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COLUMBIAN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

First Judicial Department

An Association Of Attorneys Of Italian American Descent

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ETHICS UPDATE 2010



THE NEW RULES OF CONDUCT

Presented by Sarah Jo Hamilton, Esq., Scalise & Hamilton, LLP.

Special Guest Speaker:

Hon. Angela Mazzarelli, Appellate Division, First Department

Wednesday, February 3, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

The Columbus Club – 8 East 69th Street, NY, NY

Attendees receive 2 CLE Credits in Ethics (transitional)

RSVP (212) 661-1661, ext. 106

Members/Friends*: Dinner & Credits: \$100.00

Dinner Only: \$100.00

Non-Members: Dinner & Credits: \$150.00

Dinner Only: \$125.00; Credits Only: \$50.00

* 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!** ★

RSVP IS REQUIRED FOR THIS EXCEPTIONAL PROGRAM

Effective April 2009, each branch of the Appellate Division adopted the American Bar Association's Model Rules of Professional Conduct, introducing a variety of significant changes to the ethics rules under which attorneys have been practicing for years. Please join us for this essential CLE program, to be presented by Sarah Jo Hamilton of Scalise & Hamilton, LLP, with the Honorable Angela Mazzarelli providing a view from the Bench. The program will provide an overview of the rules which have been totally changed, as well as those rules which have been modified.

Ms. Hamilton is one of the foremost experts in New York State on professional responsibility in general, and the new ethics rules in particular. She spent much of her career working for the First Department's Departmental Disciplinary Committee, where she handled numerous significant cases involving lawyer misconduct. She now practices out of the Scarsdale office of Scalise & Hamilton, LLP, defending and advising attorneys throughout New York City and New York State. Further, she and her partner, Debra Scalise, serve on several advisory committees, and regularly lecture to bar associations and law schools on ethics issues. Needless to say, we are delighted that she would honor our organization with her expertise!

We are also honored to have past Rapallo Recipient and First Department Justice Angela Mazzarelli provide us with a view of the new Ethics Rules from the Bench.

SAVE THE DATES

★ ★ ★ MONTHLY MEETINGS, CLE & SPECIAL EVENTS ★ ★ ★

March 3, 2010 – Joint First Department-Westchester Columbians' CLE Dinner– topic to be announced. To be held at the famous Frankie & Johnny's Pine Restaurant, 1913 Bronxdale Avenue, Bronx, NY 10462. For info about this great restaurant, go to www.fjpine.com.

April 24, 2010 – THE 45th ANNUAL RAPALLO AWARD LUNCHEON: This year's Rapallo will once again be held in the Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf Astoria Hotel from 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM. We are pleased to announce that this year's recipient is the Honorable Philip Minardo, the first Administrative Judge for the newly formed 13th judicial district, covering Richmond County.

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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 (recertification application pending). 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 Message

It is with a sense of great pride and privilege that I begin my term as President of this Association, as we enter our 55th year. Throughout my many years as a Columbian Lawyer, I have gratefully watched our past Presidents, Board Members, and Officers work tirelessly to create a bar association that celebrates our accomplishments in the legal profession and protects against anti-Italian stereotyping, while also offering a warm environment in which to network with fellow Italian American attorneys and friends. From our convivial CLE dinners at the Columbus Club, to Judge's Night, to the revered Rapallo Award Luncheon, to our Scholarship Program, we have established a tradition of excellence. My hope is to continue in that great tradition, while adapting and responding to the present day needs of both new and experienced Italian American attorneys. To this end, I will be relying on you – our members and friends – to become more involved in this Association, and to communicate how the Association might better serve your needs.

Of course, I have some ideas, which I will discuss here, and for which I seek your assistance and feedback. First and foremost, we must support each other in all of our endeavors. As a bar association, we must use our network to promote our qualified members – whether they seek judicial or political office, or employment. To that end, I welcome attorneys who are seeking employees to post their openings in this newsletter, and to make use of our e-mail list to reach out. Further, I urge each of you to submit your area(s) of specialty to me for inclusion on our web site, so that when a fellow attorney seeks to make a referral, he or she can find an attorney who practices in the sought for practice area. Further, when we learn that a qualified attorney of Italian American origin is seeking judicial office, we must use our network to promote that person's efforts. Additionally, when one of our friends or members achieves a notable success in his or her area of practice, we must recognize that – both at our meetings, and here in this newsletter. Thus, I welcome each of you to submit information of this nature to either me, or to Matthew Grieco (mvgrico@cs.com), our Newsletter Committee Chair.

For our Association to continue to accomplish all that it does, and for it to be more responsive to its members, we need members to become more active on our many committees. We presently have openings for both Chairs and Committee Members for the following Committees: Good & Welfare, Legislation, Constitution and By-Laws, Financial Affairs, Public Relations/Liaison, and Cultural Committee. Additionally, we are seeking Committee Members for the following Committees: Anti-Discrimination, Pro Bono, CLE, Newsletter, and Membership/Young Lawyer's Committee. If you have any interest in becoming involved in Committee work, or have any questions, please contact me.

I would also like to announce that the Association presently has one Officer and one Director position open. The term of the Director position ends on December 31, 2010. Directors are expected to attend all of our general membership meetings, which are always held on the first Wednesday of the month, and all of our Board meetings, which are held on the third Wednesday of the month. Additionally, Directors are expected to either purchase or fill a table at the Rapallo Award Luncheon, and to support our other events.

The open Officer position is that of Corresponding Secretary. This position entails maintaining and updating a data base of our membership and sending out all required notices to the membership via e-mail and in conjunction with our printer.

