



# The Grapevine

A Publication From  
The Italian American Chamber of Commerce of Michigan  
Winter/Spring Issue • 2018  
Volume 17 • Number 1  
Visit Our Website at: [www.iaccm.net](http://www.iaccm.net)



## Upcoming EVENTS

### FEBRUARY 7, 2018 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING

- TIME** • 6:00 PM Board Meeting  
• 6:30 PM General Membership Meeting  
**LOCATION**  
• Andiamo Italia  
7096 East 14 Mile Road, Warren

### MARCH 7, 2018 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING

- TIME**  
• 6:00 PM Board Meeting  
• 6:30 PM General Membership Meeting  
**LOCATION**  
• Eastpointe Manor  
24611 Gratiot Ave, Eastpointe

### APRIL 4, 2018 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING

- TIME** • 6:00 PM Board Meeting  
• 6:30 PM General Membership Meeting  
**LOCATION**  
• San Marino Club  
1685 E. Big Beaver Road, Troy

### MAY 2, 2018 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING

## FESTA DELLA LIRA

See Page 11

- TIME**  
• 6:00 PM General Membership Meeting  
**LOCATION**  
• Mirage Banquet Center  
16980 18 Mile Road, Clinton Twp.



## Notes from the PRESIDENT

Happy New year everyone!

I hope this finds everyone healthy to start the year. First, I would like to thank everyone for allowing me the opportunity to serve as your President for 2018. I would also like to thank Vito Pianello and all of the prior Officers, Board of Directors and Past Presidents for their service. Additionally I would like to thank David Galli for serving as our Chairman for 2018.

Last year was a great year for the Chamber. We had a great golf outing, which lead to a substantial amount given in Scholarship. We had a great Festa Della Lira and we welcomed many new members. We look forward to those events having a great 2018 as well. Your participation in these great events will make that happen.

This year we will focus on new membership growth, as always, so PLEASE refer your Italian friends to our group. We also want to provide more "value" to your membership by growing your referral network and, hopefully, helping your business grow. We will be trying a few new networking events in 2018. I hope that you will participate in those events.

Please get involved as a member/participant on one of our many committees, as well as the Networking committee and help shape our future. Our Chamber is only as great as you make it! Please contact myself or Debbie to volunteer. Remember our email address is: [iacc.mich@yahoo.com](mailto:iacc.mich@yahoo.com)

Lastly, please keep in mind that our 100th year anniversary is coming in 2019. Please reserve October 19, 2019 for this special event being held at the Detroit Athletic Club. We will keep you updated as all of the details come out.

Thank you,

David Lazzara, CPA  
President



# Chairman's CORNER

Happy New Year to all Chamber members and their families. May 2018 be a healthy and prosperous year for all. I would like to thank Vito Pianello for his 2 years serving as our President and to Tony Rubino for being Chairman of the Board for 2017. You both should be commended for a job well done. Congratulations to our new President David Lazzara as he starts his term leading this organization. I am looking forward to working with Dave and this Board to continue to make this an organization that our members are proud to be a part of. Recently all members received an email from our new President regarding getting involved in this organization by participating on the various committees we have. This is a great way to get to know some of the membership that you may otherwise not.

As 2018 unfolds you will be hearing about the IACCM's upcoming 100th year anniversary in 2019. The gala to celebrate this momentous occasion will be held October 19, 2019 at The Detroit Athletic Club. The Past Presidents council is serving as the committee for this event with Ron DiBartolomeo serving as Chairman. I know that Ron has recruited some of our members to assist in this event and I'm sure there will more needed to put this gala together.

Lastly I would like to thank the Officers and Board for having the confidence in me to lead them in 2018. It is an honor to be a part of such a great group of leaders not only in business but the community.

Ciao!

