

# The Grapevine

A Publication From  
The Italian American Chamber of Commerce of Michigan

Winter Issue • 2017

Volume 16 • Number 1

Visit Our Website at: [www.iaccm.net](http://www.iaccm.net)



## Upcoming EVENTS

### FEBRUARY 1, 2017 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING

- TIME:** • 6:00 PM Board Meeting  
• 6:30 PM General Membership Meeting

**LOCATION**

- Rivercrest Banquet Center  
900 W. Avon Road, Rochester

### MARCH 1, 2017 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING

**NETWORKING NIGHT**

**Guest Speaker: Grace Shore, Macomb County Chamber**

- TIME:** • 6:00 PM Board Meeting  
• 6:30 PM General Membership Meeting

**LOCATION**

- Andiamo Italia  
7096 East 14 Mile Road, Warren

### APRIL 5, 2017 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING

**NETWORKING NIGHT**

**TIME:**

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

**LOCATION**

- Eastpointe Manor  
24611 Gratiot, Eastpointe

### MAY 10, 2017 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING

## FESTA DELLA LIRA

**TIME**

See Page 3

- 6:00 PM General Membership Meeting

**LOCATION**

- San Marino Club  
1685 E. Big Beaver Road, Troy



## Notes from the PRESIDENT

Happy New Year!

Thank you for the honor of being your President again in 2017 of the Italian American Chamber of Commerce of Michigan. I would like to thank Tom Bommarito for his leadership as Chairman in 2016. He will be truly missed. I would also like to welcome back our officers and our board of directors for 2017. Our Chairman for 2017 will be Tony Rubino. Thank you Tony for your service.

I am sure you are wondering why you are receiving this newsletter electronically. This method will save the IACCM greatly in printing and mailing costs. For those members who do not have an email address, a printed copy will be mailed.

Last year was an excellent membership drive. Thanks to all those who helped out and those who brought in new members. We had 20 new members join, however, we lost 12 members for various reasons. Our total membership today is 172. Hopefully, we will continue our success this year in recruiting new members with the help of our current membership. I have asked our vision and membership committees to explore different avenues on how we could recruit and retain new members. We all need to continue to help bring in new members for the continued success of IACCM. We have two networking events this year. Please contact Frank Coppola if you're interested in being a presenter. You will have a table to present your marketing materials.

We will publish a new directory this year with all our members in alphabetical order. Please contact Debbie if you have changes to your address, web site or employment. The cost to have an add placed in the Directory is only \$50. Please email or contact Debbie if you would like to place an ad in the Directory on or before March 1st, 2017. These directories will be handed out to all our members, potential members and mailings to invited guests.

As always we have our two big events this year. The Festa Della Lira and the John B. Agosta scholarship golf outing. I would like to thank all of you who helped with those events. With the support of our members and committee members these events have been a huge success.

Lastly, keep in mind our 100 year anniversary is coming up in 2019. The committee has been working hard to make this a huge success. As they move forward the information will be presented to our members.

Thank you  
Vito Pianello  
President



# Chairman's CORNER

I am honored to serve as the 2017 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.

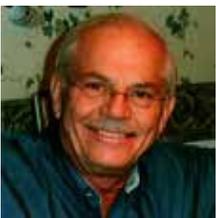
In conclusion, I pledge my support to the purpose of the Chamber as outlined in its Bylaws. The Chamber was organized to advance the general welfare and prosperity of the Italian community and its business community as well. Together we need to commit to support the Italian American Chamber of Commerce with our focus on tomorrow.

I would like to thank both Vito Pianello and Tom Bommarito for their leadership as President and Chairman during 2016. I am looking forward to a prosperous new year with President Pianello leading the way into 2017.

Tony Rubino  
Chairman of the Board

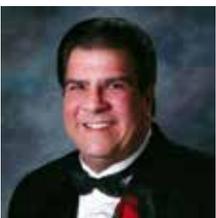
## IN MEMORIAM

*Please keep the following Chamber members and their families in your thoughts and prayers.*



### Charles "Chuck" Fred Nagy

January 12, 2017  
Long time Chamber member and owner of Paragon Ready Mix in Utica. Beloved husband of Rose Marie. Loving father of Jill (Dan) Scholnik, Mandy (Ken) Neihsl, Brent (April) Nagy, Carrie (Latif) Tayour and Lesley (Freddy Grosse) Nagy.



