



47th Year, 1971-2018



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ST. JOSEPH DAY
MARCH 19, 2018

The Downriver Italian - American Club®

P.O. Box 1797 ♣ Southgate, MI 48195-0797 ♣ Tel. (734) 676-8463 ♣ Email: diac1971@gmail.com ♣ Web: diac.us

** IMPORTANT DATES **

Club Board Meeting Tuesday, Mar. 13, 2018 – 3:00 p.m., Knights of Columbus
General Membership Meeting Wednesday, Mar. 21, 2018 – 1:00 p.m., The Bentley

March 2018 Newsletter

St. Joseph Celebration – Mar. 18, 2018

Message from the President



It looks to me like the worst part of winter may be behind us. You never really know here in Michigan, but it certainly is a welcome relief from the snow and cold. The month of March is always fun for me with college basketball, **St. Patrick's Day** but most important is our **St. Joseph Day Celebration Dinner** on March 18. Any time we can celebrate the heritage of our parents and grandparents; it gives us an opportunity to stay connected to the Italian traditions that our forefathers tried to hand down to us. *"Molto Importante!!"*

I hope you will invite friends and family to join us in this simple lunch of pasta and beans as we discuss the origins of the celebration, enjoy each other's company and most of all, to raise money for charity. We can never forget how much God has blessed us and how much we bless each other when we give to those organizations that need our help. See article contained in this newsletter.

Thanks to the **Social Committee** for putting together the **Honky Tonk Angels** event. I am not a fan of country music, but this play was a really good time.

I hope to see all of you on March 18.

"I fagioli non ti faranno male."

Sam Randazzo – Club President



Monthly Luncheon @ Bentley



The Club luncheon this month will be on **Wednesday, March 21, 2018, at 12:00 noon**, at **The Bentley, 646 Biddle Ave., Wyandotte, MI 48192**. This location is the former DIAC club building.

The cost of the luncheon is \$9.00 per person. Make your lunch reservation by calling **Sam Randazzo** at (734)676-8463, no later than one week before.

2018 Club Membership Dues



The 2018 club dues are payable until March 31st. There is a drawing for a \$200 gift card if your payment is received by March 31st

There is also a drawing

for a \$100 gift card for Honorary members.

The dues are \$30.00 for a single member and \$60.00 for a married couple. The dues can be paid at the 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.

The deadline for dues is March 31, 2018.

~ Greektown Casino Trips ~



The upcoming **Greektown Casino** trips are on **Wednesday, March 14th** and **Wednesday, April 11th**. The pickup/drop off points are: **Meijer's (Southgate)**

parking lot (@12:50 p.m.); Meijer's (Lincoln Park) parking lot (@1:10 p.m.). The bus departs from the casino at 7:00 p.m. Call

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Downriver Italian American Club

Indian Trails at (800) 292-3831 and let them know where you want to be picked up. You must now use a credit card to make your

Feast of St. Joseph - March 18, 2018



The 43rd Annual Feast of St. Joseph Celebration - Sunday, March 18, 2018.

The Celebration starts at 1:00 p.m.

Donation: \$10.00 per person.

This 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 and beans. Each person is given a package of a roll, a grapefruit, 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 42 years. All donations are given to needy families and organizations, helping children. If you would like to make cookies or help 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 may still donate. Make your check payable to **Downriver Italian American Club**, and please note at the bottom that it is for the **Feast of St. Joseph**. Send your donation to:

Sam Randazzo
3391 Brookshire
Trenton, MI 48183-3970.

We need members to donate cookies – please contact **Rose Pagano (734) 365-1310**. RSVP your reservation by calling **Sam or Grace no later than March 11, 2018**, so a headcount can be established.

Sam Randazzo - (734) 676-8463
Grace Pizzo - (734) 379-9491

Luncheon at K of C – Wyandotte, MI



The Knights of Columbus, 3530 Biddle Ave., Wyandotte, MI 48192, is having a St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner on Saturday, March 10, 2018. The doors open at 6:00 p.m. The

cost is \$20.00 per person. Seniors 65 and over, \$15.00. The meal starts at 6:30 p.m. with music at 7:00 p.m.

Tickets must be purchased before the event, by calling **Ron Thoms, K. of C. (313)407-0895**. You can call **Mary Cottone (734)285-1563** if you have questions.

Easter Sunday Brunch at the Bentley



The **Bentley Banquet and Conference Center** is hosting an **Easter Sunday Brunch on Sunday, April 1, 2018**. Tickets can be purchased at **The Bentley, 646 Biddle Ave., Wyandotte, MI 48192 (734) 285-4044**. This is a non-club sponsored event. Please advise your family and friends.

