



# The Grapevine

A Publication From

**The Italian American Chamber of Commerce of Michigan**  
**Winter Issue • 2012 • Volume 11 • Number 1**  
**Visit Our New Website at: [www.iaccm.net](http://www.iaccm.net)**



## Upcoming EVENTS

### **JANUARY 4, 2012 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING**

#### **Officer/Board of Director Installation**

- TIME**
- 6:00 PM Board Meeting
  - 6:30 PM General Membership Meeting
- LOCATION**
- Italian American Cultural Center  
43843 Romeo Plank Road,  
Clinton Township

**Spouses/Significant others invited for \$40 fee**

### **FEBRUARY 1, 2012 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING**

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

### **MARCH 7, 2012 • 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 16-19, 2012 • IACCM POKER FUNDRAISER**

#### **WORKERS NEEDED, Contact IACCM Office**

- TIME**
- Tournaments at 1:00 and 7:00 PM.
- LOCATION**
- Cada's Poker & Sports Grille  
(open 11:00 AM thru 2:00 AM)  
44935 Hayes Road, Sterling Heights  
(SW Corner of M59 & Hayes)

### **APRIL 18, 2012 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING**

#### **FESTA DELLA LIRA (see enclosed flyer for info)**

- TIME**
- 6:30 PM General Membership Meeting
- LOCATION**
- Petruzzello's Banquet Center  
6950 Rochester Road, Troy



## Notes from the PRESIDENT

**M**erry Christmas and Happy New Year to all Chamber members, family and friends. I am very proud to be your new 2012 President, and hope that we can all work together for a healthy and happy New Year.

I would like to talk about the new plans that I and the Board have been discussing, some changes that are already underway, and my future hopes and dreams for our Chamber and community.

First, I would like to talk about the window clings that I have ordered for all members. They are enclosed within this newsletter. I am very proud to issue these to each and every one of you. Please display them in any window you wish, and know that we have extras if you would like to purchase more at only \$3.00 each. I am proud to call myself a member of the Italian American Chamber of Commerce. I hope that all of you feel the same, and will join me in displaying our heritage.

Secondly, we are now offering an associate level membership beginning in 2012 and beyond. This is a great way for us to show the young adults of today that the traditions and honors of our heritage are stronger than ever, and that they are the future. Our professional children, grandchildren and friends can now be part of the IACCM with a much lower membership fee, while still allowing for many great opportunities. The current criteria for our new associate members has been established to include young adults 21 - 30 years of age, who must be either of Italian decent or married to an Italian, and who also hold a professional position or degree. I realize that we are all very proud of our children and grandchildren, and I think it would be great if we could encourage them to become members this year. We will be swearing in our first group of young adults at the January board meeting held at the IACS, on January 4th, 2012. Please contact the Chamber office for membership criteria and applications regarding our new associate membership. We look forward to swearing in the next group at our February meeting.

I would like to thank all of you who helped with our three fundraising events. The Festa Della Lira, IACCM golf outing, and the poker night fundraisers were all huge successes. Without the support of not only all of the volunteers working tirelessly, but also all those who attended the events, this would not have happened. I am looking forward to even bigger and better attendances for




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## Chairman's CORNER

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### Celebrate!

I am honored to serve as the 2012 Chairman of the Italian American Chamber of Commerce of Michigan.

As we enter into another year for the IACCM we want to listen and understand the needs of our members. First and foremost, it is our goal as a Chamber to offer value to our members and to the communities we serve. We aim to do this by continuing on our core successes of the past and by executing a strategic plan to assist in growing your businesses forward. We strive to do this by creating an open environment within our community that helps bring together the Italian businesses, local businesses, and other entities to cultivate relationships and networking opportunities for all of us to prosper.

As Chairman of the Board I want to express my gratitude to the IACCM's Officers and Board of Directors for the trust they have bestowed upon me to lead the Chamber this year. It is an incredible honor and privilege to serve in this role and to be able to work with such strong, passionate leaders within our community. As we work together to grow the Chamber and its members business, we should understand that the long term growth and potential of the Italian community is through the continued growth and development of our young Italian people, who will eventually be the leaders of tomorrow leading our community needs and initiatives.

