

OFFICERS		BOARD OF DIRECTORS		IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT Paul Calcaterra	
PRESIDENT	SECRETARY	CHAIRMAN	TERMS ENDING '07	PAST PRESIDENTS	1988 Russell Gambino
William A. Morelli, Sr.	Ned R. Piccinini	Joseph Toia	Michael Lazzara	2002 Fred Severini, Jr.	1985 Dr. Charles Marinelli
1 ST VICE PRESIDENT	FINANCIAL	TERMS ENDING '06	Michael Locricchio	2000 Benedetto Marrocco	1984 Frank DiGiovanni
Salvatore P. Ventimiglia	SECRETARY	Andrew Agosta	Joseph Ventimiglia	1999 Augustino Russo	1981 Hon. Anthony Sanfemio
	Thomas Bommarito	Philip D'Anna	TERMS ENDING '08	1998 Ned R. Piccinini	1979 Frank Pompa
2 ND VICE PRESIDENT	TREASURER	Tony J. Gallo	David F. Galli	1994 Angelo Lanni	1978 Mark Valente, Jr.
Ronald A. DiBartolomeo	Antonio DeLuca		Valerio Poliuto	1991 Thomas B. Lanni	1976 Sam Ripepi
			Joseph Toia	1989 Alexander Bongiorno	1974 Joseph Grimaudo

Mission Statement

The Italian American Chamber of Commerce of Michigan

This Chamber is dedicated to the promotion of the community, which we serve. We do this while we enjoy with great pride our Italian heritage and culture and we also honor the Italian immigrants of past generations for their contributions to this great country. We are proud Americans of Italian background.

IMPORTANT MEETING DATE CHANGE!

The IACCM Officers and Board of Directors have adopted a change regarding the Installation of Officers ceremony. This ceremony will take place during the January General Membership Meeting each year beginning in 2007. This years meeting is being held on January 10, 2007, at the Italian Cultural Center, 43843 Romeo Plank Road, Clinton Township. Spouses and/or guests are welcome to attend for a \$40 fee.

The annual Festa Del Vino, which is normally held at the end of January, is being moved to a different date later in the year with an entirely new theme! Watch for updates in the near future!

On Wednesday, December 6, 2006, the IACCM will conduct its annual meeting in accordance to Bylaw Article V, Section 5.1 which states:

"Annual Meetings. Same shall be held in the month of December of each year (preferably on a Wednesday) at such time and place as may be designated by the President. Notice of the Annual Meeting shall be provided not less than two (2) weeks before and will include the particulars of the Annual Meeting, together with an agenda."

In addition, 'in accordance to Bylaw Article V, Section 5.7 Order of Business - Annual Meeting, the following is the agenda:



- I. Call to Order – President Morelli
- II. Roll Call – Secretary Piccinini
- III. Reading of Minutes – Annual Mtg. 2005 - Secretary Piccinini
- IV. Standing Committees – Annual Reports
- V. Election of Officers – Past President Calcaterra
- VI. Old Business
- VII. New Business
- VIII. Good of the Order
- IX. Adjournment



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Clinton Twp., MI 48036
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THE GRAPEVINE

A Publication From The Italian American Chamber of Commerce of Michigan

Winter Issue • 2006 • Volume 5 • Number 4

Upcoming EVENTS

DECEMBER 6 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING

TIME

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

LOCATION

- Fern Hill Country Club
Election of Officers/Board of Directors
17600 Clinton River Road, Clinton Township

JANUARY 10, 2007 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING

Installation of Officers/Board of Directors

TIME

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

LOCATION

- Italian Cultural Center
43843 Romeo Plank Road, Clinton Township
Spouses, guests and significant others invited for a \$40.00 Dinner Fee. (per guest)

FEBRUARY 7, 2007 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING

TIME

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

LOCATION

- Eastpointe Manor
24611 Gratiot Avenue, Eastpointe

MARCH 7, 2007 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING

TIME

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

LOCATION

- Mirage Banquet Center
16980 18 Mile Road, Clinton Township

Dear Members,



Notes from the PRESIDENT

My two years as your President are quickly winding down and I can truly say that it has been one of the most rewarding and challenging jobs I have ever undertaken. I have never been involved with a better group of men than the members of our Board of Directors and our Past Presidents. They have been supportive and inventive and properly critical when necessary. I can assure you that they are not "Yes" men but, instead, they are willing to take on a challenge and to get behind what they think is right and push it to completion.

