



LA SOTTO VOCE

The Official Newsletter of the *Columbia Association*

Fire Department, City of New York

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Columbus Day Parade



Dinner Dance



9/11 Tribute



2006 Scholarship Gala



Wine Raffle



National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend

2006 ANNUAL COLUMBUS DAY PARADE

As the summer is slowly coming to a close, we are once again coming into the beautiful and colorful season of fall. This is the time where we are approaching and preparing for our annual Columbus Day Parade. This year the date is Monday October 9th. We will meet and form up at the corner of West 44th St & Fifth Ave by 11:30 am. The annual mass will again be in St Patricks Catderhal mass starts at 9:15 am. There will be a breakfast that morning from 8:30 to 11:30 AM at the Au Bon Pain restaurant, 16 East 44th Street between 5th and 6th Avenue. Full details will be posted on our web site www.fdnycolumbia.com or contact Parade Chairman Joe Triolo at 718-751-6731.

The wreath laying ceremony will be on Sunday, October 8th, at 8:00 am. Location is the Columbus Monument at 8th Ave & 59th St.



Visit Our Online Store & Shop For Official FDNY Columbia Association Merchandise.
All Proceeds Benefit The Columbia Association Scholarship Fund.
www.fdnycolumbia.com



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Summer is just about over; the kids are heading back to school. However, the Columbia Association is still hard at work, we have more activities for our membership. In September our annual golf outing at Villa Roma, in October we will form together where we along with our friends from Italy will march up 5th Ave in the annual Columbus Day Parade, this is something you and your family don't want to miss, meet our friends from Venice & Pescara, (firefighters) Italy, December will again be our annual Christmas Party.

After 36 years serving with the NYC Fire Department, I have decided to finally retire this coming fall, along with that I will no longer be your president of the this great association. However I will still be around for any member who may need my assistance. I will also be involved with a new organization called the International Columbia Association of FDNY.

I would like to thank all of you, who I have come in contact with over the 15 years I have served on this board. To my many friends both here and aboard, it is you who made me look good.

I hope I have made an impact on this association, and that you all continue to practice your heritage and Italian cultural. Always remember where we all came from, and the hard sacrifices that were made by our parents and grandparents.

There were some main issues that I wanted to make sure happen while I was President.

1. *Raise the total equity in our scholarship fund-- today the fund has gowned nearly 400 percent.*
2. *Keep increasing our membership-- today we have over 3000, (300 from EMS)*
3. *Make sure we have activities and events for the whole family-- today we run between 8-10 events per year.*
4. *Give away more money to our scholarship winners-today we give nearly double the amount, and hopefully will continue to raise that amount in the near future.*
5. *Never forget 9/11, I made that promise and also to make sure something good came from it-today there are many towns & cities in Italy that have Parks, Monuments, Fire Stations, gondola races, special masses, etc named after the 343 who were lost on 9/11/01. I either attended or sent a representative to each ceremony.*

The Columbia Association FDNY is one of the best organizations that I ever belonged to, and I served on many other boards and belong to many other organizations. The dedication of this association in serving its members is second to none. I hope all of you will continue to support this association and its executive board. Remember, before you retire there are many things you should do in getting your life in order, with that I would like to thank the following groups, Dr Wyne of Staten Island Imaging Center, & Albert Barrette of Inner Imaging for there help.

Sincerely,
Vinny Tummino

"Imported Italian Wine Raffle" NYC Fire Department - Columbia Association

Will raffle off one case (12 bottles) each to two winners at our annual Christmas party.

The wine was donated from our Italian friends,

Red Wine from the Lombardy Region "ROSSO d' ARMORE"

Tickets can be purchase from any board member or at any general meeting.

All donations benefit our scholarship fund.

Donations are \$10.00 each or 3 for \$20.00.

For tickets call Vinny Tummino at (917) 757-6022.



2006 SCHOLARSHIP GALA

On June 15 2006 nearly 700 guests filled Russo's on the Bay to honor our scholarship winners. Thanks to your support the Columbia Association awarded over \$16,000 to our children. We were blessed to have our own Regina Wilson (FDNY Ceremonial Unit) perform the National Anthem and Italian singer Giada Valenti sing the Italian National Anthem.