### Paul G. Lucido

January 16, 2017  
Long time Chamber member and owner of Lucido Insurance Agency. Beloved husband of Annette (nee Deane). Dearest father of Maria (Noland) Kirnberger, Peter, III (Anna) and Jessica.. Dear brother of Antoinette (Gil) Anderson, Joseph (Linda), Jennifer (Jim)

Laethem, Marianne (Mark) Janisse, Peter (Annmarie), Thomas (Maria) and Diane (Jake) DiPonio.

## ITALIAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEW MEMBERS 2016

Peter J. Lucido, III – Lucido Insurance  
David A. Slongo – Atlantic Precision Products  
Anthony Vitale – Probuilt Woodworking  
Antonio Basilisco – Express Recovery, Inc.  
Vince Manzella – Lucido & Manzella, P.C.  
Peter C. DeAngelo – Amusement Vending  
Anthony Urbani, II – Urbani & Marshall, P.C.  
Thomas Mazza – Premiere Estate Planners  
Salvatore Ventimiglia, Jr. – Corporate Fleet Services  
Paul Olivieri – Paul Anthony Homes  
Jerry Palazzolo – Messina Trucking, Inc.  
Steve J. Messina – Messina Trucking, Inc.  
Tony Corso – Lincoln of Troy  
John D. Gatti – Kerr Russell & Weber, PLC  
Michael Talluto, II - Asset Preservation Tax Services  
William A. Calunas – Peterson & Calunas, PLLC  
Sam Palazzolo – Bedrock Detroit  
Joseph A. Burke – Burke Mechanical, Inc.  
Edward Toarmino – Competitive Lighting, Inc.  
Joseph Cipriano – Constructeam, Inc.

JULIUS H. GIARMARCO  
Attorney and Counselor at Law

**GMH** GIARMARCO, MULLINS & HORTON, P.C.  
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**Holy Family IACCM Memorial  
Mass and Pancake Breakfast  
November 6, 2016, Holy Family Church**

Pictured l-r: Andy Agosta, Chuck Promesso, Angela Pippi,  
Fr. Pino Licciardi, Joseph Toia, Jim Timpa , Mark Garagiola

# FESTA DELLA LIRA

(in conjunction with the general membership meeting)

**MAY 10, 2017**

**SAN MARINO CLUB**

**1685 E. Big Beaver, Troy, • 6:00 pm**

**REVERSE RAFFLE WITH A GRAND PRIZE OF \$10,000**

**PLUS OVER \$3,000 IN ADDITIONAL CASH PRIZES**

Hors d'oeuvres open bar, fabulous dinner, 50-50 raffle, basket of cheer

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## 2017 OFFICER/BOARD OF DIRECTOR ELECTION RESULTS

At the January 4th IACCM meeting, the newly elected 2017 Officers and Board of Directors were sworn in. Congratulations to the following:

### OFFICERS

- President – Vito Pianello
- 1st Vice President – David Lazzara
- 2nd Vice President – Daniel Galli
- Secretary – Peter A. Fuciarelli
- Financial Secretary – Michael Locricchio
- Treasurer – Michel Tenaglia

### CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

- Anthony M. Rubino
- ### BOARD OF DIRECTORS ~ Term Ending 2019
- Dr. Anthony R. Giordano, DPM
  - Mark D. Garagiola
  - Nunzio Provenzano

### PAST PRESIDENTS 2017

- Andrew Agosta
- Salvatore P. Ventimiglia

## Italian-American Chamber of Commerce Birthdays for:

### February

- 2/4 Vitale, Anthony
- 2/9 Fuciarelli, Peter A.
- 2/17 DeLuca, Antonio
- 2/19 Notte, Michael R.
- 2/21 Bianchini, Mauro
- 2/22 Taormina, Steven
- 2/24 Lucido, III, Peter J.
- 2/27 Gaglio, Philip J.
- 2/27 Salerno, Dr. Ramo A.

### March

- 3/3 Pini, Ray
- 3/4 Fuciarelli, Pietro G.
- 3/5 Shermetaro, Charles G.
- 3/6 Pippi-Soave, Angela M.
- 3/8 Carnaghi, Donald
- 3/12 Bonanni, Jeffrey A.
- 3/14 Piccinini, Ned R.
- 3/17 Bommarito, Benedict
- 3/17 Rubino, Anthony M.
- 3/18 Vicari, Joseph
- 3/21 Colombo, Charles F.
- 3/23 Ventimiglia, Joseph W.
- 3/23 Santeufemia, Michael N.
- 3/24 Esposito, Gino
- 3/26 Giannetti, Frank
- 3/30 Picano, Domenic
- 3/30 Garagiola, Mark D.

