



LA SOTTO VOCE

The Official Newsletter of the

FIRE DEPARTMENT, CITY OF NEW YORK

Columbia Association

Volume 34, No. 2

2nd Quarter 2003

Columbia Association Says Goodbye to a Friend and Legend



With sadness the Columbia Association bids a fond farewell to John Sineno.

John entered the Fire Department in 1962 and was assigned to the Fire Factory, Engine 58. John was a quick learner; he was a fireman's fireman. His skills in the kitchen were quickly harnessed. There was always rice pudding for all the companies in Battalion 25.

John Sineno's selflessness became apparent when in 1972; he along with Joe Hickey and Jack Mera helped establish the New York Hospital – New York Firefighters Burn Center Foundation. This Center became the largest burn center in the world. Without John's efforts, this may never come to pass. John retired in 1990 but he remained a part of the Burn Center that he helped create.

He was best known for his culinary arts, the author of two best-selling book. "The Firefighter's Cookbook" in 1986 and "The New Firefighter's Cookbook" in 1996. The money from both books went to a variety of charitable causes, such as the Burn Center and to each fraternal organization scholarship fund.

John Sineno is survived by his wife, Pauline: three daughters, Jackie, Jerrilynn and Michelle, and son, John Jr. Please accept our heartfelt compassion for the loss of your husband John. It was an honor to know John. He will be missed.

The President's Corner

Vincent Tummino

As we get into the mid-year, we will be making plans for the annual Columbus Day Parade. We will continue to improve it and as we have been very successful in years past. Mark your calendar for October 13th and show your support by coming and marching with your fellow brothers.

I would like to ask all of our members to support our military troops both aboard and at home, remember this is an all-volunteer military service; they do their job to make our homes and lives safer. See inside for our tribute to those FDNY members who are currently serving in our armed services. As you read their names please take time to say a prayer for their safety, and when they return home thank them for their courage and valor.

Columbia Association Enjoys Mohegan Sun Resort & Casino

Minutes after arriving at Mohegan Sun, we were on vacation. The resort is inspired by Mohegan traditions and culture, both which you see in the intricately themed décor. We received the best service possible which ensured that our stay was a memorable experience.

Looking for some action? Mohegan Sun is home to over 300,000 sq ft of excitement. - One of the world's largest, most spectacular casinos. On Saturday night "Southside Johnny" treated us to an amazing performance. There were over 25 different restaurants, a beautiful health spa, indoor pool and spacious rooms. The Columbia Association will defiantly return for another trip.

Columbia Association Honors...

Daniel A. Nigro

Chief Nigro entered the New York City Fire Department at 21 years of age on November 29, 1969 as a firefighter and was assigned to Engine Company 21 in midtown Manhattan. Chief Nigro's vast experience includes service in the boroughs of, Manhattan, Queens, Bronx, administrative positions in the office of Fire Commissioner, Chief of Personnel and Chief of Health Services. During Chief Nigro's career he earned some of the Department's most honored and prestigious awards, including the Fire Commissioner's award for outstanding Service and the Leon Lowenstein Award. Chief Nigro took the helm, as Chief of Department after the tragic losses of 9/11. His determined and caring leadership enabled a crippled department to regain its direction and purpose.



The 29th Chief of Department of the New York City Fire Department



David J. DeCarlo, President, Matthews International Corp. Bronze Division

The Columbia Association Special Recognition Awarded to...

David J. DeCarlo

President, Matthews International Corporation Bronze Division

The Creators of the Firefighter's Statue, which gave, people from all over the world a place to pray for the members of the FDNY during their most difficult times. It serves today as a testament to sacrifice of the members of the FDNY for all the world to see.

The 6'x 6' firefighter statue, in the emotional kneeling position, was donated to the citizens of New York City at Union Square. Its permanent location is located in the front of the Milford Plaza Hotel, 44th Street and 8th Avenue

Columbia Association Humanitarian Awarded to...

Robert Triozzi

Chief of Operations of UN Fire Rescue Operations

Robert Triozzi started his fire service career in 1975 with the Harrison, New York Fire Department. He quickly was promoted to Lieutenant and Captain. He was then chosen to become the Fire Protection Officer for the United States Embassies to Italy and the Vatican. In 1993 Robert together with the United Nations Protection Force, assisted the Sarajevo firefighters in fighting fires in wartime conditions while under fire from artillery and snipers. Chief Triozzi has worked with firefighters in 31 countries on 5 continents, and has fought fires in wartime conditions in 3 countries.



