



# The Grapevine

A Publication From  
The Italian American Chamber of Commerce of Michigan

Spring Issue • 2015

Volume 14 • Number 2

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## Upcoming EVENTS

**MAY 6, 2015 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING**

### TIME **FESTA DELLA LIRA**

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

#### LOCATION

- Eastpointe Manor  
24611 Gratiot Avenue, Eastpointe

**JUNE 3, 2015 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING**

### SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PRESENTATION

#### TIME

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

#### LOCATION

- Petruzzello's Banquet Center  
6950 Rochester Road, Troy



**JUNE 22, 2015 • MONDAY**

### 32nd ANNUAL MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING

#### Honoring Paul Calcaterra

#### TIME

- Lunch served at 10:30 AM
- 12 Noon Shotgun Start

#### LOCATION

- Scalawag's Country Club  
52100 Fairchild, Chesterfield



**SEPTEMBER 2, 2015 • 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, Eastpointe



## Notes from the PRESIDENT

For, lo, the winter has past,

The rain is over and gone;

The flowers appear on the earth;

The time of the singing of birds has come,

And the voice of the turtle is heard in our land.

~ Song of Solomon 2:11-12

That was the way the great Tigers announcer Ernie Harwell would greet his audience before the first broadcast of the spring. So with that HAPPY SPRING. Now that another long winter is over we can enjoy the annual rites of spring like the Red Wings starting another playoff run (24 straight) and of course the Tigers starting the marathon towards another Central Division title.

We at the IACCM also had a nice start to spring with our April wine tasting. The efforts of Anthony Apone - who organized the wine distributors, and Lucia DiCicco - who put together the delicious menu with Chef Alex at The Cultural Center were greatly appreciated. It was nice to see the great turnout for this meeting. Everyone seemed to enjoy this as an alternative to our normal format. Also at the April meeting we welcomed three new members. Michael Notte, Nino Messina and Joe Rubino. Hopefully you three will enjoy attending our monthly meetings and I look forward to seeing you.

Coming up on May 6th is our annual reverse raffle - Festa Della Lira. This year's event is being held at Eastpointe Manor. As of today there are a few tickets left for the raffle. If you'd like to purchase a ticket please contact Debbie at the Chamber office. Please remember that even if you don't have a ticket you can still come to this event as it's a regularly scheduled meeting.

Rounding out our spring is our annual scholarship night on

## Notes From The President

Continued from page 1

June 3rd at Petruzzello's. Since we've moved the scholarship night to June we always get a good showing from the recipients, not to mention it's nice meeting these kids in person.

The last thing I have to mention is that this year's golf outing is a sellout. It's wonderful to have this great showing on a day when we'll be honoring Paul Calcaterra. If you do not have tickets for golf you can still purchase tickets for the dinner portion of the program. If that's not possible hole sponsorships are still available. I look forward to seeing everyone at these events.

Ciao!  
David F Galli

The Italian American Bar Association  
of Michigan  
*Announces*

**PRO BONO NIGHT**  
**Wednesday, May 20th, 2015**  
**6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**  
at the  
**ITALIAN AMERICAN CULTURAL SOCIETY**

43843 Romeo Plank Road  
Clinton Township, MI 48038

The Italian American Bar Association of Michigan will be hosting a Pro Bono Legal Day on May 20, 2015, during which volunteer-attorneys from our organization will be available (at no charge) to provide general guidance on a broad range of topics, including, immigration, family law, real estate, general business, and employment law. This event is intended to fulfill our organization's commitment to providing legal education for the benefit of our community.

If you have further questions, please contact: Randall J. Chioini (Pres.) - 586.465.4900

## In Memoriam



**Mario Signorelli**, IACCM member, passed away at the age of 75 on April 24, 2015.

*Please keep him and his family in your thoughts and prayers!*

## Chamber Archives – sharing our history

At our most recent Archive meeting (Dec. 2014) we came across an old photo, perhaps thirty five years old. This is a picture of five smiling men who had gathered for the purpose of being recognized for their efforts in raising funds for the Statue of Liberty restoration project. This was a national program being led by the then CEO of the Chrysler Corporation, Lido (Lee) Iacocca.

This great picture, part of our Archive history, shows five smiling faces, which clearly indicated by facial expressions, the pride and satisfaction they got from their participation in this great national program. We all know the restoration project was a great success and all accomplished by private donations. The Statue was reopened to the public on the July Fourth weekend of 1986. Who were the people in this photograph; they were all IACCM Chamber members who have gone to that special place we call Heaven. They are Amperio Carli, Russell Gambino, Charles Marinelli, Edward Rondino and Hon. Anthony Sanfemio.

Let us take a moment to remember these fine gentlemen, and honor them by saying "rest in peace". We will not refer to you as past members, but as "always members; in memoriam". Thank you for your part in making this the fine organization it is.

