



OFFICERS

Andrew J. Maggio
President
Sigismondo Renda
First Vice President
Steven Savva
Second Vice President
Maria A. Guccione
Treasurer
Victoria Lombardi
Executive Secretary
Clara Flebus
Corresponding Secretary
Christopher A. Quaranta
Recording Secretary
Marianne E. Bertuna
Financial Secretary
Joseph Longo
Parliamentarian

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cirino M. Bruno - Chairman
Gerry Bilotto - 2012
Paolo Strino 2012
John DeChiaro - 2014
Matthew Grieco - 2014
Hon. John M. Perone - 2014
Hon. Nicholas Iacovetta - 2013
Thomas Laquercia - 2013 +
Antoinette Gallo, 2013
Leonard D'Angelica, 2015

PAST PRESIDENTS

Thomas Cartelli*
Sylvester Cosentino*
Ferdinand J. Mondello*
Michael W. LaPenna*
Salvatore A. Locurto*
Nicholas P. Iannuzzi*
Edward Papantonio*
Joseph Contiguglia*
Alexander A. Delle Cese*
Philip A. Greco
Charles J. Garbarini*
Joseph F. Fichera*
Dominic J. Masucci*
Alexander A. Miuccio
Hon. Joseph N. Giamboi
Francis X. Galdi
Peter A. Canevari*
S.I. Berardino
Vincent R. Rippa
Alfred F. Sica
Paul A. Liggio
Frank P. Mangiardi
Edward T. Di Tomasso
Louis R. Aidala+
Joseph B. Corpina
S. Paul Squitieri
Joseph P. Albanese*
Vincent J. Cuttita
Rose A. Caputo
F.V. Mina
James Robert Fauci*
Albert W. Petraglia
William Apuzzo
Charles Di Lorenzo
Thomas Bellone
Ronald V. Zezima
Nanette Taccetta
Louis L. Benza +
Dawn M. Florio
Cirino M. Bruno +
Hon. Anthony J. Fiorella, Jr.
Richard M. Biaggi
Arthur L. Aidala
Lorraine Corsa
Joseph DeMatteo
+ Life Member
*Deceased

COLUMBIAN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

First Judicial Department

An Association Of Attorneys Of Italian American Descent

8 East 69th Street, New York, NY 10021 • Tel: (914) 835-3404 • www.columbianlawyers.com

★ JUNE 6 GENERAL MEETING ★

“ENVIRONMENTAL LAW FOR THE NEW YORK
REAL ESTATE AND GENERAL BUSINESS PRACTITIONER
WITH A ZONE GREEN UPDATE”

Presented by: JAMES J. PERICONI ESQ.

Attendees receive 2 CLE Credits.

RSVP to President Andrew Maggio

914-835-3404 or to Andrew@MaggioLaw.com.

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

Non-Members: \$150.00

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

RSVP REQUIRED

On a cultural note, our guest speaker in June, James Periconi, is also a collector of rare Italian books and literature. Mr. Periconi's collection of 150 books will be on display at the Grolier Club, 47 E. 60th Street from September 20 – November 3. Mr. Periconi has offered a private tour just for the CLA First Department. If you are interested, please contact me (Andrew@MaggioLaw.com). The following is a description of the exhibit and venue in Mr. Periconi's own words:

My focus in collecting and exhibiting is on the fact of so much book publishing that went on, most of it unknown even to those who know something about Italian-American history. We all knew there were lots of Italian-language newspapers and magazines, but the scope of book-publishing activities is less well known, but pretty impressive, too. Italians created their own literary and political culture here, in books, in the language they knew best, in addition to the better known musical, artistic and culinary cultures for which Italians here are justly famous. This literary and political culture pretty much died during World War II because of Italy's declaration of war on the U.S., as well as the dying out of the first generations of immigrants who still spoke, wrote and read in Italian. It's an interesting and unknown story of American history that ought to be better known, too.

The Grolier Club is a great venue for the show. It is the premier book-collecting club in the U.S., with thousands of important and rare volumes on bibliography, collecting, rare book selling, and the book arts in general. The Grolier Club is publishing a book that goes with the exhibition (a book I'm writing), a book that will be a permanent record for the field of Italian American studies.

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

Dear Members & Friends:

Our Rapallo Award Luncheon was held on April 28th in the Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf – Astoria. The event was a huge success with over 500 guests and judges in attendance. We thank Marianne Bertuna and Steve Savva for working so hard to make this event a reality.

