



# LA SOTTO VOCE

The Official Newsletter of the *Columbia Association*

Fire Department, City of New York

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# Columbus Day Parade

*Continuing the Celebration of Italian Heritage*

The weather was just beautiful, as this year's Columbus Day Parade began with a pre-parade breakfast at the Au Bon Pain Restaurant on 44th Street. The Fire Department membership was lead by our President Buddy Santangelo, Commissioner



Scoppetta, 1st Deputy Commissioner Cruthers along with the Chief of Department Salvatore Cassano, followed by the officers, members, and friends of the association. I would also like to thank the many friends from Italy who traveled here to march with us.

Remember to support Italian heritage against those who mock and try to degrade us. Our creed should always be as follows: the United States of America, Italia and Italians are NUMERO UNO!!!

It was a beautiful day for all, mark your calendar for next year October 12th , 2010.



Vist Our Online Store & Shop For Official FDNY Columbia Association Merchandise.  
All Proceeds Benefit The Columbia Association Scholarship Fund.  
[www.fdnycolumbia.com](http://www.fdnycolumbia.com)



# A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

With approximately 20 years on the Columbia Association Board, a member since 1977, I will not be running for reelection. Unlike other Presidents before me, who resigned because they were retiring, I am not as yet. I had informed the Board that I would do one three year term as President and pass it on to the next generation.

I first came on the Board as a Sergeant of Arms, then Assistant Brooklyn Trustee, Brooklyn Trustee, Treasurer, 1st Vice President and now President. It was a long run; I started with great guys like Al Salving and Dennis Deduce Sr., whose sons are on the Board. I am very proud to belong to such a great Association, proud to be an Italian American and proud to be in the Fire Department.

It is very hard to let go of things your involved with that you enjoy, however one must learn to let go. I know that the Columbia Association will continue to strive and do what is best in promoting our Italian heritage. Now I can sit at a meeting and enjoy the company of our many members. I would like to thank all of you for your support.

I leave you with my usual closing.

**Please support the greatest Association** by becoming a member. Attend our monthly meetings where you can gain vast knowledge from our members who are active or retired; meet some friends you haven't seen and enjoy good food. Remember we are a **Fraternal** Organization, here for our members, we are non political and don't get paid. We support other associations in and out of the Fire Department. I would like to thank all the Associations that have always supported us. And please **support our trips** and various fund raisers that we put together, its all for our Scholarship fund.

**Thank you for the long ride and stay safe,**  
Buddy Santangelo



## COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION 2010 SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

**CANDIDATES FOR COLLEGE AWARDS** (12th Grade Students):  
Submit applications, along with a copy of the Candidate's SAT scores, before April 1, 2010. These tests must have been taken in the candidates' junior or senior year of high school between September 2009 and March 2010. This must be the candidates' graduating year.

**CANDIDATES FOR HIGH SCHOOL** (8th Grade Students):  
**Candidate does not have to attend private school** - the scholarship is for public and private school. Submit applications before March 1, 2010. The STS closed high school placement test will be given Sunday March 7, 2010 at Randal's Island, Build 11 (D.O.T.). Exam will begin at exactly 10am.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Candidates for these awards may compete if a parent (natural, step or foster) is a member in good standing of the Columbia Association. Children of a deceased member who were in good standing at time of death may also compete.

**APPLICATIONS:** Applications may be obtained from the internet [www.fdnycolumbia.com](http://www.fdnycolumbia.com), your Borough Trustee, or by contacting the Scholarship Chairman, Craig Silvino, 14 Piermont Ct. Melville, N.Y. 11747, (516) 303-4209.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO YOUR 2010-2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



*At our October Membership meeting in Brooklyn the following members have been elected to the Columbia Association City of New York Board of Directors:*

President	Keith Tanico
1st Vice President	Craig Silvino
2nd Vice President	Joseph Smithwick
3rd Vice President	John Signorile
Financial Secretary	Steve Forelenza
Treasurer	Ted Forienza
Recording Secretary	Sal Belmonte
Staten Island Trustee	Ted Forienza
Bronx Trustee	Joeseph DePaola
Queens Trustee	Salvatore Mirra
Manhattan Trustee	Joseph Triolo
Brooklyn Trustee	Phil LaRocco
Sergeant-at-Arms	Steve Lubrino
EMS Representative	Grace Cacciola
Legal Advisor	Stuart Salles, Esq.
Spiritual Advisor	Msgr. Marc Filacchione



# Columbia Association Annual Weekend Getaway January 22 - 24, 2010

This year the Columbia Association plans to take you back to the Villa Roma recently renovated, located in Callicoon, New York. The Villa Roma is well known by most people, where we could spend a relaxing weekend with good friends and some old fashioned fun. The package includes Two Nights Lodging, One Breakfast Saturday, A Brunch on Sunday, two dinners and 1-hour cocktail party all tax and gratuities included. There is a varied amount of activities such as the Indoor sports complex, video games, indoor swimming pool/Jacuzzi, Fitness room, Bocce Ball. At optional cost there is indoor tennis, handball, racquetball, Bowling, Skiing, Snowmobiles, Horseback riding, Massage and Spa services. Space is limited so make reservations early; deadline is December 20, 2009, after that space available only.

