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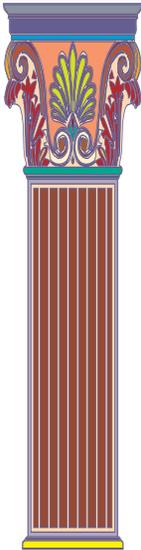
COLUMBIAN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

First Judicial Department

An Association Of Attorneys Of Italian American Descent

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★ **MAY 5 CLE MEETING REMINDER** ★



CLE: “Legal Ethics and Elder Lawyering: Avoiding the Pitfalls of Problem Probates and Prosecutions”.

Presented by ADA Joel Seidemann, Professor Thane Rosenbaum, Probate Expert Alex Forger, and Legal Commentator and Writer Tom Baer.

Wednesday, May 5, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

The Columbus Citizens Foundation – 8 East 69th Street, NY, NY

Attendees receive 2 CLE Credits (one in Ethics) RSVP (212) 661-1661, ext. 106 or to josephdematteo@hotmail.com.

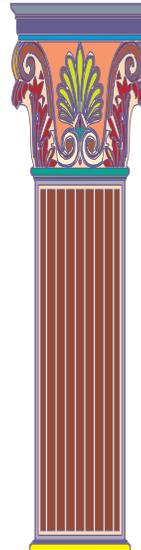
Members/Friends*: Dinner & Credits: \$100.00

Non-Members: \$150.00

* 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 Cutting Edge CLE Program!** ★

***PLEASE RSVP ***



Our May CLE program brings together a panel of experts in a variety of fields that rarely intersect. However, as this panel will demonstrate, when legal ethics, probate practice and criminal law all end up in the same courtroom, the variety and complexity of the legal issues that arise is spellbinding. Please join us for what we expect to be a spirited presentation that will offer invaluable practice pointers to everyone.

About our panel:

ADA Joel Seidemann: Joel has been a trial attorney with the Manhattan District Attorney’s Office for the past 25 years. He has tried some of that offices most important and challenging cases, including the so called “Astor Trial”, in which Anthony Marshall and probate attorney Francis Morrissey, were convicted of looting the estate of the late Brooke Astor. Joel is also the author of two books, titled, In the Interest of Justice, Great Opening and Closing Arguments of the Past 100 Years, and Guilty by Reason of Stupidity.

Professor Thane Rosenbaum: Professor Rosenbaum teaches Legal Ethics and other courses at the Fordham University School of Law, where he is the John Whelan Distinguished Lecturer in Law and Director of the Forum on Law, Culture and Society. He has published a number of law related books and novels, including, “The Myth of Moral Justice: Why Our Legal System Fails to Do What’s Right”, and “Law Lit: From Atticus Finch to the Practice”.

Alexander D. Forger, Esq.: Before retiring from the practice of law in 2008, Mr. Forger was an associate and then a partner at Milbank, Tweed, Hadley and McCoy for over 50 years. He is a renowned expert in the area of trusts and estates, and was called as an expert by the prosecution during the Astor trial. Among his many notable appointments, were temporary administrator of the Estate of Doris Duke and Co-Executor of the Estate of Jacqueline K. Onassis.

Tom Baer, Esq.: After working as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Southern District of New York, Mr. Baer founded Baer & McGoldrick, which eventually became Schulte Roth & Zabel. He is a frequent legal and political commentator. He is also an owner of Steinhardt Baer Pictures Company, which has produced many notable television and motion picture productions.

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.

SAVE THE DATE: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2, 2010

WHY?: COLUMBIAN LAWYERS' FIRST DEPARTMENT
ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND RAISER

WHERE?: COLUMBUS CITIZENS FOUNDATION,
8 EAST 69TH STREET,
NEW YORK, NY, NY

TIME: 6:00PM - 9:00 PM

PRICE: \$95.00 (open bar, hor d'oeuvres, buffet, entertainment, etc)

President's Message

To the many members and friends who attended this year's Rapallo Award Luncheon, you already know that it was an extraordinary event. With nearly 600 guests in attendance, we celebrated the accomplishments of Italian-Americans in the legal profession by honoring Justice Philip G. Minardo, who could not have been a more deserving or more appreciative recipient. During the award presentation speech delivered by Justice William Mastro, Appellate Division, Second Department, he read a congratulatory letter from Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman that demonstrates the high regard in which both Justice Minardo and the Rapallo Award are held in the New York legal community. The following excerpts are telling:

The Columbian Lawyers Association could not have selected a more deserving recipient for this prestigious award. The list of past recipients reads like a who's who of public life in this State and Country. Phil, you embody so many of the great qualities that characterized Charles Rapallo, one of the original members of the New York Court of Appeals - strong leadership, bright intellect, hard work, dedication to law, and a true love of your Staten Island community and Italian-American Heritage.

* * * *

Phil, you are admired by all for all your legal acumen, sound judgement and strong courtroom skills. You are fair and respectful to everyone who appears in your courtroom. Your integrity is unwavering and your common sense and humanity are clear to all. The persona of Phil Minardo is well known to all your friends and colleagues - warm, generous, plain-spoken, and inspiring nothing but respect, loyalty and love from the people who work with you.

