

# ARIZONA AMERICAN ITALIAN CLUB

7509 N 12th Street ~ Phoenix, AZ 85020 Phone: 602-975-8294  
<https://www.azaiclub.com> <https://www.facebook.com/AZAICLUB>



Come on in and enjoy our great restaurant, live music and other social activities. Facilities are available to rent for celebrations, family events and meetings!

## ARIZONA AMERICAN ITALIAN CLUB HOURS

MONDAY ~ CLOSED ~ TUESDAY ~ 3:00PM - 9:00PM  
 WEDNESDAY ~ THURSDAY ~ 11:00AM - 10:00PM  
 FRIDAY ~ SATURDAY ~ 11:00AM - 11:00PM  
 SUNDAY ~ 9:00AM - 4:00PM  
**KITCHEN HOURS:** MONDAY ~ CLOSED  
 TUESDAY 3:00 - 9:00 ~ WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY  
 ~ 11:00 - 9:00 ~ FRIDAY & SATURDAY 11:00 - 10:00  
 SUNDAY ~ 9:00 - 3:00

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

What a great start to the New Year! Our New Year's Eve Party was a wonderful success!! I want to thank our many volunteers who came out to help decorate and set up - and extra thanks to those who came back the next day to help clean up and put things away!

We received several generous donations for the Club Raffles. Special thanks to:

**Christo's Ristorante,**



**Tony's Italian Deli,**



**Optimyze Center-No.Phx.,**



**Dynamic Chiropractic**



and **Scottsdale Sculpt!!!**



A Special GRAZIE MILLE to one of our members, **John Taglia**, who personally donated a number of wonderful items!! As a result of all of this generosity, our raffles were a great success in raising funds for the Club.

In February, we celebrate Fat Tuesday and the start of Lent. In Italy, they celebrate a day known as Giovedì Grasso. This day signifies the last Thursday before Lent begins. It is also associated with Carnival, which is a celebration similar to Halloween in which the participants wear masks and celebrate with festivals and sweets. Fat Thursday is a feasting day that brings family and friends together in a celebratory congregation before the fast of Lent. We are celebrating February with our Valentine's Day Party, Chinese New Year and Mardi Gras Party Bingo. Don't miss the Cowboy Dance, Sunday Funday or any of the other events we have every month at the Club!! There's something to enjoy every day of the week, a variety of events, and we look forward to seeing you at the Club!

Grazi Ancora!!

Michael Mellaci, President

## American Italian Club 2026/2027 EXECUTIVE BOARD

PRESIDENT	MICHAEL MELLACI
VICE PRESIDENT	GREGG GIANNANTONIO
RECORDING SECRETARY	
FINANCIAL SECRETARY	JEANIE RAVANELLI-REED
TREASURER	
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS	FRANK CUCITRO

2026 TRUSTEES  
JOANNE ARCANGELO, CHRISTINA CALIO  
DANFORD, KIKI HOLLENKAMP, MARCO MASINI  
& AMY TANNER

### OPERATIONS NAME / CONTACT

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	PATTI O'DONNELL
ADVERTISING / NEWSLETTER PHONE:	AMY TANNER
480-234-0285	
EMAIL: <a href="mailto:ABROWNCAT123@YAHOO.COM">ABROWNCAT123@YAHOO.COM</a>	
KITCHEN PHONE: 602-632-5228	CIRILO GALINDO
EMAIL: <a href="mailto:CUISINE.GALINDO@GMAIL.COM">CUISINE.GALINDO@GMAIL.COM</a>	
EVENT COORDINATOR	MARIE MYERS
PHONE: 602-741-3079	
EMAIL: <a href="mailto:AAIC.MARIE@YAHOO.COM">AAIC.MARIE@YAHOO.COM</a>	ELSA ORDONEZ
BINGO MANAGER PHONE: 623-205-9487	PAUL CASTALDO
BOCCE LEAGUE PHONE: 480-861-4903	
EMAIL: <a href="mailto:PAUL3657@GMAIL.COM">PAUL3657@GMAIL.COM</a>	GREGG GIANNANTONIO
CHAPLAIN BUILDING & PROP	
MAINTENANCE	JEANETTE ROUSE
CARES OF THE HEART & SOUL EMAIL:	
<a href="mailto:FJCPROUSES74@GMAIL.COM">FJCPROUSES74@GMAIL.COM</a>	AMY TANNER
DECORATING PHONE: 480-234-0285	JAY DITORO
GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE PHONE:	
602-741-5229	DOMINGO YOUNG
ENTERTAINMENT	
EMAIL: <a href="mailto:DYOUNGREFINANCE@HOTMAIL.COM">DYOUNGREFINANCE@HOTMAIL.COM</a>	JEANIE RAVANELLI-REED
MEMBERSHIP	
PARLIAMENTARIAN	CHRISTINA CALIO DANFORD
SCHOLARSHIPS	
PHONE: 602-292-0504	MICHAEL MELLACI
EMAIL: <a href="mailto:aaicscholarship@gmail.com">aaicscholarship@gmail.com</a>	
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR	
EMAIL: <a href="mailto:MELLACIAIC@YAHOO.COM">MELLACIAIC@YAHOO.COM</a>	

