



# The Grapevine

A Publication From  
**The Italian American Chamber of Commerce of Michigan**  
**Summer Issue • 2011 • Volume 10 • Number 2**



## Upcoming EVENTS

### **JUNE 1, 2011 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING**

**Guest Speaker: Lt. Col. Sean Campbell,**  
Selfridge Air National Guard Base air show director

#### **TIME**

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

#### **LOCATION**

- Ristorante Piccirilli  
52830 Van Dyke Avenue, Shelby Township

### **JUNE 28, 2011 • TUESDAY • GOLF OUTING**

#### **28th Annual John B. Agosta Memorial Golf Outing**

- Boulder Lakes Golf Club  
52100 Fairchild, Chesterfield  
For tickets/info  
contact Andy Agosta • 248-561-1266

### **SEPTEMBER 7, 2011 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING**

#### **TIME**

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

#### **LOCATION**

- Picano's Restaurant  
3775 Rochester Road, Troy

### **OCTOBER 5, 2011 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING**

#### **TIME**

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

#### **LOCATION**

- Andiamo Italia  
7096 East 14 Mile Road, Warren



## Notes from the PRESIDENT

What a great way to welcome spring...with a successful Festa d'ella Lira. Many thanks to our Festa committee for a fun night. I hope you were one of the lucky winners of the many prizes and raffles! Let me know how you enjoyed the night..and whether you agree that combining it with our May meeting was a good idea. I really would appreciate your comments.

Please support our John Agosta Memorial golf outing. This promises to be another fun filled day, with friends..fellowship..and a great cause. As you know these two events fund our charity and scholarship programs for the year. They are also a great way to showcase the Chamber. If you are not golfing ..please sign up for dinner as the cocktail reception is a good opportunity to network.

Note: We are still hoping to present the Scholarship Awards at the golf outing. This may change however depending on the number of recipients and available seating. If plans change, we will attempt to notify you as soon as possible.

Thank you for supporting our events!  
Joe Toia



Membership Chairman Michel Tenaglia with new member John Tersigni, owner of Reali Distributing, along with Judge Peter Maceroni (not pictured, Roger Canzano)




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## Chairman's CORNER

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### Celebrate!

In keeping with my mission to identify and celebrate the successes of some of our chamber members, this issue spotlights Dr. Anthony "Tony" Benenati. I met Tony at one of our monthly meetings about 5 years ago. It didn't take me long to realize that Tony is a very proud and passionate man, that believes anything worth doing is worth doing right. He demonstrates this in his business, Benenati Foot and Ankle Care Centers, every time he steps into an operating room. Tony performs numerous procedures from ankle stabilization and replacements to skin and bone grafting, and is always striving to employ the latest innovations for the betterment of the patient. One of the many fascinating procedures he performs is in the use of platelet rich plasma. This procedure allows the patient's own blood to be drawn and then separated, isolating the platelets. The platelets are then injected into the injured tissue, which releases a surge of growth factors. Bottom-line, this stimulates the stem cells in repairing and regenerating the injured tissue, which allows the patient in many cases to heal without surgery or loss of work.

The same commitment Tony demonstrates on a daily basis in his practice can be witnessed in his charitable activities. As a Wings of Mercy pilot, Tony donates his time and airplane to providing transportation to those who are truly less fortunate. These are people who without his generosity would not be able to get the essential care they need from hospitals and centers hundreds of miles away from their homes. Recently Tony decided to sport a new look for a very worthy cause when he shaved his head to raise money for Children's Cancer Research through the St. Baldrick's Foundation. The event took place in Romeo and rose over \$200,000. Tony was appointed by Gov John Engler to the Michigan Board of Podiatric Medicine and was Chief of Podiatric surgery at St. John North Shore Hospital. Tony is also the director and Chief of a three year reconstructive surgical foot and ankle residency at St. John Hospital of Macomb and Oakland.

Of all his achievements Tony puts family first, if you ask him what he is most proud of he'll tell you about his beautiful wife Maria, and three sons Anthony, Jerry and Joseph. Next time you see Tony at a meeting, be sure to strike up a conversation with him, he's a fascinating individual.

Ned R. Piccinini  
Chairman of the Board

## Motivational Moments — Summer 2011

By William A. Morelli, Sr.

