

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	TERMS ENDING '07	Stefano Militello	2002 Fred Severini, Jr.	1984 Frank DiGiovanni
Ronald A. DiBartolomeo	SECRETARY	Michael Lazzara	Valerio Poliuto	2000 Benedetto Marrocco	1981 Hon. Anthony Sanfemio
2 <sup>ND</sup> VICE	Thomas Bommarito	Michael Locricchio	TERMS ENDING '09	1999 Augustino Russo	1979 Frank Pompa
PRESIDENT	TREASURER	Joseph Ventimiglia	Andrew Agosta	1998 Ned Piccinini	1978 Mark Valente, Jr.
Ned R. Piccinini	Antonio DeLuca		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."**

Advertise your business or profession in the "Grapevine Membership Business Directory."  
For \$60.00 a year, you will have five lines to list your business in the directory.



## **Don't Miss The John B. Agosta 24th Annual Scholarship Golf Outing**

*presented by the*  
**Italian American Chamber of Commerce of Michigan**  
**June 25, 2007**  
**Fern Hill Country Club**

For tickets/info contact  
Andy Agosta 248-561-1266



## THE GRAPEVINE

A Publication From The Italian American Chamber of Commerce of Michigan  
Summer Issue • 2007 • Volume 6 • Number 2

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**  
America's Finest Printing



# THE GRAPEVINE

A Publication From The Italian American Chamber of Commerce of Michigan

Summer Issue • 2007 • Volume 6 • Number 2

## Upcoming EVENTS

### JUNE 6 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING

#### TIME

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

#### LOCATION

- Ristorante Piccirilli  
Guest Speaker Tony Viviani  
52830 Van Dyke, Shelby Township

### JUNE 25 • MONDAY • GOLF OUTING

#### TIME

- 11:00 AM Shotgun Start

#### LOCATION

- Fern Hill Country Club  
17600 Clinton River Road, Clinton Township  
For tickets/info contact Andy Agosta 248-561-1266

### SEPTEMBER 5 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING

#### TIME

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

#### LOCATION

- Fern Hill Country Club  
Scholarship Awards Evening  
17600 Clinton River Road, Clinton Township  
*Spouses and significant others invited.*

### OCTOBER 3 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING

#### TIME

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

#### LOCATION

- Guest Speaker Sheriff Mark Hackel
- Italian Cultural Center  
43843 Romeo Plank Road, Clinton Township

### NOVEMBER 1 • WEDNESDAY • MONTHLY MEETING

#### TIME

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

#### LOCATION

- Villa Penna  
Nomination of Officers/Board of Directors  
43985 Hayes, Clinton Township



## Notes from the PRESIDENT

Time is flying. By the time you get this Grapevine issue we will have started our summer break. Remember, no meetings in July or August, but yet a very busy summer schedule of events coming.

Also, in the done column by the time you read this will be the Festa Della Lira. I'll go out on a limb and predict that it will be, and was, an outstanding success as always. I just don't know who won the money! Joe Ventimiglia and his committee made sure you all had a great time.

Come out in big numbers and support the Chamber golf outing to be held on June 25th at Fern Hill. Buy golf tickets and/or hole sponsorships. This is an important fund raiser with its primary goal to fund college scholarships. Contact Andy Agosta to find out more.

Wow! Haven't our speakers been great? Ron DiBartolomeo has done a phenomenal job of getting great program speakers:

- Armando Delicato, author of "Italians in Detroit" in February
- Pierette Domenica Simpson, author of "Alive on the Andrea Doria" in March
- Mike Giannone, head coach at Dakota High School's 2006 Varsity Football State Champions in April
- Keith Famie, survivor contestant and renowned chef in May
- Anthony J. Viviani, speaking about Holy Family Church in June

*Continued on page 6*





## CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Thoughts for the month

Well, it almost seemed like the warm weather would never arrive, but it finally did. Now we are enjoying the new grass, flowers and trees covered with leaves – almost thought that would never happen.

Speaking of nice things we are enjoying, our new officers hit the nail on the head with the drive for new members – at the time of this writing, we were to initiate 14 new members at our June meeting and we will continue the drive until October 31st. If the added members become involved, we are headed for a superb future.

Congratulations to the winners at the Festa Della Lira. We all had a great evening and certainly had enough to eat and with the camaraderie that we enjoyed, we all came away winners in one way or another.

Our Program committee continues to schedule very interesting guest speakers and we take our hat off to them for a good job-well done!