There are three (3) seating times: 10:00 a.m., 12:00 noon, 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Make your reservation by calling the Bentley office at **(734)285-4044** with your seating time. See flyer for pricing.

The meal menu is shown in the attached flyer.

The Bentley website is: www.Bentleybanquet.com.

Ark Encounter Overnight Trip



The **Social Committee** has selected an overnight trip event, the **Ark Encounter, the Life-sized Recreation of Noah's Ark**, located in northern Kentucky. The date is April 10 & 11, 2018.

The trip is by **Bianco Tours**. The Club will subsidize \$50.00 per person, for whichever **room option** you select. Subtract \$50.00 from the cost. Make the check out to **Bianco Tours**. Send the coupon and your check or money order to:

Grace Pizzo
32050 Liparoto Drive
Rockwood, MI 48173-8618.

Your reservation must be received no later than March 10, 2018. If you have questions, please call **Grace at (734) 379-9491**. Details regarding this trip are found in the attached flyer.

Congratulating New Club Members



Please welcome the following new club members who recently joined the **Downriver Italian-American Club**:

Andrea Prato of Wyandotte, MI., sponsored by **Rose Mary Proto**.

Catherine Rotondo of Riverview, MI., a returning Honorary Member.

Congratulations to the new Members.



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Downriver Italian American Club

Sick and Good Will



Our thoughts and prayers to our members and their families, who may be under the weather, having tests, getting treatments or surgeries. Also, special blessings to all of our many caretakers of ailing family members. May God bless you all.

Get Well Wishes to our members who recently have (or have had) health issues: **Florence (Sclafani) Coleman, Sal DiPasquale, Mary-Jane Grazioli, Tony Lumia, Joyce Mitra, Dennis Randazzo, Sylvia Vitale and Joanne Wolfgang.**

Please contact **Grace Pizzo (734) 379-9491**, of any illness.

If you would like to be on our email list for notification of a deceased member, please email **Frank Giannotti** at frankgiannotti@comcast.net or (734)283-7394.

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 Susin (3/19)</i>
<i>Ann I. Lepidi (3/4)</i>	<i>Edith Gendron (3/22)</i>
<i>Stephanie Badalamenti (3/10)</i>	<i>Charles Lupo (3/22)</i>
<i>Rose Vitale (3/10)</i>	<i>Nick Caputo (3/24)</i>
<i>Danny Herbert (3/14)</i>	<i>Sal DiPasquale (3/24)</i>
<i>Matteo Giaimo (3/15)</i>	<i>Brenda Mangiapane (3/28)</i>
<i>Anthony J. Vitale (3/17)</i>	<i>Gaetano A. Vitale (3/29)</i>
<i>Susan Byrd (3/19)</i>	<i>Douglas Melzer (3/30)</i>

Happy Anniversary – Buon Anniversario



We wish to extend our Best Wishes for the many Happy and Healthy years together, to our members who are celebrating their **Anniversary** this month.

Sal and Nancy DiPasquale (3/22)
Alexander and Karen Asteriou (3/30)

Scholarship for Higher Education



DIAC is offering a \$500.00 scholarship to a son or daughter of a club member; who are attending higher education in the fall of this year. Some eligibility applies. If you have a son or daughter that qualifies, you can obtain the form by contacting **Frank Giannotti**, 14823 Williamsburg Blvd., Riverview, MI 48193-7703 or frankgiannotti@comcast.net or by phone (734)283-7394. The Scholarship Committee will review the applications and conduct an interview. Good luck to all.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

- Mar. 14, 2018, Greektown Casino Trip**
Indian Trails, (800) 292-3831
- Mar. 18, 2018, St. Joseph Celebration**
Sam Randazzo, (734)676-8463.
- Apr. 1, 2018, Easter Brunch at Bentley**
The Bentley, (734)285-4044
- Apr. 10/11, 2018, .. Ark Encounter Bus Trip**
Grace Pizzo (734)379-9491
- Apr. 11, 2018, Greektown Casino Trip**
Indian Trails, (800) 292-3831
- May 9, 2018, Taste of Italy**
Tony Lumia (313)565-0671
- May 9, 2018, Greektown Casino Trip**
Indian Trails, (800) 292-3831
- May 23, 2018, Ford Rouge Plant/Lunch (Buddy's)**
Social Committee
- June 13, 2018, Greektown Casino Trip**
Indian Trails, (800) 292-3831
- June 20, 2018, Evening GM Meeting, Silver Shore**
Sam Randazzo, (734)676-8463
- June 28, 2018, Gilmore Car Museum/Firekeeper**
Social Committee
- July 25, 2018, Diamond Jack Boat Ride**
Frank Giannotti, (734)283-7394
- Aug. 12, 2018, Club Picnic**
Randazzo, Lumia, Patton, Pizzo
- Aug. 30, 2018, Nunsense A-Men Bus Trip**
Social Committee
- Oct. 8, 2018, Columbus Day Dinner**
Charles Lupo, (734)282-1257

