

JCCA Journal

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Affiliated Organizations

Americans of Italian Descent, DuPage • ARPA • ARSA • Associazione Veneti nel Mondo — USA • Calabresi in America Organization • Casa Italia • Casa San Carlo • CIACO • Columbian Club of Chicago • Elk Grove Village Italian Sister Cities Inc. • Elmwood Park Neighborhood Civic Organization • Flowers of Italy Club • Fra Noi • IANU Foundation, ISDA Midwest District • IANU, James E. Coli Chapter #15 • IANU, Club Calascibetta Chapter #75 • IANU, St. Anthony Chapter #10 • IANU, St. Joseph Chapter #319 • Italian American Chamber of Commerce • Italian American Civic Organization of Berwyn • I-A Executives of Transportation • I-A Human Relations Found. of Chicago • Italian American Police Association • Italian American Political Coalition • Italian American Women's Club of Chicagoland • Italian American Women's Organization • Italian Catholic Federation • Italian Catholic Federation #392 • Italian Cultural Center • Italiani Uniti • Italo-American Soccer Club "Maroons" • Italo-American "Maroons" Ladies Club • ITAM Vets, Illinois • ITAM, Illinois Ladies Auxiliary • ITAM, Filippo Mazzei Post #1 • ITAM, Filippo Mazzei Post #1 Ladies • ITAM, Joseph Gentile Post #2 • ITAM, Joseph Gentile Post #2 Ladies • ITAM James Cuzzone Post #5 • ITAM James Cuzzone Post #5 Ladies • ITAM, Guido Belmonte Post #4 Ladies • Justinian Society of Lawyers • Marchegiana Society of Chicago Heights • Maria SS Della Croce Di Triggiano • Maria SS Lauretana Society • Mazzini Verdi Club, Inc. • Mazzini Verdi Club, Ladies Social Club • Mola Foundation • Old Neighborhood Italian American Club • Panormus Club • Piemontesi nel Mondo Chicago Chapter • San Rocco di Modugno Society • Shrine of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel • Shrine of Our Lady of Pompeii • Sicilian American Cultural Assn. • Soc. Beato Giovanni Liccio • Soc. Culturale di Bagheria in Chicago • Soc. San Biagio Platani • Soc. San Francesco di Paola • Soc. San Giovanni Bosco di Ciminna • Soc. San Leoluca da Corleone • Soc. SS Crocifisso di Ciminna • Soc. SS Crocifisso di Rutigliano, Bari • Sons and Daughters of Italy in America • St. John Brebeuf Italian American Club • St. Joseph di Bagheria Society • St. Joseph's Club of Italian Americans • Taylor Strret Archives • UNICO, Chicago Amerital Chpt. • UNICO, Chicago West Suburban Chpt.

The Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans

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~ Organized in 1952 ~



Our new administration brings a wealth of experience to the JCCIA — new growth and new enthusiasm will be infused into all of our future endeavors.

Our umbrella organization has always represented the hopes and dreams of our Italian American community through a unified voice. At this time, I have the distinct privilege of presenting the 2011-2012 officers and leaders of the Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans.

ANTONIO M. (TONY) ROMANUCCI, PRESIDENT



Antonio is a founding principal and partner in Romanucci & Blandin, LLC. Considered one of the top lawyers in Illinois, he has frequently been included on the Top 100 Illinois Super Lawyers list. Tony works tirelessly as a member of numerous professional and civic organizations, including Public Justice, first vice president of the Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans, National Italian American Foundation, American Bar Association, Workers Compensation Lawyer's Association, Illinois Trial Lawyers Association, Justinian Society of Lawyers, Northwest Suburban Bar Association, Illinois State and Chicago Bar Associations. He is a governor of the American Association for Justice and serves as vice chair of its Motor Vehicles and Premises Litigation Group. Tony received his J.D. from the John Marshall Law School in 1985, and a B.A. from the University of Wisconsin in 1982. We look forward to Antonio's expertise flourishing during his term of office.