In conclusion, I pledge my support to the purpose of the Chamber as outlined in its Bylaws. The Chamber was organized to advance the general welfare and prosperity of the Italian community and its business community as well. Together we need to commit to support the Italian American Chamber of Commerce with our focus on tomorrow. Keep your eye on our newsletter and mailings for the upcoming networking events which will include a joint venture with the Macomb County Chamber of Commerce along with Metro Networking Professionals. These events have proven very successful, please give it a try!

I would like to thank both Joseph Toia and Ned R. Piccinini for their leadership as President and Chairman during 2011. I am looking forward to a prosperous new year with President Joseph Ventimiglia leading the way into 2012.

Tony Rubino  
Chairman of the Board

## Motivational Moments — Winter 2012

By William A. Morelli, Sr.

It is hard to believe that 2011 is finally over and we are starting 2012. This will be a very pivotal year for all of us. We are going to elect the President of the United States and that is a major undertaking. I do not wish to know which candidate you prefer, but I do know that each of you has an obligation to vote. We have just "ended the war in Iraq" at the cost of 4,500 American lives and 36,000 injured in action. To all of these we owe that vote. From these facts we are reminded that "Freedom isn't Free!" Pay your obligation to these fighting men and women and remember to vote.

Borrowing from several years before; now is the right time to remind you all of the following:

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

*Ralph Waldo Emerson*

**Generosity:** "Joy comes not to him who seeks it for himself, but to him, who seeks it for other people."

*H. W. Sylvester*

**Simple Pleasures:** Count your blessing. "Every morning wake up and say - Dear Lord, I don't want anything better, just give me more of the same."

*Kitty Hart*

**Attitude:** "Remember that if you look for the worst in life and in people, you'll find it. But if you look for the best, you'll find that instead."

*A Course in Miracles.*

**Marriage:** "Don't forget that marriage is like an empty box. It remains empty unless you put in more that you take out."

*Author Unknown*

**Parenting:** "The first and greatest gift we can bestow on our children is to be a good example."

*Sir Charles Morell*

**Remember:** "Smile, Give Hugs and Tell Someone You Love Them – it will make them feel better and that will make you feel better and it will make the world a little better place to live."

*William A. Morelli, Sr.*



## 2012 OFFICER/BOARD OF DIRECTOR ELECTION RESULTS

At the December 5th IACCM meeting at Petruzzello's, the election results were announced for the 2012 Officers and Board of Directors. Congratulations to the following:

### OFFICERS

- **President – Joseph P. Ventimiglia**
- **1st Vice President – Andrew Agosta**
- **2nd Vice President – Anthony Rubino**
- **Secretary – David Galli**
- **Financial Secretary – Michael Locricchio**
- **Treasurer – Anthony DeLuca**

### CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

- **Anthony Rubino**

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Terms Ending 2014**

- **David Galli**
- **Stefano Militello**
- **Angela Pippi**





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## Notes From The President

*Continued from page 1*

the upcoming 2012 year. Remember that all the fundraisers help contribute to the scholarships, donations to various charities, helping the Italian community etc. I am asking that all of us make an effort to volunteer for at least one event this year, and hopefully attend at least one event this year as well.

Overall, my goals for this year are to build our membership, bring on many associate members and continue to keep everyone aware of what is going on within the Chamber. I also hope to work together with all the members in areas where we could improve upon. Most importantly, I hope that we can maintain our sense of camaraderie and be there for each other as an outlet of support and networking opportunities.

Lastly, I would like to start a program that will help all members, and their businesses, generate business from our current members. So, if you are interested in offering and publishing a discount to members in good standing, please feel free to contact the Chamber office.

