



The Grapevine

A Publication From
The Italian American Chamber of Commerce of Michigan
Fall Issue • 2011 • Volume 10 • Number 3
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Upcoming EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 7, 2011 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING

Scholarship Award Presentation Night

TIME

- 6:00 PM Board Meeting
- 6:30 PM General Membership Meeting

LOCATION

- Picano's Restaurant, 3775 Rochester Road, Troy

SEPTEMBER 27-30, 2011 • IACCM POKER FUNDRAISER

WORKERS NEEDED, Contact IACCM Office

TIME

Tuesday thru Friday, Tournaments at

- 2:00 PM and 7:00 PM

LOCATION

- River Charity Poker Lounge, 48762 Van Dyke, Shelby Twp.

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OCTOBER 5, 2011 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING

TIME

- 6:00 PM Board Meeting
- 6:30 PM General Membership Meeting

LOCATION

- Andiamo Italia, 7096 East 14 Mile Road, Warren

NOVEMBER 2, 2011 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING

Nomination of Officers/Board of Directors

TIME

- 6:00 PM Board Meeting
- 6:30 PM General Membership Meeting

LOCATION

- DeCarlo's Banquet Center, 6015 E. 10 Mile Road, Warren

DECEMBER 7, 2011 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING

Election of Officers/Board of Directors

TIME

- 6:00 PM Board Meeting
- 6:30 PM General Membership Meeting

LOCATION

- Petruzzello's Banquet Center, 6950 Rochester Road, Troy



Notes from the PRESIDENT

As we return to our Fall schedules, after what seemed to be a short (but hot) summer, I would like to thank Andy Agosta and the entire golf committee for their efforts in organizing another successful golf outing. It is this sort of leadership that engages the support of our members and guests, and has allowed our chamber to remain an active part of the community.

As you know, the proceeds of the golf outing go to fund our scholarship program. This year we have awarded \$11,000.00 in scholarships, to the following students:

Jason Lazzara - Lido Bucci Award
Paige Aiello, Taylor Aiello, Ashley Beaudette, Patricia DeLuca,
Alexander DiBartolomeo, Dominique DiPiazza,
Michael Drabek, Mary-Catherine Goddard,
Elisabeth Marcus, Nicholas Zuccaro

Each scholarship recipient has been invited to introduce themselves and meet our members at our September meeting at Picano's. Those students that are unable to attend the September meeting, have been invited to join us at any of our future meetings.

Next, I thank Tom Bommarito, John Oddo, Ron DiBartolomeo, Dominic LaRosa, and Joe Ventimiglia for their efforts in organizing our First Italian Heritage Night at Comerica Park on September 9, 2011. With the Tigers in 1st Place, this should be an exciting event. Please show your support by signing up early, as this will be an opportunity to showcase the strength of the Italian community in Detroit.

Another way to show the strength of the Italian community in Detroit, is to participate and support in the Columbus Day events. As you know, we did not have an Italian Festival this summer and we were on the verge of cancelling the Columbus Day Parade, due to a lack of financial support, lack of participation, and overall apathy of the Italian community. I urge you to support the Columbus Day Parade by attending a fundraiser which will be held on September 8, 2011, at Palazzo Grande at 6:30pm. Tickets are \$20.00 per person or \$35.00 per couple. Net proceeds will be used to support the parade. I also urge you to participate in the Parade by organizing a group, building a float, submitting an entry, or at a minimum bringing your family to the Parade to cheer

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Chairman's CORNER

Celebrate!

Welcome back from what I hope was a wonderful summer for all of our members. The weather certainly cooperated for the most part, and if anyone found themselves complaining of the heat, just think how you'll be longing for those days in about a month. If the heat got to be too unbearable, at least we are lucky enough to have the Great Lakes as part of our backyard. Which brings me to this month's featured Chamber member. Here is a member who has combined fun, sun, and water to take advantage of a unique business opportunity, but I'll get back to that in just a bit.

Sam's Sorrento Pizza was started by chamber member Al Marino's father Sam Marino in 1968. Al and his brother joined the family business, and in 1979 Al was made chief of operations. In 1990 Al's father retired, and in 1996 Al decided to start franchising. In 2005 Al bought his brother out of the business and went into partnership with his son Sam. Currently Sam's Sorrento Pizza has 12 locations and they are growing.

Throughout the years Al has done a great deal in and around our community, most notably is his work with Multiple Sclerosis. To date Al and Tony Rubino have donated over a half a million dollars from their work with the Thrilla at the Villa event. Al also sits on the L'Anse Creuse foundation board, and is a long standing member of Metro Networking Professionals, an organization that is focused on utilizing and networking with local businesses. Al has also donated a great deal of time to the American Cancer Society where he takes an active part in fund raising for the Relay for Life event. Always looking for a new challenge, in September of this year Al launched his own fund raising initiative for the Veterans Association. Al designed a special camouflaged box for donations to the Veterans. These boxes will be in every Sorrento's location and Al has committed to donating a percentage of Sorrento's pizza sales to the Vet's.

