

ITALIAN • AMERICAN



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[www.iapbc.org](http://www.iapbc.org)

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## February 2008 Newsletter

*felice San Valentino!*

### ***The Italian American Professional and Business Men's Club Scholarship at The University of Akron***

Established in 1987, the Italian-American Professional and Businessmen's Club Scholarship is awarded annually to a student of Italian descent majoring in one of the fine arts (art, dance, music, or theater). Each spring, the Dean's office solicits nominations from area school directors and faculty in those areas, and makes a selection from the nominees. The University is grateful to the IAPBC for helping talented students learn to shine in the arts!

#### **Current Recipient – *Matthew DeRubertis***

Matthew is an outstanding sophomore in the U of A School of Music's Jazz Studies Program. According to Professor Jack Schantz, who heads the program, Matthew is a star performer and student – bass player with an impressive GPA of 3.97!

Matthew is a member of The University of Akron Jazz Ensemble as well as several smaller ensembles. You can hear Matt and the Jazz Ensemble perform on Tuesday evening, March 11, at 8 p.m. in Guzzetta Recital Hall for the opening concert of UA's JazzFest 2008. Special seating is available for any member of the IAPBC.

#### **Recent Recipient – *Rossi DiBenedetto***

Rossi graduated from the University of Akron in 2005 with a bachelor's degree in music education and has been a music educator for three years. A talented percussionist, he is now leading the Band Program at Mt. Gilead School in Mt.

Gilead, Ohio. Rossi teaches 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade marching band, concert band, jazz band and pep band.

2006-07 was a record-setting year for Rossi's marching band in competitions around Ohio. The band received four 1<sup>st</sup>-place awards and many best overall marching, music and percussion awards. The band qualified for state competition for the first time in school history. During the same academic year, the band marched in the Disney Music Magic Days in Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida. Rossi conducted and played for the Galion Community Band during the year as well as performing in musicals at local high schools and colleges. He coaches 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls' basketball and is the head middle school track coach. Rossi was nominated for the book, Who's Who in Education, and plans to start his master's degree in music soon. (Thanks to Scholarship Committee co-chair Leonard Falcone for providing this information!)

### *IAPBC Calendar of Events for 2008*

<b>EVENT</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Chairman</b>
Golf Outing	August	Raintree CC	Jim Iona
Picnic/Bocce Tournament	August 17	Carovellese	Guido/Giovanni
Reverse Raffle	September	IAC – CF	Joe Maite
Viva La Panza	October 29	TBD	Tony Gatto
Memorial Mass for the Deceased	November 23	St Anthony's	Ed Paolucci
Inaugural Luncheon	December 18	Yocono's	Joe Maite
Christmas Dinner Dance	December	TBD	
Carousel Night	December	Carousel	Libert Bozzelli
Santa at Weaver School	December 12	Weaver	Tony Malorni

### *Other Committees*

Scholarships	Rocco Caponi Leonard Falcone
Membership	Mario Caponi Joe Sardone
Guest Speakers	Jim Iona Joe Maite
Publicity	Jim Iona Joe Maite
Historian	Rocco Caponi Joe Larose
Technology (Web Site)	Rocco Caponi

### ***Welcome new members for 2008!***

Five new members join us for 2008 (so far...) – Gene Piscitello, Nick DiNunzio, Sal Cicirello, Clarence Sanzone, and Sergio Sponza. Welcome to the IAPBC and thanks to their sponsors for reeling in the rookies!

### ***Sons of Italy Annual Pasta Dinner and Bake Sale***

The Sons of Italy Lodge #685 is sponsoring their annual dinner to be held Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup> from 3 to 7 p.m. at St. George Fellowship Hall in Fairlawn. Act quickly because checks are due the 14<sup>th</sup>. Cost is \$7.00 for Adults and \$4.00 for Children. Contact Guido Margida at 330-785-9641 for more information.

### ***St. Anthony's Spaghetti Dinner***

St. Anthony's spaghetti dinner is Sunday, February 17<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Contact Father Jim for more information.

### ***All-American Soap Box Derby attracts Italian participants***

IAPBC member John Piscitelli was recently interviewed by the Akron Beacon Journal regarding his efforts to assist his cousin, Pier Luigi Coscarella in Italy, to start a soap box derby competition there to send winners to the international race here in Akron. John has been a member of the derby board for more than two decades and deserves congratulations for all his hard work!

### ***Membership Roster Planned***

It's been a few years since the last membership roster was published and we are exploring methods of publishing a new list this year. We will need updated contact information and will send out forms to be completed in the near future. Any changes in address, phone, e-mail or employment since 2004 can be sent to IAPBC Secretary John Villilo at [jcv111@ameritech.net](mailto:jcv111@ameritech.net) or in person at the Thursday meetings. In addition, in order to distribute the newsletter in the most efficient manner and to save the ever increasing cost of mailing, please send an e-mail to the same address with the subject "IAPBC" to be added to the e-mail list if you do not receive the newsletter currently by this method. THANKS!