As I prepare to write this article I am filled with a mixture of elation and sadness. I am pleased that our government has finally dealt with Osama Bin Laden, but I am equally saddened by the death of another young Italian Marine. Lance Corporal Dominic J. Ciaramitaro, was killed in Afghanistan when his vehicle hit a land mine. He was only in his early 20's. It always reminds me that "Freedom is not Free" and that it costs us our most precious asset, our young brave men and women. Say a prayer for their safety while in harm's way.

As we head into the warm months (I hope), I recommend you take the time to read a little book called "*Jeffery Gitomer's: Little Gold Book of YES! Attitude*". I want to share a portion of Chapter 2 of that book with you: The Chapter is called "Reading is fundamental to attitude self-awareness" and the section goes as follows:

- 1. Change your input to change your attitude.** . . . If you want to achieve positive, you have to surround yourself with it and live it.
- 2. You were born to win.** But, "You must plan to win, prepare to win, and expect to win." *Zig Ziglar*
- 3. "The will to win is nothing without the will to prepare to win."** *Vince Lombardi*
- 4. You will get whatever you want if you help enough people get whatever they want.** *Many claim this but it doesn't matter – just live it.*
- 5. Make every day as productive as the day before you go on vacation.** *No more need be said.*
- 6. Ignore people who tell you, "You can't."** *People will try to discourage you for fear that you will pass them. Don't let that happen.*
- 7. "If you have nothing nice to say, say nothing."** *A famous quote said by your mother.*
- 8. Don't dwell on (whine about) the problem: concentrate on the solution.** *Resolve how you can; don't lament why you can't.*
- 9. Forgive and go forward.** *Grudge blocks positive. Until you clear the past you are destined to repeat it.*
- 10. Self-talk equals self –performance.** *Look at any athlete. Self-talk is a crucial part of expected positive results.*

Well enough for this issue. I'll give you the next 10 in the next writing – but, of course, if you really are interested – **BUY THE BOOK!**

Have a GREAT SUMMER! And Remember to Smile, Give Hugs and Tell Someone Special that you Love Them.

Bill



# Italian-American Chamber of Commerce Birthdays for:

## 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.
- 6/16 Notte, Richard
- 6/16 Severini III, Fred
- 6/22 Provenzano, Nunzio
- 6/26 DiGiuseppe, Jr., John
- 6/26 Bonaldi, Ezio
- 6/29 Ruggeri, Philip

## JULY

- 7/1 Pompa, Frank
- 7/2 Morelli Sr., William A.
- 7/2 Bernabei, Frank A.
- 7/4 Scaglione, Albert P.
- 7/14 DeCarolus, John
- 7/15 Fontana, Carl
- 7/15 Varano, Sal Mario
- 7/18 Galli, David
- 7/18 Timpa, James
- 7/19 Ficano, Robert

- 7/19 Viviano, Paul
- 7/20 Altavena, 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

- 8/1 Cuglietta, Luigi
- 8/2 Seleno, Andrew A.
- 8/3 Toia, Joseph
- 8/4 Pascaretta, Antonio
- 8/7 Belcastro, Domenico
- 8/9 DiPiazza, John
- 8/11 Maceroni, Peter
- 8/12 Bossio, Alan J.
- 8/17 Bergmann, John P.
- 8/19 Militello, Stefano
- 8/21 Stolaruk, Steve
- 8/23 Zuccaro, Dino
- 8/25 Salerno, Sr., Ramo A.
- 8/26 Petruzzello, Frank
- 8/27 Tersigni, John J.
- 8/29 Ventimiglia, Sam P.

# Macomb Business Expo

On October 19th, The IACCM will join forces with Metro Networking Professional's to present the 1st annual Macomb County Business Expo. The event will be held at the Mirage Banquet Center from 12 to 3 pm.

There will be over 50 businesses from both groups. Each participating business will have the opportunity to invite between 10 and 20 guests, preferably their best customers. There is a \$100 fee to exhibit which will pay for the hall and a light lunch. There will be no charge to your guests.

We are currently working on a guest speaker for the event. We have exactly 50 business's registered and would like to ad yours to the list also.

To sign up or for more info contact Tony Rubino at 586-873-2905 or via email at arubino898@aol.com.