NEWSLETTER PRINTED BY WILLIAMS EXPRESS ~ 480-967-1014

CLUB'S PHONE # 602-975-8294

LET'S grow your business. Place your add here  
and support the Club.

Business Card	1/4 Page	Half Page
1 issue ~ \$20	1 issue - \$45	1 issue ~ \$60
6 issues ~ \$90	3 issues - \$90	3 issues ~ \$150
12 issues ~ \$120	6 issues - \$120	6 issues ~ \$270
	12 issues ~ \$150	12 issues ~ \$425

For Information  
Contact:  
Patti in the Main Office

ARIZONA AMERICAN ITALIAN CLUB IS HAVING A  
**SUPER BOWL WATCH PARTY**  
*Catch the Big Game Magic!*

**BIG SCREEN • MEMBER-ONLY HAPPY HOUR  
PRICES 4PM TO CLOSE ON WELLS, HOUSE  
WINES & DOMESTIC BOTTLES**

4:00 PM SUNDAY  
FEBRUARY 8TH

**POTLUCK SIGN-UP SHEET IN BAR  
Don't miss out on the action!**



Welcome New Members:

**Regular/Italian:** Thomas Bartz, Gerardo Ferracane, Nicholas Opich, Gloria Palladino, Luigi Rappino, Samantha Spadaro, Quineese Works

**All New Regular/Italian Members must attend a Board Meeting to be sworn in and receive their Membership Cards**

**Affiliates:** Forrest Armey, Diana Bachman, David Bachman, Judy Ballard, Heather Bartz, Tanya Bateman, Frank Buck, Debra Cizerle, Katie Duran, Mary Field, Nicholas Field, Dolores Gerritse, George Gleckler, Doris Hahn, Katherine Hawkins, Jesse Heydorff, Gene Keller, Kory Kisling, Joe Kriston, Deborah Kriston, Pamela Lang, Jeems Lochridge, Rachelle Lochridge, John Martin, Patti Martin, Lionel (Chip) McCray, Laura McCray, Bart Miller, Ron Oberholtzer, Kathy Oberholtzer, Sheri Rappino, David Snow, Rhonda Snow, Gail Soltwisch, John Spannagel, Chris Whitten

**New Affiliate Members may pick up their cards at the bar.**



Mark Your Calendars and Save the Dates!

**Volunteer Meeting**  
**Wednesday February 11th at 7:00p**  
**AAIC Board / General Meeting ~**  
**Tuesday February 17th at 7:00p**

**All members are welcome to attend!**  
**Show your card at the door.** Pg 2

# February 2026 Entertainment

Join us for Bar Bingo in the Lounge  
Every Tuesday and Friday



Every Wednesday  
Karaoke ~ 6:30 - 9:00p



Every Thursday  
Team Trivia ~ 6:30p - 8:30p



Saturday - Feb. 28th  
Mardi Gras Party Bingo 6:30p



## FRIDAYS AT THE CLUB

Friday Feb. 6th ~PAM LOE & HIPSHOT 7p-10p



Friday Feb. 13th ~ VIVA LOST WAGES 7p - 10p



Friday Feb. 20th ~ TIM HOPE 7p - 10p



Friday Feb. 27th ~ SONIC GROOVE 7p - 10p



## SPECIAL EVENT - VALENTINE'S DAY DANCE PARTY

SATURDAY, Feb. 14th 7:00p

Featuring: *Frosty & the Silver Tones!!!*



Don't miss your chance to win the special Valentine's Day Gift Basket!!! Tickets on sale now at the bar!!



## CHINESE NEW YEAR WITH THE GOLDEN PHOENIX ZION DANCERS

Friday, Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> at 8:30p



Celebrate the Year of the Horse!!

The Lions will perform a show with traditional bows, tossing of chengs/greens, and a dramatic scroll drop - all accompanied by the highly skilled music team!!