Please send a \$100.00 Deposit with reservation form below.

## Rates Per Person, 2 Night Stay

Double Occupancy @ \$285.00  
Single Occupancy @ \$360.00  
Triple Occupancy @ \$265.00

*Notes: Thursday arrivals \$99.00 per room, NO MEALS  
Super Deluxe rooms are available at \$25.00 per person for weekend  
Suites available at \$50.00 per person for weekend.*

## Children's Rates

Sharing room with adults, all inclusive

Ages 3 & under NO CHARGE  
Ages 4 - 10 years \$69.00 for two nights  
Ages 11 - 17 years \$99.00 for two nights

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## Reservation Form

Make check payable to: Villa Roma  
Mail to: Columbia Association  
c/o Buddy Santangelo (718) 376-8388  
2024 Gerritsen Ave., Brooklyn NY 11229

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

ARRIVAL DATE \_\_\_\_\_ DEPARTURE DATE \_\_\_\_\_

CHILDREN (list names and age)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL PERSONS IN ROOM \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_





## WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Hello to all the active and retired members from the Bronx. Hope everyone had a special and safe Columbus Day. We had a great day and great weather at our Columbus Day Parade in Manhattan. I urge everyone out there to please turn out to these type of functions that we hold and attend throughout the year. It is a great time to catch up with old friends and meet some new ones as well.

So here is where we/I need your help. Once again attendance is getting very low at our Bronx meetings. We only have two per year and we need to make the most of them. If there is a better location that might peak more interest and attendance please feel free to call or email me. If we need to move the meeting or one of the two meetings more north, east, closer to Rockland or Orange, please call me.

Please think about how we can increase attendance and interest in our association, heritage, meetings, etc. I can't express enough how just mentioning and bringing another brother can make an enormous difference in anything we do. Don't forget our annual Christmas Party at il Cortile on Mulberry Street down in Little Italy on December 8th... See you there.

Joe DePaola, Bronx Trustee  
Ladder 27, Div. 6, Batt. 17  
845.558.4410

## SGT. MONTI RECEIVES POSTHUMOUS MEDAL OF HONOR

President Obama received the parents of Sergeant First Class Jared Monti at the White House Sept. 17 to give them their son's posthumous Medal of Honor, making him the 25th Italian American to receive the nation's highest decoration for military valor.



When SFC Monti realized that a member of the patrol, Private First Class (PFC) Brian J. Bradbury, was critically wounded and exposed 10 meters from cover, without regard for his personal safety, he advanced through enemy fire to within three feet of PFC Bradbury's position. But he was forced back by intense RPG fire. He tried again to secure PFC Bradbury, but he was forced to stay in place again as the enemy intensified its fire. The remaining patrol members coordinated covering fires for SFC Monti, and he advanced a third time toward the wounded Soldier. But he only took a few steps this time before he was mortally wounded by an RPG. About the same time, the indirect fire and CAS he called for began raining down on the enemy's position. The firepower broke the enemy attack, killing 22 enemy fighters. SFC Monti's actions prevented the patrol's position from being overrun, saved his team's lives and inspired his men to fight on against overwhelming odds. SFC Monti epitomizes what it means to be an NCO. Because of his personal sacrifice and selfless service to the Army, the men of his patrol are alive today and continue the fight.

## CIGAR PARTY ONCE AGAIN A SUCCESS

On October 16th we held our annual Cigar Party at Club Macanudo. Once again it was a great success, thanks to Victoria McKee and Mauricio Cordoba from the Club. I would also like to thank all of those that attended the party and the members from the Executive Board who came along to help out. Victoria and Mauricio provided us with 500 cigars that were given out at the door, top shelf liquor and delicious hors d'oeuvres that were passed out thru out the night. I would also like to thank Turano Cigars, Rocky Patel Cigars and Ashton Cigars for providing us with our raffle prizes. Once again, thank you for all that were in attendance and look for this great event again possibly in the spring.



## Columbia Association Board's Senior Man

Joe, Keith and Craig take a road trip to visit Joe Donatelli. Joe now lives in Tinton Falls N.J. Joe is doing fine and celebrated his 86th birthday in July. Joe is the Director of Public Relations at The Chelsea at Tinton Falls Assisted Living, located at 1 Hartford Dr, Tinton Falls, NJ 07701-4941. Drop him a card - he would love to hear from you.