Robert Triozzi, Chief of Operations of UN Fire Rescue Operations

Columbia Association 2003 Scholarship Winners

2003 College Recipients - Gerard Barbara Scholarship

	<u>Award</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Child</u>
<i>Rosina Higgins Award*</i>	\$2700	John Wegenaar L-84	Christopher
	\$2500	James Gasparino Ret.	Linda
	\$1500	Philip Ruvolo R-2	Jennifer
	\$1500	James Kane E-69	Christopher

2003 High School Recipients - Vincenzo, Susy & Ilaria Marra Scholarship

	<u>Award</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Child</u>
<i>Marcello-Murphy Award*</i>	\$1600	Peter Tartaglione E-204	Peter
	\$1400	Robert LaRocco L-9	Christina
	\$1200	Vincent Mandala Div-11	James
	\$1200	Denis Ditucci L-108	Samantha
	\$1000	Paul Greco Sq-270	Paul
	\$1000	Leonard Sottile Div-14	Christina

* Highest SAT Score (Rosina Higgins Benefit)

Each award will be presented at our 2003 Scholarship Dinner Dance

"CHIEF BARBARA DAY"

With the Staten Island Yankees



Saturday August 15, 2003
Richmond County Ballpark

Call 718.720.9200 for Advance Sale Tickets

(Ask to sit in the Chief Jerry Barbara section)

Tickets are sold on a first-come, first-served basis

Please come and join us to commemorate Jerry and watch some Yankee Baseball

**Annual Raffle to
Benefit Future
Scholarship Winners**

1st prize \$12,000
2nd prize \$5,000
3rd prize \$3,000
(3 Winners)

Official Rules

Prizes are based on the sale of 300 tickets.

If all tickets are not sold prizes will be a total of two-thirds of tickets sold.

Drawing June 10,
2003

At the Staten Island
Borough Meeting

For Tickets Contact:
Keith Tanico
13-22 147 St. Apt. C1,
Whitestone NY 11357
Make Checks Payable
To:

**Columbia
Association
Scholarship Raffle**

Columbia Association

New York City Fire Department

Sixty Ninth Annual

Dinner Dance

Thursday, June 19, 2003 at 7 pm

At Russo's on the Bay Howard Beach, Queens
Proceeds benefit Future Scholarships - This Years Award Over \$12,000

Featuring Frank Russo's World Famous
1½-Hour Cocktail Party "– Open Bar All Night
Choice of 7 Dinners

Live Entertainment Provided by The Chris Michaels Band

\$75 Donation per Person

Reserve early, only 600 seats available; we have SOLD-OUT for the past 4 years!

For Reservation Contact:

Craig Silvino, Home H (631) 271-2928 W (718) 965-0434
or your Borough Trustee

Brooklyn Bar Association Honors FNDY's Salvatore Sangeniti

Salvatore A. Sangeniti has been an Emergency Medical Technician and Assistant to the Division Commander with the FDNY in Queens for 19 years. With a background in computer programming, he has developed several computer programs that have increased the efficiency in all Emergency Medical Service Division Operations. One of the programs designed and developed, calculates the amount of overtime and salary percentage each employee performs for each calendar year, and ensures that each employee's overtime remains within the limits permitted. Another program tracks the number of personnel each Division Commander has in their command, enabling each of them to see a snapshot of the number of employees working at any time. These programs have become an invaluable tool to Division Commanders, helping them to ensure that the citizens of New York City receive adequate ambulance coverage. Mr. Sangeniti also received two other awards in calendar year 2002. One from the Queens Borough President Office and the President's Awards from North Shore-LIJ Systems – Franklin General Hospital for his acts. Mr. Sangeniti is also a Mentor for the National Guard Challenge Program for New York State. He is married with one daughter and resides in Centereach, Long Island.



*Salvatore A. Sangeniti, Emergency Medical Technician-D
Fire Department of New York, recipient of the Brooklyn
Bar Association Foundation 100 Hundred Year
Association Award*

Salute to our Troops

To all the children, fathers, wife's and family members of the FDNY who are in our military. and are activated for Operation Iraqi Freedom -THANK YOU! May you come home safe.