The Downriver Italian-American Club Newsletter

Published monthly for the Downriver Italian-American Club membership. Forward comment, correction, and items of interest to
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The Bentley Banquet & Conference Center

Easter Sunday BRUNCH

JOIN US APRIL 1ST, 2018

IN OUR GRAND BALLROOM FOR A GOURMET CELEBRATION

SEATING TIMES:

10:00AM

12:00PM

2:00PM

4:00PM

MENU TO FEATURE

GARDEN GREEN SALAD

FRESH SLICED FRUITS

SCRAMBLED EGGS

BREAKFAST POTATO MEDLEY

FRENCH TOAST WITH WARM MAPLE SYRUP

SELECTION OF BREAKFAST MEATS

BISCUITS AND GRAVY

MADE TO ORDER OMELET STATION

CHICKEN PICCATA WITH LEMON SAUCE

CHEF CARVED PRIME RIB

SEASONAL VEGETABLE MIX

WARM ROLLS AND BUTTER

DECEDENT DESSERT DISPLAY

COFFEE AND TEA STATION

ASSORTED JUICE BAR

BRUNCH CASH BAR AVAILABLE

SEATING IS LIMITED FOR EACH TIME SLOT. RESERVATIONS AND ADVANCE PAYMENT ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL RESERVATIONS.

ADULTS \$26

SENIORS \$23

CHILDREN \$13 (AGES 5-10)

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND RESERVATIONS PLEASE CALL THE BENTLEY: 734-285-4044

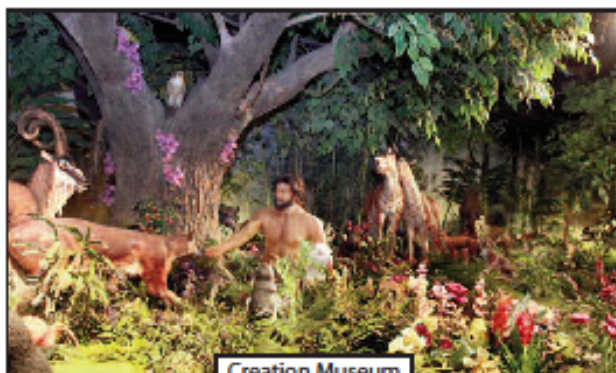


2 days / 1 night
\$299.00

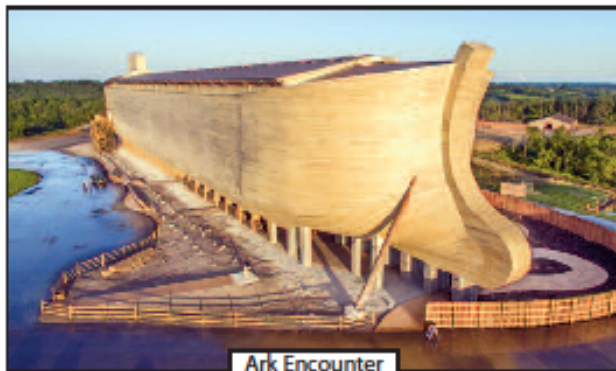
per person/double occupancy

For reservations and information please contact:

Grace Pizzo
(734) 379-9491



Creation Museum



Ark Encounter

Presented by:

Downriver Italian
American Club

Tour date:

April 10 - 11, 2018
Tuesday - Wednesday

BIGGER THAN YOUR IMAGINATION!

YOUR BIANCO TOUR INCLUDES:

Round Trip Transportation:

Via deluxe highway motorcoach. Equipped with reclining seats, overhead storage, & restroom for your comfort and convenience.

Accommodations:

- 1 Night at Holiday Inn (Covington, KY)

Included Meals:

- 1 Breakfast & 1 Dinner

Featuring:

- **Creation Museum** (Petersburg, KY)

The state of the art 70,000 square foot museum brings the pages of the Bible to life, casting its characters and animals in dynamic form and placing them in familiar settings.

