

OFFICERS		BOARD OF DIRECTORS		IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT - Salvatore P. Ventimiglia	
PRESIDENT	SECRETARY	CHAIRMAN	TERMS ENDING '09	PAST PRESIDENTS'	1989 Alexander Bongiorno
Ronald A. DiBartolomeo	Joseph Toia	Paul Calcaterra	Andrew Agosta	2006 William A. Morelli, Sr.	1988 Russell Gambino
1 ST VICE PRESIDENT	FINANCIAL	TERMS ENDING '08	Michael T. Catenacci	2004 Paul Calcaterra	1985 Dr. Charles Marinelli
Ned R. Piccinini	SECRETARY	David F. Galli	Joseph Bellanca	2002 Fred Severini, Jr.	1984 Frank DiGiovanni
2 ND VICE PRESIDENT	Joseph Ventimiglia	Stefano Militello	TERMS ENDING '10	2000 Benedetto Marrocco	1981 Hon. Anthony Sanfemio
Thomas Bommarito	TREASURER	Valerio Poliuto	Michael Locricchio	1999 Augustino Russo	1979 Frank Pompa
	Antonio DeLuca		Vito Pianello	1998 Ned Piccinini	1978 Mark Valente, Jr.
			Michel Tenaglia	1994 Angelo Lanni	1976 Sam Ripepi
				1991 Thomas B. Lanni	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.”



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THE GRAPEVINE

A Publication From The Italian American Chamber of Commerce of Michigan

Spring Issue • 2008 • Volume 7 • Number 1

Upcoming EVENTS

MARCH 5 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING

TIME

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

LOCATION

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

GUEST SPEAKER

- Angelo Lanni, Boys Club of Italy

APRIL 2 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING

TIME

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

LOCATION

- Andiamo Italia
7096 East 14 Mile Road, Warren
Spouses, guests, and significant others invited, for \$40.00 fee (per person)

APRIL 19 • SATURDAY FESTA DEL VINO CHARITY EVENT

LOCATION

- Fern Hill Country Club
17600 Clinton River Road, Clinton Township
\$100 per person with proceeds going to benefit the Boys Town of Italy

For more information please contact Mike Catenacci 586-285-9786 or Dave Galli at 586-670-5413

MAY 7 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING

TIME

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

LOCATION

- Eastpointe Manor
24611 Gratiot Avenue, Eastpointe

MAY 21 • FESTA DELLA LIRA

TIME

- 6PM-11PM (see more information on page 2)

LOCATION

- The Mirage Banquet Center
16980 18 Mile Road, Clinton Township



Here it is the end of February, Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow, and as I look out my window, I can see the cold in the air with the snow falling. Many of our members have gone to warmer destinations, while others are entrenched in their business and livelihoods. Nothing much is occurring. We are in our hibernation mode. So it is safe to assume that many of you think there is nothing going on at the Chamber outside of our monthly meetings. Well..... to the contrary.

For instance, did you know:

That Ned Piccinini is lining up guest speakers for our upcoming meetings?

That Tom Bommarito and his vision committee are coming up with recommendations for the future of the Chamber?

That Joe Toia and his committee have announced this year's guidelines for the scholarship awards?

That Joe Ventimiglia is making sure that our members' dues are being paid in a timely manner?

That Tony DeLuca is making sure that our finances are kept in order?

That Sam Ventimiglia and the Past Presidents Council are meeting to give advisory recommendations to the Board?

That Paul Calcaterra is not only writing a column for this issue, but puts together our agendas for our monthly meetings?

That Steve Militello is working diligently to get sponsors and to meet the deadline to put out the Grapevine?

That Andy Agosta has already started planning this year's IACC Golf Outing to be held on June 30th?

Continued on page 5





CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Thoughts for the month

Chi rispetta rispettato sarà ...which means: One who respects others will be respected by everyone.

Respect is what we should have for others in all aspects of our lives. In business we must respect the desires our clients have, even though it may not be the best choice in the products or services we have to offer. It is our duty, however, to explain all of their options and leave their decisions up to them. Socially, women and men each have their own goals and methods of achieving them. Show respect even though you may not agree. Everyone has their religious beliefs. It is important to realize this and still maintain the friendship. In the family as a parent, our children and grandchildren may not make the best choices in life, but we respectfully must guide them in the right direction.