# Chief Dunn Lectures Lieutenant Hopefuls



On Wednesday October 14, 2009 the Columbia Association hosted a Powerpoint presentation at the Fire Academy on Randall's Island. Retired Deputy Chief Vincent Dunn gave the presentation. In the lecture, he covered the four chapters of his book, Collapse of Burning Buildings, which will be tested on the upcoming lieutenant's exam. Chief Dunn drew from the testable material in his book as well as real life scenarios from his 42 years of service. All of the 140 firefighters that attended were given a copy of chapters 2,7, 10, and 14 from the Collapse of Burning Buildings study guide. The funds that were raised from this lecture, as well as all of our events throughout the year, go directly into the Columbia Association Scholarship Fund.

The Columbia Association would like to thank all who attended for making this fund raising event a success, and best of luck to all of you on the test. The Columbia Association would like to especially thank Chief Dunn, and the staff at the Fire Academy for making this night possible.

- FF Philip LaRocco, Brooklyn Trustee

## GERARD BARBARA PROMOTIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

*Congratulations to FF Anthony Zopich E280  
Winner of the Barbara Scholarship for  
the 2009 Lieutenants Exam*

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## Christmas Party



December 15<sup>th</sup>  
6:30 - 9:30 p.m.

at

**Il Cortile Ristorante Italiano**  
125 Mulberry Street  
Little Italy

**RSVP a must: (516) 303-4209**



NY Foot & Ankle Specialists, PC

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Fax: (631) 665-8914

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Web Site: DrMancuso.net





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The Official Newsletter of the *Columbia Association*

Fire Department, City of New York  
2024 Geritsen Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11229

PRESORTED STD.  
1ST CLASS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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**2010  
DUES  
ENCLOSED**  
Please pay before 1/31/10

## LA SOTTO VOCE

The Newsletter of the FDNY

Columbia Association

La Sotto Voce is published  
four times annually.

### What does the word DUES mean above your name on your address label mean?

We are updating our Membership program. One of our new features includes a Membership history located directly above your name on your address label. Please check the label.

The numbers above your name indicate that we have not received your dues for that particular year. With any new system there are glitches.

If your records vary with ours, please give us a call at (516) 303-4209. Our Financial Secretary Steve Forlenza will return your call.

*Below indicates 2006 and 2008 dues have not been received.*

**DUES: 06 08**

**Columbia Association  
2024 Gerritsen Ave  
Brooklyn, NY 11229**

If you only see the word DUES above your name, this means you are up-to-date and no action is needed. We apologize for any confusion.

## Columbia Association: Executive Board & Committee Members

### Executive Board:

President	Bernard Santangelo	Bureau of Fire Investigations
1st Vice President	Craig Silvino	Ladder 127
2nd Vice President	Keith Tanico	Division 13
3rd Vice President	Dennis DiTucci	Retired
Treasurer	Joseph Smithwick	Engine 303
Financial Secretary	Stephen Forlenza	Division 8
Recording Secretary	Sal Belmonte	Division 11
Sergeant-At-Arms	Steve Lubrino	Ladder 162
Manhattan Trustee	Joseph Triolo	Ladder 6
Queens Trustee	Sal Mirra	Ladder 138
Staten Island Trustee	Teddy Forlenza	Ladder 83
Brooklyn Trustee	Phil LaRocco	Ladder 148
Bronx Trustee	Joseph DePaola	Ladder 27
EMS Trustee	Grace Cacciola	Battalion 45
Legal Advisor	Stuart Salles, Esq.	
Spiritual Advisor	Msgr. Marc Filacchione	Archdiocese of N.Y.

### Committee Chairs:

Membership:	Keith Tanico
Lottery:	Ted Forlenza
Parade:	Joe Triolo
Good & Welfare:	Dennis DiTucci
Scholarships & Dinner Dance:	Craig Silvino
Hershey Park:	Sal Belmonte
Journal	Grace Cacciola
Editor	Craig Silvino
Golf	Joseph Smithwick
Trip	Bernard Santangelo

❖ Visit our website: [www.fdnycolumbia.com](http://www.fdnycolumbia.com)

❖ E-mail the Columbia Association: [buddy@fdnycolumbia.com](mailto:buddy@fdnycolumbia.com)

❖ Columbia Association Hotline: (516) 303-4209

### 2010 Columbia Association Borough Meetings

Brooklyn  
Oct 13, 2009 & Feb 12, 2010  
VFW Post, 2414 Geritsen Ave.

Queens  
Nov 10, 2009 & March 9, 2010  
VFW Post 19-12 149th St  
(between 19th & 20th Ave)  
Whitestone NY 11357  
(718) 746-0540

Staten Island  
April 13, 2010 & Nov 11, 2010  
Hillside Swim Club  
151 Signs Rd.

Bronx  
Sept 8, 2009 & Jan 12, 2010  
Guiding Star Council Hall  
3243 Ampere Ave.

Long Island  
May 11, 2010  
American Legion  
250 Franklin Ave  
Malverne LI

2010 Christmas Party  
Dec 15, 2010

All Borough Meetings Are Held on the SECOND TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH. There are no meetings in July & August. Meetings Begin at 8:00 p.m. Food & Refreshments are always served.

