



38th Year, 1971-2009



The Downriver Italian-American Club®

646 BIDDLE AVE ♣ WYANDOTTE, MICHIGAN 48192-2727 ♣ TEL. (734)285-4044 ♣ website: www.diac.us

** IMPORTANT DATES **

March 2009 NEWSLETTER

Board of Directors Meeting..... Tuesday, March 10, 2009, 7:00 p.m.
General Membership Meeting Sunday, March 22, 2009, 6:30 p.m.

St. Joseph Celebration - March 15, 2009

2009 Club Membership Dues

One last reminder, the 2009 membership dues are now payable. The dues are \$25.00 for a member who is single and \$50.00 for a married couple. The dues can be paid at the general membership meeting or you can send a check or money order, payable to: **Downriver Italian-American Club**. Mail the dues to: **Leslie Lupo, 459 Cedar, Wyandotte, MI 48192-4301**. Your receipt and membership card(s) will be mailed with the upcoming newsletter. The deadline for the dues is **March 31, 2009**.

For Honorary Members who wish to have a printed copy of the newsletter mailed to their home, the mailing charge is \$15.00 for the year. The newsletter can be picked up free at the Hall during normal business hours. The deadline for this service is **March 31, 2009**.

A Message from the Club President



Since March is here, we know spring is not too far away. We've had so much cold along with the highest snow fall in years. We need the sunny days to help us enjoy life. We know members in Florida are reading about our weather here.

The Mardi Gras Celebration was well received. The food, the Cakewalkin' Jass Dixie Band and the people attending all had a great time. The pictures from this event are on the club website. I want to thank my daughter, **Lina Giannotti**, along with **Rita (Trupiano)** and **Stephen Dauss** for their hard work.

The February **Soup and Salad Luncheon** was also a success. Higher than expected attendance caused us to run out of food (and had to turn away customers). For March 19th, the committee will plan on increasing the amount of food. Special thanks to **Mary Cottone** and all the wonderful clubwomen who prepared and served the food. We need the support and participation from the membership to make the events successful. Please come and have soup with us. Invite your family and friends.

We are celebrating **St. Joseph Day Celebration** on March 15. This has always been a success with profits going to

charitable organizations. Please make a special effort to participate in this event.

Looking ahead in April, we will have 2 **Easter Lent Fish Fries**, along with the **Easter Brunch**. See flier inside this newsletter for more information. In addition, we will have our first **Pasta Event** of the year on April 15. We are hoping for high participation, since the **Pasta Events** are a good source of revenue for our club and hall building expenses. We have much going on. Your participation is very much needed to get us through these poor economic times. We value your suggestions. This is your Club! Please support it.

We hope this newsletter finds all of you in good health.

Frank A. Giannotti, Club President

Soup and Salad Luncheon

The Hall Board will once again be sponsoring a **Soup and Salad Luncheon** on Thursday, March 19, 2009. See attached flyer for meal and time information. Food preparation is on Wednesday March 18 from 9:00 am till 2:00 pm. Anyone wanting to help out, please attend. Then on Thursday, the 19th, the preparation begins at 9:00 am. We had an excellent turnout on Feb. 19 – the soup ran out and we had to turn customers away. **This event is open to the public - invite your family and friends.** **Mary Cottone** is the chairperson of this event. You can contact Mary at (734)285-1563.

Thoughts on March

*"March bustles in on windy feet
And sweeps my doorstep and my street.
She washes and cleans with pounding rains,
Scrubbing the earth of winter stains.
She shakes the grime from carpet green
Till naught but fresh new blades are seen.
Then, house in order, all neat as a pin,
She ushers gentle springtime in."*

- Susan Reiner, Spring Cleaning



St. Joseph Day Celebration – Mar. 15



The 36th Annual St. Joseph Day Celebration, Sunday, March 15, 2009.

Pageant Admission Free - 2:00 p.m. - Dinner follows the pageant.

Adults \$7.00; Children (10 and under) \$3.50.

