



LA SOTTO VOCE

The Official Newsletter of the *Columbia Association*

Fire Department, City of New York

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A Letter From The President

As we welcome in 2004, I would like to thank our entire membership and our friends who supported us in 2003. A special THANK YOU to the executive board for the long hours and hard work they do in making this association visible.

Since our last newsletter, we attended some great events, and also received some sad news from Italy.

On October 16, 2003, Mayor Bloomberg held a reception for Italian Americans at Gracie Mansion. The fire department was asked to attend in uniform. The Columbia Association executive board, along with Chief Cassano and Chief Santangelo were in attendance. The night included great Italian food and wine, along with a tour of the mansion. The Mayor also marched with the members of the NYC Fire Department in the 2003 Columbus Day Parade (see our website for pictures).

On November 13, 2003 the Italian Police headquarters in Nasiriyah, Iraq, was the target of a car bomb attack, which resulted in the death of 12 Carabinieri (policemen), three others and left many others injured.

Around the same time, the President of Italian Republic, Presidente Carlo Ciampi, came to the United States on a good will visit. He first stopped in Washington D.C. to visit with President Bush, then to New York City for a gala dinner with Italian American Community. A few of the Columbia Association board members were in attendance at this historical affair at the Grand Hyatt Hotel on November 15, 2003. The next day there was a wreath-laying ceremony at WTC as a mark of respect to the victims killed on September 11, 2001. Once again, the Columbia Association was asked by the Italian Consul General of NYC to be present. The newly formed Columbia Association honor guard, along with our friend Mike Jeffrey from Elizabeth Fire Department playing taps, attended this event. We along with a few NYPD and PAPD members acted as the honor guard.



President Ciampi of Italy & President Tumino

The highlight of this day was when the President came over to us and shook our hands and spoke of solidarity with the members of FDNY. We then presented him with an honorary fire chief's helmet. This



was followed by a mass held at Our Lady of Pompei in Greenwich Village. This mass was said by the Arch Bishop Migliore, the permanent observer of the Holy See to the U.N. The mass was in memory of the Italian Carabinieri and others who were killed on November 11, 2003 in Iraq. Following, there was a reception and luncheon at the U.N. for President Ciampi. Your Columbia Association was present and represented the firefighters of NYC at all of these events. ◆

**Come Join Us at the Luxurious New MOHEGAN SUN Hotel & Casino
April 3, 2004 - Don't Miss Out!**

Contact Craig Silvino 631-271-2928 or check our website for more information.



COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION *Visits* HERSHEY PARK

DESIGN A VACATION TO MAXIMIZE YOUR ENJOYMENT OF THE AREA

- ◆ **DATES:** Wednesday July 21, 2004 to Sunday July 25, 2004
- ◆ **LODGING:** FOUR POINTS SHERATON, Harrisburg PA
Hotel Price is \$ 95 Per Room / Per Night. Up to Four People in a Room
Short Drive to Hershey Park / Phone: (800) 644-3144
- ◆ **PARK ADMISSION:** PAY ONE PRICE PARK PASS
Admits Holder to ALL Attractions For the Day. (Food & Parking NOT Included)
Website: HersheyPA.com / Phone: 1 (800) HERSHEY

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZipCode: _____

Email: _____ Tel#: _____

Travelers Name: _____ Age: _____

Travelers Name: _____ Age: _____

Travelers Name: _____ Age: _____

	# of ROOMS	# of PASSES Kids (3-8)	# of PASSES Adult (9-54)	# of PASSES Senior (55-69)	# of PASSES 70 Plus
Wednesday					
Thursday					
Friday					
Saturday					
TOTAL					

\$95 x (# of Rooms _____) = _____
 \$18 x (# of Kid Passes _____) = _____
 \$25 x (# of Adult Passes _____) = _____
 \$18 x (# of Senior Passes _____) = _____
 \$16 x (# of 70 Plus Passes _____) = _____
TOTAL _____

Special Requests: _____
 Double Beds: _____ Adjoining Rooms: _____
 Other: _____

Payment in FULL Due: June 1, 2004 ◆ Make Checks Payable to: "Columbia Association" ◆ Mail to: Paul Cresci 17 Birch St. Floral Park, N.Y. 11001
 No refunds after June 1 ◆ ALL WELCOME ◆ Proceeds benefit Columbia Association Scholarships



Winter Weekend Getaway

By: Buddy Santagelo

We just got back from a frigid weekend at the Pocmont Resort. As always, thanks to the great people that joined us. We had a great time – even under such chilly conditions! The wives even found a way to get to the outlet stores to catch all the sales.

On Friday and Saturday nights we had two good shows. Our cocktail party on Saturday was a great success as always. This year we were fortunate to have an Italian Opera singer, direct from. . . Korea. He also worked as the Lobby Artist singing in Italian. He was terrific. We also had many indoor activities this year for the adults, such as “Hallway Bocce Ball” (Craig Silvino), “Find the Warmest Room” (Joe Higgins), “Can you Guess Where You’re Sitting for Dinner?” (Sam Pepper) and “Who’s Sitting on my Table Tonight?” (Vinny Tummino). Thanks to Rocco Volpe for supplying me with homemade wine and delicious figs to be able to coordinate the new activities we had.