- **Greyhound Tavern** (included dinner)

An award-winning restaurant and Northern Kentucky landmark.

- **Ark Encounter** (Williamstown, KY)

From the moment you turn the corner and the towering Ark comes into view, the friendly animals in the zoo, to the jaw-dropping exhibits inside the Ark, you'll experience the pages of the Bible like never before.

Tour price includes gratuities for above trip inclusions.

BIANCO TOUR DIRECTOR & DRIVER GRATUITIES ARE NOT INCLUDED.

Escorted by a professional Bianco Tour Director

Coffee & snacks served on the first morning

Alcoholic & non-alcoholic drinks & snacks on return trip



Blanco Tours does not own or operate any of the suppliers of services or accommodations for your trip. As a result, it is not responsible for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such supplier or of any third party over whom Blanco Tours has no control.



(734) 946-7021

www.biancotours.com



ARK ENCOUNTER

Day 1

This morning we depart for Northern Kentucky with a cup of hot coffee and a snack served by a professional Bianco Tour Director. After an on our own lunch stop en route, our journey brings us to the **Creation Museum**. The state of the art 70,000 square foot museum brings the pages of the Bible to life, casting its characters and animals in dynamic form and placing them in familiar settings. Adam and Eve live in the Garden of Eden. Children play and dinosaurs roam near Eden's Rivers. The serpent coils cunningly in the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. Majestic murals, great master pieces brimming with pulsating colors and details provide a backdrop for many of the settings. Upon arrival to our hotel this evening, a welcome reception greets us as we check in. After some time to freshen up and relax, we depart for an included dinner at **Greyhound Tavern**, an award-winning restaurant and Northern Kentucky landmark. The Greyhound Tavern (originally the Dixie Tea Room) was built in 1921. The two original rooms are still occupied today and are referred to as the "Tavern Room" and the "Hunt Room." The Dixie Tea Room was conveniently located at the "End of the Line" where streetcars completed their journey south, made the big turn, and headed back to Cincinnati. Today, the Greyhound Tavern is still well known for its traditional favorites, but it has also become a prime spot for chops, steaks, seafood, and other specialties prepared by the chef and his staff.

Day 2

Breakfast is included this morning before our spiritual journey continues with a visit to the **Ark Encounter**. Ark Encounter is a one-of-a-kind themed attraction everyone will enjoy and is the largest timber-frame structure in the world. Ark Encounter features a full-size Noah's Ark, built according to the dimensions given in the Bible. Spanning 510 feet long, 85 feet wide and 51 feet high, this modern engineering marvel amazes visitors young and old. From the moment we turn the corner and the towering Ark comes into view, the friendly animals in the zoo, to the jaw-dropping exhibits inside the Ark, you'll experience the pages of the Bible like never before. See Noah's family in prayer at the start of the Flood, experience a variety of animal exhibits while learning which types of creatures, and how many of each, were brought on board. A spectacular tour through the Pre-Flood World leads to an array of exhibits detailing how Noah's family could have maintained the Ark and cared for thousands of animals during the Flood. Roam through the magnificent Living Quarters then go onto discover the impact the Flood had on our world. Lunch is on our own as we enjoy the spectacular view of the bow end of the Ark on the scenic deck of Emzara's Kitchen. Following our visit here, we make our way home this afternoon making a rest and meal stop on our own en route. Thank you for traveling with Bianco Tours and we hope you enjoyed your biblical journey.

IT'S EASY TO JOIN A BIANCO TOUR!

Reservations for ____ participants. Just complete the form below and include a **\$20.00** deposit **per person** to hold your reservations. Full payment is due 30 days prior to departure. A charge of \$150.00, based on double occupancy, may be levied on all cancellations made within 14 days of departure. No refunds within 24 hours of departure. Please make checks (minus subsidy amount) payable to: **Bianco Tours**.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Phone #: _____ Roommate(s): _____

☐ Private room: \$364.00

☐ Double room: \$299.00

☐ Triple room: \$277.00

Date: 4/10/18

Code: 4N80807.1

Tour: Ark Encounter

Group: Downriver Italian American Club

CREDIT CARD PURCHASE (print clearly)

(A 3% convenience charge will be added to the above prices for credit card purchases)

Name on card: _____

Card number: _____

Exp. Date: _____
(month) (year)

Security Code: _____

Signature: _____ Amount being charged: \$ _____

I have read and accept the conditions regarding cancellation refunds and payments