FF David R. Abreu	Engine 84	U.S. Army Reserve
FF Richard Batista	Engine 76	U.S. Marine Corps. Reserve
FF Brendan J. Ryan	Engine 328	U.S. Marine Corps. Reserve
FF Daniel Bright	Ladder 46	U.S. Air National Guard Reserve
Lt John Byrne	Engine 293	U.S. Coast Guard Reserve
FF Edward F. Cassidy	Engine 219	U.S. Air Force Reserve
FF Michael Corrigan	Ladder 26	U.S. Army National Reserve *
FF John Criscuoli	Engine 230	U.S. Marine Corps Reserve
Capt. John R. Crowe	Engine 28	U.S. Coast Guard Reserve
Lt John P. Cullen	Engine 235	U.S. Coast Guard Reserve
FF George Diaz	Ladder 47	U.S. National Guard Reserve
FM Leonard E. Draves	Queens Base	U.S. Air National Reserve
Lt L Joseph Duggan	Battalion 6	U.S. Army Reserve
FF Christopher Dunic	Engine 219	U.S. Army National Reserve
FF Joseph Farrel	Ladder 160	U.S. Army Reserve
FF Paul Franco	Engine 76	U.S. Naval Reserve
FF Brian F. Flager	Engine 298	U.S. Air Force Reserve
FF Timothy K. Ginley	Engine 94	U.S. Air National Guard Reserve
FF David Gold	Engine 46	U.S. Coast Guard Reserve
Lt John P. Gormly	Ladder 34	U.S. Naval Reserve * USS Constellation
Lt Albert Gotay	Battalion 41	U.S. Naval Reserve
FF Robert Grell	Engine 153	U.S. Naval Reserve
FF Daniel B. Grogel	Ladder 26	U.S. Air National Guard Reserve
FF Hugh Jimenez	Ladder 129	U.S. Army Reserve
FF Joseph M. Jerovic	Engine 271	U.S. Army Reserve
FF James Kanganis	Ladder 14	U.S. Army Reserve
FF Pearse Kearnes	Engine 42	U.S. Marine Corps Reserve *
FF Mark Kurtz	Ladder 23	U.S. Naval Reserve
FF Anthony M Lombardo		U.S. Marine Corps Reserve
FF Armondo Lopez Jr.	Engine 71	U.S. Army Reserve
FF Glenn M. Malik	Ladder 134	U.S. Coast Guard Reserve *
FF Marques A. Martins	Ladder 39	U.S. Army National Reserve
Lt Joseph McMahon	Battalion 54	U.S. Coast Guard Reserve
FF Brian McCarrick	Ladder 176	U.S. Coast Guard Reserve
FF Robert A. Murray	Ladder 6	U.S. Marine Corp Reserve *
FF Patrick Naville	Rescue 1	U.S. Naval Reserve
FF Joseph Navarra	Engine 55	U.S. Army Reserve
FF Michael Nigro	Engine 255	U.S. Naval Reserve
CME Gulmar J. Parga	Marine 9	U.S. Coast Guard Reserve
FF Jorge L. Pacheco Jr.	Engine 224	U.S. Air Force Reserve *
FF Ronald Pinaud	Ladder 54	U.S. Army Reserve
FF Jorge Pena	Fire Academy	U.S. U.S. Marine Corp Reserve *
FF Steven Porras	Engine 23	U.S. Air Force Reserve
FF Walter Powers	Engine 45	U.S. marine Corp Reserve
FF Jose Prieto	Ladder 144	U.S. Naval Reserve
FF Josef M. Pruden	Engine 303	U.S. Army National Guard Reserve
Lt Henry G. Quevedo	Engine 7	U.S. Coast Guard Reserve
FF Steven Ramos	Ladder 152	U.S. Marines Reserve
SFM Eric Rehbien	BFI	U.S. Coast Guard Reserve
FF Michael Rehberg	Ladder 172	U.S. Coast Guard Reserve
Capt Fred J. Reich	Ladder 6	U.S. Coast Guard Reserve
FM Salvatore Rignola	CWSIU	U.S. Marine Corps Reserve
FF David Rodriguez	Engine 6	U.S. Army National Reserve
FF Stewart Rueter	Ladder 15	U.S. Army Reserve
Lt Peter Salatino	Ladder 78	U.S. Coast Guard Reserve
FF Michael Scarland	Ladder 59	U.S. National Guard Reserve
FF Edward Schiff	Engine 240	U.S. Coast Guard Reserve
Lt Michael Schimdt	F.L.T.P.S.	U.S. Coast Guard Reserve
FF Brian Shea	Ladder 9	U.S. Marine Corp Reserve
FF Francesca A. Smith	Ladder 18	U.S. Coast Guard Reserve
FF Fred Surber	Engine 331	U.S. Coast Guard Reserve
Lt William Simpson	Engine 152	U.S. Coast Guard Reserve
FF Thomas E. Smith	Engine 222	U.S. Naval Reserve
FF Kevin P. Steward	Ladder 51	U.S. Coast Guard Reserve
FF Eric C. Szillus	Engine 227	U.S. Air Force Reserve
FF Patrick Touhy	Ladder 78	U.S. Army National Guard Reserve
FF John Vincenti	Ladder 169	U.S. Air Force Reserve
FF Ralph Vitiello	Ladder 26	U.S. marine Corp Reserve
FF Christopher Walsh	Ladder 17	U.S. marine Corp Reserve
CME Ronnie West	Marine 9	U.S. National Guard Reserve *
FF Joseph Wills	Ladder 55	U.S. Army Reserve *