There are several updates to events previously reported in this newsletter:

First, our Scholarship Fund Raising event, which typically occurs in June, will occur in September of this year and will be combined with Judges' Night.

Second, our trip to Italy has been modified to an Abruzzo based excursion – Discover the Hidden Treasures of Abruzzo. The dates of the trip are October 14 to October 21, 2012. We will explore vineyards, olive groves and oil producers, archeological sites and exchanges with universities and law schools in Teramo and Pescara. We will be staying at a hotel and spa called Agriverde (www.agriverde.it) located two hours from Rome.

On another cultural note, I would like to share the story of the M.C. 72, a seaplane built by Macchi Aeronautica for the Schneider Trophy Air Races, which started in Europe in 1911. The original series of air races ran until 1931 where Italy was the second most winning national participant behind England and ahead of the United States and France.

The M.C. 72 was the fastest piston-powered seaplane ever built – a 1931 World Record that still stands today! A top speed of 440 mph is comparable to the speed of a modern day jet. The M.C. 72 was described as “decades ahead of its time”, “a marvel of engineering” and “the Empire State Building of aircraft”.

For five years, the M.C. 72 seaplane held the speed record for *all aircraft*. Italy's three best test pilots were selected to fly the M.C. 72. Pilot and Warrant Officer Francesco Agello, who made the World Record speed run, courageously climbed into the M.C. 72 after the blistering speed and the tremendous power generated by the 24 cylinder, 2,850 hp engine of this aircraft caused two crashes - killing the number one and number two pilots.

This Italian innovation and accomplishment inspired the world to create a new breed of aerodynamic and high performance fighter aircraft – namely, the British Spitfire and American P-51 Mustang.

A single M.C. 72, the aircraft that took the World Record, survives. It is on display at the Italian Air Force Museum, near Rome. Perhaps a worthy detour while we are in Abruzzo. Pictures of the aircraft and Pilot Agello follow.

Lastly, our June General Meeting is our last meeting before our summer break. I wish everyone a great summer, and we will see you in September for Judges' Night and our Scholarship Fund Raiser.

“Veni, Vidi, Vici”

Very truly yours,

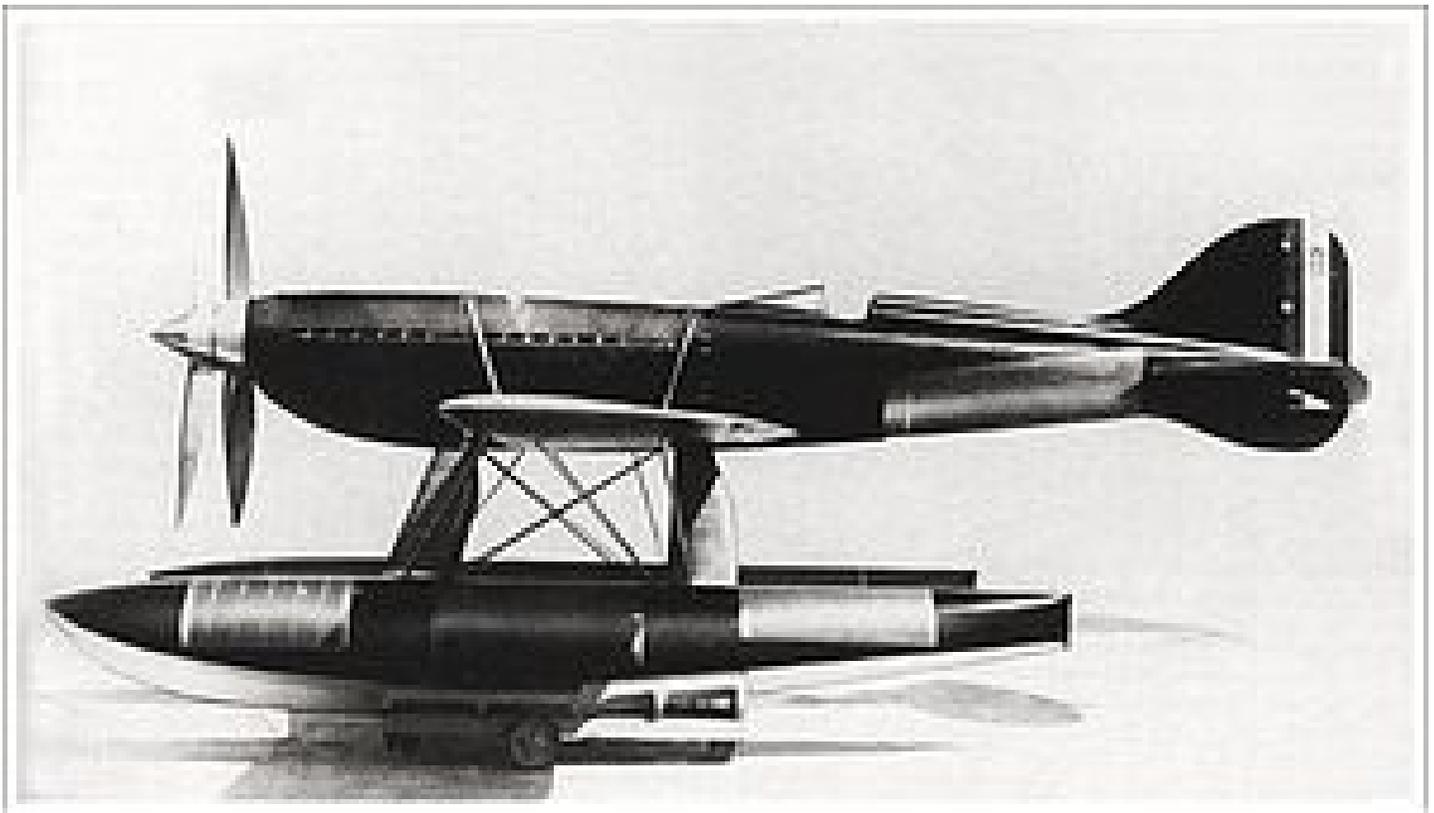
Andrew J. Maggio Esq.