We will be celebrating St. Joseph Day on March 15. As most of you know this is a Sicilian custom passed down by our parents and grandparents. They set up an altar with statues of saints and opened their homes to friends and neighbors. After a short pageant, they had a meal and left a donation to help a needy family. We follow the same tradition, an altar is set up on our stage with statues brought in by members - candles, bread, and fruit are placed on the altar. We serve a meal of pasta and beans. Each person is given a roll, grapefruit, an orange and a few homemade cookies. There is a short pageant and the blessing of the food before we eat. We follow the tradition of our families as much as possible. We have held this event for the past 36 years. We have donated \$85,295.00 All donations made are given to needy families and organizations helping children. If you would like to make cookies, or help us in any way, please contact one of us. Invite your friends and family and help us celebrate our 36th year. This is a family event. If you are unable to attend, you may still make a donation. Make your check payable to Downriver Italian American Club, and please note at the bottom that it is for St. Joseph Celebration. **Please call Rose Vitale (734) 282-2803 if you would like to bring cookies.**

We would love to have you, your family and friends celebrate this event with us. Remember all donations go to help the needy in this area. Food preparation is on March 14. Anyone wanting to help, please come.

Nancy Cosentino – (313) 383-0350

Florence Coleman – (734) 281-7126

Grace Pizzo – (734) 379-9491

Sal DiPasquale – (734)282-1644

Jeanne's Fish Fries – April 3/10, 2009



Jeanne's Catering and the **DIA Hall** will be hosting two **Fish Fry** events during Easter Lent. See flyer inside this newsletter for more information.

Jeanne's Easter Brunch –April 12, 2009



There will be an **Easter Brunch** on **Easter Day, Sunday, April 12, 2009** between the hours of 11:00 AM and 4:00 PM, at the Downriver Italian-American Hall. Cost: Adults \$15.00 in advance and \$16.00 at the door. Seniors (62+) \$14.00 in advance and \$15.00 at the door. Children: (Ages 4-10) \$8.00 in advance,

\$9.00 at the door.

This event is open to the public. Advise your friends and neighbors. There is no need to spend time waiting in lines at restaurants when you can be accommodated immediately at our Hall. Make your reservations early.

A flyer is included in this newsletter. Ticket sales; please contact **Diana Holmes** at the Hall (734) 285-4044.

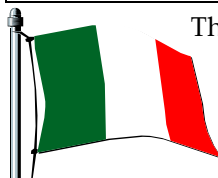
Another Thought on March

*The March wind roars
Like a lion in the sky,
And makes us shiver
As he passes by.*

*When winds are soft
And the days are warm and clear,
Just like a gentle lamb,
Then spring is here."*

Poem provided by MMF

A Taste of Italy – May 6, 2009



The 6th annual **Taste of Italy** event will be held at the **DIA Hall on Wednesday, May 6, 2009**, serving begins at 6:00 p.m.

The chairperson is **Tony Lumia**. The event will feature sampling of Italian cuisines from various local businesses. The vendors will be providing their food specialties. The serving will be buffet style. A flyer will be included in the April newsletter. All proceeds to benefit the Penrickton School for the Blind.

For further information and ticket sales, contact **Diana Holmes** at the DIAC Hall (734)285-4044. **This event is open to the public.** Please attend and invite your friends.

DIAH Banquet Facility

If you have a relative, such as a niece, nephew, or grandchild who are getting married and looking for a nice place to hold a party - we will give them the same discount price as a club member. The Hall is willing to work very close with them. The Club does need the business. **DIA Hall** is a beautiful banquet facility and provides long lasting memories for those special occasions.

For further information, please call **Diana Holmes** at (734) 285-4044. We would like to book your party and give us an opportunity to serve you.

Bus Trip on the Horizon



Point Edward Charity Casino – Wednesday, April 29, 2009 – Sarnia, Ontario Canada.

This is a one day event. Roundtrip

transportation provided via deluxe highway motor coach. Restroom equipped and reclining seats.

The cost is \$22.00 per person. Each passenger will receive a \$20.00 slot play.

The Bianco Bus will be departing at 10:30 am and returning at 7:00 pm.

DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENT:

Your tour will be taking you into Canada. All passengers are required to present proof of citizenship. The following forms are acceptable:

- 1 – Passport.
- 2 - Certified Birth Certificate (not a photocopy).
- 3 - Certificate of Naturalization or Certificate of Citizenship.