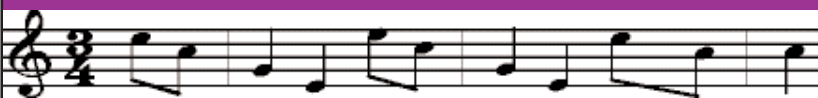
As always, I would like to thank the Board members for their help in making this a memorable weekend. A special thanks to Sam Pepper and Joe Higgins who always bring a large crowd with them, and for their ongoing support of the Columbia Association. And, thanks to all the others, too numerous to mention, who come with friends to make this weekend so enjoyable. I hope to see you all next year! Don’t forget to check out our website WWW.FDNYCOLUMBIA.COM for photos of this trip and for information on other trips planned for 2004. ♦

ROBERT TRIOZZI (Italy Liaison)

Receiving the “Premin Interazionale della Bontia” in Assisi, Italy - Nov. 2003 on behalf of The Columbia Association FDNY & Fiorenzo Tommasi, President of the Comitato Della Croce of Cavarzere, Italy ♦



The Columbia Association
is looking for a bugler or trumpeter
to be part of Honor Guard
at special Italian events.



Contact Vinny Tummino at
(917) 757-6022

♦ 2004 Scholarship Award Applications

High School Awards:

Applicants must be in the eighth grade and applications must be postmarked by March 1, 2004. The High School placement exam will be administered in March. Check the Department Orders for date and location. Test will be given at Div. of Training, Bldg 11
On 3/13/04 Doors Open at 9am

College Awards:

SAT exam must be taken between September of Junior year and March of Senior year of High School. Only applications in the graduating year will be accepted. Applications must be postmarked by April 1, 2004.

Contact Lt. Craig Silvino @ (718) 985-8283 or your Borough Trustee for applications or check our web site for more information www.fdnycolumbia.com

Eligibility:

(Per Columbia Association NYFD Constitution & By-Laws Article VI Sec. 6.6)
The son or daughter (step or foster included) of a member in good standing or of a deceased member if said member was in good standing at time of his/her death, are eligible and must file an application and statement in order to participate.



Italy Vacation November 3, 2004

The Columbia Association is planning its 2nd trip to Italy since 2001. Most fittingly, it will be to Italy – the home of our ancestors.

In conjunction with Collette Vacations, we bring you an exiting 10 days in Italy. It is bound to be a true feast for the senses and the soul as Italy is a land rich in history, culture, art and romance.

Our trip takes us to Rome, Assisi, Perugia, Siena, San Gimignano, Florence, San Marino, Ravenna, Venice and Como.

All for \$2199 per person, including land and air fare (cancellation wavier \$180 additional pp). Our flight will depart November 3, 2004 from New York.

More information will be available at the meeting or you can contact Buddy Santangelo in the evenings at (718) 376-8388.

Mark your calendar and get your passport ready for a great 10 days in Italy. You can download an application from our web-site; www.fdnycolumbia.com. ♦

Columbia Association Scholarship Fund Raffle

The Columbia Association, FDNY is pleased to announce its annual High School and College Scholarship Fund raffle to benefit the sons and daughters of the New York City Firefighters.

Founded in 1934, the NYC Fire Department Columbia Association has proudly served its general membership for 70 years. Once again, 2004 will see the occasion of the award of scholarships in time for the Fall 2004 semester. Nearly 3000 NYC Firefighters and EMS personnel are enrolled as members of this agency-wide and mutual aid association.

Each year ten scholarships are awarded to the children of the general membership of the Columbia Association. Four scholarships are offered to graduating High School seniors to be applied toward high-

er education studies. Six scholarships are offered to middle school students entering High School.

Scholarships are awarded exclusively on merit. Determination is made in the early spring based on a combination of academic achievement and testing results.

Raffles are now being sold to benefit the Scholarship Fund.

In order to insure that the 2004 scholarship fund raising campaign is as successful as those in prior years, we ask that you or your organization please purchase a raffle ticket. A limited amount of tickets are being offered to increase the odds of winning. This year we are offering only 200 tickets at the cost of \$100.00 each.

1st prize ♦ \$10,000

2nd prize ♦ \$2,000

3rd prize ♦ \$1,000

The drawing will be held at our June 8, 2004 general meeting. Awarding of the scholarships will be determined in June, 2004 with award presentations to be made at the Columbia Association's Annual Dinner Dance scheduled for June 17, 2004 at Russo's on the Bay Restaurant in Howard Beach, Queens.

If you would like to "take a chance" or need further information, please contact Keith Tanico @ 718-460-0657. Make checks payable to Columbia Association FDNY, Scholarship Fund. ♦

Mail to : Keith Tanico / Columbia Association FDNY
125-12 10th Avenue
College Point, NY 11356.



