



# Italian American Professional Business Club

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

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*The IAPBC brings together individuals of Italian descent to celebrate family, culture, and heritage by extending "one hand to greet and one hand to give".*

## THE CLUB IN REVIEW

- The IAPBC would like to recognize and congratulate this year's 2023 **Father James Ragnoni Humanitarian Award** recipients, **Gary and Rhonda Didado**. The recipients of this award exhibit the qualities to love and to help others as Father Jim did. This distinguished award is the club's most prestigious honor given out to those that go above and beyond in the community who make a difference. All our recipients have put into action our club's motto which is, "One hand to greet and one hand to give." Gary and Rhonda were presented the award Friday, December 1st, at our IAPBC annual Christmas GALA at Greystone Hall. Gary and Rhonda have been dedicated to the Akron and Summit County communities for years. They have enthusiastically supported the IAPBC in scholarship dollars to Viva La Panza, our annual Golf Outing, the Christmas GALA, and our scholarship fund. To name a couple of the areas that the Gary and Rhonda Didado Family Foundation support are as follows: Akron Children's Hospital Foundation, The Akron Community Foundation (The Dee Dee Andreoli Scholarship), Archbishop Hoban High School Inc, the Embrace Clinic and Care Center, the Halo Foundation, the IAPBC, Julie Billiard School, Love in Neglected Communities, Ohio & Erie Canalway Coalition, Poor Clares Perpetual Adoration Foundation of Cleveland, Ohio, Portage Path Community Mental Health Center, Protect Women Ohio, St. Francis De Sales Parish, St. Vincent-St. Mary High School, Summa Health, United Way of Summit County, Walsh Jesuit High School, and Walsh University. Congratulations to Gary and Rhonda on this well deserved achievement!
- The IAPBC again partnered with the **Summit Development Disabilities Board** for the **49<sup>th</sup> Annual Winter Blast 2023** Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10 AM to 1 PM. Each December, we also send Santa, Rudolph, and a couple elves transported by the Akron Fire Department to the Stewart School, an Akron Public pre-school providing instruction to children 3 to 5 years old with special needs. Thank you to the many volunteers organized by **Tony Malorni** and **Rocco Yeargin!**
- Wine Down Wednesday** will resume in 2024. The new schedule will be announced by email to members and on Facebook and our web page. Join us every quarter in 2024 and come have a drink, socialize, or have dinner with your fellow club members. You do not have to stay the whole time. This is an open social gathering, and we would love for you to bring your family along with any new potential members (men and women) that may be interested in learning more about their Italian heritage!
- Check out the NEW LOOK web page at [www.iapbc.org](http://www.iapbc.org) and Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/IAPBC>
- The **IAPBC Endowment Fund at Akron Community Foundation** 501(c)3 is now accepting tax-deductible contributions. Please visit [www.akroncf.org](http://www.akroncf.org) to contribute or contact Laura Lederer [llederer@akroncf.org](mailto:llederer@akroncf.org), 330-436-5611 for more information. Our goal is to raise \$1 million to provide scholarship funding to students with Italian ancestry. The IAPBC also has now been designated a 501(c)3 organization and donations are welcome to support club activities at our PO Box.
- The IAPBC membership is now open to all **men and women** of Italian descent. Please check out our web page and Facebook page for information. Membership for 2024 remains at \$125 and can be mailed to **IAPBC PO BOX 2457, North Canton, OH 44720** or online at [www.iapbc.org](http://www.iapbc.org).
- The Club meets informally for lunch Thursdays at 12 noon, **Akron Family Restaurant**, 254 W Market St, Akron, OH 44303 except for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at **D'Agneses's**, 566 White Pond Dr, Akron, OH 44320