As far as the general membership, it has been an honor to represent you at various functions. Although we may not have always agreed on some specific items, we have always shared the deep pride of our Italian heritage and the commitment to ensure the continuing recognition it deserves. To all of you I say **THANK YOU!**

As one of the last activities of my term in office, we, the Italian American Chamber of Commerce, along with the Italian American Cultural Society, have founded a new event called the Annual Generation to Generation Gala Dinner. Although this year's event will be over by the time you get this, this will be an annual event that will honor those Italian American Businesses that have two or more generations of ongoing ownership or involvement. The tradition of passing one's business down to one's heirs has long been ingrained in our culture and this event highlights that tradition. If you were not included this year, make sure you contact me or anyone on the Generation to Generation Committee to be included next year.

Also, by now you will have received your ballot to elect the new line of Officers and Directors for 2007. Please take time to fill out your ballot and mail it back in plenty of time so your voice will be heard. The slate is filled with very worthy men and it is your choice that will determine the future direction of our organization

One last thing before I sign off for the last time, I again challenge each one of you to do as I do every Christmas season and never pass a Salvation Army Kettle without putting something into it. The size of the gift is not as important as the sharing. It represents a gift from the heart to someone you do not know and embodies the true spirit of Christmas. Also remember that Christmas is the celebration of the Greatest Gift that has ever been given to the world, Take a little time to honor and respect that gift to all of us.

May you receive more blessing than you need and may your Holiday be the Best ever and the least of those to come.

Thanks for a great two years!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Bill

p.s. Pease come to Angie's 13th Annual Toys for Tots Party at the Mirage on 18 Mile Rd. on Nov. 28th at 6:00 PM.





CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Thoughts for the month

I just returned from the 'Generation to Generation' dinner, which was co-sponsored by our Chamber and the Italian Cultural Society. I must say it was a wonderful tribute to the generations of Italian families and businesses that have served the Metro-Detroit Italian American Community for the past 100 years. Each recipient expressed a common bond and attributed the success of their business to the love, dedication and hard work of their families, coupled with the support of the Italian American community.

Our Chamber shares those common bonds. The success of our Chamber is the result of the dedication and hard work of our members, coupled with our love and support for the Italian American community, from generation to generation.

Member to member, business to business, generation to generation, we, united as a Chamber, have the ability to strengthen these bonds, preserve our Italian traditions and promote our businesses. It is as easy as bringing a prospective member to a meeting.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Ciao,

Joseph Toia, Chairman

MOTIVATIONAL MOMENTS

By William A. Morelli, Sr.

This issue repeats an article that was written several years ago because I believe it is timely today possibly even more than before. There is a significant change that will be taking place in our local, state and Federal government. Whether you are happy with that change or disappointed with it, you need to accept it and move on with your life. Because we do not always get what we want, I thought this would be a good way to remind us to be grateful for what we have:

Don't Give Up:

"Do not give up when you still have something to give. Nothing is really over until the moment you stop trying."

"Sometimes struggles are exactly what we need in our life. If God allowed us to go through our life without any obstacles, it would cripple us. We would not be as strong as what we could have been. We could never fly."

I asked for Strength – and God gave me Difficulties to make me strong.

I asked for Wisdom – and God gave me Problems to solve.

I asked for Prosperity – and God gave me Brain and Brawn to work.

I asked for Courage – and God gave me Danger to overcome.

I asked for Love – and God gave me Troubled people to help.

I asked for Favors – and God gave me Opportunities

"I received nothing I wanted."

Yet - - -

"I received everything I needed."

As you go through your life and you are faced with difficult times, re-read the above. Also remember that the road to success is the least crowded on the second mile!

Smile. Give Hugs. Tell someone special you Love them.

IACCM CANDIDATES FOR UPCOMING ELECTION

At a recent IACCM board meeting, the Board of Directors have endorsed the following candidates as Officers for the upcoming election:

- President – Salvatore Ventimiglia
- 1st Vice President – Ronald A. DiBartolomeo
- 2nd Vice President – Ned R. Piccinini
- Secretary – Joseph Toia
- Financial Secretary – Thomas Bommarito
- Treasurer – Antonio DeLuca

Also, there are three Board of Director seats vacant for a full term – (3 years), and one additional vacant seat to be filled, due to the elevation of Joseph Toia to secretary. There are two years – (2 years) remaining to that seat. At the time of voting, you will select three, with the top four vote-getters filling the seats. (4th place receives 2 year seat)

The Board of Directors have endorsed the following candidates as Board of Directors for the upcoming election:

- Andrew Agosta – Incumbent
- Michael T. Catenacci
- Steve Militello
- Michel Tenaglia
- Steve Ternullo

In addition, at the November General Membership meeting, nominations for Board of Directors were taken from the floor.

The results were:

- Joseph Bellanca

Good luck to all the candidates!