Always looking for a way to combine the things he loves with a sound business opportunity, in 2008 Al took his own love for boating and his exceptionally delicious pizza and created the SS Pizza Boat. Every weekend throughout the summer you can find Al preparing and delivering hot pizza's to the sterns of hundreds of boaters around the metro beach area. So if you're ever out on the water, and are looking for a good pizza, just look for Al and his pizza boat, and if you see Al at our next event don't forget to thank him for all that he has done for our community.

Ned R. Piccinini
Chairman of the Board

Motivational Moments – Late Summer 2011

By William A. Morelli, Sr.

Boy – how soon we forget the cold of the winter as we suffer with one of the hottest summers on record. Maybe there is something to this “Global Warming” talk after all. Or maybe it is God's way of telling us **He** is in charge.

As I promised, the following is the second of the series base Jeffery Gitomer's: Little Golden Book of YES! Attitude." In Chapter 2 called “Reading is fundamental to attitude self-awareness” the second section goes as follows:

11. What is the picture you have of your self? What you see is what you will become. Spend 15 minutes a day focusing on a positive picture.

12. You will hear the word “No” 16,000 times in your lifetime. (Maybe more.) Try converting just 1,000 of them to “YES!” and the world is your oyster.

13. What you do off the job determines what you are likely to do on the job. Uh oh – better read that one again!

14. Strengthen your weaknesses and strengthen your strengths at the same time. Combine positive and negative for better personal development results.

15. Failure is an event, not a person. This is one of the most important points mentioned – think of failure as “it”, not “me.”

16. It's not what happens to you; it's what you do with what happens to you. Sound familiar? Attitude manifests itself in your RESPONSE to events.

17. Every obstacle presents an opportunity, if you're looking for it. “Revel” and “lament” are choices. Your choices.

18. Hard work makes luck. Nothing affects positive circumstances and results more than hard work Success is 99% perspiration- 1% luck.

19. How many of your problems are cured with ten grand? (A question a famous father [my dad] once asked me as I lamented my problems.) If money makes your problems go away, attitude can make them go away as well.

20. It is not what you say; it is how you say it. The tone of your verbiage determines the atmosphere of your environment.

21. Resign your position as General Manager of the Universe. Don't try to solve (butt into) other people's problems until YOU are problem free.

These are all attitude gems that are food for thought. Hopefully you will someday realize that these gems lead you to attitude **AHA!**s – that single moment in time where something happens or someone says something and suddenly your get it – suddenly you scream **AHA!**

May there be many **AHA!**s in your life and may this be food for many years to come.

Keep Cool – and enjoy your lives. And remember to Smile, Give Hugs and Tell Someone Special that You Love Them.

Notes From The President

Continued from page 1

on the Parade participants. The Parade will be held on Saturday, October 8, 2011 at 11:00am on Romeo Plank Road between Cass Avenue and Clinton River Road. The Columbus Day Mass will be held Sunday, October 2, 2011 at 11:00am at the Holy Family Church followed by a Wreath Presentation at the Columbus Bust on Randolph and Jefferson.

This years Columbus Day Banquet will be held on Sunday, October 9, 2011, at Andiamo's Banquet Facility on 14 Mile Road in Warren.

Finally, let's show the strength of the Italian Community in Detroit to the Archdiocese of Detroit by attending the Italian American Chamber of Commerce Mass, which will be held at Holy Family Church, on October 23, 2011 at 11:00am with fellowship to follow.

Participation in these events is a way in which we can unify the Italian Community and re-establish the political strength and influence that we once had. IT'S ALL UP TO YOU.



September

9/6 Ventimiglia, Joseph P.
9/8 Lucido, Joseph
9/10 Cavaliere, Ray
9/11 Piccirilli, Umberto
9/14 Agosta, Andrew
9/20 Costa, David J.
9/21 Lazzara, David Alan
9/22 Pianello, Vito
9/28 Promesso, Charles

October

10/4 Cancro, Frank
10/5 Messina, Steve
10/7 Palazzolo, Frank J.
10/12 Meli, Paul
10/23 Scrafano, Carmen J. Duke
10/24 Del Pup, Armen
10/30 Penna, George

November

11/2 Beaudette, Floyd C.

11/2 DiBartolomeo, Ronald A.
11/10 Marchiori, William R.
11/11 Marino, Al
11/15 Koss, Ralph
11/17 Milkey, James A.
11/18 Galli, Daniel A.
11/18 Gentilia, John J.
11/25 Calcaterra, Lawrence
11/26 Pellegrino, Joseph R.

