



# LA SOTTO VOCE

The Official Newsletter of the *Columbia Association*

Fire Department, City of New York

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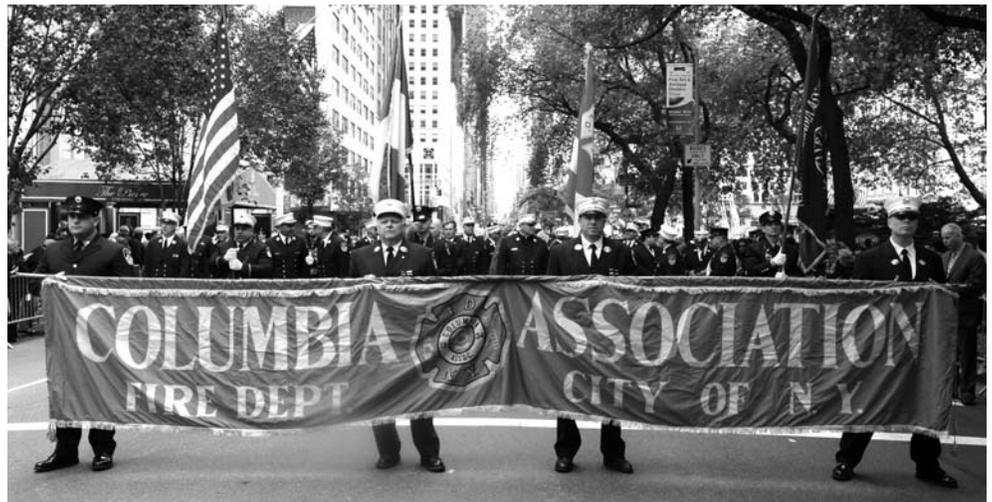
## 2012 COLUMBUS DAY PARADE

This year's Columbus Day Parade turned 5th Avenue into a true celebration of Italian-American heritage. Beginning with a wonderful pre-parade breakfast, members and their families gathered for a day filled with food, drinks, and fun as we marched up New York City's 5th Avenue as a visible show of the FDNY's presence and pride.

The Fire Department membership was led by our president, Keith Tanico, Commissioner Cassano, and Columbia Association Parade Chairman, Phil LaRocco, along with other officers, members, and friends of the Association, including the Fire Riders. We were joined also by a contingent from the International Columbia Association.

The excitement and celebration continued in full force at the after-party at a popular NYC bar and lounge, where food and drinks were enjoyed. Toasts, cheers, and lots of laughs were shared and a great time was had by all who attended.

Bigger and better with every passing year, many who joined us for the first time this year have already marked their calendars for the next one. We invite you to join us for this memorable day next October 2012 for what promises to be a fun-filled and exciting day that is not to be missed.



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)





**Our hearts and prayers go out to the families who were impacted by Hurricane Sandy and the Nor'easter that devastated our lives.**

*Please check the following websites for assistance and volunteer to help. This is the best way to get up-to-date information.*

**Uniform Fire Officers Association**    [www.ufoa.org](http://www.ufoa.org)

**Uniformed Firefighters of Greater New York**    [www.ufanyc.org](http://www.ufanyc.org)

**EMS Local 2507**    [www.local2507.com](http://www.local2507.com)

**EMS Officers**    [www.uemso.com](http://www.uemso.com)

**Columbia Association**    [www.FDNYCOLUMBIA.COM](http://www.FDNYCOLUMBIA.COM)





## *Cigar Night November 2012*

We held our Annual Cigar Night at Club Macanudo, which is becoming a regular fall classic in itself. We regret having to reschedule the event, but we felt it was the correct thing to do after Hurricane Sandy.

Over 90 members and friends joined us for some fine cigars, good food, and plenty of cocktails. Once again our gracious host, Mauricio Cordoba, went above and beyond his call of duty, donating many wonderful gifts for us to raffle off. Also, I would also like to thank Victoria McKee from General Cigar and our good friend Al (Butch) Guzzi from the Long Branch F.D. for supporting our event. I would also like to thank the members of the board who helped out all night long.

