



41st Year, 1971-2012



# The Downriver Italian-American Club®

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

## \*\* IMPORTANT DATES \*\*

## December 2012 NEWSLETTER

Club Board of Directors Meeting ..... Tuesday, December 11, 2012, 7:00 p.m.

General Membership Meeting..... \*\*\* CANCELLED \*\*\*

## Buon Natale a Tutti – Merry Christmas to All

### No Membership Meeting in December

The December membership meeting has been cancelled due to the holidays. The next meeting will be on January 27, 2013. Wishing our members and their families the **Very Best for the Holidays**. Be safe, be healthy and see you next year.

### *It's Christmas, it's Christmas*

*Each merry bell chimes*

*A time for remembering*

*Old friends and old times*

*A time for warm greetings*

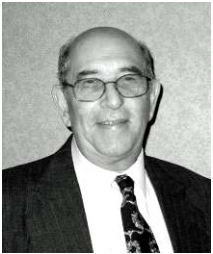
*Old ties to renew*

*And a time for good wishes*

*For good folks like you!*

*Merry Christmas*

### Message from the Club President



As I sit down to write my final newsletter article as your President, for the last two years, I would like to thank all the members for their support, in particular the members of both Boards. I would also like to thank those that have left or are leaving the Club Board. **Mike**

**Palazzolo**, who had to leave the Board because of his health. **Linda Kerr**, who despite her health problems did a wonderful job as Recording Secretary and finally **Alfonso Stralle** who decided not to run for another term. Finally, I would like to welcome the two new Trustees, **Dennis** and **Alice Patton**.

Of course, we now have **Charlie Lupo** as our new President. I ask that everyone give him the same support you afforded me, during my second term as your President. I did take a position as a Trustee on the Club Board and I will continue to chair the Spaghetti Dinners. Speaking of Club events, I would also like to thank all of the members that chaired and worked at the many Club events that fill our calendars.

The members both past and present have worked very hard to keep this Club viable, with some 350 members and an elegant Banquet Facility. Recently we have held a couple of joint meetings with both Boards, to explore ways to increase business for our hall and expand our field of membership. The Boards have been energized, now it is up to the members. There is no shortage of helpers among our membership. The Spaghetti Dinners are a huge success. If you have not worked these events, then come on down. As it relates to our rentals, the biggest reasons people give for renting our hall is word of mouth and attendance at event. We do advertise, but it is expensive and not as effective as word of mouth. So what I ask is that every member becomes a salesperson for our business. Talk it up within your family and your circle of friends. Both **Diana Holmes** and **Mary Cottone** are ready to cut a deal. Members and families do receive a discount. If any member has any suggestions on how we can increase business for our hall or expand our field of membership, please give me a call. Don't forget that there will be a Legends Show on New Year's Eve, we need your support.

In closing, I would like to thank the members for the opportunity to be your President. Thanks to the Board members and I wish **Charlie Lupo** well in his efforts to lead the Club.

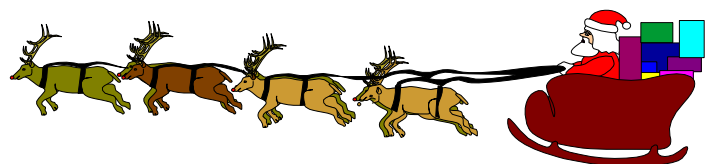
A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all of our Club members and their families.

**Mark S. Grazioli, Club President**

### Membership Drive



DIAC Board passed a resolution to waiver new membership initiation fees (\$50.00), starting December 1, 2012. If you know of friends who are of Italian heritage, please let them know of this special membership discount offer. This is a limited time offer.



## A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

**To Our Members and their Families!**



### Member's Christmas Dinner Party



One last reminder, the Member's Christmas Dinner Party is on Friday, December 14, 2012. **Mary Cottone**, and **Leslie Lupo** are the chairpersons. This is a grand event with live music by the **Blue Genes**, a fine meal and lots of time to dance and socialize with friends. You may purchase individual tickets or reserve for a table of 10. Make your reservation early for the good table location. The event is open to member's family and their friends. A flyer is contained in this newsletter.

### "Legends Live" New Year's Eve Show



The Downriver Italian-American Hall will be hosting the "Legends Live" New Year's Eve Show on Monday, December 31, 2012. The chairpersons are **Nino Trupiano** and **Tony Lumia**,

along with their spouse.