CDR John P. Gormly, U.S. Naval Reserve, Lieutenant of Ladder 34 sits atop his F-18 Fighter Jet aboard the USS Constellation

* Overseas

**Columbia Association:
Executive Board & Committee Members**

Executive Board:

Board President	Vincent A. Tummino	Battalion 22
1st Vice President	Bernard Santangelo	Bureau of Investigations
2nd Vice President	Craig Silvino	Brooklyn Boro Command
3rd Vice President	Joseph Donatelli	Retired
Treasurer	Eugene D'Auria	Battalion 51 (Cov)
Financial Secretary	Paul Cresci	Manhattan Boro Command
Recording Secretary	Keith Tanico	Ladder Co. 103
Sergeant-At-Arms		
Manhattan Trustee		
Queens Trustee	Joseph Governale	Bureau of Operations
Staten Island Trustee	Teddy Forlenza	Rescue 5
Brooklyn Trustee	Dan Volpe	DISCO/Hdqtrs.
Bronx Trustee	Chris Reginella	Ladder Co. 50
EMS Trustee	Anthony Vanaria	Bureau of EMS
Webmaster	Frank D'Amato	EMS/Hdqtrs.
Chaplain	Msgr. Marc Filacchione	Archdioese of N.Y.
Legal Council	Stuart Salles, Esq.	

Committee Chairs:

		<u>Home Phone</u>	<u>Work Phone</u>
Membership/Trips:	Paul Cresci	516-358-5135	212-5701544
Lottery:	Keith Tanico	718-460-0657	718-965-8290
Parade:	Joseph Governale	718-767-1612	718-999-1818
Pocono Mountains:	Buddy Santangelo	718-376-8388	718 896-6548
Good & Welfare:	Joseph Donatelli	718-591-4282	Retired
Scholarship/Dinner Dance	Craig Silvino	631-271-2928	718-965-0434

The Columbia Association Condolences

We regret to announce the death of Olga Donatelli. Olga was a beautiful, strong, loving, and tender woman all in one. She was very supportive of Joe and his endeavors with the Sanitations Department, Fire Department and the Columbia Association. Olga was a wonderful woman that loved her family. Olga and Joe cherished their trips to Atlantic City where she would rule the slot machines. She would always share her winnings with Joe. Olga would like her memory to be a happy one. Of happy times and laughing times and bright sunny days. May all your tears of those who grieve to dry before the sun. She is survived by Joe, their Daughter, son-in-law and 3 beautiful grandsons.

Now Available (www.fdnycolumbia.com)

"COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION 9/11 MEMORIAL TEE-SHIRTS" \$15 EACH, SOLD AT OUR MEETINGS OR ON OUR WEB SITE. FREE SHIPPING OF 10 OR MORE.

Visit our on-line store (www.fdnycolumbia.com) and shop for official FDNY Columbia Association materials.



**Visit our Website:
www.fdnycolumbia.com**

**Email the Columbia Association
FDItalyny@aol.com**

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encouraged to submit articles or
items of interest. Please submit
two months in advance of
publication date.

2002 Columbia Association Borough Meetings

ALL BOROUGH MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE SECOND TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH
THERE ARE NO MEETINGS IN JULY & AUGUST. MEETINGS BEGIN AT 8:00 PM FOOD & REFRESHMENTS ARE ALWAYS SERVED.

Queens: January 8, June 11, 2002
Whitestone Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall, 19-12 149 St.

Dues & Membership Reminder
Dues are still outstanding from some members. If you have not yet paid, please send them in to our P.O. Box Number listed below. Anyone wishing to join the Columbia Association may do so by either contacting their respective borough trustee, or writing directly to Membership Committee Chair, Paul Cresci.

Long Island: May 7, 2002
To Be Announced

Brooklyn: April 9, November 12, 2002
VFW Post, 2414 Gerritsen Ave.

Bronx: March 12, October 8, 2002
Guiding Star Council Hall, 3243 Ampere Ave.

Staten Island: February 12, September 10, 2002
Hillside Swim Club, 151 Signs Rd.