

OFFICERS		BOARD OF DIRECTORS		IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT - William A. Morelli Sr.	
PRESIDENT	SECRETARY	CHAIRMAN	TERMS ENDING '08	PAST PRESIDENTS'	1988 Russell Gambino
Salvatore P. Ventimiglia	Joseph Toia	William A. Morelli, Sr.	David F. Galli	2004 Paul Calcaterra	1985 Dr. Charles Marinelli
1 <sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT	FINANCIAL		Stefano Militello	2002 Fred Severini, Jr.	1984 Frank DiGiovanni
Ronald A. DiBartolomeo	SECRETARY	TERMS ENDING '07	Valerio Poliuto	2000 Benedetto Marrocco	1981 Hon. Anthony Sanfemio
2 <sup>ND</sup> VICE	Thomas Bommarito	Michael Lazzara	TERMS ENDING '09	1999 Augustino Russo	1979 Frank Pompa
PRESIDENT	TREASURER	Michael Locricchio	Andrew Agosta	1998 Ned Piccinini	1978 Mark Valente, Jr.
Ned R. Piccinini	Antonio DeLuca	Joseph Ventimiglia	Michael T. Catenacci	1994 Angelo Lanni	1976 Sam Ripepi
			Joseph Bellanca	1991 Thomas B. Lanni	1974 Joseph Grimaudo
				1989 Alexander Bongiorno	

## 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."**



### Guest Speaker - Pierette Domenica Simpson

The March 7, 2007 IACCM meeting, being held at the Mirage Banquet Center, will feature Pierette Domenica Simpson as the evenings guest speaker. She is the author of "Alive on the Andrea Doria". The book tells, first hand, of her experiences on the Italian luxury liner as it sank and became the "greatest sea rescue in history". The book marks the 50 year anniversary of the shipwreck. While touring in Italy, renowned film producer Ciro Ippolito bought the movie rights for the book. For more information about Ms. Simpson, please visit her web site at [www.pierettesimpson.com](http://www.pierettesimpson.com)

Spouses and guests invited for a \$40 dinner fee.



24801 Capital Blvd.  
Clinton Twp., MI 48036  
586.493.4034  
Fax: 586.783.0118  
[www.iaccm.org](http://www.iaccm.org)

**Editor**  
Steve Militello  
**Contributing Editors**  
Chuck Maniaci  
William A. Morelli, Sr.  
Joseph Toia  
Gus Russo

**Photographer**  
Chuck Maniaci  
**Administrative Asst.**  
Deborah Demick

**Layout**  
**Graphic Artist**  
Paw Graphics  
**Printer**  
Source One Graphic  
Solutions



# THE GRAPEVINE

A Publication From The Italian American Chamber of Commerce of Michigan

Spring Issue • 2007 • Volume 6 • Number 1

## Upcoming EVENTS

### MONTHLY MEETING TIMES:

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

### MARCH 7, 2007 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING

#### LOCATION

- Mirage Banquet Center  
16980 18 Mile Road, Clinton Township

**Guest Speaker** - Pierette Domenica Simpson  
Spouses and guests invited for a \$40 dinner fee. More information on page 8.

### APRIL 4, 2007 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING

#### LOCATION

- Andiamo Italia  
7096 East 14 Mile Road, Warren

**Guest Speaker** - Mike Giannone, Head Coach of Dakota High School's 2006 Varsity Football State Champions

### MAY 2, 2007 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING

#### LOCATION

- DeCarlo's Banquet Center  
6015 East 10 Mile Road, Warren

### MAY 16, 2007 • FESTA DELLA LIRA

#### LOCATION

- Petruzzello's Banquet Center  
6950 Rochester Road, Troy

#### TIME

- 6:30 PM

### JUNE 6, 2007 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING

#### LOCATION

- Ristorante Piccirilli  
52830 Van Dyke, Shelby Township



Dear Members,

Our installation dinner has taken place and was a great success. Judge Antonio Viviano swore in our Officers and Board Members amongst the beautiful back drop of the Italian American Cultural Center, while being treated to an excellent dinner.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the entire membership for the faith and confidence you have placed in me to represent you as your President.

I have been a member since 1990 and very clearly remember the pride I felt when I was sworn in at the ROMA Café while they were celebrating their 100th anniversary. At that time we had somewhere around 100 members. Today, we have over 200 great members. I am very proud to be an American of Italian decent and live my life in honor of my ancestors.