You should **ALSO** have a **valid driver's license** or **government I.D. card**. It is essential that you have one of these forms of proof. A passport is the best documentation. Resident Aliens need an Alien Resident Card. Aliens need a valid passport and Re-Entry Permit.

For reservation and further information, please contact **Nancy DiPasquale at (734) 282-1644**. Mail your check (made out to: **Bianco Tours**) to:

Nancy DiPasquale
13426 Mulberry
Southgate, MI 48195-2499.

A Message from Fay Palazzolo

Fay would like to thank **Grace Asterious** and **Vincenza (Vinnie) DiClaudio** for bringing dessert to the February membership meeting - all were very delicious.

Theresa Herbert, MaryJane Grazioli and **Sadie Kusic** have volunteered to bring dessert to the March membership meeting. If you would like to bring a dessert, please contact **Fay Palazzolo at (734) 282-0539**.

Luca C. Vitale – Born Feb. 6, 2009

Congratulations to **Guy A. and Maria Vitale** on the birth of their son, **Luca Carmelo Vitale** – born February 6, 2009. Luca weighed in at 8 lbs – 2 oz, and was 19 ½ inches long. Congratulations to the grandparents: **Nino and Fara Vitale; Luciano and Maria Crapanzano**.

Sick and Good Will



Belated Get Well Wishes to the following members who were ill or hospitalized: **Jim Morrin, Maria Sclafani, Phil Lupo, Augustino Iacopelli and Phyllis Cottone**. Get Well

Wishes to all our members who are not feeling well. Please advise **Grace Pizzo (734)379-9491** of anyone is ill or will be hospitalized soon.

Condolence to the family of **Norman Tabaka, Sr.** on the death of his wife, **Consetta Tabaka**, who passed away on

February 24, 2009 at the age of 84. Condolence to **Norm, Jr. and Colleen Tabaka** on the death of his mom. Norm and Consetta have been club members since January 2002. We will all miss her.

Our deepest sympathy and condolences to the families of our deceased members. May their soul and all the souls of the faithful departed thru the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Eternal rest grants unto them, Lord, and may the perpetual light shine upon them.

Happy Birthday - Buon Compleanno

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

<i>Rosalie Giammalva (3/4)</i>	<i>Joseph Leone (3/19)</i>
<i>Helen Grasso (3/4)</i>	<i>Gaspere Misuraca (3/19)</i>
<i>Ann Lepidi (3/4)</i>	<i>Joseph Susin (3/19)</i>
<i>James Jenson (3/5)</i>	<i>John Serafano (3/20)</i>
<i>Nancy Marcantonio (3/6)</i>	<i>Charlie Lupo (3/22)</i>
<i>Giovanni Ventura (3/6)</i>	<i>Joseph Bardinelli (3/24)</i>
<i>Margaret Trupiano (3/8)</i>	<i>Sal DiPasquale (3/24)</i>
<i>Stephanie Badalamenti (3/10)</i>	<i>Jason Karawan (3/24)</i>
<i>Josie Favazza (3/10)</i>	<i>Joe Chirco (3/25)</i>
<i>Rose Vitale (3/10)</i>	<i>Filicia Biundo (3/26)</i>
<i>Giuseppe (Joe) Vitale (3/10)</i>	<i>Angelo Giannotti, Sr. (3/26)</i>
<i>Connie DeLiz (3/13)</i>	<i>Caroline Barrett (3/27)</i>
<i>Vincenzo Pizzo (3/13)</i>	<i>Luigi Biundo (3/28)</i>
<i>Danny Herbert (3/14)</i>	<i>Delores DeJohn (3/28)</i>
<i>Matteo Giaino (3/15)</i>	<i>Brenda Mangiapane (3/28)</i>
<i>Joe Evola (3/16)</i>	<i>Florence Costa (3/29)</i>
<i>Anthony Vitale (3/17)</i>	<i>Gaetano A. Vitale (3/29)</i>
<i>Rose Donofrio (3/18)</i>	<i>Douglas Melzer (3/30)</i>

Happy Anniversary – Felice Anniversario

We wish to extend our Best Wishes for many Happy and Healthy Years together, to our couples who will be

George and Rosemary Menna (3/3)
Johnpaul and Liesa Finazzo (3/4)
Samuel and Theresa Germus (3/17)
Sal and Nancy DiPasquale (3/22)

A Senior Moment

Two old men were sitting on a park bench outside the local town hall where a flower show was in progress. One leaned over the other and said, "Crimony sakes! Life is boring. We never have any fun these days. For \$5.00, I'd take my clothes off and streak through the darned flower show!"