Death is not an easy thing to talk about. We request that you occasionally go to our Memoriam in the Archive section of our website and review the names. These are the people that led the cause and as we are, were proud of their heritage. That is a good thing.

Chamber members; be well, proud of who you are and of what you do.

The IACCM Archive committee,

P. Calcaterra, G. Esposito and F. Pompa 3/5/2015

# Festa Italiana

THE WEEKEND WHEN EVERYONE'S ITALIAN!



**FREEDOM HILL  
COUNTY PARK**

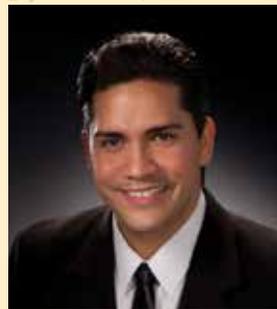
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Birthdays for:**

**May**

5/1 Signorelli, Mario  
5/2 Caccamo, Gaetano  
5/4 Russo, Agostino  
5/5 Morelli, Jr., Frank  
5/7 Agosta, Anthony Allan  
5/7 Valente Jr., Mark  
5/12 Russo, John  
5/13 Lucido, Paul G.  
5/14 Calcaterra, Paul R.  
5/15 Pirrone, Joseph  
5/16 Velardo, Armand  
5/17 Giarmarco, Julius H.  
5/17 Paglia, Enzo  
5/19 Varanelli, Jeffrey  
5/23 Scalzi, Frank  
5/26 Marino, Frank  
5/28 Maniaci, Frank  
5/30 Lawroski, Eric

**June**

6/1 Viviano, Anthony J.  
6/2 Nagy, Charles  
6/2 Locricchio, Michael  
6/3 LaRosa, Dominic J.  
6/7 Benenati, Dr. Anthony V.  
6/12 Pavlick, Marty  
6/15 Ventimiglia, Christina M.  
6/22 Provenzano, Nunzio  
6/26 DiGiuseppe, Jr., John  
6/26 Bonaldi, Ezio  
6/29 Ruggeri, Philip

**July**

7/1 Pompa, Frank  
7/1 Apone, Anthony  
7/2 Bernabei, Frank A.  
7/2 Morelli Sr., William A.  
7/4 Scaglione, Albert P.  
7/14 DeCarolis, John  
7/15 Varano, Sal Mario  
7/15 Fontana, Carl  
7/18 Galli, David F.  
7/18 Timpa, James  
7/18 Deldin, Mark F.  
7/19 Viviano, Paul  
7/22 Baffo, Matthew  
7/24 Schnepfer, Roy  
7/29 Simone, MD, Piero A.  
7/30 Grimaudo, Joseph  
7/31 Lucido, Peter J.

**August**

8/2 Seleno, Andrew A.  
8/3 Toia, Joseph  
8/4 Pascaretta, Antonio  
8/7 Belcastro, Domenico  
8/9 DiPiazza, John  
8/11 Maceroni, Hon. Peter  
8/12 Bossio, Alan J.  
8/17 Bergmann, John P.  
8/19 Militello, Stefano  
8/22 Giordano, Anthony  
8/23 Zuccaro, Dino  
8/25 Salerno, Sr., Ramo A.  
8/26 Petruzzello, Frank  
8/28 Messina, Nino  
8/29 Ventimiglia, Sam P.

**Motivational Moments —  
SPRING 2015**

*By William A. Morelli, Sr.*

As we get into this warm season, may we remember to be grateful for all the gifts we are given everyday. Remember that every day you have another 86,400 seconds to do something positive or not – the choice is yours. To help you choose the right things, I share with you the following:

- Be kinder than necessary.
- Look for opportunities to make people feel important.
- Don't forget, we are judged by what we give, not by what we get.
- Every morning, wake up and say, "Dear Lord, I don't want anything better, just send me more of the same."
- Make the most of the best and the least of the worst.
- Remember that to love and to be loved is the greatest joy in the world.
- Remember that a successful marriage depends on two things: (1) finding the right person, and (2) being the right person.
- Children spell "love" T-I-M-E.
- When you walk your talk, people listen.

And finally - remember to Smile, Give Hugs and Tell Someone You Love Them.

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# March 4, 2015 Meeting • San Marino Club



Proceeds from the Festa Della Lira basket of cheer go to benefit "ruff" and the Leader Dogs for the Blind!



Guest speakers Nancy Gross and June Foyt of the Small Business Association with President David Galli



Members awaiting a wonderful dinner!



Great Turnout as expected at San Marino Club!

# April 1, 2015 • Italian Cultural Center Meeting & Wine Tasting Event

*Special thanks to Anthony Apone and Lucia DiCicco for coordinating the wonderful wine tasting!*



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*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."