Please go to our website at least twice a month (or as often as you can) to see what is new and going on. Please remember that the office has been moved to the Italian American Cultural Society on Romeo Plank. This has been done in efforts to make the Chamber more accessible to you, and I hope you will utilize this new location to your benefit.

Thank you and God bless the Italian American Chamber of Commerce.

Joseph P. Ventimiglia



### January

- 1/1 Benvenuti, Anthony
- 1/2 Yearego, James L.
- 1/4 Viviano, Vincent P.
- 1/4 Marrocco, Peter
- 1/14 Coppola, Frank
- 1/15 Capaldi, Fred I.
- 1/18 Ripepi, Sam
- 1/20 Cardella, Michael
- 1/22 Bommarito, Thomas
- 1/26 Leonardi, Frank C.
- 1/28 Torrice, Dr. Peter
- 1/31 Cicchini, Paul

### February

- 2/2 Manzella, Vincenzo
- 2/3 DelPup, Gino
- 2/9 Fuciarelli, Peter A.
- 2/17 DeLuca, Antonio
- 2/22 Taormina, Steven
- 2/25 Buffa, John Anthony
- 2/27 Gaglio, Philip J.
- 2/27 Salerno, Dr. Ramo

### March

- 3/3 Pini, Ray
- 3/4 Fuciarelli, Pietro G.
- 3/5 Shermetaro, Charles G.
- 3/6 Pippi, Angela M.
- 3/8 Carnaghi, Donald
- 3/14 Piccinini, Ned R.
- 3/17 Rubino, Anthony M.
- 3/17 Bommarito, Benedict
- 3/18 Vicari, Joseph
- 3/21 Colombo, Charles F.
- 3/23 Santeufemia, Michael
- 3/24 Esposito, Gino
- 3/26 Giannetti, Frank
- 3/27 Ferrera, Gene P.
- 3/27 Palumbo, Charles
- 3/27 Grosso, Jr., Peter M.
- 3/30 Picano, Domenic
- 3/31 Scaccia, John

# Italian American Chamber of September 8, 2011 Meeting • Pican



David Lazzara with his wife Michelle reads thank you letter from their son Jason, 2011 Lido Bucci Award recipient along with President Toia



Richard and Sue DiBartolomeo accepting the award for their son Alexander



Tony DeLuca accepting the scholarship award for his daughter Patricia

# Italian American Chamber of November 11, 2011 Networking Meeting • De



Dr. Chuck Shermetaro answers questions from the members during networking night



New IACCM member Fred Capaldi, Capaldi Building Company, being sworn in by Judge Richard Caretti



Ramo Salerno accepting the "2011 Columbus Day Goodwill Ambassador" award from Joseph Toia



# Commerce o's Restaurant



John and Cindy DiPiazza accepting the scholarship award on behalf of their daughter Dominique

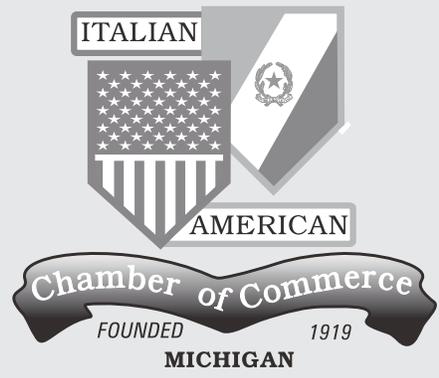
# Commerce eCarlos' Banquet Center



Membership Chairman Mike Tenaglia, Judge Caretti, Fred Capaldi, and President Joseph Toia



St. Clair Eye of Shelby Township display



## Italian-American Chamber of Commerce New Members 2011

**Nicholas J. Phillips & John P. Bergmann**  
– AXA Advisors

**John DiPiazza** – ReMax Suburban

**John J. Tersigni** – Reali Distributing

**Roger Canzano** – Court House Services

**Eric Batson** – Maggiano's Little Italy

**Gino DelPup** – Plante Moran

**Fred Capaldi** – Capaldi Building Company

**Marty Pavlick & Brian Rorai**

– Northwestern Mutual

**Anthony Giordano**

– Shelby Foot & Ankle PLLC



Newest IACCM member Dr. Anthony Giordano of Shelby Foot & Ankle PLLC, with Michel Tenaglia and President Toia

