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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



## CLE GENERAL MEETING



### CPLR UPDATE: 2013

Presented by:

Burton N. Lipshie Esq.

2 CLE Credits

FEBRUARY 6, 2013

COLUMBUS CITIZENS FOUNDATION

8 East 69th St., New York, NY

Cocktails, Dinner & CLE: \$100.00

Cocktails 6 pm & Dinner 7 pm

**\*RSVP REQUIRED\***

RSVP to President Andrew Maggio

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

Members/Friends: Dinner & Credits: \$100.00

Non-Members: \$150.00

★ \$35.00 will be added to the above prices if  
attendee does not RSVP ★

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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 non-transitional unless otherwise indicated.

## President's Message

Dear Members and Friends:

Happy New Year! We are off to a great start. Our January General Meeting was well-attended, and I have received several reports from members who greatly enjoyed the event.

We have been contacted by Matthew Guarnero from the Hofstra Columbian Law Student Association expressing great interest in joining us. We hope to meet and welcome a large contingent of future attorneys from Hofstra at one of our upcoming general meetings. Lee Wagner Esq. from Westchester had such a "great time" at our Christmas Party that he has become our first new member of 2013.

February's CLE General Meeting entitled "CPLR Update: 2013" starring Burton Lipshie of Stroock & Stroock & Lavan has created an impressive positive buzz. The 100 page handout is a "must have" and reason enough to attend this great event.

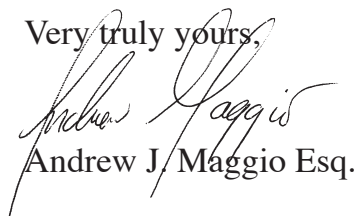
On a sad note, Judge Anthony J. Cutrona passed away on January 16, 2013. Judge Cutrona was a driving force in not only the Brooklyn Columbian Lawyers Association but in all affiliated Columbian Lawyers Associations in New York. Judge Cutrona was extremely well-liked and well-respected as a judge, as a Columbian Lawyer and as a friend. A special "In Memoriam" tab containing biographical information has been created on our website, [www.ColumbianLawyers.com](http://www.ColumbianLawyers.com), in honor of Judge Cutrona.

Finally, the new year is upon us so please remember to keep your Membership Dues current. These dues are critical to the production of our monthly general meeting, scholarship fund and newsletter.

We look forward to a productive and fun 2013. Thank you for your membership and support of the Columbian Lawyers - First Judicial Department. If you have any suggestions for our CLE programs or any other aspect of our association, please feel free to email me at [Andrew@MaggioLaw.com](mailto:Andrew@MaggioLaw.com).

Buon Anno Nuovo!

Very truly yours,



Andrew J. Maggio Esq.

## Cultural Corner

By Matthew V. Grieco

The dark days of winter have descended upon us. Perhaps this is an opportunity for us to consider a few aspects of Roman history that are often overlooked. Rome is generally presented in films, novels, and discussions as the undisputed world empire of the ancient world. But Rome started as a tiny city-state, and her rise was not inevitable. Rome was dealt many setbacks; on numerous occasions, the universal opinion was that she would not last. The manner in which the Romans faced adversity was the key to their greatness and their ultimate triumph.

The Romans simply refused to accept defeat. There were many wars, most notably that with Hannibal, in which the entire Roman army was wiped out. Any other society of the time would have immediately sued for peace. The Romans, instead, raised another army and sent it into the field. If that army was also annihilated, they would raise yet another army, and would continue to do so until victory was theirs. Wars could last thirty years, yet the Romans – the entire citizenry, not just the government – never despaired. In fact, the Romans celebrated their defeats more than their triumphs, and so they never forgot their sacrifices.

Grim in war, the Romans were magnanimous in victory. Defeated peoples were generally welcomed into the State on an equal basis; eventually, citizenship was extended to all inhabitants of the empire. Somewhat akin to our Federal-State system, localities were mostly free to govern themselves in matters that did not affect the central government. Religious freedom was the norm, although there were several short, and violent, periods of persecution. The roads and the seas were made safe for travel and trade. We have explored together in some of the past newsletters the great achievements of the Romans in law, building, and the arts. The benefits of being a part of Rome were evident to all. Indeed, the barbarians who repeatedly attacked, for the most part, wanted to gain entry, not destroy Rome.

One dark side of Rome should be mentioned. Like all ancient societies, the Romans had slavery. The best that can be said is that it was less insidious than the later American slavery, because it was not based on race (or ethnicity or religion), and because upward social mobility was possible. Manumission was common, and freed slaves and their descendants could, and often did, attain wealth and status.

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***2013 Dues payable at February General Meeting!  
Please bring a separate check or add \$150.00  
to the cost of general meeting admission.***

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**NEWS ABOUT OUR MEMBERS**

On January 18, 2013, Chief Administrative Judge (and Rapallo recipient) A. Gail Prudenti announced the appointment of five new administrative judges: Hon. Thomas A. Adams, father of Columbian Lawyers Treasurer, Suzanne Adams, as Administrative Judge for the Nassau County Courts; Hon. Douglas E. McKeon, a frequent CLE lecturer for the Columbian Lawyers, as Administrative Judge for Criminal Matters, Bronx County Supreme Court; Hon. Thomas E. Mercure, as Acting Administrative Judge for the Third Judicial District; Hon. Lawrence Knipel, as Administrative Judge for Civil Matters, Kings County Supreme Court; and Hon. Joseph A. Zayas, as Administrative Judge for Criminal Matters, Queens County Supreme Court.



**In Memoriam:  
Justice Anthony J. Cutrona**