In the last year we have developed a program committee and a vision committee who did outstanding jobs in laying the groundwork for bigger and better things for our organization.

The program committee is committed to have dynamic speakers at our meetings to provide information and enjoyment.

The vision committee's focus, in a nutshell, is you. It's all about making the Italian American Chamber of Commerce an organization serving and providing its members with what they want to make their membership a value to them. They are also developing ideas and plans to increase our membership rolls. You will be hearing more about that in the very near future.

*Continued on page 6*





## CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Thoughts for the month

Hopefully, by the time you read this, we will be done with the bitter cold we have endured since the beginning of January and the snows of February.

The new Officers are already taking charge of our organization and have instituted some new approaches to build our membership and to stay fiscally responsible. Good for them! I hope we can all get behind them to help grow and improve the IACC of Michigan.

The recent meetings with speakers have been well attended and very enjoyable and I believe that President Ventimiglia and 1st Vice President Ron DiBartolomeo are on a proper course to keep the meetings positive, entertaining, and attractive to our members.

Our March meeting promises to be very interesting with Ms. Simpson – a survivor of the Andrea Doria speaking about her experiences. I hope that there will be a good showing of wives and significant others present to make her feel comfortable in front of our group. Here is a chance for our better half's to participate for only the cost of the dinner so; I hope you will join me in taking advantage of it.

As you think about the end of cold and the promise of another warm Michigan summer, think about what you would like to see or have happen in your chamber – then let one of your Officers or Board members know what that is. We would love to make the evenings even more enjoyable for everyone and we can - with your help!

We have a great team and a great bunch of members. Make sure you enjoy all we have to offer and that you share your talents with us too!

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

## MOTIVATIONAL MOMENTS

*By William A. Morelli, Sr.*

Outside of Lake Arrowhead California is a place called the Daffodil Garden. It is five acres of pure beauty that appears as though someone took a great vat of gold and poured it over a mountain peak and its surrounding slopes. Flowers are planted in majestic swirling patterns, great ribbons and swaths of deep orange, creamy white, lemon yellow, salmon pink and saffron and butter yellow. Each different-colored variety is planted in large groups so that it swirls and flows like a river with its own hue.

This is the work of one woman who lives on the property. She planted 50,000 bulbs – one at a time, with no mechanical equipment – just two hands, two feet, one brain and a dream.

She began in 1958 and in 2007 she can no longer add to her work but just sits and admires it along with those who come to see it. For many it is a life changing experience – thinking of the one woman who for over forty years had planted one bulb at a time to bring her vision of beauty and joy to an obscure mountain top – forever changing the world she lived in into something of magnificence, beauty and inspiration. The garden teaches us one of the greatest principles of celebration.

That is, learning to move forward toward our goals and desires one step at a time – often just one baby step at a time – and learning to love the doing, learning to use the accumulation of time. When we multiply tiny pieces of time and small increments of daily effort we can accomplish magnificent things. We can change the world.

The importance of this is not what has happen in the past but, what you can accomplish for the future – if you start today. Stop waiting

- until your mortgage to be paid off
- until you get your new car or home
- until your kids leave the house
- until you go back to school
- until you finish school
- until you clean the house or basement or garage
- until you gain or lose 10 pounds
- until you get married or divorced
- until you retire
- until spring-summer-fall-winter
- until you die.....

There is no better time than NOW to be happy!

Happiness is a journey – not a destination.

Enjoy today!

# FESTA DELLA LIRA

*May 16, 2007*

*6:30 pm at Petruzzello's Banquet Center • 6950 Rochester Road, Troy*

For Tickets Contact:

Joe Ventimiglia @ 586.569.0440 or John DiPiazza @ 586.262.5150





# Grapevine Membership Business Directory

## ★ ACCOUNTANT/CPA

### Lazzara & Co, P.C., CPA's

David Lazzara  
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

## ★ AUTO DEALER

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19900 E. 9 Mile Rd.  
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(586) 772-8200 Ext. 108

### Lochmoor Chrysler Jeep, Inc

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18165 Mack Ave.  
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(586) 615-3576 Cell

## ★ BANK

### Citizens State Bank

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32900 23 Mile Rd.  
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## ★ BANQUET CENTERS

### DeCarlo's Banquet & Convention Center

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*Location #2 -*

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(586) 532-5485

## ★ FINANCIAL SERVICES

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13650 E. 15 Mile Rd.  
Sterling Hts., MI 48312  
(586) 977-7300  
25800 Harper Ave.  
St. Clair Shores, MI 48081  
(586) 777-0557