## Eastpointe Manor, April 6th meeting



1st Vice President Joseph Ventimiglia welcoming the Commissione Giovani USA, along with President Joseph Toia



Commissione Giovani (R-L) John Tersigni, Sara Palazzolo, VP Lucia Di Cicco, Allesandra Sabatini, Robert Hinman, Anthony Apone

## Selfridge's Next Air Show

August 20-21, 2011  
www.Selfridgeairshow.org



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# ITALIAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF MICHIGAN JOHN B. AGOSTA MEMORIAL



## 28th Annual Scholarship Golf Outing

**TUESDAY,  
JUNE 28TH, 2011**

at

**Boulder Lakes  
Country Club**

52100 Fairchild Rd  
Chesterfield, MI 48051

**\$150.00/Person**  
(\$90.00 Tax Deductible)

**Dinner Only \$60.00**  
(\$25.00 Tax Deductible)



**Lunch • Dinner • Refreshments • Hole in One Contest**

*For Reservations & Information call Andy Agosta cell: (248) 561-1266 or Fax: (248) 652-2127*

## ITALIAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF MICHIGAN JOHN B. AGOSTA MEMORIAL 28th Annual Scholarship Golf Outing

*Italian American Chamber of Commerce, 24801 Capital Blvd., Clinton Township, Michigan 48036*

**Phone: (586) 493-4034 • Fax: (586) 783-0118**

Sold to \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_

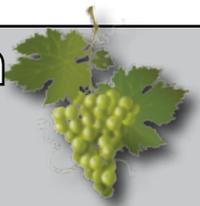
\_\_\_\_\_ Golf Tickets @ \$150/each \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Dinner Tickets @ \$60/each \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Hole Sponsor @ \$150 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Total Amount Due \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

# May 4, 2011 • Festa Della Lira General Membership Meeting at the Mirage Banquet Center



The Lucido family; Paul, Joe Jr., Joe, and Pete along with Festa Chair Angela Pippi



Bill Morelli, Joseph Toia, Joseph Ventimiglia, and Sam Ventimiglia running the reverse raffle



Jim Bonnell, Bill Morelli and Joe Toia making sure things are running smoothly



Tom Bommarito and Bill Morelli enjoying the festivities!



Judges Peter Maceroni and Sebastian Lucido



Dave Galli and Vito Pianello making sure everyone is checked in



Chairman Ned R. Piccinini and his father, Ned Piccinini

Dinner/Show Packages  
available for select shows  
Doors open at 7pm,  
Shows begin at 8pm

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06.10 *Musical Comedy*



**DEANA MARTIN**  
06.25 *Musician*



**AMERICA**  
09.16 *Classic Rock*



**JOAN RIVERS**  
09.17 *Comedian*



**AARON CARUSO**  
10.21 *Las Vegas Musical Variety Show*



**FELIX CAVALIERE'S RASCALS**  
10.22 *Classic Rock*



**ERIC BURDON/ ANIMALS**  
11.11 *Classic Rock*



**MICHAEL AMANTE**  
11.12 *Opera Tenor*



**SCINTAS HOLIDAY**  
12.15 | 12.16 | 12.17  
*Holiday Show*



**KAREN NEWMAN**  
12.18 *Holiday Show*



**TONY N' TINA'S WEDDING**  
06.03 | 09.23 | 11.18  
Doors Open: 7 pm,  
Showtime: 7:30 pm

**ANDIAMO BOX OFFICE**  
**(586) 268-3200**  
AndiamoShowroom.com

**TICKETMASTER**  
**(800) 745-3000**  
Ticketmaster.com

The Andiamo Celebrity Showroom is located in Warren at 7096 East 14 Mile Road just west of Van Dyke

*ticketmaster*

# Grapevine Membership Business Directory

## ★ ACCOUNTANT/CPA

**Metzler Locricchio Serra & Co., PC**  
Michael A. Locricchio, J.D., CPA  
1800 West Big Beaver Rd., Ste. 100  
Troy, MI 48084  
**(248) 822-9010**  
[www.mlsco CPA.com](http://www.mlsco CPA.com)

## ★ 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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 2006 William A. Morelli, Sr.  
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 1999 Augustino Russo  
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 1994 Angelo Lanni  
 1991 Thomas B. Lanni  
 1985 Dr. Charles Marinelli  
 1984 Frank DiGiovanni  
 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.”