Make an effort to attend this fine event and please advise your family and friends. Complete with dinner and featuring tributes to: **Tom Jones**, **Frankie Valli**, **Blues Brothers**, **Bobby Darin** with MC & comedian **Keith Ruff**. See flyer in this newsletter.

~~ Featured Menu ~~

*Roast Round of Beef*  
*Boneless-skinless Chicken Breast*  
*Farfalle with Meat Sauce*  
*Broccoli, Cauliflower, and Carrots*  
*Roasted Red Skins Potatoes*  
*Michigan and Caesar Salad*  
*Assorted Bread and Butter*  
*Cheesecake*  
*Relish Tray, Coffee & Tea*

Tickets are \$55.00 per person with dinner at 6:30 p.m. The featured program starts at 8:00 p.m. - cash bar is available. For reservations and further information, please contact **Diana Holmes** or **Mary Cottone** at the DIA Banquet Hall, (734)285-4044 or via email, [www.diahall10@yahoo.com](mailto:www.diahall10@yahoo.com)

### Sick and Good Will



Belated Get Well Wishes to the following members who were/are ill or hospitalized:

**Florence Coleman** who underwent an eye retina surgery. **Sam Pizzo** who is undergoing eye surgery. **Mike T. Palazzolo** who was hospitalized.

We wish good health to all our members who are not feeling well – especially those living alone and those living in assisted living. Please advise **Grace Pizzo** (734) 379-9491 if you know of a member who is ill or if there is a death in their family.

Condolences to the family of **Travis C. Dick** who passed away on October 27, 2012, at the age of 87. Travis and his late wife, Ann, joined DIAC on October 1974. Both Travis and Ann were very active in our club in the early years, including helping and attending many club functions and the Italian festivals at the Yack Arena. Ann had the role of festival treasurer while Travis worked at the beer booth. They moved to Canton many years ago. A lot of our older club members recall their contributions to the club. Travis was a founding father to the club and we thank him for the many contributions. May he rest in peace.

Condolences to the family of **Sadie Kusic** on the loss of her husband, **Joseph Kusic**, who passed away on November 23, 2012, at the age of 87. Joe and Sadie became members in the mid 70's. Both gave a lot of their effort at the Italian Festivals and were very active in the club. They moved to Florida for a period of time. They returned to Michigan and they rejoined the club in 2001. It is unfortunate that Joe became ill and no longer able to help and attend the club functions. We will miss **Joe Kusic** and his many contributions to the Club. May he rest in peace.

Condolences to the family of **Pauline Barraco** on the loss of her husband, **Bill Barraco**, who passed away on November 29, 2012, at the age of 83. Bill and Pauline became members in June 1974. They both gave a lot of effort towards the Italian Festivals at Yack Arena and were very active in the club. They helped very much toward the Pasta Events. Bill was a legend - you would see Bill issue meal tickets to pasta customers as they entered the door. He was very active in sports and would know the ins and out of the Detroit Tigers of the past. Bill was a founding father to the club. It is unfortunate that Bill became ill and no longer was able to help out. We will miss **Bill Barraco** and his many contributions to the Club. May he rest in peace.



*The Downriver Italian-American Hall - Banquet & Conference Center*

### Happy Birthday - Buon Compleanno



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

<i>Mary Wierzba (12/03)</i>	<i>Giuseppe Alastra (12/19)</i>
<i>Gina Cosner (12/04)</i>	<i>John Cadorin (12/19)</i>
<i>Bruce Yinger (12/05)</i>	<i>Paul Consiglio (12/19)</i>
<i>Kathleen Tocco (12/6)</i>	<i>Angela Palazzolo (12/20)</i>
<i>Sylvia Vitale (12/06)</i>	<i>Vivian Cacioppo (12/22)</i>
<i>Vincenza DiClaudio (12/11)</i>	<i>Shirley Cavataio (12/22)</i>
<i>Domenick Forte (12/14)</i>	<i>Nancy DiPasquale (12/26)</i>
<i>Giovanna Vitale (12/14)</i>	<i>George Lavine (12/26)</i>
<i>Richard Kaune (12/15)</i>	<i>Marian Maniaci (12/28)</i>
<i>Francesco DeMelis (12/16)</i>	<i>Steven Vitale (12/28)</i>
<i>Julian LoRusso (12/16)</i>	<i>Robyn Vitale (12/30)</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 celebrating their anniversary.

