



2011  
OUR 56th YEAR

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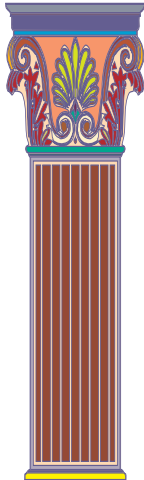
**First Judicial Department**

*An Association Of Attorneys Of Italian American Descent*

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**MAY 4th CLE MEETING**



**"IF MY COUSIN VINNY COULD DO IT, SO CAN YOU":**

**HOT TOPICS IN CRIMINAL LAW**

**Presented by Judge Patricia M. DiMango**

**Wednesday, May 4, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.**

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

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

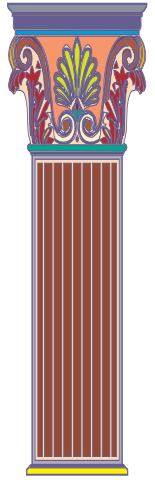
**Members/Friends\*: Dinner & Credits: \$100.00**

**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\***



Please join us for what promises to be an intriguing criminal law presentation by the ever popular Judge Patricia M. DiMango. Over the past several years, Judge DiMango has presided over some of the most highly publicized criminal trials in Kings County, where she has gained a well deserved reputation for being one of the brightest, fairest and most plain spoken jurists on the criminal bench.



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.



**46th ANNUAL RAPALLO AWARD LUNCHEON**

Please join us in the Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf Astoria on Saturday, April 30th, 2011, for the 46th Annual Rapallo Award Luncheon, where we will honor Justice A. Gail Prudenti, Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division, Second Department. We are pleased to announce that the award will be presented by the Honorable Jonathan Lippman, Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals.

If you haven't already purchased your tickets, please do so immediately using the enclosed registration form.

## President's Message

While there has been scant evidence lately that “Spring is in the Air”, we all know that it will soon come into full bloom as the date for this year’s Rapallo Award Luncheon fast approaches. Typically, our signature event is characterized by the brightest stars of the New York legal community shining within the Waldorf, as the sun shines brightly outside. This year will be no different, as literally hundreds of Columbian Lawyers, Judges and our friends will gather to honor one of the best and brightest Italian-American jurists gracing the New York Court system - Judge A. Gail Prudenti. Whether through her expert administration of the busiest judicial department in the state, or through here insightful and often compassionate decisions, Judge Prudenti serves as a proud reminder that we, and generations to come, can continue to excel and serve in our most noble profession.

Buona Pasqua a tutti!!

Sincerely yours,

*Joseph R. DeMatteo*

President

## **UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST:**

Catholic Lawyer's Guild: Annual Award Dinner

May 19, 2011: Cocktails at 6:00 PM, Dinner at 7:00 PM, \$100.00 per ticket

Contact President Sara J. Gozo at [KingsCountyCLG@yahoo.com](mailto:KingsCountyCLG@yahoo.com) for registration form and more information.

Exhibit: "Pompeii: Life and Death in the Shadow of Vesuvius"

Artifacts and body casts capturing the last moments of the City's life

Discovery Times Square

226 West 44th Street between 7th and 8th Avenues

Now through September 5th

[www.discoverytsx.com](http://www.discoverytsx.com) 866-987-9692

Hands On Cooking Class: "Abruzzo"

Alta Cucina, Epicurean Society

22 East 38th Street between Madison and Park

April 27th, 6:30-10:00 PM

[www.altacucinastore.com](http://www.altacucinastore.com) 646-415-9031

Theater: "Lombardi"

Play based on the life of beloved football coach Vince Lombardi

Circle in the Square; 50th Street at Broadway

[www.LombardiBroadway.com](http://www.LombardiBroadway.com) 212-239-6200

## **Cultural Corner By Matthew Grieco**

On March 17th, Italy celebrated its 150th anniversary of unification. Actually, the story is not so simple. The Kingdom of Italy was proclaimed in 1861, but the reunification, or Risorgimento, was not yet complete.

To understand the story, we must begin at the beginning, or at least a beginning. Although the Roman Empire "fell" in 476 AD, the eastern half of the empire, later known as Byzantium, continued. Under the Emperor Justinian, the Byzantines briefly reconquered Italy from the occupying Ostrogoths and Vandals. However, in 568 AD, the Lombards invaded, and the peninsula remained divided for the next 1300 years. At times the various city-states, principalities, duchies, republics, bishoprics, and dictatorships were too numerous to count.

By 1859, however, there were six large states, plus an area under the direct occupation of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. The Kingdom of Sardinia, also known as Piedmont (the capital was located at Turin), became the nucleus around which the new nation was to be formed. Ruled by the Savoyard dynasty, one of the oldest in Europe, Piedmont-Sardinia had steadily grown in size and prestige over the centuries, mainly through astute diplomacy, including propitious royal marriages. The process of reunification would take greater diplomatic skill yet, since most of the “great powers” were unreceptive to another competitor entering the international stage, and even less enamored with the idea of nationalism, which could threaten the integrity of their multiethnic empires and even the legitimacy of their thrones, which rested upon a divine right of rulership rather than popular acclaim. Piedmont-Sardinia’s Prime Minister, Camillo di Cavour, was up to the task, aided by the polemical writings of political theorist Giuseppe Mazzini.

With the assistance of French forces, Piedmont-Sardinia fought two large engagements with the Austrians, the Battles of Magenta and Solferino, the latter of which was so bloody that it inspired the creation of the International Red Cross. The Austrians withdrew from the region of Lombardy (remember those Lombards?), and concluded a peace. The price for French aid was the cession of Nice and part of the ancestral Savoy homeland.

Popular uprisings in the Grand Duchy of Tuscany and the Duchies of Parma and Modena, all Austrian satellite states, drove out their foreign rulers and voted for union with Piedmont-Sardinia. At that point, the European powers were content to see the reunification halted. However, their intentions were foiled by the lightening campaign of Giuseppe Garibaldi, who landed in Sicily with his “Thousand,” or the “Red Shirts,” and soon took the entire Kingdom of Naples, also known as the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies, which had been ruled by a branch of the Bourbon family. Garibaldi from the south, and Piedmontese King Victor Emanuel II from the north, overran most of the Papal States, lying across the center of the peninsula. However, foreign pressure prevented the entrance into Rome itself until 1870, when the world’s attention was focused on the Franco-Prussian War. Turin served as the first Italian capital, until 1865, when it was transferred to Florence. In 1871, the government finally relocated to Rome; relations with the Vatican would remain strained until an accord of 1929.

The Austrians were not driven out of the Veneto region until 1866, when Italy participated in the Austro-Prussian War. Still, the nation was not yet whole. The Trentino (at the Alps) and Trieste and its surrounding area on the Adriatic, were held by Austria until the 1919 peace treaties following World War I.

Incidentally, while Italy was fighting its wars of reunification in the 1860s, the United States was struggling for reunification in the Civil War. And the last States, Alaska and Hawaii, were not admitted to the union until 1959