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Frank Coppola, CPA
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Clinton Twp., MI 48038
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Lazzara & Co, P.C., CPA's

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16010 19 Mile, Ste 202
Clinton Twp., MI 48038
(586) 263-1000
davidl@lazzaracpa.com

Metzler Locricchio Serra Co

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

• ATTORNEY

Law Offices of Joseph Toia, PC
Joseph Toia
47678 Van Dyke Ave.
Shelby Twp., MI 48317
(586) 254-1300

The Marsalese Law Group, PLLC

Michael P. Marsalese
21415 Civic Center Dr., Suite 250
Southfield, MI 48076
(248) 350-9370

Attorneys & Counselors at Law

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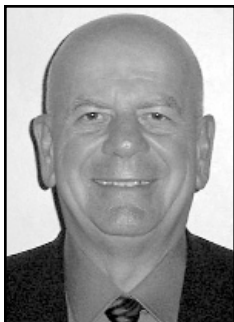
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Gus Russo's Grapevine TidBits... Italian Americans In The World of Golf



Gus Russo

Millions of golf fans across the globe watched golfer Phil Mickelson drill an 18 foot birdie putt on the 72nd hole to become the 2004 Masters Champion, but very few of them knew that he was Italian. The current fourth ranked golfer in the world, Mickelson is of Italian descent on his mother's side. His nickname while playing on the Arizona State golf team was "The Roman".

Mickelson isn't the only Italian American golfer on the PGA Tour this year. Chris Dimarco and Fred Couples are currently ranked in the top 25, and Rocco Mediate and Mark Calcavecchia are both ranked in the top 125 golfers in the world.

The title of the greatest Italian-American golfer of all time still belongs to Gene Sarazen, and today's golfers have quite the act to follow. Gene Sarazen was born Eugenio Saraceni in Harrison New York in 1902 to immigrant parents. At the age of eight he began to caddy and quickly learned the complexities and etiquette of the game, becoming fully absorbed in it even to the extent of anglicizing his name in order to gain acceptance at a time when there were virtually no Italian-American players.

Sarazen will long be remembered as one of golf's greatest players. Like the sand wedge he is credited with inventing, Sarazen, known as the "The Squire," had a lasting impact on the game of golf. In 1922, at the age of 20, he won the U.S. Open the youngest ever to win that event. He was a member of six Ryder Cup teams and is in the PGA hall of fame, and the National Italian American Sports Hall of Fame.

While the Italian American influence in sports such as boxing and baseball has long been celebrated, Italian Americans have had an impact on the sport of golf as well. Other Italian American golfers include championship winners Johnny Revolta, Vic Ghezzi, Donna Caponi, Tony Manero, Doug Ford, Harry Pezullo, and 14 time winner Ken Venturi. Of course, golf fans also remember the legendary Turnesa brothers, who were to golf what the Kennedy's were to politics. All seven brothers Phil, Frank, Joe, Mike, Doug, Jim and Willie were professional golfers. They won dozens of Tour events and made Walker Cup and Ryder Cup teams, and even had a movie about them entitled "The Golfing Brothers."



IACCM Business Feature

**Rick DiBartolomeo-
Partner-Assurance and
Advisory Services-
Deloitte & Touche LLP**

I currently serve as a Partner in the Assurance and Advisory Services function (Audit) of Deloitte & Touche LLP. Our offices in Detroit are located in the GM Global Headquarters (Renaissance Center). Deloitte & Touche is one of the four largest professional services firms in the world. I have been with the firm for 25 years, all of which have been in Detroit. I specialize in serving middle-market companies that are both privately and publicly held. I have been involved in initial public offerings, mergers and acquisitions, debt offerings as well as restructuring.

I graduated from Western Michigan University in 1981 with a BBA (major in accounting) and from Walsh College in 1990 with a Masters of Science in Finance. I have also served as an adjunct professor at Walsh College in the Masters of Science in Finance program (1991-1998).

Besides my involvement in the Chamber, I currently serve as the Treasurer and a Trustee at Music Hall, Trustee and member of Finance committee at Judson Center, member and Finance committee member at the Detroit Athletic Club, member and Finance committee member at Great Oaks Country Club and member of The Detroit Economic Club. In addition to the organizations listed above, I am involved in several other organizations in the Southeastern Michigan area.

I along with my lovely wife of almost 25 years (Sue) have three children; Alex (15), Ryan (12) and Jaclyn (12). We currently reside in Troy, Michigan.

I N M E M O R Y

The IACCM wishes to express our sincere sympathy and condolences to the families of Nunzio Giasone and Sam J. Chirco. Mr. Giasone passed away on November 11, 2006 at the age of 87. He was a long time IACCM member prior to his retirement. Mr. Chirco passed away on October 25, 2006 at the age of 82. He was a former Vice President of the Chamber. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.



