



2006
OUR 51st YEAR

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COLUMBIAN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

First Judicial Department

An Association Of Attorneys Of Italian American Descent

8 East 69th Street, New York, NY 10021 • Tel: (212) -486-0011 • Fax: (718) 921-3292 • www.columbianlawyers.com

★ MONTHLY MEETING ★

MAY 3RD MEETING

COLUMBUS HOUSE – 8 East 69th Street
Wine Bar 6:00 PM, Dinner & Lecture 7:00 PM
COOPS and CONDOS – A PRACTICE GUIDE

Speaker: Jeffrey M. Schwartz (See Page 2)

Attendees receive 2 CLE Credits - **RSVP 212-502-0114**

Members/Friends*: Dinner & Credits: \$75.00;

Dinner Only: \$60.00; Credits Only: \$25.00;

Non-Members: Dinner & Credits: \$100.00;

Dinner Only: \$65.00; Credits Only: \$35.00.

Please, Turn Off All Cell Phones & Beepers During the Program.

* If your dues are not current, you will be charged the

Non-Member rate for attendance at the CLE Dinner Programs.

★ **Don't Miss This Outstanding CLE Program!** ★

★ HONORING MICHAEL L. PESCE ★ OUR 2006 RAPALLO AWARD RECIPIENT

Saturday April 8th was a momentous occasion for the Columbian Lawyers Association. We were privileged to honor a long standing and dedicated Member, the Hon. Michael L. Pesce. It is notable that the turnout may have broken last year's record, with more than 700 people present for the luncheon ceremony. Justice Pesce delivered an emotional address, expressing his gratitude for the many opportunities he has received as an American. Born in Italy, Judge Pesce reminisced, discussing his emigration to America at age 12, his years of study, hard work and dedication to the betterment of his family and community. These things, along with his desire to lead a life of contribution to society are the qualities that made him the individual he is today and such a deserving Rapallo Recipient. We are proud to list him among our most honored Members and hope that he will join us at our many meetings and events in the years to come and continue to serve as a role model to our Student Members and young Lawyers.

★ ★ THANKS TO HON. JUDITH S. KAYE ★ ★

The Honorable Judith S. Kaye, Chief Judge of the New York State Court of Appeals graciously presented this year's Rapallo Award to her friend the Hon. Michael L. Pesce. Judge Kaye, in presenting the Award, gave a memorable speech, wonderfully expressing her knowledge of the life and career of the Award's namesake Charles A. Rapallo. Judge Kaye related much of her experience with Judge Pesce, her fondness for him and her appreciation of his talents, abilities and his boundless energy and dedication to his work, the Court System and Justice. Thank you, Judge Kaye, for making this occasion even more wonderful!

★ ★ MONTHLY MEETINGS, CLE & SPECIAL PROGRAMS ★ ★

JUNE 21st – 4th ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AUCTION & FUNDRAISER SEPTEMBER 13th – JUDGES NIGHT

The Columbian Lawyers Association has been certified by the New York State Continuing Legal Education Board as an accredited Provider of Continuing Legal Education in the State of New York, for the period April 9, 2004 through April 8, 2007. Any participant in a CLE Program sponsored by the Columbian Lawyers Association, First Judicial Department, who has an authentic financial hardship may request, in writing, accompanied by proper documentation and a sworn statement under oath, a Hardship Tuition Reduction of 20%. All CLE Programs are nontransitional unless otherwise indicated.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The Forty-First Annual Rapallo Award Luncheon was a tremendous success! Seven hundred guests were in attendance to pay tribute to the accomplishments of Justice Michael L. Pesce. A full dais of Judges and Dignitaries were lead by Chief Justice Judith S. Kaye in honoring the Presiding Justice of the 2nd & 11th Judicial Departments. Judge Pesce's nostalgic and heartfelt speech which referenced his journey from Mola di Bari, Italy to a New York State Supreme Court Judge was the highlight of the afternoon. The overwhelming show of support for our recipient and our Association is a tribute to the longstanding tradition of our annual Rapallo Luncheon. On behalf of everyone in attendance on April 8th, I would like to thank Irma Clemente, Joseph Albanese, Paul D'Emilia, Charles DiLorenzo, Vincent Cuttita and Cirino Bruno for all of their efforts in making this year's Rapallo Luncheon one of the most successful in our history.

Arthur L. Aidala, President (212) 486-0011

NEWS AND NOTES:

★ THANK YOU DON RUSSO, DR. MAHALICK and DR. ROBBINS...