## Cares of the Heart

Even though February is the shortest month of the year, it is filled with great anticipation that springtime will soon be here. Our days will give us more daylight, the bare trees will be green again, and birds will sing their beautiful songs. May our hearts be lightened.

Congratulations to Bill and Linda - they were married here at The Club on December 31<sup>st</sup>. We keep all our members and their families in our prayers and thoughts, especially those who are lonely and those who are recovering from surgery.

Buon Compleanno (Happy Birthday) and Felice Anniversario (Happy Anniversary), to those who are celebrating a birthday or anniversary in February.

Please email Jeanette Rouse, [fljcprouses74@gmail.com](mailto:fljcprouses74@gmail.com) with any news that you would like to be included in the AAIC newsletter.

### Food For The Soul

**"Kindness is like snow; it beautifies everything it covers."**    **Kahlil Gibran**

Submitted by Jeanette Rouse

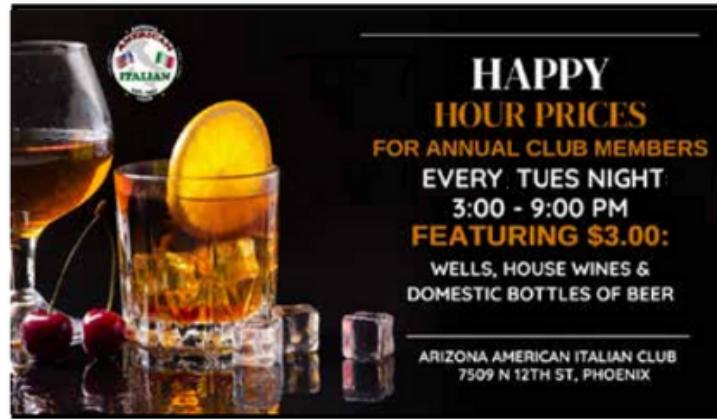


**You are Invited to Come Out and Play Bocce Ball!**

Only League Play is Permitted on Wed/Thurs Nights. We Invite Everyone to Come Out, Watch & Cheer us On!

Bocce Balls are Available to Check Out at the Bar. Friday Mornings are Closed for Play.

Signups for Winter League Now in Progress... Winter League Play Starts Jan 15th! Signup Sheets on the Bocce Wall by the Bar's Restrooms.



**HAPPY HOUR PRICES**  
FOR ANNUAL CLUB MEMBERS  
EVERY TUES NIGHT  
3:00 - 9:00 PM  
FEATURING \$3.00:  
WELLS, HOUSE WINES &  
DOMESTIC BOTTLES OF BEER

ARIZONA AMERICAN ITALIAN CLUB  
7509 N 12TH ST, PHOENIX



**FEBRUARY IS THE MONTH FOR QUEEN OF HEARTS!**  
Every Tuesday Night Love is in the Air!!

Buy Your Raffle Tickets Any Time the Club is Open From Our Ticketing Machine! The Drawing Is Held at 7:00 pm Tuesdays. **Feeling LUCKY???**



**Galindo's CUISINE**  
**TACO TUESDAY MENU**  
4 STREET TACOS ON SOFT CORN  
TORTILLAS W/RICE, BEANS & SALSA

**CHOOSE FROM:**

- CHICKEN
- STEAK
- PASTOR (Spicy Pork)
- FISH (Fried)
- SHRIMP (Fried)
- VEGGIE

**\$12**



**Bingo at the Club!**

Wednesdays & Fridays at 6:30 pm ~ Hall doors open at 4:30 pm  
Sundays at 1:00 pm ~ Hall doors open at 10:30 am

**BINGO**  
Power Machines Available!    Guaranteed Prize Board \$2,950!  
21 Games Played - All Paper Pads With \$5 Discounts for Club Members  
Including NEW \$1,000 Bonus Game  
**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**



**AMERICAN MAHJONG**  
**Come Play at the Club Thursdays 12~3pm**

**NMJL Player's Card Needed.**  
**New Players Welcome!**  
**Beginner Lessons 1st Thursday of Every Month With a New Players Table!**

**Come Join the new Cult of Mahjong!**  
**Be Prepared to Laugh, Learn and Meet New Friends!**  
Arizona American Italian Club, 7509 N 12th St, Phoenix 85020

## AAIC Scholarship Committee

♥ A New Year, A Brighter Future ♥



The AAIC Scholarship Committee would like to offer our heartfelt thanks to the entire AAIC family for your generous support of the New Year's Eve Silent Auction!! Through the incredible generosity of our members and the dedication of the Committee, nearly 60 items were donated, helping raise an historic \$2,369.00 for the 2026-2027 Scholarship Fund—an incredible 50% increase over last year's NYE auction. Despite several challenges, the spirit of philanthropy truly filled the New Year's air. We are deeply grateful to every donor, bidder, and year-round supporter whose belief in our youth makes this program possible. Our success is a direct reflection of your belief in investing in the future of our next generation. In the coming weeks, the Committee will review submitted 2025-2026 scholarship applications, with an awards dinner planned for this spring. Stay tuned for more details. We warmly invite everyone to join us in celebrating the students and the continued success of the AAIC scholarship program.