And don't forget our Golf Outing and our raffle of the BIG SCREEN TV. Get your Golf teams registered and buy your raffle tickets now. It goes toward our Scholarship Fund which is the future of our heritage.

As we close down our activities for the summer, I suggest that you continue to look for new members that would be positive additions to our Chamber, and, I ask that you enjoy your family in what ever ways you can. Time together with our loved ones is one of life's most precious gifts ~ and we should take as much advantage of it as we can. When you use up all the time you were given on this earth, I do not believe that any of you will wish they had spent more time at work- - - something to think about!

William A. Morelli, Sr.

See you at the our monthly meeting Wednesday, September 5th at Fern Hill County Club, which is also our Scholarship Award night!

## MOTIVATIONAL MOMENTS

By William A. Morelli, Sr.

**As** we head into June, the year of 2007 is half over. The following thoughts are some thinks to consider to make a difference in your life the for the rest of the year:

**Be Kind:** "Friendship improves happiness and abates misery by doubling our joy and dividing our grief."

*Joseph Addison*

**Be Generous:** "We must not only give what we have; we must also give what we are." *Desire-Joseph Mercier*

**Enjoy Simple Pleasures:** Don't let your possessions posses you. "The more you get, the more you got to take care of." *Alice Dormann*

**Keep a Positive Attitude:** "Every life has its dark and cheerful hours. Happiness comes from choosing which to remember." *Anonymous*

**Stay Happily Married:** "Happy marriages begin when we marry the ones we love, and they blossom when we love the ones we marry." *Tom Mullins*

**Being a Good Parent:** "Don't worry that you can't give your kids the best of everything. Give them your very best". *Anonymous*

**Counting to 10:** "When the pressure is getting to you, take a deep breath and count to ten. If that doesn't work - try it again – and again – and again. It's better to count to a thousand than to lose who you are to something that will not matter tomorrow."

William A. Morelli, Sr.

**As always:** *Smile , Give Hugs and Tell Someone Special that you Love them – because it will make them feel better and that will make you feel better and that will make the world a little better place to live.*





# 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

## ★ ATTORNEYS & COUNSELORS AT LAW

### Peter J. Lucido, P.C.

39999 Garfield Road  
Clinton Township, MI 48038  
(586) 228-3900

## ★ AUTO DEALER

### Don Gooley Cadillac

Chris DiGiuseppe  
19900 E. 9 Mile Rd.  
St. Clair Shores, MI 48080  
(586) 772-8200 Ext. 108

### Lochmoor Chrysler Jeep, Inc

Gus Russo  
18165 Mack Ave.  
Detroit, MI 48224  
(313) 886-3000  
(586) 615-3576 Cell

## ★ BANK

### Citizens State Bank

Deane B. Maue  
32900 23 Mile Rd.  
Chesterfield, MI 48047  
(586) 725-2899

## ★ BANQUET CENTERS

### DeCarlo's Banquet & Convention Center

Gary A. DeCarlo  
6015 E. 10 Mile Rd.  
Warren, MI 48091  
(586) 759-6500

### Fern Hill Golf & Banquet Center

Fred Severini, Jr.  
17600 Clinton River Rd.  
Clinton Twp., MI 48035  
Showers, Weddings, Funeral  
Luncheons, and Retirement  
Parties from 70 to 900 persons  
(586) 286-4700

## ★ CARBIDE GRINDING

### Wit-O-Matic, Inc.

Anthony Palazzola  
10505 Enterprise Dr.  
Davisburg, MI 48350  
(248) 922-0590  
Special Machine Builder

## ★ CLOTHIER

### Cicchini - Custom Clothier

Paul Cicchini  
180 S. Old Woodward  
Birmingham, MI 48009  
(248) 646-0535  
Custom Clothing  
for both men & women  
Imported Italian Fabrics -  
Accessories

## ★ CONCERT/ THEATRE VENUE

Freedom Hill/Hillside  
Productions, Inc.  
Thomas Bommarito  
6471 Metro Parkway  
Sterling Hts., MI 48312  
(586) 268-7820

## ★ CONCRETE CONTRACTOR

### Utica Transit Mix and Supply

James L. Yearego  
42380 Yearego Dr.  
Sterling Hts., MI 48314  
(586) 731-1474

## ★ EYE DOCTOR/ OPTOMETRY

### St. Clair Eye of Shelby

Charles G. Shermetaro, O.D.  
48873 Hayes @ 22 Mile Road  
Shelby Twp., MI 48315  
(586) 247-2121  
Complete Optometric Services