"You're on!" said the other old fellow, holding up five dollars. As fast as he could, the first old man fumbled his way out of his clothes, and while completely naked, streaked through the front door of the town hall. His friend heard a huge commotion inside the hall, followed

by a loud roar of applause. The stalker burst back out through the door surrounded by a cheering crowd.

Hurriedly, he ran over to his eager buddy. "Wow, what happened?" asked his friend. "It was great!" he said, "I won first prize for best dried arrangement!"

Congratulating New DIAC Members

Please welcome the following new members who recently joined the DIAC membership:

Joseph and Penny Bardinelli of Chelsea, MI. Sponsored by **Frank and Liliana Giannotti**.

Kristy Dunn (grandparent: Mascio) of Woodhaven, MI. Sponsored by **Mary Cottone**.

Julian and Patricia LoRusso of Grosse Ile, MI. Sponsored by **Frank and Liliana Giannotti**.

Rosina Martino of Dearborn, MI. Sponsored by **Rosalie Martino**.

You Know You are Having a Bad Day When....

- You put your bra on backwards and it fits better.
 - Your twin sister forgets your birthday.
 - Your birthday cake collapses from the weight of the candles.
 - You put both contacts in the same eye.
 - You awake naked, then go to put on the same clothes you wore home from the company Christmas party the night before, but when you search at the foot of your bed and all around the bedroom floor you don't find any clothes.
 - Your horn goes off accidentally and remains stuck as you follow a group of Hell's Angels on the freeway.
 - You wake up face down on the pavement.
 - You turn on the news and they are showing escape routes out of the city.
 - You walk to work and later discover that your dress is stuck in the back of your pantyhose.
 - You call your answering service and they tell you it's none of your business who called.
 - Your blind date turns out to be your ex.
 - You call suicide prevention and they put you on hold.
 - Even your Income Tax check bounces.
- And, the Surest Sign You Are Having a Bad Day...
- You wake up to realize your waterbed has burst... but then recall that you no longer own a waterbed.

Long Time Friends

Two elderly ladies had been friends for many decades. Over the years, they had shared all kinds of activities and adventures. Lately, their activities had been limited to meeting a few times a week to play cards.

One day they were playing cards when one looked at the other and said, - Now don't get mad at me. I know we've been friends for along time. But I just can't think of your name. I've thought and thought, but I can't remember it. Please tell me what your name is.'

Her friend glared at her. For at least three minutes, her friend just stared and glared at her. Finally, her friend asked, "How soon do you need to know?"

The Senility Prayer

God . . . grant me the senility to forget the people I've never liked, the good fortune to run into the ones that I do like, and the eyesight to see the difference.

Calendar of Coming Events

- Mar. 15, 2009** **St. Joseph Day Celebration.**
F. Coleman, N. Cosentino, G. Pizzo
S. DiPasquale + Membership.
- Mar. 19, 2009** **Soup and Salad Luncheon.**
Mary Cottone + Membership.
- Apr. 3, 10, 2009** .. **Easter Lent Fish Fry.**
Jeanne Catering and DIA Hall.
- April 12, 2009** **Easter Brunch.**
Jeanne Catering and DIA Hall.
- April 15, 2009** **April Pasta Event.**
Pasta Committee + Membership.
- May 6, 2009** **Taste of Italy Charitable Event.**
Tony Lumia + Membership.
- May 10, 2009** **Mother's Day Luncheon.**
Jeanne's Catering and DIA Hall.
- May 20, 2009** **May Pasta Event.**
Pasta Committee + Club Membership.
- July 26, 2009** **Annual Picnic Event.**
Mike/Vivian Palazzolo + Club Board.
- Oct. 3, 2009** **"Dancing with the Stars".**
Janice Labadie, Phyllis Gandol, Mary Wierzba.

