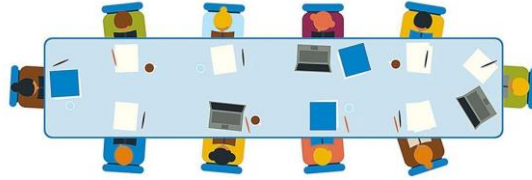


Meet the Board



This is the third in a series of articles to introduce Italian Club members to our Board of Directors.

THE FACE OF THE ITALIAN CLUB



Membership Director

Sandi Graham

You may recognize her, or remember her voice. But you won't forget her friendliness. She is Sandi Graham, the Lincoln Hills Italian Club's Membership Director.

Sandi may have been the first person from the Italian Club you spoke with on the phone or met in person when you were either interested in joining, or became a new member. You might say she is the 'face' of the club.

Some five and a half years ago, Sandi herself joined, not only because she is a second-generation Italian American, but she was looking for camaraderie and enjoyable times. Within the club, she's found what she was looking for – a great way to meet residents, share Italian culture, and participate in activities. She wants to share these experiences with others.

"I heard about the Italian Club, so I went to an Annual General Meeting (AGM) with check in hand, to join," she remembers. "I was welcomed by many board members – a few who kiddingly 'grabbed' my check!"

It was Christine Cirrone, President at the time, who approached Sandi with an opportunity to head the Ambassador Program that welcomes new members to club events as well as assisting Virginia Halstenrud, the Membership Director. A few years later, when Virginia moved down south, it was a natural progression for Sandi to step in and take over the lead role.

Sandi's career in marketing and public relations in the building industry have easily provided her client relationship skills important for the Membership Director position. She has also served on the board of a non-profit organization where she coordinated activities.

"I enjoy making people feel welcomed," Sandi said. Along with that, making sure potential or new members have timely, general information about the club, events, and the Board are all part of the job.

As head of the Ambassador Program, a membership "arm" or extension, she strives to make new members feel comfortable, seating them with veteran members during their first events. This often means learning more about the new members and those who referred them, in order to arrange for seating that is not only comfortable, but compatible.

Sandi wants to thank all those who have referred new members to her, and especially those who have given their time, offered to be Ambassadors, and accompany new members at events, welcoming them, getting to know them, and genuinely demonstrating how wonderful the Italian Club is!

Written by Linda Lucchetti, Publicity Director