Well, if you missed this one, we will be having more of these events in the future, so please keep your eyes open and come join us for a great night out in the city. Hopefully Vetro will be repaired from Hurricane Sandy and we can continue our tradition of a Cigar Night there in the spring.

# Christmas Party

at  
**DA NICO RISTORANTE**  
*164 Mulberry Street, Little Italy*

**December 4th**  
**6:30 - 9:30 PM**

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




## 2013 Annual Scholarship Lottery

**\$10,000 1st PRIZE**  
**ONLY 200 TICKETS Sold**

It is that time again. Our lottery tickets will be mailed out on December 15, 2011. 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.

<b>1<sup>ST</sup> PRIZE</b>	<b>2<sup>ND</sup> PRIZE</b>	<b>3<sup>RD</sup> PRIZE</b>
<b>\$10,000</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>



# Columbia Association 2013 Scholarship Competition

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

Submit applications, along with a copy of the candidate's SAT scores, before April 1, 2013. These tests must have been taken in the candidates' junior or senior year of high school between September 2011 and March 2013. This must be the candidates' graduating year.

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

Submit applications before March 1, 2013. The STS closed high school placement test will be given March 10, 2012 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. Grandchildren are NOT eligible.

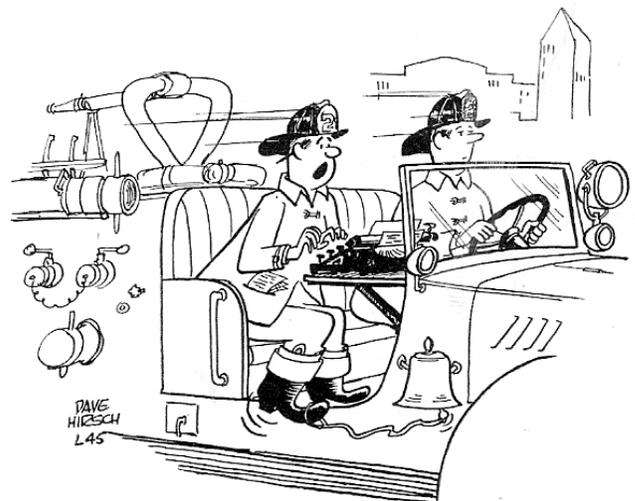
## APPLICATIONS

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.

## PLEASE BE ADVISED:

The Columbia Association 2013 membership dues have been raised to \$25.

Our dues have not been raised since 1991. The board continues to eliminate costs and works very hard providing amazing trips, parties, and events for fundraising. The more participation by our membership will assist us in our goals so we can continue to hit our budget marks. Thank you for your support.



"If I didn't use every minute, I'd never catch up on these reports."

**This photo was published in WNYF July 1957.  
Seems like nothing has changed!**



*In the leisurely early days of the Department, the Trial Commissioner rendered their decisions in flowerily language...but never omitted the ominous phase...*

## THE PAY FORFEITED WILL BE DEDUCTED ON THE NEXT PAY-ROLL

When the New York's professional fire department was organized in 1865, its members were recruited from the volunteer department. The inter-company rivalries, roughness and free and easy spirit that charities the department lingers on. It was felt that the professional firefighters should be better organized, trained and disciplined for their job. With these objectives in view, General Alexander Shaler, a militaristic Civil War veteran, was chosen as fire commissioner. A system of preferment of charges against delinquent members was adopted and the results of trial were transmitted to the force with instructive and pertinent comments.

Reading today the results of disciplinary trials as published in the General Order of 1873, one senses the leisurely tempo of the era. There are long, flowerily commentaries on the weakness of the accused and on justice meted out of them. These comments, as we read them 150 years later, seem abounding with humor. If our forerunners - unfortunately enough to have been brought up on charges - discerned any humor in the results of the trials, it must have seemed to them a scornful humor, The members of today's modern Department may, however, find it difficult, as we did, to repress a chuckle when reading excerpts such as the following:

In the case of M.... of Engine ....., the accused left company quarters with a few friends, and claims to have spent 3 hours with them in conversation, This must have been a very friendly chat, but one not calculated to be very conducive to good health. Had the "conversationalist" kept up their intercourse three hours longer, there is no telling what the Medical Officer might have been called upon to determine whether one of the party was "Talked to Death" or departed life from too much exposure to the cold, which

must have pervaded the atmosphere about that time. The pay forfeited will be deducted on the next pay-roll.