This was just the beginning of a gracious evening. Our "2006 Man of the Year" John Peruggia, brought the whole family, and all seven children. He spoke on the future of the Fire Department and his Italian heritage. We were worried about the length of Joe Higgins' speech but John was the titleholder.

Joe Higgins, our Humanitarian, talked about his forty plus years with the FDNY. Joe has had a remarkable career and he will be surly missed. He let everyone know that he is only a phone call away. We are very proud of Joe and we wish him well on his retirement. His wife Angie was glowing with joy now that she has "her Joe" to herself.

Frank Fusaro represented the Columbus Citizens Foundation; enlightened us on their overwhelming support of higher education and the mission of their exceptional foundation. The role of non-profit organizations play in making the world a better place and the success of the annual Columbus Day Parade was highlighted by Mr. Fusaro. We look forward to working with the Columbus Citizen's Foundation in the future.

The dance floor was packed through the night as the Chris Michaels Band kept us hopping. Our bellies were stuffed thanks to Frank Russo's and his exceptional staff.

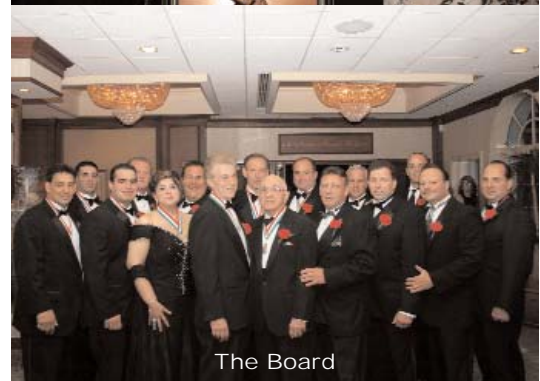
A special thanks to all our scholarship contributors, journal purchasers, and to all the participants of the Columbia Association events. All of our events fund our scholarship program. We thank all who attended and we hope to see you next year for our 73rd Scholarship Dinner Dance. Mark your calendar June 21, 2007.



Frank Fusaro



Humanitarian Joe Higgins



The Board

THANK YOU

By Keith Tanico

As the Chairman of the annual scholarship lottery raffle, I would like to thank all of you who supported us again this year by purchasing a lottery raffle ticket.

Once again we sold all 200 tickets and all of the proceeds went to our fund, this fundraiser is very important to us. It is one of larger fundraisers that enable us to give away 10 scholarship awards each year.



September 11th Five Years Later But... NEVER FORGOTTEN

We honor our members and our other Brothers who gave their lives on that tragic day one year ago



Chief of Department
Peter J. Ganci, Jr.



Assistant Chief Gerard Barbara
Citywide Tour Commander

5 - 5 - 5 - 5



FF Joseph Agnello
Ladder 118



FF Louis Arena
Ladder 5



FF Carl Bini
Rescue 5



FF Salvatore B.
Calabro
Ladder 5



FF Michael
Cammarata
Ladder 11



FF Brian
Cannizzaro
Ladder 101



FF Michael S.
Carlo
Engine 230



FF James A. Coyle
Division of
Training



LT John A. Crisci
Haz-Mat 1



FF David P.
DeRubbio
Engine 226



LT Andrew J.
Desperito
Engine 1



FF Francis
Esposito
Ladder 79



FF Michael C.
Fiore
Rescue 5



FF Daniel F.
Libretti
Rescue 2



LT Charles
Margiotta
Battalion 22



FF Thomas
Mingione
Ladder 132



CP Louis J.
Modafferi
Rescue 5



FF Vincent S.
Morello
Engine 283



FF John D.
Napolitano
Engine 5



FF Jeffery A.
Palazzo
Rescue 5



LT Phillip S. Petti
Division 1



FF Leonard
Ragaglia
Engine 54



FF Nicholas E.
Rossomando
Rescue 5



FF Thomas E.
Sabella
Ladder 13



NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS Memorial Weekend 2006

Come join us on October 7th to the 8th at the National Fire Academy, Emmitsburg, MD to honor America's fallen firefighters for 2005 (including NYC members killed LOD in 2005). The Columbia Association has its own honor guard attending this weekend. Anyone wishing to attend with us or reserve a room please contact Vinny Tummino (917) 757-6022 or Craig Silvino (718) 448-1170. All rooms must be reserved by the Columbia Association. The deadline for rooms is 8/31/06.