The ***Downriver Italian-American Club Newsletter*** is Published Monthly for the Downriver Italian-American Club Membership. Editors: Frank and Liliana Giannotti. (734)283-7394. Forward your comments, corrections and items of interest to:
DIAC Newsletter, c/o Frank A. Giannotti
14823 Williamsburg Blvd.
Riverview, MI 48193-7703

The Downriver Italian-American Hall®

646 BIDDLE AVE ♣ WYANDOTTE, MICHIGAN 48192-2727 ♣ TEL. (734)285-4044 ♣

Soup and Salad Luncheon

Thursday, March 19, 2009

Buffet Luncheon from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

♣ **Open to the General Public** ♣

\$5.00 per Person



~ Menu ~

Chicken Soup
Minestrone Soup
Antipasto Salad
Coffee or Tea
Beverage Available
Dessert



For further information, please contact:

Diana Holmes or Mary Cottone – DIAH Office at (734)285-4044

The Downriver Italian-American Banquet Hall®

The 36th Annual
St. Joseph Day Celebration
Sunday, March 15, 2009



Presented by:

The Downriver Italian-American Club

646 Biddle Avenue

Wyandotte, MI 48192

Pageant at 2:00pm – Admission Free
Buffet Dinner following the Pageant

Adults: \$7.00

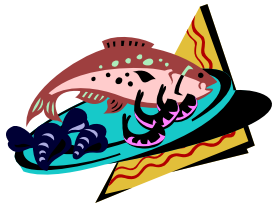
Children (10yrs and under): \$3.50

All Donations given to charities,
Helping children and needy families in our
community.

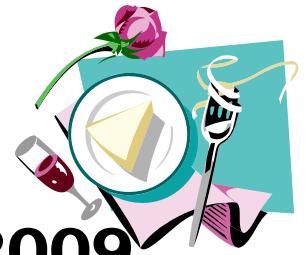
This event is open to the public.
Invite your family and friends!

Tickets are available for purchase at the door.
For more information, call (734) 285-4044

May St. Joseph Bless You and Bring You Joy



Two Fish Fries During Easter Lent



Friday, April 3, & April 10 2009

Downriver Italian-American Hall
& Jeanne's Catering

646 Biddle Avenue
Wyandotte, MI 48192

4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Buffet Style, No Reservation, Invite your Friends

~ Menu ~

Beer Batter Cod
Lemon Pepper Pollack
Red Skin Potatoes - Vegetables
Cole Slaw - Roll and Butter
Dessert - Coffee

\$10.00 per person

Children under 10 years old - \$7.00

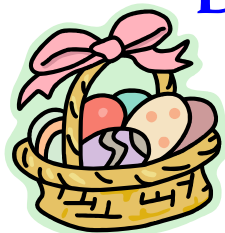
(Includes sales tax - Gratuity Optional)

Cash Bar Available - Carryout Available



For Further Information Contact:
DIAC Hall, Diana Holmes (734) 285-4044
Jeanne's Catering (734)516-5948

**Jeanne's Catering and the
Downriver Italian-American Hall**



646 Biddle Avenue
Wyandotte, MI 48192



Easter Brunch

Sunday April 12, 2009

11:00 am – 5:00 pm - Now Taking Reservations

Brunch Menu

Fluffy Scrambled Eggs, Lyonnaise Potatoes, Sausage
Caramel French Toast, Fruit Salad and Pastries

Soup and Salad Bar, Cheese and Cracker Display
Peel & Eat Shrimp, Vegetables & Relishes

Luncheon Menu

Steamed Vegetables, Garlic Mashed Potatoes
Penne Marinara, Bowtie with Fresh Pesto
Tender Beef Tips, Baked Ham, Fish Monterey
Roast Italian Sausage with Peppers and Onions
Swedish Meatballs, Chicken Cacciatore, Roast Pork Loin
Dessert Table with Coffee

Cash Bar



Adults – \$15.00 in Advance / \$16.00 at the Door

Seniors(62+) – \$14.00 in Advance / \$15.00 at the Door

Children (4 to 10 Years) – \$8.00 in Advance / \$9.00 at the Door

Public Welcome – Bring Your Family and Friends

Also – Join Us for Mother's Day Dinner Buffet