The outstanding success of this year's Rapallo was made possible by the tireless efforts of the Rapallo Committee, which was Chaired by Tom Laquercia and Co-Chaired by Stephen Savva and Vincent Cuttita. I extend to them, and to each member of the Committee, my heartfelt thanks on behalf of our entire Association. I also wish to thank retired Justice John Milano for his rousing rendition of the Patriotic Medley, and for tenor John Tiranno for gracing us with the Italian National Anthem and Mattinata.

On June 2, 2010, we will gather together again for our annual Scholarship Fundraiser, an event which, like the Rapallo Luncheon, perpetuates our successes and prominence in the legal community. By helping the next generation of Italian-Americans pay the mounting cost of law school, we re-pay the debt that we owe to our own parents and grandparents for the sacrifices they made to ensure that we got a decent education. I therefore encourage each of you to join us for what will be a fun filled event.

Lastly, I look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming May 5th CLE, for which we have already received a great response.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph R. DeMatteo
President

Upcoming Cultural Events:

Concert, the Umbria Jazz Festival

Enrico Rava Quintet

Birdland

315 West 44th Street between 8th and 9th Avenues

May 5th-8th

www.birdlandjazz.com

Film *Pranzo di Ferragosto (Mid-August Lunch)*

Delightful subtitled film set in Rome,

Gianni finds a unique solution to his financial difficulties.

Now playing at several theatres.

Film *Vincere*

Politico-Drama about a secret marriage and child of Mussolini

Now playing at several theatres.

Italian Expo 2010

Food, entertainment, Italian cars, and lectures.

Italian Club of Westchester Community College

75 Grasslands Road, Valhalla, NY

Student Center Building

May 2nd, 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM

www.wccitalianclub.com

Free admission, but accepting donations for Gilda's Club Cancer Association and

Abruzzi Earthquake Relief Fund

Exhibition of abstract art by Carla Accardi

Haunch of Venison Gallery

1230 Avenue of the Americas

May 10th-June 26th

www.haunchofvenison.com

Cultural Corner

By Matthew Grieco

Mother's Day is May 9th (a Sunday), and a good opportunity for us to review some notable women from Italian history.

A favorite throughout the ages is undoubtedly the gifted Caterina de' Medici (1519-1589), whose beauty was matched only by her intellectual prowess. She amassed one of the most admired libraries in Europe, was a patroness of the arts, an accomplished equestrian, and a skilled huntress. She left her native Florence to marry the future King of France, Henry II. Initially greeted with skepticism by both her husband (whom she quickly outshone) and the populace, she won over all, with her talents, patience, tact, fortitude, and dedication to the welfare of her adoptive land. She bore 10 children, and raised several others, including the future Queen of Scotland, Mary Stuart. Following the death of her husband, Caterina ruled as Regent, schooling her children in the arts of leadership and diplomacy. She also introduced the French to the fork, and taught them how to cook without smothering the food with heavy sauces.

During her life, Lucrezia Borgia (1480-1519) endured with stoic dignity vicious slanders, occasioned not by any misdeeds on her part, but merely due to guilt by association with a scheming and vicious father, brothers,

and husband (whom she was forced to marry). She died days after giving birth to her eighth child (who also died). Unfortunately, the false accusations of poisoning, incest, greed, and other nefarious conduct survived her death, and even appear in a Donizetti opera titled after her. Scholarship has revealed that she was, in fact, a gentle, pious woman, who founded hospitals and convents.

Dr. Maria Montessori (1870-1952) taught the world that learning should be fun and made possible today's educational toys. She also stressed hygiene, stimulation of all the senses, and respect for individuality.

On the topic of education, the Venetian Elena Cornaro Piscopia (1646-1684) was the first woman to obtain a Ph.D. – in 1678 from the University of Padua. A statue in that university honors her today, as does a stained glass window in the Vassar College Thompson Memorial Library.

Pro Bono/Free Cle Opportunity

Representing Homeowners at Mandatory Settlement Conferences

The Staten Island Women's Bar Association, in conjunction with the New York State Bar Association, is hosting a free CLE program for attorneys interested in representing home owners Pro Bono at mandatory settlement conferences, which have become an integral component to the foreclosure process for sub-prime loans.

Date: May 10, 2010

Time: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Location: Da Noi Restaurant, 138 Fingerboard Road, Staten Island, NY 10305

Trainer/Moderator: Margaret Becker, Esq., Staten Island Legal Services

Questions: Contact Michelle Peterson, Empire Justice Center,
mpeterson@empirejustice.org or, 585-295-5729.

Further information about the NYS Subprime Foreclosure Services program, can be found at www.nysdhcr.gov.

It would be appreciated if anyone who attends this CLE or participates in the program, notify me at josephdematteo@hotmail.com.

2010 RAPALLO AWARD LUNCHEON



Rapallo Chairman Tom Laqueria, Co-Chair Stephen Savva, Rapallo Recipient Judge Philip G. Minardo, President Joseph R. DeMatteo, Honorable William Mastro, Rapallo Co-Chair Vincent Cuttita