



# LA SOTTO VOCE

The Official Newsletter of the *Columbia Association*

Fire Department, City of New York

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# COLUMBUS DAY PARADE 2010



The weather was just beautiful, as this year's Columbus Day Parade began with a pre-parade breakfast at Annie Moore's Restaurant on 43rd Street. The Fire Department membership was led by our President Keith Tanico, Commissioner Cassano, along with the Chief of Department Edward Kilduff and Chief of EMS John Peruggia, 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. We held an after-parade party that was packed; next year we will find a larger hall. 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, is my country and Italia is my heritage!!!

It was a beautiful day for all. Mark your calendar for next year October 10th, 2011.



Visit 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)





# Another Smokin' Success

On October 22nd 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. A delicious dinner was served this year. Special thanks to Mauricio for providing us with our raffle prizes. The Columbia Association President Keith Tanico was presented the key to Club Macanudo for his outstanding fund raising for the children of the FDNY. Once again, thank you to all who were in attendance and look for this great event again possibly in the Spring.



The Annual Scholarship Golf Outing at Hudson Valley Resort and Spa was a great success. Joe Smithwick arranged a great trip past September. The rain stopped by but did not affect our scores. We had a great dinner and wonderful prizes during our annual Monday night football party. Hope to see everyone there next year.



# A Letter From the President

These tough economic times have presented new challenges for many of us. We've seen increases in our day to day living expenses and costs of home ownership and our paycheck dollars have been eaten up by ever-increasing interest rates for loans, credit cards and mortgages. Stories of financial hardship are commonplace, even for those of us fortunate enough to have job security. In an ongoing effort to provide benefits that are timely to the needs of our members and their families, we have identified a company that offers resolution paths for those of us struggling with our mortgage payments and credit card debts.

EZ Debt Resolution is currently working with our fellow Columbians in the NYPD and has demonstrated the integrity and ability to make mortgages affordable and reduce credit card debt burdens. We are pleased that we can offer these benefits to our members and their families. Please check your house bulletin boards for more information or, in the meantime, if you or a family member need immediate assistance, you may contact EZDR directly at 732-659-3097 (a dedicated phone line for the FDNY Columbia Association) and visit their website on the link provided below. [www.ezdebtresolution.com](http://www.ezdebtresolution.com)

Faithfully yours,  
 Keith Tanico  
 President, Columbia Association, FDNY

## 2011 Annual Scholarship Lottery

\$10,000  
 1<sup>st</sup> PRIZE

ONLY 200  
 TICKETS

It is that time again. Our lottery tickets will be mailed out on December 15, 2010. If you are interested in a specific number, please call Sal Mirra at (516) 322-7588. We will only sell 200 tickets. We print 2000 tickets numbered 001-2000. The first 200 sold will be accepted. So hurry. Don't miss out.

First prize  
 \$10,000  
 2nd prize  
 \$2,000  
 &  
 3rd prize  
 \$1,000

## Reflections of Italy

Highlights...Rome, Colosseum, Assisi, Perugia, Siena, Florence, Chianti Winery, Venice, Murano Island, Lugano, Switzerland, Como

**\$2,899 Double Occupancy (per person)**  
**\$3,399 Single, \$2,869 Triple**  
**November 2<sup>nd</sup> -11<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

*Includes:* Hotel transfers, round trip airfare from JFK International Airport

*Not Included in Price:* Cancellation waiver and insurance of \$200 per person, air taxes and fees/surcharges of \$150 (subject to increase until paid in full)



### Your Itinerary at a Glance

Day 1	Overnight flight
Day 2, 3	Hotel Diana Roma, Rome or Mediterraneo Hotel, Rome
Day 4	Sangallo Palace Hotel, Perugia
Day 5, 6	Star Hotel Michaelangelo, Florence or Mediterraneo Grand Hotel, Florence
Day 7, 8	Hotel Ai Mori D Oriente, Venice or Hotel Papadopoli, Venice
Day 9	Crowne Plaza Malpensa, Malpensa

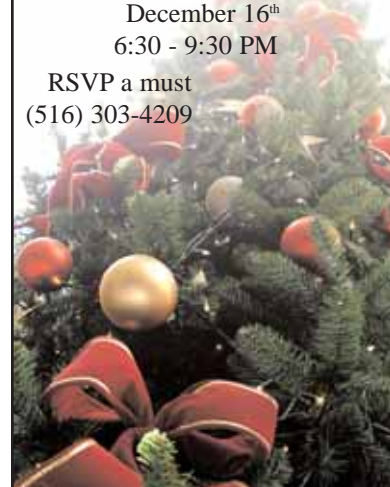
For more info contact Joe Smithwick, NYC Fire Dept. Columbia Association, (516) 662-3699.