December

12/1 Apruzzese, Mario
12/1 Lochirco, Salvatore
12/1 Cervone, Matthew D.
12/5 DeCarlo, Gary A.
12/7 Gallo, Frank
12/11 Marchiori, William L.
12/14 Piccinini, Ned
12/17 Caretti, Richard
12/17 Bonadeo, David C.
12/26 Bonnell, James E.
12/27 Tenaglia, Michel



IACCM POKER FUNDRAISER

September 27-30, 2011

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Texas Hold'em

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TUESDAY	2pm	\$30 buy in-\$25,000 chips Blinds increase every 15 min
	7pm	\$30 buy in-30,000 chips Blinds increase every 20 min
WEDNES.	2pm	\$30 buy in-\$25,000 chips Blinds increase every 15 min
	7 pm	\$30 buy in-\$30,000 chips Blinds increase every 20 min
THURSDAY	2pm	\$30 buy in-\$25,000 chips Blinds increase every 15 min
	7 PM	\$1 buy in-\$1,000 chips Unlimited till end of 1st break 15 min Blinds Break after 5th level
FRIDAY	2pm	\$30 buy in-\$25,000 chips Blinds increase every 15 min
	7pm	\$40 buy in-\$30,000 chips Blinds increase every 15 min

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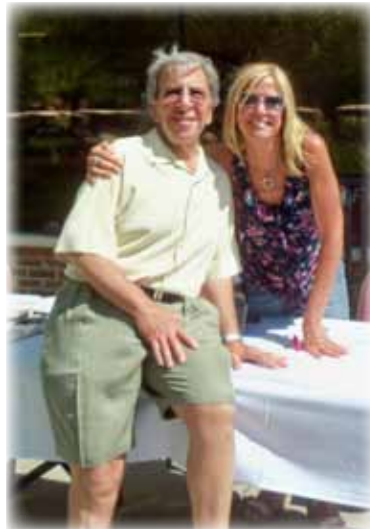
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Italian American Chamber of

John B. Agosta Memorial • 28th Annual Golf Outing



Pierre Nofar, Tony Rubino,
Pete Lucido



Golf Chairman Andy Agosta and
Debbie getting ready for check-in



Bill Morelli getting ready to monitor
the closest to the pin contest



Dave Galli, Angela Pippi,
Dan Galli



Chef John DiGiuseppe of
Mirage Banquet & Catering



Ramo Salerno, Tony Benvenuti,
Paul Calcaterra and Armen DelPup



Members and guests enjoying
the pre-golf luncheon



Andy Agosta, Tom Bommarito



Chuck Colombo, Mike Locricchio with
guests Eric Herz and Anthony LaRocca

F Commerce

g • Scalawags Golf Club



Mike Divozzo accepting the closest to the pin prize from Golf Chairmen Andy Agosta and Gus Russo



Dan Galli and guests enjoying lunch!



Tom McNerney, Joe Vicari, Gus Russo along with his grandson J.J. enjoying the pre-dinner cocktail party

Italian American Chamber of Commerce John B. Agosta Memorial 28th Annual Scholarship Golf Outing



As another year is quickly passing, I just wanted to thank all the Chamber members, their friends and associates who supported this years golf outing. I am sure my brother John and Fred Severini were beaming down on us and provided that beautiful day. Since we started the scholarship fund we have granted over \$150,000 in scholarships and our golf outing has been a major source of that revenue. Your participation this year will help to provide 11 students with scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$1,500. Without your support this would not be possible.

From all of us, a special thank you to Debbie Demick for keeping our finances in order, John DiGiuseppe for the great food, Bill Marchiori for the Trippa, Steve Messina for hosting this years' event and all my committee members who contributed a great deal of time and talent to this event. A special thanks to Gus Russo who always keeps us moving forward, we could not do it without him.

Next year's golf outing is tentatively scheduled for June 26, 2012 at Scalawags, stay tuned for all the details.

I am looking forward to your participation.

Best regards,
Andy Agosta

2011 Scholarship Recipients

Jason Lazzara
Nicholas Zuccaro
Patricia DeLuca
Mary-Catherine Goddard
Elisabeth Marcus
Paige Aiello
Taylor Aiello
Alexander DiBartolomeo
Dominique DiPiazza
Ashely Beaudette

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09.17 *Comedian*



MURDER MYSTERY
09.22 *Dinner Theater*



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10.21 *Las Vegas Musical Variety Show*



New to Andiamo

FELIX CAVALIERE'S RASCALS
10.22 *Classic Rock*



JUST ADDED!

REGIS PHILBIN
10.28 *Comedian*



ERIC BURDON/ ANIMALS
11.11 *Classic Rock*



MICHAEL AMANTE
11.12 *Opera Tenor*



SCINTAS HOLIDAY
12.15 | 12.16 | 12.17
Holiday Show



KAREN NEWMAN
12.18 *Holiday Show*



TONY N' TINA'S WEDDING
09.23 | 11.18
Doors Open: 7 pm,
Showtime: 7:30 pm

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ticketmaster

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1974 Joseph Grimaudo

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."