We will leave NY on Saturday, 8:00 am and arrive at the National Fire Academy by 1:00 pm. We return Sunday immediately following the memorial service and should arrive back in Staten Island by 6:00 pm.

Our host hotel is the Hampton Inn in Gettysburg, PA (717) 338-9121. We have limited amount of rooms @ government rates of \$110 + tax (one night only).

Check out the details at www.fdnycolumbia.com
and go to calendar/events or www.firehero.org



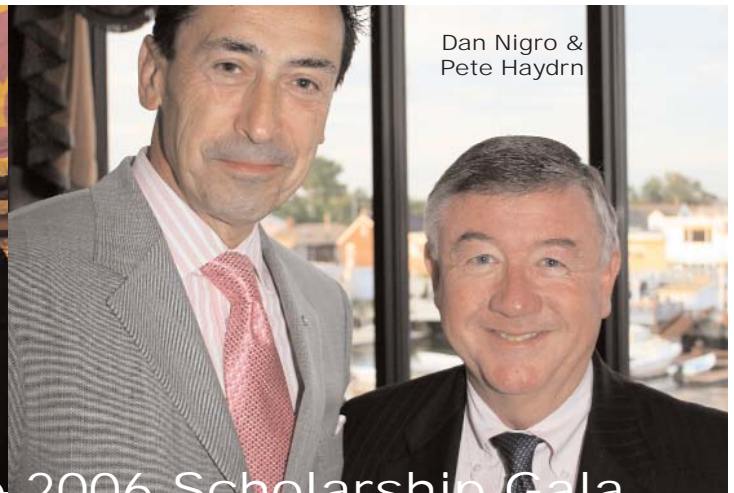
GET OUT AND VOTE!

In April 2006, for the first time since becoming a Republic in 1946, Italy allowed its 3.5 million citizens living abroad to vote in a national election by absentee ballots. Of the 3.5 million Italian citizens living abroad who were eligible to vote, 1.1 million actually did. North America's estimated 200,000 votes elected one Senator and two Deputies. In all 12 Deputies and 6 Senators will represent Italian expatriates. The main political issues for Expatriates, was improving RAI satellite TV reception, extending hours of local consulates and improving their performance, preserving Italian language and culture.





