



Tony DiPiazza

Chairman

Born April 22nd, 1952 in Italy. At the age of 8 emigrated to the German speaking section of Switzerland with family, where he attended and graduated from school. In 1966 he emigrated to the United States. Attended and graduated from Queens College in 1975 with a degree in Accounting.

Has been actively involved in real estate since 1981.

In 1991 began to take an interest in Italian-American community affairs by founding the Italian-American Electorate Coalition of which he is still the president. The purpose of this coalition was to motivate our community into greater participation in the electoral process. Toward this goal it has been successful. Our community has responded by taking a greater interest in political affairs and american polls have pointed out to this awakening of our electorate. This coalition has been in the forefront within our community in the election of Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, Assemblyman Anthony Seminerio and Councilman Thomas Ognibene.

Through this coalition, Tony Di Piazza, waged a campaign against the television show "Saturday Night Live" for remarks deemed by us offensive against our community. Through this coalition he has spoken out against unfair stereotyping of our community. In 1995 led the fight along with the Italian-American Federation of Brooklyn and Queens to have the first Italian-American Street Festival in our community.

In 1991, during the Persian Gulf War, founded the highly successful "Persian Gulf Adopt-a-family Program", which provided financial help to the families of deployed soldiers experiencing financial difficulties. This program was covered by all television and print media in this city and by some national and international media.

In 1992 led a fundraising effort which raised over \$75,000.00 for the benefit of an 11 year old Italian boy afflicted with a muscle defect which prevented him from being able to walk since birth. This effort brought this boy from Italy to New York where after 2 surgeries and one year of therapies the boy was able to go back to Italy on his own feet.

In 1995 founded the successful "Food for Guns" programs which helped to retire 175 firearms.

In 2000 appointed Executive director of the FEDERAZIONE ITALO-AMERICANA OF BROOKLYN AND QUEENS.

In 2001 raised \$32,000 to benefit the children of the uniformed officers of Ridgewood, Middle Village and Glendale.

In 2001 appointed chairman of the RIDGEWOOD SENIORS COMMUNITY CORP.

In 2002 raised \$90,000.00 to benefit the victims of the Italian earthquake in which 27 children lost their lives.

In 2004 elected to the COMMITTEE FOR ITALIANS ABROAD. Serving the Italian-American community of New York and Connecticut.

In 2005 organized a drive which collected a container of goods to benefit the victims of the SRI LANKA disaster.

In 2005 organized a drive which collected a container of goods to benefit the victims of the New Orleans disaster.

In 2005 organized a fundraising effort which raised \$41,000.00 to help rebuild the Italian-American museum in New Orleans.

In 2006 was bestowed with the title CAVALIERE DELLA REPUBBLICA (Italian Knighthood) by the Italian Government.

Tony Di Piazza and his wife Nella have 2 children, Antoinette and Frank. They reside in Howard Beach.

Through the years he has received recognition awards by organizations, among others, New York City Council and New York State Proclamations, Citizens For A Better Ridgewood, Ridgewood Bushwick Senior Center, P.S. 205, the 104 Precinct, The Italian-American Federation of Brooklyn and Queens, National Federation of Italian-American Societies, Italian Government and many others..