JOSEPH L. RAGO, FIRST VICE PRESIDENT



Joseph is a licensed funeral director and certified public accountant. He is a graduate of Loyola University in Chicago and Worsham College of Mortuary Science. Joseph also serves as the accounting instructor at Worsham College of Mortuary Science and operates a small accounting and tax practice. A director of the Human Relations Foundation of Chicago, Joseph is following in the footsteps of his father, Louis H. Rago, by being involved with the JCCIA. Joseph and his brother Anthony work alongside their father in organizing the annual Columbus Day Parade, taking after their grandfather Marco DeStefano, who was the parade marshal from 1952 until his death in 1988, when he passed away at age 94.

MAURO GLORIOSO, SECOND VICE PRESIDENT



Mauro is a graduate of the John Marshall Law School and serves on the JMLS Alumni Board. He earned his bachelor of arts in business finance from Saint Xavier College in Chicago, where he achieved a perfect GPA and was ranked first in his class. He was the president of the Justinian Society of Lawyers in 2008-2009. Mauro's other professional affiliations include the Illinois State Bar Association, where he sits on the prestigious Board of Governors. He is also a member of both the Association of Trial Lawyers of American and the Illinois Trial Lawyers Association. Mauro is a member of the board of the Catholic Lawyers Guild and a member of the Archdiocese of Chicago's Big Shoulders Fund. Mauro's roots in the Italian-American community began with the JCCIA. He was an active member of the JCCIA's Young Adult Division, an organization committed to assisting the parent organization.

CHRISTINE CALIENDO CERAMI THIRD VICE PRESIDENT

Christine is following in the footsteps of her father, Joseph DeSerto, who during the early years was the secretary of the Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans, working diligently on behalf of the Italian-American community as Christine is now doing. Christine is a real estate

JCCIA rings in the New Year with a new administration

by Jo Ann Serpico, Executive Director



broker/owner and has been involved in real estate since 1977. She has devoted her time and energies to the JCCIA as a member of the Queen Pageant and assistant chairman of Fiera Italiana. Her great love is for the Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Melrose Park, where she has assisted prominently in the rebirth of the Shrine and most particularly in raising funds for the new gold crown for the incorporation of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in 2009. She assisted in making all the arrangements for the significant trip to Italy where the new crown was blessed by the pope.

ANGELA RINALDI, SECRETARY



Angela attended Dante Elementary School in Chicago and graduated from St. Patrick's Girls High School in Chicago. At the end of December 1995, Angela retired as a first vice president from the LaSalle Bank after over 51 years of dedicated service. Angela has also served on a number of boards, including Chicago Boys and Girls Club, Facets Multimedia, Hull House Association, Chicago Midwest Credit Association, Metropolitan Club, Shrine of Our Lady of Pompeii and Italian American Human Relations Foundation. She is active with the Italian American War Veterans Auxiliary and has served as the state president for two years and national president for one year. Her connection to the Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans began when she joined as a member in 1980, and she remains committed to their causes.

EUGENE RENDA, TREASURER



Eugene attended the University of California at Berkeley. He was then drafted into the United States Army, where he proudly served for two years during the Korean War. He is a member of the Italian American War Veterans, Department of Illinois, and has served as past commander of Post 5 and past state commander of Illinois. Gene is past president of the San Giuseppe di Bagheria Society. He is retired from the city of Chicago, where he worked as a communications dispatcher for 28 years. This is his second term as treasurer of the JCCIA, and has been a delegate of the JCCIA since 1998.

RALPH J. IMBROGNO, SERGEANT-AT-ARMS



Ralph attended Our Lady of Pompeii Elementary School and Crane Technical High School. He was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1952 and served in the 7th Division, 13th Combat Engineers, during the Korean War. Ralph worked for Marshall Field's for 40 years. In 1995, Ralph joined the Joseph J. Gentile Post #2 of the Italian American War Veterans. He was elected state commander in 2004-2005 and national junior vice commander in 2006-2007, and currently holds the post of officer of the day. On Oct. 13, Ralph was installed as commander of the Combined Veterans Association of Illinois. Ralph has been a delegate to the JCCIA for many years.

I am honored to have worked alongside all of the exceptional people who have been so incredibly supportive. I will always cherish the privilege of having served as president of the JCCIA. I thank Rosemarie Andolino, Jacqueline Mazza and James Cerami for giving unselfishly of themselves during my three terms of office. I look forward to continuing to serve the JCCIA as executive director in the new administration.