## Christmas Party

At DaNico Ristorante  
 164 Mulberry Street, Little Italy

December 16<sup>th</sup>  
 6:30 - 9:30 PM

RSVP a must  
 (516) 303-4209





# CREDIT CARD or MORTGAGE PROBLEMS?

Have your minimum monthly credit card or mortgage payments become unmanageable? A source of anxiety & uncertainty in your ability to plan your family's future?

You are not alone. These tough economic times have presented new challenges for many of us. We've seen increases in our day to day living expenses and costs of home ownership and our paycheck dollars have been eaten up by ever-increasing interest rates for loans, credit cards and mortgages. Stories of financial hardship are commonplace, even for those of us fortunate enough to have job security.

We are EZ Debt Resolution and we are dedicated to providing debt solutions to members of NYC uniformed services (and their families). We offer solid advice and provide attorney-based services to resolve you're:

• **CREDIT CARDS** • **PERSONAL LOANS** • **BUSINESS LOANS** • **MEDICAL BILLS**

For homeowners struggling with their mortgage payments, our services include:

• **MORTGAGE MODIFICATIONS** • **SHORT SALE NEGOTIATIONS** • **REVERSE MORTGAGES**

Quite simply, our mission is to give you the information, guidance and resources needed for you to make educated and economical decisions in the management and resolution of your outstanding debts.

Our advice is **FREE** and the relief is real.  
Give us a call for a no-cost, no obligation consultation.  
All consultations are strictly **CONFIDENTIAL**.

If you or a family member have issues with your credit card or mortgage payments, give us a call.  
FDNY members please call 732-659-3097.

## Columbia Association 2011 Scholarship Competition

### **CANDIDATES FOR COLLEGE AWARDS** (12th Grade Students)

Submit applications, along with a copy of the candidate's SAT scores, before April 1, 2011. These tests must have been taken in the candidates' junior or senior year of high school between September 2009 and March 2011. This must be the candidates' graduating year.

### **CANDIDATES FOR HIGH SCHOOL** (8th Grade Students)

Submit applications before March 1, 2011. The STS closed high school placement test will be given March 6, 2011 at Randal's Island, Building 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 with 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 at [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.

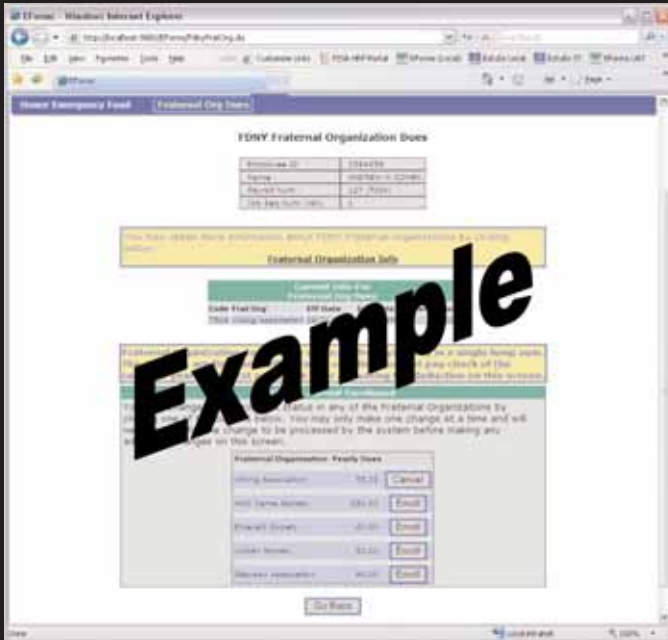


# Columbia Association Is **GOING GREEN!**

ACTIVE MEMBERS CAN NOW PAY YOUR DUES WITH DIRECT DEPOSIT

Sign in on Employee Self Service (ESS). Follow to Fraternal Organization Dues and click on Columbia Association Enroll and your dues will automatically be sent to us. For our retired members we are still working on the program.