M.C. 72



Pilot, Warrant Officer,
World Speed Record Holder
Francesco Agello



M.C. 72

Note: Two counter-rotating propellers, floats & fuselage covered with radiators & oil coolers, open cockpit.

Cultural Corner

By Matthew V. Grieco

Every schoolchild learns that one of the great achievements of ancient Rome was her well-developed body of laws, functioning legal system – and basilicas, in which law was practiced. It would be a fair comment to say that Cicero (109-43 B.C.) is the most famous lawyer in history. At the direction of the Emperor Justinian (reigned 527-565 A.D.) , legal scholars produced the Corpus Juris Civilis, a work composed of three parts: (1) the Codex, a collection of decrees; (2) the Digest (also known as the Pandects), a collection of juristic decisions and other authoritative writings; and (3) the Institutes, a textbook for students. In only a few years, Justinian’s commission read thousands of texts, that had been issued over the course of centuries, and selected, edited, and arranged the laws into a compilation that eliminated inconsistencies and reflected the best and most modern rules. That masterpiece formed the basis of the Codes in effect today throughout most of Europe and a great part of the rest of the world; many of our own legal precepts are directly traceable to the Corpus Juris Civilis.

Less well known than the Ancient Romans’ legal accomplishments are a number of quite remarkable law innovations that later occurred throughout the Italian peninsula (before the country of Italy came into existence).

Although several ancient civilizations (including Rome) promulgated laws relating to the sea, the first maritime code was enacted in 1000 A.D. by Amalfi, one of the great maritime-trading republics, that competed with Venice, Genoa, and Pisa from 839-1131, until absorbed by neighboring Naples. Today, Amalfi is a sought after resort destination. Incidentally, in 1302 an Amalfitan invented the mariner’s or dry compass, a freely pivoting needle enclosed within a glass covered case, far more accurate and useful than the previous compasses that consisted of pointers floating in a bowl of water; that compass would later help Columbus reach the New World. In the year 1200, Pisa instituted the first Admiralty courts.

The first known patent (the word derives from the Latin “*literae patentes*” or open letters, i.e. to be read by all) was granted by Florence in 1421 to Filippo Brunelleschi for a barge with hoisting gear to transport marble and other goods along the tricky Arno River. The text of the patent recited that the three-year exclusive rights granted for the design would reward not only the inventor, but also the country, and all people; any infringing barges would be burned. Shortly thereafter, in 1474, Venice enacted the first patent statutes, which also set up a system for registering and enforcing patents.

Continuing in the forefront of intellectual property, Venice enacted the first laws on copyright in 1545; for the first time, the author’s right of ownership and control was recognized.