David F. Galli

Chairman of the Board



## Holy Family IACCM Memorial Mass and Pancake Breakfast November 5, 2017, Holy Family Church

Pictured l-r: Jim Timpa, Frank Pompa, Chuck Promesso, Andy Agosta, Angela Pippi-Soave, Fr. Pino Licciardi, Gino Esposito, Paul Calcaterra, Mark Garagiola, Sandy Tornberg, Sam Palazzolo

## ITALIAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEW MEMBERS 2017

- Joseph P. Divozzo – *Duo Care Cleaning*
- Michael Peraino – *Killer Creations Wedding Photography & Videography*
- Charles Moran – *RCC Web Media Agency*
- Daniel Rubino – *Pilot Property Group*
- Patrick C. Hall – *Law Offices of Patrick Hall, PLLC*
- Ross Buffa – *Site One Landscape Supply*
- Joe Biondo – *Macomb County Government, Chief Deputy Treasurer*
- Kenneth Lombardo – *Kerr, Russell & Weber, PLC*

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## 2018 OFFICER/BOARD OF DIRECTOR ELECTION RESULTS

At the January 10th IACCM meeting, the newly elected 2018 Officers and Board of Directors were sworn in.

Congratulations to the following:

### OFFICERS

- President – David Lazzara
- 1st Vice President – Daniel Galli
- 2nd Vice President – Michael Locricchio
- Secretary – Angela Pippi-Soave
- Financial Secretary – Peter A. Fuciarelli
- Treasurer – Michel Tenaglia

### CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

- David F. Galli

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS ~ Term Ending 2020

- Matthew Baffo • Paul Calcaterra • Ralph J. Koss

### PAST PRESIDENTS 2018

- Ronald A. DiBartolomeo • Joseph P. Ventimiglia

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**Italian-American Chamber of Commerce Birthdays for:**

<b>February</b>		<b>April</b>	
2/4	Vitale, Anthony	4/3	Aiello, Mark
2/9	Fuciarelli, Peter A.	4/3	Calunas, William A.
2/17	DeLuca, Antonio	4/7	Calcaterra, Michael J.
2/19	Notte, Michael R.	4/12	Poliuto, Valerio
2/22	Taormina, Steven	4/13	Buffa, Ross
2/24	Lucido, III, Peter J.	4/16	Cerroni, Dante
2/27	Gaglio, Philip J.	4/17	Canzano, Roger
2/27	Salerno, Dr. Ramo A.	4/18	Minoletti, Gary
	<b>March</b>	4/19	Lanni, Angelo S.
3/3	Pini, Ray	4/23	Giacalone, Leonard
3/4	Fuciarelli, Pietro G.	4/23	Palazzola, Anthony
3/5	Shermetaro, Charles G.	4/25	Rocca, Larry
3/6	Pippi-Soave, Angela M.	4/25	Tundo, Samuel
3/8	Carnaghi, Donald	4/27	Cipriano, Joseph
3/12	Bonanni, Jeffrey A.	4/29	Vitale, Vincenzo
3/14	Piccinini, Ned R.	4/30	Gallo, Tony J.
3/17	Rubino, Anthony M.		<b>May</b>
3/17	Bommarito, Benedict	5/4	Russo, Agostino
3/18	Vicari, Joseph	5/5	Morelli, Jr., Frank
3/21	Colombo, Charles F.	5/7	Valente Jr., Mark
3/23	Ventimiglia, Joseph W.	5/7	Agosta, Anthony Allan
3/23	Santeufemia, Michael N.	5/12	Russo, John
3/24	Eposito, Gino	5/14	Calcaterra, Paul R.
3/26	Giannetti, Frank	5/15	Pirrone, Joseph
3/30	Picano, Domenic	5/16	Velardo, Armand
3/30	Garagiola, Mark D.	5/17	Giarmarco, Julius H.
		5/17	Paglia, Enzo
		5/19	Varanelli, Jeffrey
		5/23	Scalzi, Frank
		5/30	Lawroski, Eric



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# October 4, 2017, DeCarlo's Banquet Center



Members awaiting a delicious meal with our host Gary DeCarlo!



Past Presidents Dave Galli, Joe Ventimiglia, and Ron DiBartolomeo enjoying some appetizers.



A few members anxious for tonight's dinner but enjoying the company!