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IACCM Scholarship Award Night



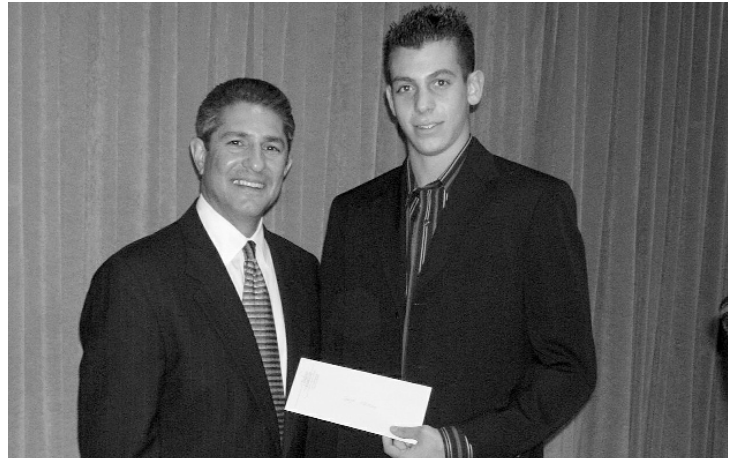
(L-R) Bill Morelli and guest speaker Dr. Al Lorenzo of Macomb Community College.



Joe Ventimiglia accepting scholarships for his daughter Jaclyn and son Joseph from Chairman Toia.

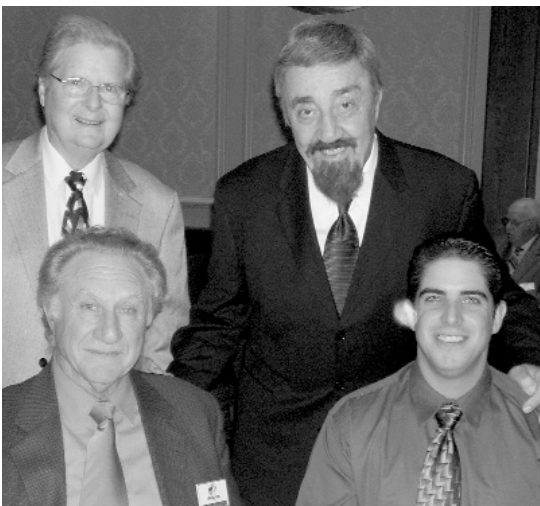


(L-R) Charles Palumbo, grandfather of Sara Palazzolo with her mother accept Sara's scholarship from Joe Toia.

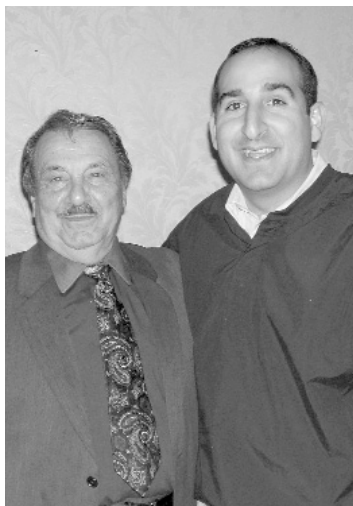


Joseph Mazzara accepting his scholarship from Joe Toia.

November 1, 2006 IACC Meeting at Villa Penna



Standing (L-R) Floyd Beaudette and Burt Bonaldi Seated. (L-R) Ezio Bonaldi and Grandson Tim Foley.



(L-R) Ned Piccinini and Newly Elected Judge David Viviano.



(L-R) Gino Esposito and Paul Calcaterra.



Italian-American Chamber of Commerce Birthdays for:

December

12/1 Lochirco, Salvatore
12/1 Cervone, Matthew D.
12/2 Vendittelli, Antonio
12/5 DeCarlo, Gary A
12/6 Bianchini, Rocky
12/7 Latella, Anthony
12/7 Gallo, Frank J.
12/13 Paluzzi Jr., Joseph
12/14 Piccinini, Ned
12/14 Tollis, Daniel
12/14 Femminineo Jr.,
Jacob Michael
12/17 Fachini, Roger
12/17 Bonadeo, David C.
12/18 Viviano, David F.
12/27 Tenaglia, Michel

January 2007

1/2 Mazzara, Michael J.
1/2 Yearego, James L.
1/4 Marrocco, Peter
1/4 Viviano, Vincent P.
1/5 Baldini, Massimo

January 2007 (Continued)

1/6 Rea, Pasqualino
1/6 Castiglione, Joseph
1/14 Coppola, Frank
1/18 Ripepi, Sam
1/18 Polsinelli, Michael L.
1/22 Bommarito, Thomas
1/24 Aloia, Benjamin
1/26 Leonardi, Frank C.
1/28 Torrice, Dr. Peter
1/31 DeNardo, John

February 2007

1/31 Cicchini, Paul
2/9 Fuciarelli, Peter A.
2/11 Bommarito, David
2/12 Lacaria, Sam
2/17 Garrisi, Lorenzo F.
2/17 DeLuca, Antonio
2/25 Buffa, John Anthony
2/26 Ferranti, Domenic
2/27 Salerno, Dr. Ramo

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