Help Us Celebrate Our 70th Anniversary

Participate In Our Commemorative Journal

For many years, The Columbia Association FDNY has been helping others. This year, we will be celebrating our 70th Anniversary at the annual scholarship dinner dance to be held on June 17, 2004 at Russo's on the Bay.

We are creating a souvenir journal to commemorate our many years of service to the members of this great Fire Department. We are asking our friends to consider placing an advertisement. Kindly fill out the journal contract below and return it with a copy of your advertisement and your payment preferences. All proceeds are to benefit our scholarship fund and used for higher education. Thank you for your help in making our journal a success.;

This is an authorization to insert our advertisement in the 70th Anniversary Souvenir Journal to be published by the Columbia Association, NYC Fire Department, in conjunction with the association's Annual Scholarship Dinner-Dance to be held on June 17th, 2004 at Russo's on the Bay, in Howard Beach, Queens.

Size of Ad: _____, for which we agree to pay the sum of \$: _____.

Back Cover.....	\$1,000.00
Inside Covers.....	\$ 500.00
Gold Page.....	\$ 300.00
Bronze Page.....	\$ 250.00
Silver Page.....	\$ 200.00
Full White Page.....	\$ 100.00
Half White Page.....	\$ 60.00

Name/Organization: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____ Fax#: _____

Signature: _____

This contract must be returned to our committee no later than May 10, 2004.
Please make checks payable to; Columbia Association - FDNY, PO Box 20328, Staten Island, NY 10302

For further information please contact, Vincent Tummino, (718) 448-1170 or (917) 757-6022
Visit our web site at www.fdnycolumbia.com

Attach or print your ad. / Ad may be submitted in any format. / Columbia Association has the right to refuse to publish any ad.

70th Annual Dinner Dance

June 17th, 2004 at 7pm / Russo's on the Bay - Howard Beach, Queens



\$ 75.00 Donation Per Person

Proceeds Benefit Future Scholarships ♦ This Year's Award Over \$15,000

Featuring Frank Russo's World Famous: 1.5 Hour Cocktail Party / Open Bar ALL Night / Choice of 7 Dinners

Reserve Early...Only 600 Seats Available! We Have SOLD OUT for the Past 5 Years!
For Reservations Contact: Craig Silvino, Home: (631) 271-2928 / Work: (718) 965-8283 or Your Borough Trustee





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Fire Department, City of New York
P.O. Box 20328
Staten Island, New York 10302

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The Newsletter of the FDNY
Columbia Association
A Sotto Voce is published
four times annually.

Mail all articles to:

P.O. Box 20328
Staten Island, NY 10302

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

Columbia Association: Executive Board & Committee Members

Executive Board:

Board President	Vincent A. Tummino	Battalion 22
1st Vice President	Bernard Santangelo	Bureau of Fire Investigations
2nd Vice President	Craig Silvino	Engine 283
3rd Vice President	Joseph Donatelli	Retired
Treasurer	Eugene D'Auria	Battalion 51 (Cov)
Financial Secretary	Joseph Smithwick	Division 13
Recording Secretary	Keith Tanico	Ladder Co. 103
Emergent-At-Arms	Joseph Triolo	Engine 303
Manhattan Trustee	Andy Casucci	Ladder Co. 33
Queens Trustee	Joseph Governale	Bureau of Operations
Staten Island Trustee	Teddy Forlenza	Battalion 39 (Cov)
Brooklyn Trustee	Joseph Mastrotta	Engine 321
Bronx Trustee	Chris Reginella	Engine 92
Captain	Mmgr. Marc Filacchione	Archdiocese of N.Y.
Legal Council	Stuart Salles, Esq.	

Committee Chairs:

Membership:	Joseph Smithwick	<u>Home Phone:</u>	<u>Work Phone:</u>
Rottery:	Keith Tanico	516-796-0975	718-965-8290
Parade:	Joseph Governale	718-460-0657	718-999-1818
Adriatic Mountains (Trips):	Buddy Santangelo	718-767-1612	718-896-6548
Food & Welfare:	Joseph Donatelli	718-376-8388	Retired
Scholarship/Dinner Dance:	Craig Silvino	718-591-4282	718-965-8283
Hershey Park:	Paul Cresci	631-271-2928	
		516-358-5135	

◆ Visit our website: www.fdnycolumbia.com

2004 Columbia Association Borough Meetings

Bronx
June 8, 2004
Guiding Star Council Hall,
3243 Ampere Ave.

Brooklyn
September 14, 2004
VFW Post, 2414 Gerritsen Ave.

Queens
March 9,
October 12, 2004
VFW Post, 19-12
149th Street (between 19th & 20th)
Whitestone, NY 11357
(718) 746-0540

Staten Island
April 13,
November 9, 2004
Hillside Swim Club,
151 Sign Rd.

Long Island
May 11, 2004
Elks Lodge, Lynbrook,
52 Hempstead Ave.

December
Proposed Christmas Party

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.