As a husband or wife, we may have had an extremely difficult day, and when you get home you discover that your partner's day has also been trying. Respect for each others feelings must be expressed in order to have a meaningful relationship. On a personal note, it is most important that we respect ourselves in the way we lead our lives and the decisions we make regarding those around us. Next to being loved, being respected would be one of our greatest accomplishments in life.

Respectfully,

Paul R. Calcaterra
2008 Chairman of the Board

FESTA DELLA LIRA

May 21 2008 6:00 pm -11:00 pm

The Mirage Banquet Center
16980 18 Mile Road, Clinton Township

For Tickets and More Information Contact:
Tom Caramagno at 586-703-0042
or Joe Bellanca at 248-640-0781

MOTIVATIONAL MOMENTS

By William A. Morelli, Sr.

Hopefully, by the time you get this, we will be enjoying the beginning of Spring and the return of warm weather. I still have a hard time worrying about "Global Warming" when I am walking my dog and there is a wind chill factor of 5 degrees or lower and I am about to freeze my butt off.

However, with the advent of the Easter Season, I remember why we are celebrating the greatest gift ever given to the world and the promise of a better life to come – and I am not referring to the upcoming election.

As we look forward, the following quotes may be of some inspiration to us all

Kindness: "You cannot do a kindness too soon, for you never know how soon it will be too late."
Ralph Waldo Emerson

Generosity: "If you have no charity, you have the worst kind of heart trouble." *Bob Hope*

Simple Pleasures: "It isn't the big pleasures that count the most; it's making a deal out of the little ones."
Jean Webster

Attitude: "The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity; the optimist sees opportunity in every difficulty." *L.P. Jacks*

Marriage: "Love does not consist in gazing at each other, but in looking together in the same direction." *Antione deSaint-Exupery*

Parenting: "In the final analysis it is not what you do for your children but what you have taught them to do for themselves that will make them successful human beings." *Ann Landers*

Last – but not least: In Italy for thirty years under the Borgais they had warfare, terrorism, murder, bloodshed, but they produced Michelangelo, Leonardo da Vinci, and the Renaissance. In Switzerland they had brotherly love, they had five hundred years of democracy and peace. And what did they produce? The cuckoo-clock." *Orson Wells*

As you enjoy the return of warmer weather and the Easter Season, remember to share you with those around you – Smile. Give Hugs. Tell someone special you Love Them.

William A. Morelli, Sr.



Grapevine Membership Business Directory

★ ACCOUNTANT/CPA

Lazzara & Co, P.C., CPA's
David Lazzara
16010 19 Mile, Ste. 102
Clinton Twp., MI 48038
(586) 263-1000
dlazzara@lazzaracpa.com

Metzler Locricchio Serra & Co., PC

Michael A. Locricchio, J.D., CPA
1800 West Big Beaver Rd.,
Ste. 100
Troy, MI 48084
(248) 822-9010

★ ATTORNEYS & COUNSELORS AT LAW

Lucido & Manzella, P.C.
Attorneys and Counselors
at Law

Peter J. Lucido
39999 Garfield Road
Clinton Township, MI 48038
(586) 228-3900

Bufalino & Palazzolo Associates, PLLC

**Frank J. Palazzolo/
Nunzio G. Provenzano**
33830 Harper
Clinton Township, MI 48035
(586) 415-1200

Ruggirello, Velardo, Novara & Ver Beek, P.C.

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Mt. Clemens, MI 48043
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(586) 918-3380 – Cell

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A Little F.Y.I.

The email address for The Italian American Chamber of Commerce of Michigan will be changed, effective January 2, 2008 to: iacc.mich@yahoo.com

You can advertise your business or profession in the "Grapevine Membership Business Directory." For ONLY \$60.00 a year, you will have five lines to list your business in the directory.



Italian-American Chamber of Commerce Birthdays for:

March

3/3 Pini, Ray
 3/4 Fuciarelli, Pietro G.
 3/5 Shermetaro, Charles G.
 3/7 DiGiovanni, Frank
 3/8 Carnaghi, Donald
 3/8 Aloia, Benjamin J.
 3/14 Piccinini, Ned R.
 3/17 Rubino, Anthony M.
 3/17 Bommarito, Benedict
 3/18 Vicari, Joseph
 3/21 Colombo, Charles Francis
 3/22 Tatone, John
 3/23 Santeufemia, Michael
 3/24 Santia, Albert M.
 3/24 Esposito, Gino
 3/27 Palumbo, Charles
 3/27 Ferrera, Gene P
 3/28 Angott, Thomas V.
 3/28 Grosso, Jr., Peter M

March

3/30 Picano, Domenic
 3/31 Sulaka, Richard
 3/31 Scaccia, John

April

4/1 Maue, Deane B.
 4/1 Severini Jr., Fred
 4/3 Aiello, Mark
 4/5 Monti, Mario
 4/7 Calcaterra, Michael J.
 4/8 Marinelli, Charles L
 4/12 Poliuto, Valerio
 4/13 DiBartolomeo, Richard D.
 4/16 Cerroni, Dante
 4/18 Lazzara, Michael
 4/19 Lanni, Angelo S.
 4/23 Palazzola, Anthony
 4/23 Giacalone, Leonard
 4/25 Tundo, Samuel A.