In the case of fireman M... of Engine co... and fireman F... of Hock & Ladder..., the accused indulged in a boxing-match, which grew out of some cause unknown to the committee. The neighborly regard for each other as manifested in the line of promotion, but convinced the Committee that the talents thus displayed were not requisite for a good and efficient Department. Their dismissal will date from the 20th instant, and their pay cease on that day.

In the case of Fireman G.... of Hook & Ladder .... The accused absented himself from his company, for the purpose of partaking of an oyster stew. The Commissioners trust that the small penalty (ones day's pay) here imposed will be the means of appeasing the appetite of the accused, and teach him to have more regard for the rules of the Department while he remains in its service. . The pay forfeited will be deducted on the next pay-roll.

In the case of Fireman M..... of Engine .... The accused met a friend on the street who induced him to enter a saloon and take a cigar, and while there his friend, who was under the influence of liquor, got into an altercation, which involved the accused. There being no evidence that the accused had been drinking, and only remand with his friend to protect him, somewhat mitigates the guilt of the accused, and prevents his dismissal from the department. Members of the Department should be very careful about being found in the company of intoxicated persons. . The pay forfeited will be deducted on the next pay-roll.

In the case of fireman I.....of Engine ....., the accused after retiring from the last watch went to bed and slept through an alarm for fire. He testified as having heard the bell, but mistaking it for 12 o'clock went to sleep, and failed to answer the alarm. There appearing to be no willful neglect of duty, he escapes without any penalty, but is cautioned not to be caught napping again, for fear it might prove a costly slumber.

Such was the administration of discipline in our Department back in the "Good Old Days" Whatever witty and pertinent comments the trial commissioners passed on the delinquencies of the firemen, it appears that rarely did the delinquents escape the ominous sentence "*The pay forfeited will be deducted on the next pay-roll.*"

## T-SHIRTS and SWEATSHIRTS

*Now Available*

at monthly membership  
meetings or by contacting  
**JOE DEPAOLA, L-27 at 845.558.4410**  
or email [live4tonight@optonline.net](mailto:live4tonight@optonline.net)





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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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## 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	Keith Tanico	Division 13	917 337-7413
1st Vice President	Craig Silvino	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	Stephen Forlenza	Division 8	347 266-8781
Financial Secretary	Nick DePierro	Ladder 24	917 648-9305
Recording Secretary	Sal Belmonte	Ladder 102	516 233-8142
Sergeant-At-Arms	Enrico Boletti	Squad 1	917 207-4773
Manhattan Trustee	James Pisano	Squad 1	917 751-8335
Queens Trustee	Sal Mirra	Ladder 138	516 322-7588
Staten Island Trustee	Vito Verde	Engine 153	646 529-6346
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	Phil LaRocco
Good & Welfare	John Signorile
Scholarship/Dinner Dance	Craig Silvino
Hershey Park Trip	Sal Belmonte
Dinner Journal	Grace Cacciola
Editor	Craig Silvino

❖ 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

## 2013 Columbia Association Borough Meetings

Brooklyn  
March 12 & October 8  
VFW Post, 2414 Geritsen Ave.

Queens  
April 9 & November 12  
VFW Post 19-12 149th St.  
(between 19th & 20th Ave.)  
Whitestone NY 11357  
(718) 746-0540

Staten Island  
January 8 & June 11  
Hillside Swim Club  
151 Signs Rd.

Bronx  
February 12 & September 10  
Maestro's Caterers  
1703 Bronxdale Ave.

Long Island  
May 14  
American Legion  
250 Franklin Ave.  
Malverne, LI

2013 Christmas Party  
To Be Announced