*Phillip and Kathleen Tocco (12/22)*  
*Don and Emilia (Mimi) Kerr (12/31)*



### A Special Thank-You to Our Members



A special thank-you to club members **Elisa Norscia, Jeanette Schiraldi** and **Maria Graziani** for bringing dessert to the November membership meeting. The desserts were very much appreciated and delicious.

**Hermine Norscia, Carmela Stralle** and **Lisa Vespa** have volunteered to bring dessert to the **January 27<sup>th</sup>** membership meeting.

### This Special Christmas Wish

*That comes with love to you  
 Brings warm and heartfelt thanks  
 For all the thoughtful things you do.*

*It also comes to let you know  
 You mean more each day  
 To everyone your lives have touched  
 In such a loving way.*

### GO WITH GRACE TOURS

Upcoming tours by **GO WITH GRACE TOURS**:

<b>FIREKEEPER'S HOLIDAY DAY TRIP</b>	Dec. 28, 2012
Receive \$20 Red Hot Credit & \$5 food!	\$29.00 PP
<b>GUN LAKE CASINO DAY TRIP</b>	Jan. 8, 2013
Receive \$10 casino money and \$5 food!	\$30.00 PP
<b>FIREKEEPER'S HOTEL OVERNIGHT</b>	Jan 22/23, 2013
Call for details	\$135.00 PP

### GO WITH GRACE TOURS (Att: Grace Cibulskis)

28020 Charlemagne St.

Romulus, MI 48174

(734)306-2072

[www.gowithgrace55@yahoo.com](http://www.gowithgrace55@yahoo.com)

Call and ask for current tour flyer with details on the above and future trips and requirements.

### DIA Hall Banquet Facility

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

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

### *Sings the Season*

*Some ring in December  
with Christmas trees and silver bells,  
and to the lingering year, bid ever-fond farewells*

*Others share their heritage  
on Kwanzaa during winter's chill,  
or rest on Boxing Day, the Day of Goodwill*

*Some herald the Winter Solstice  
through the lens of astronomy's eyes,  
acknowledging the natural world by looking to the skies*

*Yet Chanuka, the Festival of Lights,  
sings the season most sweetly for me,  
eight candles on a menorah recall faith and bravery.*



*May our holidays bring  
gladness, joy, love, and peace,  
and in the New Year, may our blessings increase.*

*Chava Kaye, December 2012*

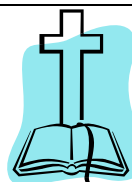
arrangement. Please provide as much lead time as possible. The Hall telephone number is (734)285-4044.

### *Pensiere Fisso*

*Quando mi sveglio al mattina  
Sei il mio primo pensiero  
Quando vado al lavoro  
Sai sempre nei miei pensieri;  
Quando la sera vado a letto  
Sei il mio ultimo pensiero:  
Che bella la vita spensierata*

*La Rubrica di Antonello*

### Italian Mass at St. Stanislaus



The **Downriver Santa Rosalia Club** is having an Italian Mass at **St. Stanislaus Church** in Wyandotte on Sunday December 9, 2012 at 3:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

There will be a social hour immediately following the mass, at Downriver Italian-American Hall at 646 Biddle, Wyandotte MI. **There is a \$10.00 fee per adult who are non-members of the Santa Rosalia Club.** Beverage and a snack will be provided.

St. Stanislaus is located at 266 Antoine, seven blocks north of Northline and two blocks west of Biddle. For further information, please contact **Grace Pizzo** at (734)379-9491.

### Membership Email Notification



If you have an email address and wish to be notified by email in the event of a club emergency or a member's death, please contact **Leslie Lupo** at (734)282-1257 or via her email address [lupo2390@att.net](mailto:lupo2390@att.net).

Another way of being notified is by the Member's telephone notification list, which is administered by **Rose Pagano**, (734)282-2331. Your name will be placed on the list and someone will call you.