April

4/25 LaRocca, Patrick
 4/28 Previti, Sebastiano S.
 4/29 Vitale, Vincenzo
 4/29 Randazzo, Sonny
 4/30 Roselli, Antonio

May

5/1 Storai, Raymond
 5/2 Caccamo, Gaetano
 5/4 Russo, Agostino
 5/5 Morelli, Jr., Frank A.
 5/7 Agosta, Anthony Allan
 5/7 Valente Jr., Mark
 5/8 Picciche, Vincent
 5/12 Russo, John
 5/13 Lucido, Paul G.
 5/14 Lucido, Sebastian
 5/14 Calcaterra, Paul

Remembering Our Friend...



The members of the Italian American Chamber of Commerce are saddened by the passing of a long time active and loyal member of our organization. Martin "Reno" Garagiola passed on December 24, 2007. Among his many attributes of concern & pride of the Italian community, he was extremely appreciated for the work he has done for the "Chamber". A great deal of his time and endless effort was spent in coordinating the membership committee. He saw to it that each new membership application was properly processed. He then would see to it that all the necessary documents, name tags, & pins were presented at the time of the swearing in.

I guess one of our fondest images of Reno is him standing with each new member with his right hand held high and repeating aloud the oath. Many of us would say "There goes Reno getting sworn in again."

We are an organization of strong friendships and camaraderie and when one of our members are ill or died we all feel it.

"We will miss you, "Reno"

Respectfully

Paul R. Calcaterra (Chairman of the Board)

IN MEMORY

The IACCM wishes to express our sincere sympathy and condolences to the following families:

- ❖ Leonardo Bugli, current Chamber member, on the passing of his father Giovanni Bugli on January 1, 2008
- ❖ Sergio Iacobacci and Sebastiano Previti, current Chamber members, on the passing of their mother and grandmother Emma Rizza on December 24, 2007.
- ❖ Frank Gallo, and his son Tony Gallo, former Chamber members, on the passing of their father and grandfather Tony on December 27, 2007

Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.