### April

- 4/3 Aiello, Mark
- 4/3 Calunas, William A.
- 4/7 Calcaterra, Michael J.
- 4/12 Poliuto, Valerio
- 4/16 Cerroni, Dante
- 4/17 Canzano, Roger
- 4/18 Minoletti, Gary
- 4/19 Lanni, Angelo S.
- 4/23 Giacalone, Leonard
- 4/23 Palazzola, Anthony
- 4/25 Rocca, Larry
- 4/25 Tundo, Samuel
- 4/27 Cipriano, Joseph
- 4/29 Vitale, Vincenzo
- 4/30 Gallo, Tony J.

### May

- 5/2 Caccamo, Gaetano
- 5/4 Russo, Agostino
- 5/5 Morelli, Jr., Frank
- 5/7 Valente Jr., Mark
- 5/7 Agosta, Anthony Allan
- 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
- 5/30 Lawroski, Eric



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# October 5, 2016, DeCarlo's Banquet Center



Anxiously awaiting the fine food prepared by Gary DeCarlo



Guest Speaker Jim Timpa discussing insurance options



Members waiting on dinner

# November 2, 2016, San Marino Cub



President Galli taking nominations for 2017 Officers and Board of Directors



Awaiting the next delicious course



Honorable Joseph Toia swearing in new members V. Jerry Palazzolo & Tony Corso



V. Jerry Palazzolo and Tony Corso with Membership Chair RJ Koss and Honorable Joseph Toia



Members enjoying the delicious appetizers

# December 7, 2016, Ristorante Piccirilli



Tom Bommarito, President Vito Pianello, new member John Gatti, and Membership Chairman RJ Koss

Time to share a holiday glass of wine



Lets eat!! Merry Christmas everyone!



Awaiting the fine dinner prepared by Umberto Piccirilli



President Dave Galli announcing election results

# Italian American Chamber of Commerce

## 2017 Installation of Officers/Board of Directors

January 4, 2017 • Petruzzello's Banquet Center



### 2017 Officers & Board of Directors

**Seated L-R;** Chairman of the Board Anthony M. Rubino, 2nd Vice President Daniel Galli, 1st Vice President David A. Lazzara, President Vito Pianello  
**Middle Row L-R;** Charles F. Colombo, Past President Andy Agosta, Ralph Koss, Angela Pippi-Soave, Dr. Anthony R. Giordano, Matthew Baffo  
**Back Row L-R;** Financial Secretary Michael Locricchio, Dr. Charles Shermetaro, Mark Garagiola, Past President Salvatore P. Ventimiglia, Peter A. Fuciarelli, Immediate Past President David F. Galli, Frank Coppola. Treasurer Michel Tenaglia



Steve J. Messina



Joseph Burke



Sam J. Palazzolo



Michael Talluto



Joseph Cipriano



Edward Toarmino

***Congratulations to the newest members  
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Contact:

**George Horattas**

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\*Minimum purchase of \$4,000 is required for a \$250 Visa gift card and a minimum purchase of \$8,000 is required for a \$500 Visa gift card; offer ends March 31, 2017. Cannot be used with any other promotions



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# The Italian American Chamber of Commerce of Michigan

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2ND VICE PRESIDENT

Daniel Galli

SECRETARY

Peter A. Fuciarelli

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Michael Locricchio

TREASURER

Michel Tenaglia

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Salvatore P. Ventimiglia

TERMS ENDING 2017

Matthew Baffo

Ralph J. Koss

Angela Pippi-Soave

TERMS ENDING 2018

Charles F. Colombo

Frank Coppola

Charles G. Shermetaro, OD

Terms Ending 2019

Anthony R. Giordano, DPM

Mark D. Garagiola

Nunzio Provenzano

**PAST PRESIDENTS COUNCIL**

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

David F. Galli

PAST PRESIDENTS COUNCIL

2014 Andrew Agosta

2013 Joseph P. Ventimiglia

2011 Joseph Toia, Esq.

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

1994 Angelo Lanni

1991 Thomas B. Lanni

1979 Frank Pompa

1978 Mark Valente, Jr.

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."