Ask About the Savings on  
Our Season Ticket Package

*ticketmaster*

# Andiamo

## CELEBRITY SHOWROOM

From Country to Old School Classic Hits,  
Our Up-Close & Personal 2012 Concert Series is Filled with  
Grammy Award Winning Rock & Roll Hall-of-Famers



Travis Tritt  
1.13.12



Morris Day  
& The Time  
1.28.12



Kansas  
2.17.12



Andrew  
"Dice" Clay  
3.24.12



Glen Campbell  
5.11.12

1.13.12 – Travis Tritt  
1.20.12 – Eric Burdon & The Animals  
1.27.12 – "Oh What A Night"  
Frankie Valli Tribute  
1.28.12 – Morris Day & The Time  
2.14.12 – The Angela Boffill  
Experience, Valentine's Day  
2.17.12 – Kansas  
2.18.12 – Elvis to The Max  
3.24.12 – Andrew Dice Clay  
4.20.12 – Scintas SOLD OUT!

5.10.12 – Mark Randisi  
"Salute to Sinatra"  
5.11.12 – Glen Campbell  
5.13.12 – Zonjic & Friends,  
Mother's Day  
6.15.12 – Scintas  
9.14.12 – Joan Rivers  
10.26.12 – Regis Philbin  
11.16.12 – Clint Holmes  
12.6.12, 12.7.12 & 12.8.12  
Scintas Holiday Show  
12.9.12 – Karen Newman Holiday

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# Grapevine Membership Business Directory

## ★ ACCOUNTANT/CPA

**Metzler Locricchio Serra & Co., PC**  
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Troy, MI 48084  
**(248) 822-9010**  
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## ★ ATTORNEYS & COUNSELORS AT LAW

**Lucido & Manzella, P.C.**  
**Attorneys and Counselors at Law**  
Peter J. Lucido/Vincenzo Manzella  
39999 Garfield Road  
Clinton Township, MI 48038  
**(586) 228-3900**

## Joseph Toia, P.C.

47678 Van Dyke Avenue  
Shelby Twp., MI 48317  
**(586)254-1300**  
**(586)254-4801 fax**  
[joetoialaw@gmail.com](mailto:joetoialaw@gmail.com)

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

Armand Velardo, Attorney at Law  
65 Southbound Gratiot  
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# The Italian American Chamber of Commerce of Michigan

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**1ST VICE PRESIDENT**

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**2ND VICE PRESIDENT**

Anthony Rubino

**SECRETARY**

David F. Galli

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

Michael Locricchio

**TREASURER**

Antonio DeLuca

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**CHAIRMAN**

Anthony Rubino

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Paul Calcaterra  
 Thomas Lanni

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 Joseph Lucido  
 Joseph R. Pellegrino

**TERMS ENDING 2013**

David A. Lazzara  
 Vito Pianello  
 Michel Tenaglia

**TERMS ENDING 2014**

Daniel Galli  
 Stefano Militello  
 Angela Pippi

**PAST PRESIDENTS' COUNCIL**

**IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT**

Joseph Toia

**PAST PRESIDENTS' COUNCIL**

2010 Thomas Bommarito  
 2009 Ned R. Piccinini  
 2008 Ronald A. DiBartolomeo  
 2007 Salvatore P. Ventimiglia  
 2006 William A. Morelli, Sr.  
 2004 Paul Calcaterra  
 2000 Benedetto Marrocco  
 1999 Augustino Russo  
 1998 Ned Piccinini  
 1994 Angelo Lanni  
 1991 Thomas B. Lanni  
 1985 Dr. Charles Marinelli  
 1979 Frank Pompa  
 1978 Mark Valente, Jr.  
 1976 Sam Ripepi  
 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.”