### Simone Eye Center

Piero A. Simone, M.D.  
29245 Ryan Road, Ste. 100  
Warren, MI 48092  
(586) 558-2981  
Location #2 -  
Beaumont Professional Bldg.  
15959 Hall Rd. Ste. 202  
Macomb Twp., MI 48044  
(586) 532-5485

## ★ FINANCIAL SERVICES

### America Group

Retirement Strategy Centers  
Salvatore P. Ventimiglia, CLU, RHU  
Financial Consultant  
18000 Mack Ave.  
Grosse Pointe, MI 48230  
(313) 343-5660

Securities offered through

Linsco/Private Ledger

Member NASD/SIPC

## ★ FUNERAL HOMES

### Bagnasco & Calcaterra

### Funeral Homes

Paul R. Calcaterra, President  
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

### Planners, RIA, LLC

Donald P. Carnaghi,  
RFC, CEP, CSA  
16950 19 Mile Rd., Ste. 4  
Clinton Twp., MI 48038  
(586) 228-7772  
Wealth Consulting Services  
Registered Investment Advisor

## ★ MARKETING

### Event Marketing -

### A. Agosta Consulting

Andy Agosta  
2406 Beacon Hill Dr.  
Rochester Hills, MI 48309  
(248) 652-9706

## ★ NEWSPAPERS

### Italian Tribune

Dominic LaRosa  
Advertising Executive  
(586) 915-8898 Cell  
(586) 783-3260 Office

## ★ PODIATRY

### Benenati Foot & Ankle Care Center

Anthony V. Benenati, DPM  
27593 Harper Avenue  
St. Clair Shores, MI 48081  
(586) 779-6140  
www.benenatifootcare.com  
Four Office Locations  
For Your Convenience  
Treating All Foot and  
Ankle Problems

## ★ REAL ESTATE

### Frank Bernabei Real Estate

Frank A. Bernabei  
406 Cass Ave.  
Mt. Clemens, MI 48043  
(586) 465-5529

### Heritage Realty Associates

Joseph R. Pellegrino  
3172 Newbury Place  
Troy, MI 48084  
(248) 435-5530  
Commercial/Industrial  
/Business

## ★ RESTAURANTS

### Picano's Restaurant

Dominic Picano  
3775 Rochester Rd.  
Troy, MI 48083  
(248) 689-8050

## ★ TOOL & DIE

### Tape Master Tool Co.

David F. Galli  
900 Rochester Rd.  
Troy, MI 48083  
(248) 616-8880  
Precision CNC Machining



## Notes from the President *Continued from page 1*

Last but not least, the Italian Festival will be at Freedom hill on July 20, 21 and 22. Come out and enjoy that weekend, taking in all the song, food and fun that all of us Italian-Americans are so fond of. I understand the weather will be perfect.

How do you like the discount card for the Tunnel Duty Free Store? I hope you've taken advantage of it. I have. It is a great bargain. See me or call them if you want to know more about this. We are trying to add-on more affinity programs that members can take advantage of as part of the value you get as a member of the Chamber. More to follow as we grow and move forward with our vision committees' direction.

Our membership drive has been an overwhelming success. At this writing, we had over 14 new members

scheduled for the June "Swearing in" ceremony. This program has been so effective that your board has voted on extending it to "phase II." See detail below.

One more closing thought...We need you at the meetings. It's part of what your dues pay for. Our member catering facilities do a great job. Our programs/speakers have been outstanding. The comradery amongst members is enlightening. The energy in the room is much higher when more members are there. So let's all make it a point to come out on June 6th at the meeting to be held at Ristorante Piccirilli.

The Chamber is growing. Be a part of it. Thanks for your support.

Sam

## IN MEMORY

The IACCM wishes to express our sincere sympathy and condolences to the following families:

- ❖ The Honorable Peter J. Maceroni, on the passing of his mother Rose Maceroni on March 1, 2007
- ❖ Ned R. Piccinini and Dr. Robert Piccinini on the passing of their mother Filomena Amici on April 3, 2007. She was also the former wife of Ned N. Piccinini.
- ❖ Edward L. Rondina passed away at the age of 81 on May 17, 2007. He was an IACCM member since 1977.

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

## Please consider...

Warren Bank has set up a trust fund for the educational purposes of Tara Grant's two children, four and six years old. Tara Grant's sister, Alicia Standerfer, is executor of the trust and will have full control of the account, even if she did not get full custody of the children.

