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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: (914) 835-3404 • www.columbianlawyers.com



GENERAL MEETING



OCTOBER 3, 2012

*“Italian Culture
&
Traditions
from
the Heart of Italy”*

(Non CLE Lecture)

Guest Speaker: Dr. Sabbia Auriti

**COLUMBUS CITIZENS FOUNDATION
8 East 69th St., New York, NY**

Cocktails, Dinner & Lecture: \$100.00

Cocktails 7 pm & Dinner 8 pm

RSVP REQUIRED

Andrew@MaggioLaw.com

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.

ELECTION NOTICE

Any member in good standing may run for seat as a Director or an Officer.

If you are interested, you are required to submit a petition signed by 5 members in good standing to the Executive Secretary not later than 10 days following the October General meeting. (Const. Art VII (A)).

The October General Meeting is currently scheduled for Wednesday, October 3, 2012, at the Columbus Citizens Foundation.

The Board has made the following recommendations:

President: Andrew Maggio

First VP: Maria Guccione

Second VP: Sigismondo Renda

Treasurer: Suzanne Adams

Parliamentarian: Christopher Quaranta

Executive Secretary: Victoria Lombardi

Financial Secretary: Marianne Bertuna

Recording Secretary: (open)

Corresponding Secretary: Clara Flebus

The above recommendations are not binding and all officers and directors with expiring terms must submit a petition as described above.

In addition, to the above referenced Officer positions, there are three (3) Director positions that expire this year.

President's Message

Dear Members & Friends:

It was a great pleasure to see all of you at Judges' Night in September. As usual, Judges' Night was a very festive event. Everyone was in good spirits as we had cocktails and delicious appetizers on the second floor of the Columbus Citizens Foundation and then moved to the impressive Oak Room and the stately DiFalco Room for dinner on the first floor. We had over 35 judges in attendance. Special thanks to the Judges' Night Chairman, Steve Savva, for organizing a very successful and enjoyable event.

Our next great event will be held on Wednesday, October 3, which is our monthly general meeting. On October 3, we will have Dr. Sabbia Auriti host an Italian cultural meeting. This meeting will include a video slide show of Italian landscapes and geography, a primer on the Italian language and pronunciation, and ample time for questions and answers.

Yet, another great event will occur on Monday, October 8, Columbus Day, when all Columbian Lawyers Associations from as far east as Suffolk County, as far west as Staten Island, and as far north as Orange County will come together and march in the Columbus Day Parade.

If you are interested in marching, please meet at the corner of Fifth Avenue and 44th Street, underneath the clock at 10:30 am.

Since we are on the topic of Italian explorers, I would like to share an inspiring description I once read of Amerigo Vespucci: "Italian explorer and navigator is whose honor America was named."

To recite a question once posed at one of our general meetings hosted by the late, great Judge Re, "why do the Brazilians speak Portuguese?" The logical answer offered by the audience was "because Brazil was a Portuguese colony".

"Not so fast," said Judge Re. "The Brazilians speak Portuguese because Amerigo Vespucci was flying the Portuguese flag when he sailed into the Rio Plata!"

Forza Azzurri!

Forza Italia!

Andrew J. Maggio Esq.

Cultural Corner

By **Matthew V. Grieco**

October is a proud month for the Columbian Lawyers – the Columbus Day celebrations. We commemorate the man who had the daring and vision to defy conventional thinking and believe that what others said was impossible (sailing west to go east) was possible. In the process, he came upon a new world, which opened up greater possibilities than he even dreamed of.

Columbus, then, sounds very much like our ancestors. They, too, had to break with traditional thinking in order to leave their homes. They risked everything to cross the Atlantic and start anew. They sought a land where they could find work, but probably few thought that their descendants would become lawyers and judges and thrive so well.

Italians have a long history of migration. As with so many matters, this traces back to the Romans and beyond. Indeed, in the Roman foundation mythology, Romulus and Remus were immigrants to Rome. The Romans spread throughout the Mediterranean and further. During the Middle Ages, the trading powers of Venice, Genoa, Pisa, and others established self-governing colonies in the Levant, Black Sea area, and parts of northern Europe.

The great age of Italian migration, however, spanned from 1861, when the various states of the Italian peninsula were gathered into one kingdom, to 1975, when more people immigrated to Italy than departed. During that period, more than 26 million Italians left their homeland; however, approximately half eventually returned.

Initially, most of the emigrants were from the northern Italian regions, and the majority went to other European countries, predominantly France, Switzerland, Germany, and the Austro-Hungarian Empire. By 1885, the patterns shifted; more came from the south, and the preferred destination was the Americas – of those, about half went to the United State and half to either Argentina or Brazil. Sizable numbers also settled in Canada and Australia.

Wherever they went, Italians became a critical component of society. They helped build their new countries – at first literally, with manual labor, and later through their contributions to the sciences, arts, and professions.

So, as we honor Columbus, we are really honoring our forebears.