## ★ INSURANCE

### Scrafano & Associates, Inc.

Carmen J. Duke Scrafano  
600 N. Old Woodward, Ste. 203  
Birmingham, MI 48009  
(248) 530-1300

### Timpa Insurance

James G. Timpa  
39378 Aynesley  
Clinton Twp., MI 48038  
(586) 226-1550

## ★ INVESTMENTS

### Financial Resources

James Timpa,  
*Financial Consultant*  
803 W. Big Beaver Rd., Ste. 100  
Troy, MI 48084  
(586) 226-1550

### Premier Estate

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**Peter D. Bartholomew**  
**1918 - 2006**

**P**eter D. Bartholomew, retired Wayne County Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, passed away on Christmas Day after a long illness. He had been retired from the Prosecutor's office since 1978.

Mr. Bartholomew was known as a formidable trial lawyer during his 27 years as a prosecutor, while still commanding the respect, and often the friendship, of his attorney

adversaries. While vigorously representing the people of Wayne County, his basic humanity and good humor were evident in the courtroom.

Mr. Bartholomew was born in Detroit in 1918, the son of Italian immigrants, Domenico DiBartolomeo and Terenzia Monacelli DiBartolomeo. One of five children, Mr. Bartholomew was the first of his family to attend college. He graduated from St. Bernard High School, attended college at the Detroit Institute of Technology, and received his law degree from the Detroit College of Law in 1943. He was engaged in the private practice of law in Detroit until he was appointed to the Prosecutor's office by Wayne County Prosecutor Gerald K. O'Brien in 1950.

Mr. Bartholomew was extremely active in community and political affairs and Italian-American organizations. He is a former president of the Italian-American Bar Association of Michigan, and served as Secretary of the Italian-American Chamber of Commerce, of which he was a long-time active member. He was a president of the American-Italian Association of Michigan. A member of the New Era Lodge of the Italian Sons and Daughters of America, he was instrumental in bringing that organization's National Convention to Detroit in 1960. He was a Chairman and active for many years in the Columbus Day Celebration Committee.

Mr. Bartholomew was predeceased by his wife of many years, Marilyn, and three sisters, Dorothy Giovan, Elsie Monacelli, and Donna Karapetian. He is survived by his wife, Antonia, his son, Daniel (Joanne) Bartholomew; a sister, Anna Furtak; three grandchildren, Debra Pesti, Danielle Keeler and Deanne Bartholomew; nine great-grandchildren and four great-great grandchildren.

*Continued from page 1*

## Notes from the President

We will be looking for your ideas on growing this organization, and hope that you will participate on some of the committees designed to add value to your memberships. And, as always, if you have any suggestions for anything, including speakers, that may be beneficial to the Chamber, let me know.

I want to leave you with this thought.....

It can be challenging to focus on building a bigger future if you're mired in the day-to-day complexity of running your business. However, all those things that seem to oppose our goals are actually the raw material for achieving them. Obstacles are useful indicators that show us what change is necessary to break through to the next level and achieve our goals. Our own obstacles show us where we need to grow, and others' obstacles show us where there may be opportunity to create more value. Adversity can be a tremendous impetus for innovation when we approach it from this perspective. Your Officers and Board are doing this with the Chamber. You may want to look at your business that way as well. Many changes are coming, and that makes me excited. Join my enthusiasm and help your Chamber grow.

I am looking forward to a great year with all of you. May you and your loved ones have a happy, healthy, holy and prosperous New Year.

Sam P. Ventimiglia

## IN MEMORY

**T**he IACCM wishes to express our sincere sympathy and condolences to the following families:

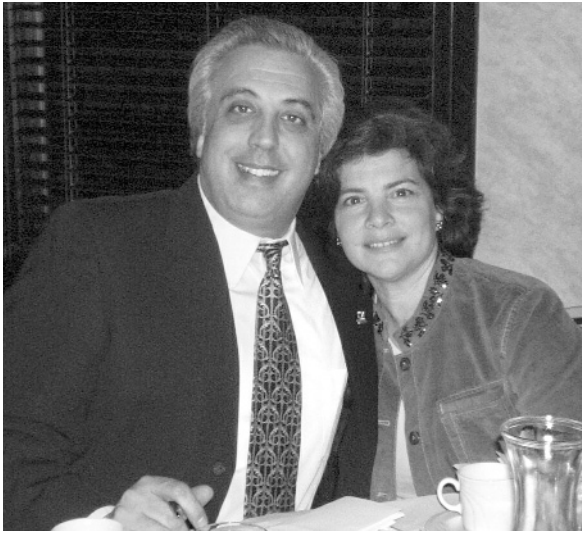
- ❖ Frank Gallo, and his son Tony Gallo, both long time Chamber members, on the passing of their mother and grandmother, Mary, on January 6, 2007.
- ❖ Lorenzo (Larry) Garrisi, current Chamber member, on the passing of his mother, Domenica, on February 1, 2007.

*Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.*





# IACCM Meeting • January 10, 2007 Italian Cultural Center



(L-R) Tom and Angie Bommarito



Judge Viviano swearing in 2007 IACC Board Members



2007 IACC Board Officers and Directors



Italian Consul Dr. Carlo Romeo



Newly elected President Sam Ventimiglia and his wife Donna

## CHANGES DURING GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The IACCM will be holding a 50/50 raffle during our general membership meetings each month. The first raffle was held during the February 7th meeting at Eastpointe Manor, with the winner receiving a \$200.00 prize. Thanks go out to Chamber member, Bob Ripullo, for organizing and running the raffle at each meeting.

The IACCM Officers and Board of Directors has adopted a policy change for consumption of wine at our general membership meetings. There will be two (2) bottles of wine per table, with a third bottle being allowed if it is wanted. If more wine is desired after that, it will need to be purchased thru the bar, on a cash basis, the same as with mixed drinks.





# IACCM Meeting • February 7, 2007 At Eastpointe Manor



New Member Dr. Piero Simone



New Member Dr. Charles Shermetaro



(L-R) Guest Speaker Armando Delicato with cousins Ray Cavaliere and David Slongo



Board Member Val Poliuto



Member Nunzio Provenzano



Grapevine editor Steve Militello



President Sam Ventimiglia (L) joins the swearing in of new members



Member Paul Cicchini celebrates his 83rd birthday



## Italian-American Chamber of Commerce Birthdays for:

### March

3/3 Pini, Ray  
3/4 Fuciarelli, Pietro G.  
3/5 Carnaghi, Donald  
3/5 Shermetaro, Charles G.  
3/7 DiGiovanni, Frank  
3/8 Aloia, Benjamin J.  
3/14 Piccinini, Ned R.  
3/17 Rubino, Anthony Michael  
3/17 Bommarito, Benedict  
3/18 Vicari, Joseph  
3/21 Colombo, Charles Francis  
3/23 Santeufemia, Michael  
3/24 Esposito, Gino  
3/27 Palumbo, Charles  
3/28 Angott, Thomas V.  
3/28 Grosso, Jr., Peter M.  
3/30 Picano, Domenic  
3/31 Scaccia, John

### April

4/1 Maue, Deane B.  
4/1 Severini Jr., Fred  
4/3 Aiello, Mark  
4/4 Rasch, M.D., Albert P.  
4/5 Monti, Mario  
4/5 Rancilio, Lawrence  
4/6 Tassoni, Domenic  
4/7 Calcaterra, Michael J.  
4/8 Marinelli, Charles L.  
4/9 Marsalese, Michael  
4/12 Poliuto, Valerio

### April (Continued)

4/13 DiBartolomeo, Richard D.  
4/18 Lazzara, Michael  
4/19 Lanni, Angelo S.  
4/23 Giacalone, Leonard  
4/23 Palazzola, Anthony  
4/25 Tundo, Samuel A.  
4/25 LaRocca, Patrick  
4/28 Fazzolara, Vito  
4/30 Roselli, Antonio

### May

5/1 Storai, Raymond  
5/2 Caccamo, Gaetano  
5/4 Russo, Agostino  
5/5 Morelli, Jr., Frank A.  
5/7 Agosta, Anthony Allan  
5/7 Valente Jr., Mark  
5/8 Picciche, Vincent  
5/12 Russo, John  
5/13 Lucido, Paul G.  
5/14 Lucido, Sebastian  
5/14 Calcaterra, Paul  
5/15 Patti, Ralph  
5/16 Velardo, Armand  
5/17 Giarmarco, Julius H.  
5/19 Tudisco, William S.  
5/23 Scalzi, Frank  
5/28 Maniaci, Frank  
5/29 Polsinelli, Vincenzo  
5/30 Cattaneo, Michael S.

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