Man of the Year John Peruggia

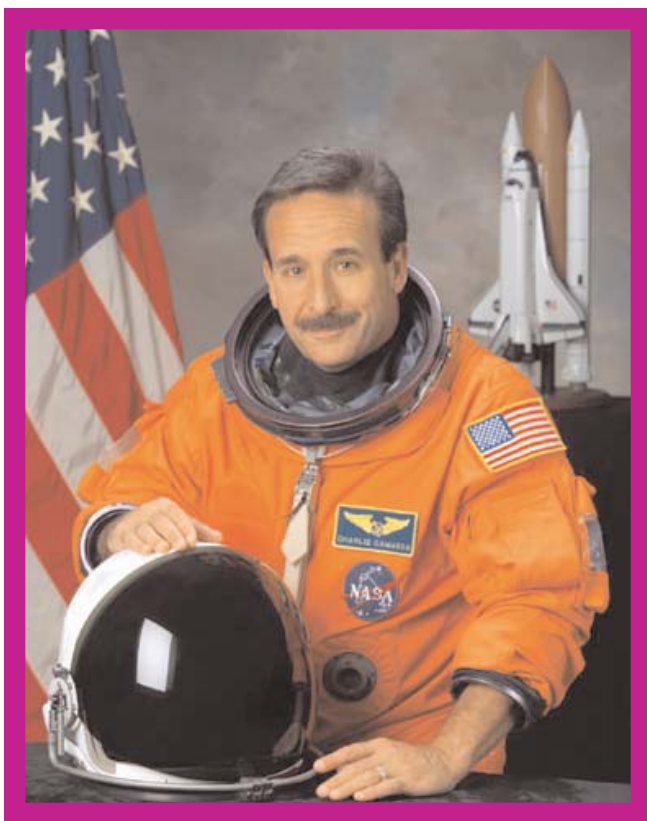


Dan Nigro & Pete Haydn

More pictures from the 2006 Scholarship Gala

2006 Scholarship Winners

Vincent Marra



SPACE TRAVELERS

Charles Camarda has joined the ranks of Michael Massimino, Rocco Petrone, Rick Mastracchio, Albert Sacco and Lisa Caputo Novak as Italian Americans who have contributed to the U.S. exploration of space. A native of Queens, N.Y. Camarda served as a mission specialist on the space shuttle Discovery in 2005. An astronaut since 1996, he holds a M.S. and Ph.D. along with seven patents. He has earned over 21 NASA awards for technical innovations and accomplishments.



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Vincent Philip

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The Newsletter of the FDNY

Columbia Association

La Sotto Voce is published
four times annually.

Columbia Association: Executive Board & Committee Members

Executive Board:

Board President	Vincent A. Tummino	Battalion 22	917-757-6022
1st Vice President	Bernard Santangelo	Bureau of Fire Investigations	917-613-1308
2nd Vice President	Craig Silvino	Division 13	516-286-1796
3rd Vice President	Dennis DiTucci	Retired	516-476-3032
Treasurer	Eugene D'Auria	Division 3	516-662-8637
Financial Secretary	Joseph Smithwick	Division 13	516-662-3699
Recording Secretary	Keith Tanico	Division 13	917-337-7413
Sergeant-At-Arms	Sal Belmonte	Battalion 35	516-233-8142
Manhattan Trustee	Joseph Triolo	Division 1	718-751-6731
Queens Trustee	Sal Mirra	Engine 289	516-322-7588
Staten Island Trustee	Teddy Forlenza	Ladder 83	718-213-7499
Brooklyn Trustee	Steve Forlenza	Ladder 79	347-678-8445
Bronx Trustee	Chris Reginella	Engine 92	914-482-0118
EMS Trustee	Grace Cacciola	EMS Headquarters	516-852-3318
Chaplain	Msgr. Marc Filacchione	Archdiocese of N.Y.	
Legal Council	Stuart Salles, Esq.		

Committee Chairs:

Membership:	Joseph Smithwick	Home Phone:	Work Phone:
Lottery:	Keith Tanico	516-796-0975	
Parade:	Joe Triolo	516-867-4580	917-337-7413
Winter Weekend & Italy Trip:	Buddy Santangelo	718-383-6429	
Good & Welfare:	Dennis DiTucci	718-376-8388	
Scholarships & Dinner Dance:	Craig Silvino	516-794-7669 Retired	
Hershey Park:	Chris Reginella	631-271-2928	516-286-1796
Souvenir Journal:	Vincent A. Tummino	914-277-6044	718-430-0292
		718-448-1170	718-494-4289

2006 Columbia Association Borough Meetings

Bronx
Jan 10, 2006 & June 13, 2006
Guiding Star Council Hall,
3243 Ampere Ave.

Brooklyn
Feb 14, 2006 & Sept 12, 2006
VFW Post, 2414 Garrison Ave.

Queens
March 14, 2006 & Oct 10, 2006
VFW Post, 19-12
149th St. (between 19th & 20th)
Whitestone, NY 11357
(718) 746-0540

Staten Island
Apr. 11, 2006 & Nov. 14, 2006
Hillside Swim Club
151 Sign Rd.

Long Island
May 9, 2006
American Legion
250 Franklin Ave
Malverne, LI

Christmas Party
Dec. (date to be announced)

❖ Visit our website: www.fdnycolumbia.com
❖ E-mail the Columbia Association:
vat22italy@yahoo.com