Tara Grant was not only a wonderful mother, she was providing most of the household income which not only took care of the children's day to day needs, but planning for their future education as well. These children had their mother taken away from them prematurely and no longer have that security in their lives.

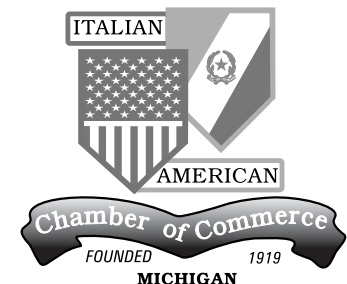
As a member of the Italian American Chamber of Commerce and a citizen of Macomb County, where the family is from, I feel strongly this is something we should consider contributing to. Checks can be made payable to:

The Grant Children's Trust fund  
c/o Warren Bank  
38880 Garfield Road  
Clinton Township, MI 48038

Sincerely,

Vince Viviano  
Community Development Officer

## ATTENTION "Membership Drive Extension"



*Due to the success of the current membership drive, the IACCM has extended the drive thru October.*

The drive has two parts. Any new applicant who applies for membership thru October 31, 2007, will have their application fee (\$200.00) waived. These new applicants will be inducted into the Chamber at the regular December meeting. For you, the signing member (sponsor), you will receive \$100.00 off your 2008 dues. (maximum \$400.00 reduction).



## IACCM Meeting • March 7, 2007 at Mirage Banquet Center

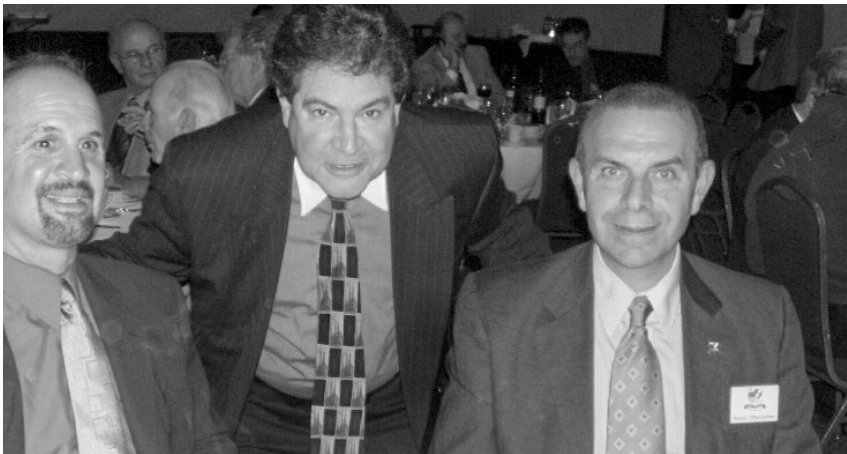


Guest speaker Pierette Simpson, author of "Alive on the Andrea Doria. The Greatest Sea Rescue in History," with Dr. Robert Piccinini and Floyd Beaudette.

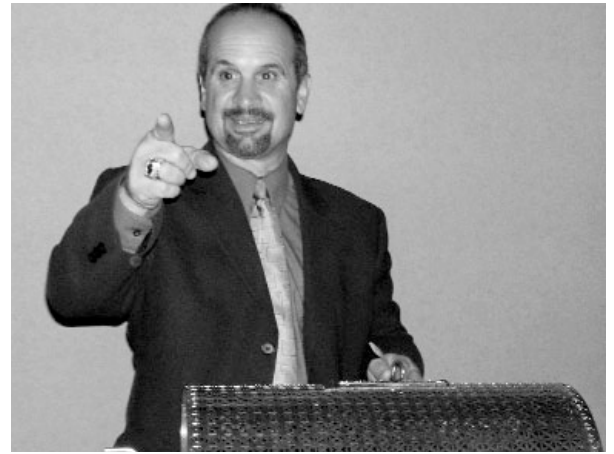


Joe Toia swears in new member Leonard Giacalone. He and his wife Deborah have two sons, Michael and Alex.

## IACCM Meeting • April 4, 2007 at Andiamo Italia Restaurant



Guest speaker coach Mike Giannone, IACS President Frank Palazzolo, Ron DiBartolomeo.



Coach Mike Giannone drawing the winning 50/50 tickets.

## IACCM Meeting • May 2, 2007 at DeCarlo's Banquet Center



Keith Famie, producer of 'Our Italian Story' on TV in 2006. He spoke about finding funds to produce it.