50/50 Chairman Dr. Charles Shermetaro with tonight's lucky winners, Dave Lazzara and Jeff Bonanni



Paul Calcaterra saying grace...and as always, remembering a good story!

## November 1, 2017 Palazzo Grande



A good time is being had by ALL!



Danny and Tony Rubino, along with Pete Maceroni awaiting the fine meal.



Members enjoying the wine....lets eat!



The appetizers were amazing!

## December 6, 2017 Italian Cultural Center



Immediate Past President Dave Galli taking nominations for 2018 Officers and Board of Directors



Guest and potential new member John Ciraulo, Pharmacist Owner, Shelby Family Pharmacy pulling the lucky 50/50 winner with Dr. Chuck Shermetaro



Membership Chairman RJ Koss and newly elected Board Member Paul Calcaterra



# Italian American Chamber of Commerce

## 2018 Installation of Officers/Board of Directors

### January 10, 2018 • Petruzzello's Banquet Center



#### 2018 Officers & Board of Directors

**Seated L-R;** Financial Secretary Peter A. Fuciarelli, 2nd Vice President Michael Locricchio, President David A. Lazzara, 1st Vice President Daniel Galli, Treasurer Michel Tenaglia, Secretary Angela Pippi-Soave **Middle Row L-R;** Chairman of the Board David F. Galli, Immediate Past President Vito Pianello, Paul Calcaterra, Ralph Koss, Matthew Baffo **3rd Row L-R;** Frank Coppola, Charles Colombo, Dr. Anthony Giordano, Past President Representative Joseph P. Ventimiglia, Past President Representative Ronald A. DiBartolomeo, Dr. Charles Shermetaro **Not pictured;** Mark D. Garagiola, Nunzio Provenzano



Sam Ventimiglia Jr., Sam Ventimiglia, and Joe Ventimiglia enjoying the fine appetizers prepared by Frank Petruzzello



Dr. Chuck Shermetaro and 2017 Chairman of the Board Tony Rubino



2018 President David Lazzara addresses the membership for the first time



Vito Pianello presents Tony Rubino with an award for his service and dedication as 2017 Chairman of the Board



New Member Ken Lombardo receiving his membership plaque from Matt Baffo and Honorable Joseph Toia



Vito Pianello presents a Man-of-the-Year award to Andy Agosta for his tireless efforts and hard work on the IACCM golf outing



Honorable Joseph Toia swearing in the 2018 Officers and Board of Directors



# IACCM 100TH Year Anniversary

## 100 Years of History (First in a series of 6)

There will be six articles published in the "Grapevine" beginning with this issue and finalizing in the third quarter of 2019; the year of the 100 year anniversary and celebration.

It was unanimously agreed by this small committee consisting of Paul Calcaterra, Ron DiBartolomeo, Gino Esposito and Frank Pompa that we should, in our first article, honor and remember those people who have passed. These are the people that made the Chamber what it is today, primarily a group of professional and business people that live and serve the southeastern section of Michigan.

Please keep in mind, this list is not complete. It began twenty years ago and will miss many peoples that passed during the period between 1919 and 1997. Additionally in the mid-seventies we experienced a fire where we kept our records. This destroyed most of our archive information. So please if you know of any Chamber member who should be included; and is not, please contact Deborah at the IACCM office.

Let us attempt to visualize the beginning in 1919. A period of Model T's competing on muddy roads with Horse and Carriage form of transportation. Radio is in its infancy; no television or computers, cell phones or any of the technology that we enjoy in today's daily life. The life expectancy for men in 1919 was 48 years. Only 10% of homes had telephones. Fuel for cars was sold in drug stores. Fuel for heating homes was mostly soft coal, which meant soot covered walls and serious wall washing every spring. The average US wage earner made \$ 300 to \$ 400 dollars per year. 95% of child births took place at home. High school graduation was around 10%. The point being that compared to today's life, things in 1919 were very primitive.

Yet somehow a small group of Italian American men and the Italian Consulate were able to communicate and organize to what today we call the "Italian American Chamber of Michigan". Originally it was called IAC of Detroit.