### Contacting the Hall During an Emergency



Members who wish to contact the Hall during an emergency situation, (when the Hall is not staffed), can contact **Mary Cottone** at (313)689-5313 (cell); **Nino Trupiano** at (734)837-6959 (cell) or **Mark Grazioli** at (734)787-0666 (cell).

The information will be forward to the Hall Secretary/ Receptionist, **Diana Holmes**, the next day. Diana will contact the people and she will make the necessary

### Calendar of Coming Club/Hall Events

**Dec. 14, 2012 ..... Member's Christmas Party.**

Mary Cottone, Leslie Lupo

**Dec. 31, 2012 ..... "Legends Live" New Year's Eve Party.**

Tony Lumia, Nino Trupiano

The ***Downriver Italian-American Club Newsletter*** is published monthly for the Downriver Italian-American Club membership. Editor: Frank A. Giannotti. (734) 283-7394  
Forward your comment, correction and items of interest to:

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c/o Frank A. Giannotti  
14823 Williamsburg Blvd.  
Riverview, MI 48193-7703

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*The Downriver Italian-American Hall - Banquet & Conference Center*



# Downriver Italian-American Banquet Hall

646 Biddle Ave. Wyandotte, MI 48192

## New Years Eve Dinner Show

Comedian  
Keith Ruff

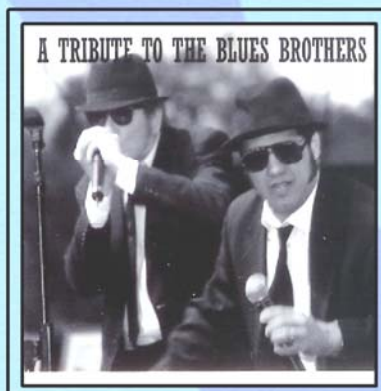


Featuring:

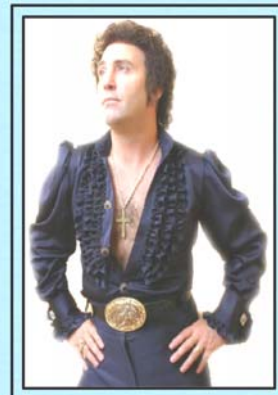
### LEGENDS LIVE

*Michigan's #1 Tribute Show*

Blues Brothers



Tom Jones



Frankie Valli



Bobby Darin



Monday, December 31, 2012

TICKETS \$55.00

Includes Dinner, Show & Champagne Toast

Dinner @ 7:00 PM - Show @ 8:00 PM

DJ and Dancing - Cash Bar - Drink Specials

For reservations or more information please call D.I.A Banquet Hall 734-285-4044

Tony Lumia 313-565-0671 / Nino Trupiano 734-284-9590

Legends Live is produced by Empire Entertainment ([www.legendslivemi.com](http://www.legendslivemi.com))

# DIAC Adult Christmas Party

Downriver Italian-American Hall, 646 Biddle Ave., Wyandotte, MI 48192-2727

## Friday, December 14, 2012

Doors Open at 6:00 pm

Family Style Dinner at 6:30 pm

Music - The Blue Genes Band at 7:30 pm



### Main Entrées:

Michigan Salad/Caesar Salad  
Italian Bread with Olive Oil  
Penne Pasta with Meatballs and Sausage  
Baked Chicken  
Breaded Pork  
Mashed Potatoes with Gravy  
California Mixed Vegetables

### Dessert

Cheese Cake with Strawberries

### Beverages

Coffee, Tea, Soda, Beer and Wine

Invitation includes Family and Friends

\$30.00 per Adult (16 years and Older)

Reserved tables of 10 only. All other seated where available. Door Prizes

Tickets must be paid at time of reservation:

Make check or money order payable to: **Downriver Italian-American Club**



Mail to: Mary Cottone

478 Mulberry

Wyandotte, MI 48192-4352



For further information call: Mary Cottone at (734) 285-1563  
or Charles and Leslie Lupo at (734) 282-1257

✂-----✂-----✂

I (We) will be attending the D.I.A.C. 2012 Adult Christmas Party on Friday, December 14, 2012.  
This ticket and payment must be received no later than November 30, 2012.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of people Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: **Downriver Italian-American Club.** Table No. \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form and check to: Mary Cottone ♣ 478 Mulberry ♣ Wyandotte, MI 48192-4352

**If you would like to sit with a friend (at their table), please print their names here.**