Thank YOU for your continued support and generosity!

## Bocce News!

Winter League Bocce has begun with a total of 16 teams divided up equally playing on Wednesday and Thursday nights. The game of Bocce has become so popular at the club, there are 11 rookies playing in the Winter league that had never thrown a Bocce ball before. That makes a total of 28 new members of the Bocce League since last year. So if you ever thought about playing the game of Bocce, don't delay, sign up now for the Spring League which will begin in late March. Come on out and see us compete at 7pm.

The Bocce Spring League sign up sheet is posted on the Bocce wall located behind the bar next to the bathrooms.

Next AAIC Bocce League meeting is Tuesday, Feb 3 at 7pm in the Bingo Hall.

If you have any questions regarding Bocce, please reach out to me via text or email.  
[paul3657@gmail.com](mailto:paul3657@gmail.com) or 480-861-4903

Happy New Year to All!  
Paul Castaldo  
Pres AAIC Bocce Club



### WANT TO GET THE NEWSLETTER???

Anyone can get our Newsletter, here's how:  
1.Tell your family & friends to send their email to: [kbass2728@yahoo.com](mailto:kbass2728@yahoo.com)  
2.Click the newsletter link on AAIC's Facebook page or the AAIC website [www.azaicclub.com](http://www.azaicclub.com)  
3.Pick up a copy of the newsletter at the Club

### BOCCE WALKWAY

Now is time to pay tribute to a loved one or a friend by memorizing them by having their name or quote from their life engraved on a brick and be added to the Tribute Walkway located behind the Bocce courts.

The cost is \$60 per brick, max of 3 lines, 15 characters per line, \$6 extra for each special art design. The proceeds will help the AAIC Bocce Club maintain our precious courts that were voted #1 in the Valley.

The cost is \$60 per brick, max of 3 lines, 15 characters per line, \$6 extra for each special art design. The proceeds will help the AAIC Bocce Club maintain our precious courts that were voted #1 in the Valley.

Order forms are located on the Bocce wall in the hallway behind the bar (next to the women's restroom).

If you have any questions, regarding the Memorial Walkway, please don't hesitate to contact me via email, phone or text at 480-861-4903 or [paul3657@gmail.com](mailto:paul3657@gmail.com).

Your help will be greatly appreciated.  
Thank you, Paul Castaldo Pres,  
AAIC Bocce League



### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

The Club is always in need of volunteers. Come to our volunteer meeting on February 11<sup>th</sup> at 7p and join the team. No commitments, no demands, just opportunities to help out! For more information, email [abrowncat123@yahoo.com](mailto:abrowncat123@yahoo.com) or text (480) 234-0285

Proud printer of the AAIC Newsletter



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Event Coordinator  
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Arizona American Italian Club  
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TO RENT  
SPACE FOR  
AN EVENT?**



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MARIE MYERS

Email: AAIC.Marie@yahoo.com



ABOUT: WE CAN ACCOMMODATE ANY SIZE GROUP FROM 25 TO 250. ONSITE CATERING AVAILABLE & TAILORED TO SUIT YOUR GUESTS' DIETARY NEEDS.

7509 N 12th St, Phoenix, AZ 85020

### OUR SERVICES INCLUDE:

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Providing In-Home Care to our community since 1999

### NEW 2024 & 2025

Trane, Ruud, Day & Night, Goodman and York Brand  
**MODELS ON SALE**  
Heat Pump and Gas/Electric Package A/C Units



**INSTALLED TOTAL COST**  
2TON \$5,600 to \$7,600 | 3TON \$5,900 to \$7,900 | 4TON \$6,200 to \$8,200 | 5TON \$6,500 to \$8,500



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Silver Rounds or Bars

Sterling Silver Flatware

Knives, Forks, Spoons, etc...

Convert these to money, Call Mel!!

Or are you looking to purchase  
Gold Coins, Silver Rounds or Bars  
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## COLLECTOR'S PARADISE

**Silver, Copper, Gold Coins  
Buying, Selling, Grading**

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(602) 741-5229**

Pg 7

AAIC FEBRUARY 2026 CALENDAR