

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

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

Happy Birthday - Buon Compleanno



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

<i>Rosalie Shimkus (5/01)</i>	<i>Rose Zerilli (5/21)</i>
<i>Sal Finazzo (5/02)</i>	<i>Teresa LeSage (5/22)</i>
<i>Vivian Palazzolo (5/02)</i>	<i>Sam Badalamenti (5/23)</i>
<i>Rhonda Verdone (5/03)</i>	<i>Alexander Parker (5/23)</i>
<i>Colleen Tabaka (5/05)</i>	<i>Catherine Sclafani (5/23)</i>
<i>Therese Barraco (5/06)</i>	<i>Rose Boileau (5/24)</i>
<i>Theresa Klavon (5/11)</i>	<i>Joe Ventimiglia (5/24)</i>
<i>Vito Palazzolo (5/15)</i>	<i>Salvatore Vitale (5/24)</i>
<i>Martha Guastella (5/16)</i>	<i>Jeanette Schiraldi (5/28)</i>
<i>Vito Altomaro (5/19)</i>	<i>Anthony Lazzarino (5/30)</i>
<i>Guy A. Vitale (5/20)</i>	

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.

Carl and Margaret Patton (4/21)
Gaetano A. and Laurie Randazzo (5/09)
Anthony J. and Robyn Vitale (5/15)
Daniel and Nancy Prone (5/18)
Louis and Carol Beafore (5/20)
Salvatore and Giovanna Vitale (5/24)
Marco and Jennifer Vitale (5/24)

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 **Alice Patton, Rose Gaglio, Dan Boileau, Randy Rice**, and others who may be facing difficulties. May they find strength, healing, and comfort during this time.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Downriver Italian-American Club

On Memorial Day – May 26, 2025



Memorial Day (originally called "Decoration Day") began as a way to honor the Civil War dead. It started when individuals, and then cities and town, placed flowers on the graves of Confederate and

Union soldiers – whether buried in the North or the South. The first national observance of Memorial Day occurred on May 30, 1868, in Arlington National Cemetery. Today, Memorial Day has become a way to honor all those who died in service to the nation in all wars and conflicts, from the Revolutionary War to the present. In 1968, the official holiday was moved to the last Monday in May.

Dear Mom...

Since the day I was small
Till the day I became tall
Since I began understanding things
Till the day I got my own wings
Your love, has never fallen short
You have been my only support
I want to hold you tight and hug you
I just want to say *Thank you.*



Calendar of Future Events

- May 6, 2025, DIAC May Card Party
Sue Byrd, (734)258-2822
- May 21, 2025, DIAC Luncheon/GM Meeting
Leslie Lupo, (734)282-1257
- June 3, 2025, DIAC June Card Party
Sue Byrd, (734)258-2822
- June 22, 2025, DIAC Evening Snack/GM Meeting
Leslie Lupo, (734)282-1257
- July 1, 2025, DIAC July Card Party
Paula Rice, (734)748-0998
- July 16, 2025, DIAC Boat Ride & Pizza
Frank Giannotti, (734)283-7394
- Aug. 5, 2025, DIAC Aug. Card Party
Paula Rice, (734)748-0998
- Aug. 17, 2025, DIAC Membership Picnic
Sam Randazzo, (734)676-8463
- Sept. 2, 2025, DIAC Sept. Card Party
Paula Rice, (734)748-0998
- Sept. 28, 2025, Sept. Evening GM Meeting.
Leslie Lupo, (734)282-1257
- Oct. 7, 2025, DIAC Oct.. Card Party
Julie Bademian, (313)388-2264
- Oct. 19, 2025, Fall Dinner Dance
Leslie Lupo, (734)282-1257
- Nov. 4, 2025, DIAC Nov. Card Party
Julie Bademian, (313)388-2264
- Nov. 19, 2025, Genittis Hole in the Wall Bus Trip
Grace Pizzo, (734)379-9491
- Dec. 2, 2025, DIAC Dec. Card Party
Julie Bademian, (313)388-2264
- Dec. 7, 2025, Membership Christmas Party
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
Frank A. Giannotti
(Newsletter Editor) 14823 Williamsburg Blvd.
Riverview, MI 48193-7703
(734)283-7394

Editor Phone (734)283-7394
Editor e-mail frankgiannotti@comcast.net
Club Website www.diac.us
Club email diac1971@gmail.com
Leslie Lupo - President (734)282-1257

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Downriver Italian-American Club

P.O. BOX 1797 ♣ SOUTHGATE, MI 48195-0797 ♣ TEL (734)282-1257

Chartered Boat Cruise & Pizza

Wednesday – July 16, 2025, 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

The Cruise will be Northbound Toward the New Int'l Bridge



Diamond Jack's River Tours Wyandotte Tour and Sites



Boat Capacity: 150 passengers. Paid reservations on first-come, first serve basis. Covid mask optional, but recommended

Board the Diamond Jack at quaint Bishop Park in Wyandotte for a two hour cruise on the sparkling waters of the lower Detroit River. Enjoy waterside views of the surrounding American and Canadian communities and beautiful wetland areas, while listening to interesting historical narration and anecdote. Ride alongside Great Lakes and ocean ships, pass steel mills, marine terminals and shipyards, historic LaSalle, Ontario and "explore" Canadian island backwaters rarely transited by commercial vessels. View historic waterfront mansions and an historic 1906 lighthouse. Relax - enjoy - and learn too! Passengers of all ages enjoy this truly unique "nautical adventure."

The Boat Ride is \$25.00 per Person. Family/Guests are invited.

Pizza & Salad are Available after the Boat Ride.

Pizza & Salad is Free to Club Members Who Ride — \$5.00 for All Others.

Wyandotte Boat Club.

1 Pine Street, Wyandotte, MI 48192 (Across Street from Portofino Restaurant)

The Doors Open at 5:00 p.m. with Snack Served at Approx. 5:45 p.m.

All Beverages are Cash Bar at Wyandotte Boat Club

Mail Coupon with Party Size and Total Cost. Make check payable to:

Downriver Italian-American Club. DIAC members, their families, and guests are welcome

For Further Information, Contact Frank Giannotti at (734) 283-7394.



Boat Boarding at 2:45 p.m.

Arrive at dock no later than 2:30 p.m.



I/We will be attending the **Diamond Jack Boat Ride/Pizza & Salad** on Wed. – July 16th. Wyandotte Bishop Park.

Snack at the WBC. This coupon and payment must be received no later than Sunday, July 6, 2025

Meal Selection (mark with a number) : Pizza/Salad _____ Salad _____

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Attending Ride: _____ Member & Non-Member: \$ 25.00 x _____ Total: \$ _____

Member (Rider) Dinner: _____ Dinner - Member: **\$ Free** x _____ Total: _____

Guest Dinner _____ Dinner - Guest: \$ 5.00 x _____ Total: \$ **FREE**

Make your check payable to: **Downriver Italian-American Club or DIAC** Total Amt: \$ _____

Return this coupon and your check to: **Frank Giannotti, 14823 Williamsburg, Riverview, MI 48193-7703**