(L-R) Professor Pasquale Casale, Vince Picciche and IACC President Sam Ventimiglia. The Professor spoke about the importance of keeping the Italian language alive.





# Andiamo

## CELEBRITY SHOWROOM

### Jackie Mason

June 15 & 16

Once in a generation, a performer emerges who is so extraordinary, so brilliant, that everyone else in the field is measured against him. Jackie Mason is such a performer, and is widely regarded as one of the greatest stand-up comics of all time.



### Tony n' Tina's Wedding

June 29 & August 17

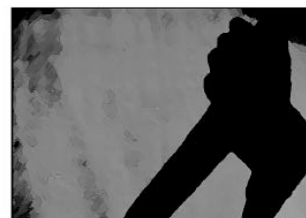
At Tony n' Tina's Wedding, audience members play the roles of Tony n' Tina's family and friends. Allow yourself to be caught up in the activities! This incredible evening of entertainment will be something you and your friends will be talking about for many years. Includes: show ticket, champagne toast, Andiamo buffet, a piece of wedding cake and entertainment.



### Death Plays the Market

July 25

Feast on a gourmet Italian dinner and enjoy a cash bar before participating in a hilarious mystery comedy. Guests will experience the thrill of solving a mysterious crime and have the time of their lives talking directly to the suspects, cheering, and become part of the show. Become a sleuth, collect clues, crack the case, and win prizes!



For reservations call (586) 268-3200

# Andiamo

7096 East Fourteen Mile Road in Warren | [www.andiamoitalia.com](http://www.andiamoitalia.com)



## Italian-American Chamber of Commerce Birthdays for:

### June

6/1 Viviano, Anthony J  
6/2 Nagy, Charles  
6/2 Locricchio, Michael  
6/2 Catenacci Jr., Onorio  
6/3 LaRosa, Dominic J.  
6/7 Benenati, Dr. Anthony V.  
6/12 Donofrio, Hon. Pat M.  
6/16 Notte, Richard  
6/16 Severini III, Fred  
6/17 Corsetti, Tonino  
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.  
7/7 Navaroli, Joseph  
7/11 Rondina, Edward  
7/12 Lentine, Joseph S.  
7/12 Castiglia, Eric A.  
7/14 DeCarolis, John  
7/15 Varano, Sal Mario  
7/15 Fontana, Carl  
7/18 Galli, David  
7/18 Timpa, James  
7/19 Iacobelli, Mark A.  
7/19 Ficano, Robert

7/21 Sanborn, Alan Bruce  
7/25 Caramagno, Thomas A.  
7/29 Bugli, Leonardo  
7/29 Simone, MD, Piero A.  
7/30 Grimaudo, Joseph  
7/31 Lucido, Peter J.

### August

8/1 Cuglietta, Luigi  
8/1 Stolaruk, Steve  
8/1 Ternullo, Stephen  
8/1 Garagiola, Reno  
8/2 Seleno, Andrew A.  
8/3 Toia, Joseph  
8/4 Pascaretta, Antonio  
8/4 Biondo, Ignatius D.  
8/9 DiPiazza, John A.  
8/9 Bellanca, Joseph  
8/10 Piccinini, Dr. Robert  
8/11 Maceroni, Hon. Peter  
8/12 Bossio, Alan J.  
8/14 Paluzzi, III, Joseph  
8/15 Lacommaré, James  
8/19 Militello, Stefano  
8/23 Catenacci, Onorio J.  
8/24 Agosta, Russell  
8/25 Salerno, Sr., Ramo A.  
8/26 Petruzzello, Frank  
8/27 Mattera, Mike P  
8/29 Ventimiglia, Sam P  
8/30 DiGiuseppe, Christopher  
8/30 Pizzo, John

**P**icano's Ristorante Italiano, located in Troy for over 22 years. We are located just north of Big Beaver on Rochester Road.

Come join us for the real taste of Italy.

Picano's offers banquet facilities for all your special events, weddings, anniversaries, First Communions, showers and even weddings.

We also offer off premise catering at your home or office. Let Picano's do all the work while you sit back and relax with your guests.

Picano's has live entertainment and televisions to watch the latest sporting events.

Remember Picano's for Easter and Mother's Day.

3775 Rochester Road  
Troy, MI. 48083  
248-689-8050  
Fax: 248-689-4360  
www.picanos.com



Seven Beautiful Gourmet Banquet Rooms  
(rooms to accommodate 70-850 persons)

## Fern Hill Country Club

17600 Clinton River Road  
1/4 Mile East of Garfield

# 586-286-4700