On February 1st we were treated to an outstanding presentation covering a spectrum of injuries, their analysis, and related legal issues. First, Dr. Steven Robbins offered a comprehensive visual presentation covering a variety of orthopedic injuries, discussed their identification, the nature and differences between them and provided us with a great deal of insight into the use of such material. Dr. Robbins' discussion was spirited, comprehensive and packed with useful information. Dr. David Mahalick has presented to us before, and this time he went even further, to provide us with a thorough understanding of traumatic brain injury, its identification and relationship to other injuries in the context of a case. Don Russo tied it all together, masterfully explaining the use of the information provided by both doctors in the context of strategy as well as direct and cross examination. Those of us who attended this program were really fortunate, and we extend our thanks to Don Russo, Esq., Dr. David Mahalick and Dr. Steven Robbins for an inspirational lecture and evening.

★ WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

BOB SILVERSON – a former Bronx County Civil Court Judge, Robert Silverson is a founding partner of Silverson, Pareres and Lombardi. Their primary practice area is medical malpractice defense. You'll recognize that name as the home of our corresponding Secretary Vickie (Victoria A.) Lombardi. They're located at 300 East 42nd Street, New York, NY 10017. (212) 557-1818.

MICHAEL N. MERCANTI – a founding partner of Lucas & Mercanti, located at 475 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016. (212) 661-8000. Their focus is intellectual property law, and Mike's had some good suggestions for future Columbian Lawyers Events. For example, he's proposed a Members and Friends Golf Outing for next spring or early summer. Anyone interested should give Mike a call, their encouragement and support. Maybe we'll all meet on the links next year!

★ COOPS and CONDOS – A PRACTICE GUIDE

MAY 3rd, 2006 – DON'T MISS IT: Our Speaker **Jeffrey M. Schwartz**, a graduate of the State University of New York at Binghamton and cum laude from Tulane Law School, is a partner at Wolf Haldenstein Adler Freeman and Herz LLP. Mr. Schwartz has extensive experience in transactional real estate work. His real estate practice includes the leasing, financing, acquisition and sale of commercial property, as well as the operation, conversion and sale of residential properties. He is also counsel to a significant number of cooperative and condominium buildings throughout the metropolitan area. Mr. Schwartz has chaired the New York County Lawyer's Association's symposiums on Commercial Leasing as well as the Purchase and Sale of Real Estate in New York. He is a member of the New York State Bar Association's Committee on Cooperatives and Condominiums and was recently appointed to the New York City Bar Association's Committee on Cooperatives and Condominiums.



Chief Judge Judith S. Kaye, Honoree Justice Michael L. Pesce and President Arthur L. Aidala



Pres. Arthur L. Aidala and Court of Appeals Judge Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick



Pres. Arthur L. Aidala and Nassau County Executive Tom Suozzi



Former Court of Appeals Judge and former Rapallo recipient Joseph Bellacosa and Pres. Arthur L. Aidala



Pres. Arthur L. Aidala, Judge Michael L. Pesce and Judge Philip Minardo



Pres. Arthur L. Aidala, Founding Father of the Columbian Lawyers Association Philip A. Greco and Hon. Michael I. Pesce



Commissioner Joseph Bruno, Hon. Michael L. Pesce and Pres. Arthur L. Aidala



Administrative Judge Neil Jon Firetog, Judge Pesce and Pres. Arthur L. Aidala



Karen Verdi and Vanessa Pesce



Chief Judge Judith S. Kaye introducing Judge Michael L. Pesce

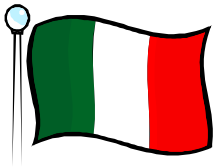


Judge Patricia M. DiMango, Pres. Arthur L. Aidala, Judge Michael L. Pesce and Judge Michael Carriero

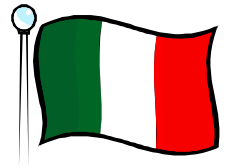


Baritone Douglas Jabara, General Manager of the Metropolitan Opera House Joseph Volpe and Hon. Michael L. Pesce





*The Columbian Lawyers Association
4th Annual Scholarship Fundraiser*



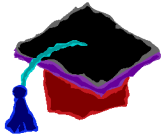
*Please join us on Wednesday, June 21, 2006,
For an evening including dinner, music,*

a wine or olive oil tasting,



silent auctions, & much

more in support of our Scholarship Fund.



*The Columbian Lawyers Association Scholarship
Fund is deeply in need of support in order to
provide more significant funding to law students
greatly in need of assistance due to the burden of the
ever increasing costs of tuition and law school expenses.*

The Scholarship Fundraiser shall take place at:

The Columbus Citizens Foundation

8 East 69th Street

6pm-9pm

\$85 per person

Please bring a guest, friend or colleague!



*Please RSVP to Tracy Pulito at (914) 640-8118 or
tracy.pulito@starwoodhotels.com*