IACCM Meeting December 5, 2007 at Petruzzello's



Michael Catenacci updates member on upcoming Festa Del Vino



2007 President Sam Ventimiglia presents award to Sean Howard

IACCM Meeting January 9, 2008 at Mirage Banquet Center



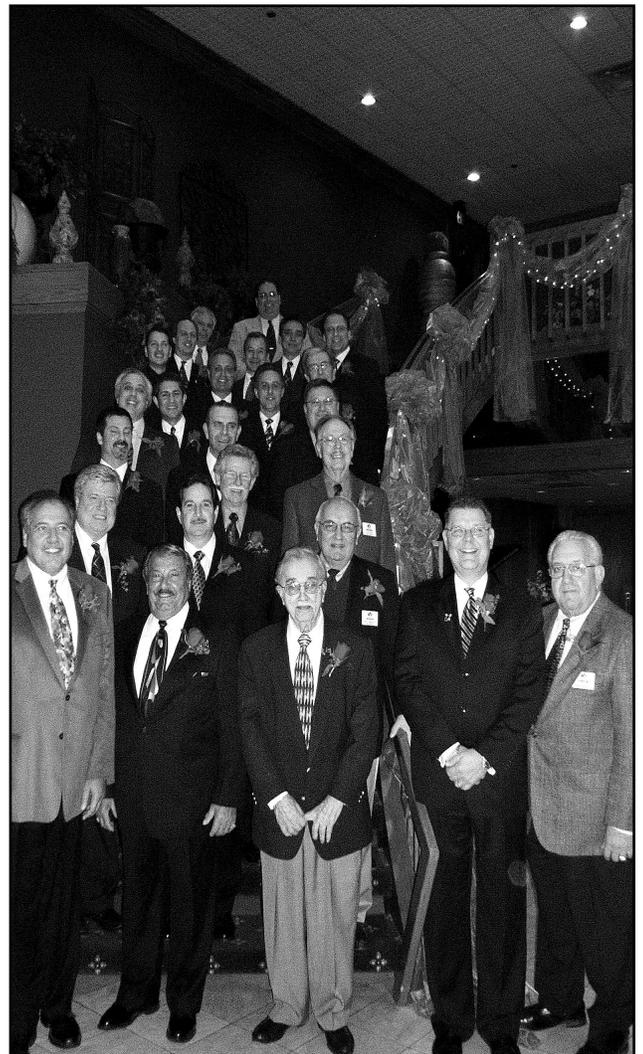
2008 President Ron DiBartolomeo



2008 President Ron DiBartolomeo presents award to 2007 President Sam Ventimiglia



The Honorable Judge George Steeh swears in Board Members and Officers



Newly elected 2008 IACCM Board Members, Officers and Past Presidents



CELEBRATE WITH ANDIAMO OVER BRUNCH

Enjoy world-class cuisine and impeccable service

EASTER BRUNCH ON MARCH 23

Celebrate with the whole family. Make reservations today for brunch featuring traditional holiday favorites in the banquet center from 10:30am to 3:30pm. Or dine in our restaurant with our special holiday menu from 1pm to 8pm. Don't miss visits from the Easter Bunny at Andiamo Italia.

MOTHERS DAY BRUNCH ON MAY 11

Andiamo Italia knows how to treat your mother right. Give Mom the gift of great taste. Make your reservations early for a spectacular gourmet brunch in the banquet center from 10:30am to 3:30pm. Or dine in our restaurant with our special holiday menu from 1pm to 8pm.

COMING THIS SPRING TO THE CELEBRITY SHOWROOM...



March 15
Elvis to the Max
Max Pellicano



April 11 & 12
Don Rickles



April 18
America



April 19
Carlos Mencia



May 9
Sonny Turner & The Platters
With Special Guest Mike Sanders & Detroit All-Stars

TICKETS AND EVENT INFORMATION:

Andiamo Celebrity Showroom
(586) 268-3200
www.andiamoshowroom.com

Ticketmaster
(248) 645-6666
www.ticketmaster.com

ANDIAMO CELEBRITY SHOWROOM
7096 East 14 Mile Road just west of Van Dyke in Warren

ticketmaster



Notes from the President

Continued from page 1

That Mike Tenaglia is spearheading a membership drive until the end of April— 18 months for the price of 12, and mentoring program for children ages 14-20?

That Val Poliuto is always coming up with ways to surpass the previous month's 50-50 raffle money giveaway?

That Mike Locricchio is in the process of updating our by-laws?

That Vito Pianello is putting together a new membership directory, along with a membership card and membership services to be out in June?

That Joe Bellanca and his co-chair Tom Carmagno of the Festa Della Lira have already secured the license and are planning this year's event to be held on May 21st?

That Mike Catenacci and Dave Galli are working endlessly to put on our first ever Festa Del Vino Charity Event – a wine and dinner event - to be held on April 19th?

In case you haven't caught on by now, each of the gentlemen mentioned above have been elected by you to serve on the IACC Board of Directors. As I indicated at our January Installation of Officers dinner, this Board is very assertive, passionate and dedicated in what they do.

Right now, I am presently coordinating with the Consul of Italy and the President of the Italian American Alliance of Business and Technology (IAABT) for a joint gathering at our June general membership meeting. IAABT is a group of Italian industrial companies who do business in the United States, and industrial companies here who are doing business in Italy.

As I mentioned earlier, on Saturday, April 19th, the Chamber will be hosting its first ever charity event with the proceeds going to the Boys Town of Italy. One of our past presidents, Angelo Lanni, is the Michigan chairperson for this national organization, and is the honorary chairman for our event. Since it will be springtime and most everybody will be returning home for the summer and people will be popping out again, why don't we make this event sort of a "Welcome Back to the Chamber Night"? What a great way to get reacquainted with friends and guests. For those of you who feel we do not have much to offer or we are just a social club and rarely participate, I invite you to take another look. To those who come around once in awhile, I would hope to see you more often, and for those that do interact by attending and serving on committees on a regular basis, I thank you and appreciate your contribution. If you have any interest in giving a little bit of your time and serve on a committee, just call our office at 586-493-4034.

"Vive Bene, Spesso L'Amore, Di Risata Molto."

Ronald A. DiBartolomeo

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Remember Picano's for Easter and Mother's Day.



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