We have included the names of our founding fathers even though we have no official notification of their deaths.

Founding Fathers: Pietro Cardiello (Consulate), Joseph Shippacasse, Anthony Esperti, Dr. Vincent Mancuso, Andrew Maglia, Mark Valenti Sr., Frank Leverde and Raymond Coumo.

## Italian American Chamber Of Commerce Of Michigan ~ In Memoriam ~

*We honor and remember these people who have blessed us with their membership participation and with their efforts and talents that have made this the fine organization that it is today. We thank you for being proud of your heritage. May you rest in peace.*

Pietro Cardiello (Founder and first President), Martin (Reno) Garagiola, John B. Agosta, Fred Severini Jr., Ilio Benvenuti Joseph Pavone, Robert Ripullo, Samuel Angott, Samuel Gigante, Steve Aiello, Emil Moro, Alfredo Adamo, Russel Gambino Anthony Buscemi, Marion Macioce, Nunzio Giasone, Hon. Anthony Sanfemio, Sen. Gilbert De Nello, Joseph Aldini, Frank DiGiovanni, Frank S. Valenti, Ralph L. Vigliotti, Raymond Cuomo, Albert Mazzei, Loreto Gervaci, Dr. Vincent Mancuso A. I. Cappizzi, Ross Amicucci, Joseph Schippacasse, Peter Cipriano, Joseph Ferriolo, Frank D. Stella, Charles R. Cataldo, Anthony Spina, William S. Tudisco, Sam J. Chirco, Arthur Angott, Peter Grosso, Peter Bartholmew, Joseph A. Quasarano, Oliver Fratti, Edward Rondina, Andrew J. Sinelli, Sameul Prete, Anthony Latella, Thomas Angott, Joseph Craig, Onorio Catenacci, Philip Greco, Nunzio Giasone, John DeNardo, Dr. Louis Carbone, Mark Valente, Sr., Dr. Panfilio De Loreto, Emil Notarangelo Louis Calcaterra Jr., Hon. Lido Bucci, Charles Palumbo, Bernardino Pettinaro, James Tassoni, Dante Santavicca, Joseph Spano Amperio Carli, Hon. Frank Jeannette, Anthony Sperti, Andrew Maglia, Frank Loverde, Joseph Ternello, Hon. Robert De Masio, Sam J. La Fata, Dominic Volpe, Jerry Stone, Pat Battaglia, Vincent Marinelli, Sam Ripepi, Charles Marinelli, Ned Piccinini Antonio Roselli, Anthony Caputo, Raymond Pellegrino, Lawrence Lumetta, Hon. Richard J. Notte, Steve Messina, Mario Signorelli, Frank Palazzolo, Chuck Nagy, Paul G. Lucido

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## IN MEMORIAM

IACCM former member and friend to many....

Carlo M. Vendetti, age 91, passed away on January 10, 2018. Beloved husband of the late Beverly A. (nee Sugamosto). Loving father of Deborah Ann Canu, Carol Tacia, Dino and Lee (John) Vohs. Proud grandfather of Christina (Andrew), Nicole, Jillian, Taylor, Anthony, Giancarlo and Michael. Great grandfather of Calina. Proud owner of Vendetti's Pizza House for over 50yrs.



# FESTA DELLA LIRA

(in conjunction with the general membership meeting)

**MAY 2, 2018**

**The Mirage Banquet Center  
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*Anniversary Extravaganza*

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\*Minimum purchase of \$4,000 is required for a \$250 Visa gift card and a minimum purchase of \$8,000 is required for a \$500 Visa gift card; offer ends March 31, 2017. Cannot be used with any other promotions



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# The Italian American Chamber of Commerce of Michigan

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## Mission Statement

### *The Italian American Chamber of Commerce of Michigan*

"To nurture an environment for business and professional growth inclusive of our Italian history and culture, that provides our members the commercial, educational, and charitable forums necessary to inspire pride throughout the Italian community, and to establish a relationship of trust and service between our members and our fellow citizens."

*Your Host John Di Giuseppe*

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