Once you sign up you will never have worry about your dues. Each year, your dues will be automatically deducted from the first check of the New Year.



We are also working on e-mailing the newspaper directly to your address. We will also be able to keep you up to date with all of our meetings, trips and gatherings with a blast e-mail. We will be able to keep everyone up to date without killing trees! Please stay tuned for more information.

## Going on Vacation? Look for Group Rates!

The Columbia Association and Collette Tours offer just what you're looking for.

Go to [www.collettevacations.com/fdny](http://www.collettevacations.com/fdny) and on the top of this web page is the Columbia Association Promotional Code. This code allows you to travel anytime and anywhere with Collette Tours and receive our discounted rates.

We hope you will travel on our trips, but if you can't, this is the next best thing!

For more information, call 1-800-852-5655 and mention promo code: W000-AW3-972

## CONGRATULATIONS

To **IGGY & LISA VENEZIA**  
on the birth of their new born son Christian

To **PHIL & MARIA LAROCCO**  
and **SAL & LAUREN MIRRA**  
on their wedding

To **TED FORLENZA**  
on his promotion to Captain FDNY





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The Official Newsletter of the *Columbia Association*

Fire Department, City of New York  
14 Ivanhoe Drive  
Merrick, NY 11566

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U.S. POSTAGE  
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BETHPAGE, NY

## 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  
14 Ivanhoe Dr  
Merrick, NY 11566**

SAMPLE

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 Keith Tanico	Division 13	917 337-7413
1st Vice President	Craig Silvano	Ladder 127	516 286-1796
2nd Vice President	Joseph Smithwick	Engine 303	516 662-3699
3rd Vice President	John Signorile	Ret-L126	516 782-5343
Treasurer	Teddy Forlenza	Division 1	718 213-7499
Financial Secretary	Stephen Forlenza	Division 8	347 266-8781
Recording Secretary	Sal Belmonte	Division 11	516 233-8142
Sergeant-At-Arms	Steve Lubrino	Ladder 162	631 300-5772
Manhattan Trustee	Joseph Triolo	Ladder 6	718 751-6731
Queens Trustee	Sal Mirra	Ladder 138	516 322-7588
Staten Island Trustee	Ignazio Venezia	Engine 282	917 682-7991
Brooklyn Trustee	Phil LaRocco	Ladder 148	347 884-1169
Bronx Trustee	Joseph DePaola	Ladder 27	845 558-4410
EMS Trustee	Grace Cacciola	Division 5	516 852-3318
Legal Advisor	Stuart Salles, Esq.		
Spiritual Advisor	Msgr. Marc Filacchione	Archdiocese of NY	

### Committee Chairs:

Trips	Keith Tanico/Joe Smithwick
Membership	Joseph Smithwick
Dues	Steve Forlenza
Lottery	Sal Mirra
Parade	Joe Triolo
Good & Welfare	John Signorile
Scholarship/Dinner Dance	Craig Silvano
Hershey Park Trip	Sal Belmonte
Dinner Journal	Grace Cacciola
Editor	Craig Silvano

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

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

❖ Columbia Association Hotline: (516) 303-4209

## 2011 Columbia Association Borough Meetings

Brooklyn  
Jan 11, 2011 & June 14, 2011  
VFW Post, 2414 Geritsen Ave.

Queens  
Feb 8, 2011 & Sep 13, 2011  
VFW Post 19-12 149th St  
(between 19th & 20th Ave)  
Whitestone NY 11357  
(718) 746-0540

Staten Island  
Mar 8, 2011 & Oct 11, 2011  
Hillside Swim Club  
151 Signs Rd.

Bronx  
Apr 12, 2011 & Nov 8, 2011  
Guiding Star Council Hall  
3243 Ampere Ave.

Long Island  
May 10, 2011  
American Legion  
250 Franklin Ave  
Malverne LI

2011 Christmas Party  
To Be Announced