If any member is interested in either of these positions, or would like further information, please contact me directly at 212-661-1661.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those friends and members who attended our Christmas Party and Installation Dinner, which was held at the New York Athletic Club on December 14, 2009. As the photographs which follow attest, it was a great event, accented by great food, lots of dancing, and an all around good time. Similarly, I would like to thank the Honorable Lee Holtzman, Bronx County Surrogate, for braving the cold weather to present a successful CLE program to our equally brave membership, at our December meeting.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph R. DeMatteo  
President

## UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST

The following are some events happening in and around the New York City area either presently or in the near future, which may be of special interest to Italian Americans. You are each encouraged to submit information about such events for inclusion in future newsletters.

1. Leonardo DaVinci's Workshop – Discovery –Times Square Exhibition: Through March 14, 2010. Times SquareExhibition, 226 W. 44th Street (7-8th Avenues) (866-9-SXNYC) ([www.discoverytsx.com](http://www.discoverytsx.com))

Explore Leonardo da Vinci's 500 year old inventions from his actual notebooks as they are brought to life in this world-premiere exhibit. Discover how his visions for an airplane, automobile and bridge would have worked – long before they became the modern world's reality. Plus, uncover the translations and hidden meanings behind the mastermind's paintings, sketches and notebooks through innovative digital technology.

2. The Life and Legacy of Lieutenant Petrosino – New York City Police Museum: Through March 31, 2010. 100 Old Slip, NY, NY (212) 480-3100.

Visit the Police Museum's newest installation celebrating one of the most famous officers in the history of the NYPD. Lieutenant Petrosino arrived in New York as a young boy in 1872 and grew to become a pioneer in the fight against organized crime until his murder in 1909 in Sicily. He remains the only New York City Police Officer to be killed in the line of duty while overseas. The original photographs, documents and artifacts within this collection, loaned by Lieutenant Petrosino's family, have waited 100 years to make their first-ever public debut.

3. Luca Maroni's Annual Senseofwine Event: February 4, 2010, Cipriani 42, 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM. Sponsored by Alta Cucina Society. Cost: \$35.00

Italian wine expert Luca Maroni, in conjunction with Alta Cucina, will present the third annual Senseofwine event, showcasing more than 100 wines from over 40 Italian producers. More information can be obtained at [www.altacucinasociety.com](http://www.altacucinasociety.com).

## CULTURAL CORNER, by *Matthew Grieco*

Although it is the shortest month, February boasts the birth of many notable Italians, among whom are:

Composer Giacomo (also Gioachino or Gioacchino) Rossini (1792-1868), who wrote 39 operas (all composed before he turned 37), including *The Barber of Seville* (written in only 12 days, and, incredibly, a flop when it premiered) and *William Tell* (don't forget the Lone Ranger Theme), as well numerous other works.

Soprano Renata Tebaldi (1922-2004), whom Arturo Toscanini described as possessing "the voice of an angel." She overcame childhood polio and became one of the Metropolitan Opera's most beloved performers, enjoying an open rivalry with Maria Callas.

Enrico Caruso (1873-1921), probably the most famous tenor of all time. Incidentally, it was in February 1916 that he first recorded "O Sole Mio" on a Victor Talking Machine.

Physicist Alessandro Volta (1745-1827), who invented the voltaic pile, the first electric battery, and discovered methane gas.

Anatomist Giovanni Morgagni (1682-1771), whose systematic observation, description, and correlation of symptoms, risk factors, organ damage, and diseases, earned him the title, Father of Modern Pathology. His clinical principles and practices remain in force today.

Automobile manufacturer Enzo Ferrari (1898-1988). After his discharge from the army at the end of World War I, Fiat rejected his employment application.

Pope Paul III (1468-1549), born Alessandro Farnese, who convoked the Council of Trent, which settled important issues of Catholic doctrine, including the sacraments.

Fashion designer Franco Moschino (1950-1994), whose playful designs continue to delight.

And, of course, February 14 (269 or 270 AD) marks the martyrdom of St. Valentine. Pope Gelasius I declared the date a celebration in 496 AD, to commemorate the Roman priest who married many Christian couples during a time of persecution.

## CONFEDERATION NEWS

The Confederation of Columbian Lawyers is pleased to announce the unveiling of its new web site, which can be viewed at [www.columbianlawyers.org](http://www.columbianlawyers.org).

# 2009 CHRISTMAS PARTY AND INSTALLATION DINNER PHOTOS



*Board Member Donna Marinacci and Newly installed President Joseph DeMatteo*



*Outgoing President Lorraine Corsa and Rapallo Recipient and Past President Hon. Joseph Giamboi*



*2nd VP Sigismondo Renda, Past Presidents Cirino Bruno, Lorraine Corsa & Lou Aidala, Salvatore Borgia, and Past President Ron Zezima.*



*Lorraine Corsa, Hon. Joseph Giamboi, and Board Member Thomas Laquercia*



*Board Members Matthew Grieco, Thomas Laquercia, and Second V.P. Sigismondo Renda*



*Albert DeMatteo, Joseph DeMatteo, Parliamentarian Joseph Longo & Eleanor Longo*

# DECEMBER CLE PHOTOS



*Financial Secretary Marianne Bertuna, President Joseph DeMatteo, Treasurer Maria Guccione*



*President Joseph DeMatteo, Hon. Lee Holtzman, Surrogate, Bronx County, Hon. Paul Victor and Hon. Joseph Giamboi*