

COLUMBUS LODGE #2143

COMMEMORATIVE SCHOLARSHIP JOURNAL

1964-2014



January 18, 2014

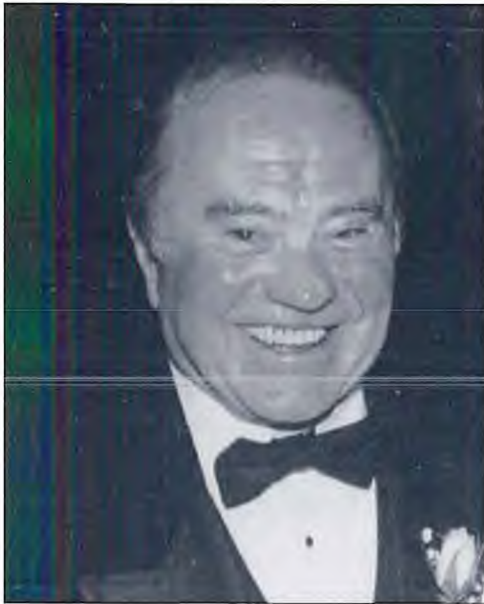
Honoring

*OSIA National IPP
Joseph DiTrapani*

*Columbus Lodge IPP
Keith Wilson*

and

The Presidents of Columbus Lodge #2143



In honor and loving memory of
GIOVANNI CAPOGNA

Husband, Father and Grandfather.

You will forever be in our hearts
and will continue to be our source
of strength and inspiration.

All our love forever.

Your loving family

Congratulations and Best Wishes to the Scholarship Journal Committee.

A Job Well Done. Continued Success.

Lest we forget, we must always remember

In our prayers the victims & heroes of 9-11-01

and support our troops wherever they may be.

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Anthony A. Capogna

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President's Message

Dear Brothers, Sisters, and Friends,

I would like to thank everyone who has participated in this very special 50th Anniversary of Columbus Lodge scholarship journal.

Our lodge's story is rich with tradition and innovation. We have led by example and have a history of blazing new trails. We enjoy each other's company when times are good and we persevere through storms by sticking together when times are difficult. It is my honor to be president during this historic moment in our lodge's history and it is a special honor for me to be one of only thirty-three men to have served as President (or Venerable) of the Columbus Lodge of Massapequa #2143 during its first fifty years.



Today we honor the Presidents of Columbus Lodge. As you look through the pages, please enjoy our 50 year journey down memory lane through pictures, stories, the history of our lodge, the history of the Ladies Auxiliary, and our special feature "The Presidents" located at the end of the journal.

We are also honoring the OSIA National Immediate Past President Joseph DiTrapani. My relationship with Joe dates back to 2001, when he became NYS President. Joe, as we know, would go on to serve four years as National President and is currently OSIA National Foundation President. It is my pleasure to honor this modest but legendary figure in OSIA history.

And we are honoring our Immediate Past President Keith Wilson for his time served as president and his ten years on the council of Columbus Lodge. Keith is currently a State Trustee and we are proud to recognize him on this special occasion.

This year also marks the forty-ninth year of our scholarship program. Over 530 students have benefited from this program. I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the many, many years of dedication that Pauline & Sonny Bove, Lee Barella, Pete Gisonda, Mike Iannone, Al Parise, and my Dad, Past President Ed Bochynski, have given to promote higher education for our children and grandchildren.

I am also grateful to the local merchants, friends, family, and lodge members who were gracious enough to place an ad in this milestone journal. Without their support, our Scholarship Program would not be a success. Finally, I would like to thank this year's Scholarship Journal Committee for soliciting the funds that make our scholarship program the premier program in the OSIA family.

Fraternally,

Edward P. Bochynski

President

Columbus Lodge #2143



STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
ALBANY 12224



ANDREW M. CUOMO
GOVERNOR

January 18, 2014

Dear Friends:

It is a pleasure to send greetings to everyone gathered for the 50th Anniversary Celebration of Columbus Lodge #2143 of the Order Sons of Italy in America.

The Empire State is fortunate to be home to organizations established by a thriving community of Italian-Americans united by an enduring ancestral association as well as service to society. As a proud Italian-American, I commend the OSIA Columbus Lodge #2143 and its members for their commitment to promoting the culture, traditions, language, and heritage of our ancestors, as well as your support for numerous humanitarian and charitable causes.

Tonight, you celebrate a half century of activity and accomplishment, and recognize distinguished individuals for their contributions to your Lodge throughout its history. I join in congratulating your entire membership for its leadership within the local Italian American community in Massapequa and neighboring areas, and its dedication to promoting the Italian culture and way of life. Your meaningful efforts continue to engender respect for our heritage and advance the OSIA's longstanding tradition of service.

Warmest regards and best wishes for an enjoyable celebration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew M. Cuomo".

ANDREW M. CUOMO

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Grand Lodge of New York
Order Sons of Italy in America

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Joseph F. Rondinelli
State President

January 18, 2014

Dear National Officers, State Officers, Brothers and Sisters, President Edward P. Bochynski, Officers and Members of the Columbus Lodge No. 2143, Guests one and all:

On behalf of the New York Grand Lodge, Order Sons of Italy in America, I would like to extend warm and fraternal greetings to all.

It is important we take the time to thank all the officers and members of the Columbus Lodge for their dedication to our beloved Order. Congratulations on celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the lodge. It certainly is quite a milestone and one to be extremely proud of. There are not too many lodges that can boast of existence for 50 years - but not simply "existence" - your lodge has been active and working diligently for a very long time! The Columbus Lodge has always been an integral part of our New York OSIA and we look forward to many more years of continued participation.

What an ideal choice it is to honor such proud Italian-American role models - National OSIA Immediate Past President Joseph DiTrapani, Immediate Past President Keith Wilson, and the Presidents of Columbus Lodge, as you celebrate this special event. These fine gentlemen are to be applauded for their outstanding commitment to the Order Sons of Italy in America. Each of them resonate the shining examples of tremendous spirit, active involvement and caring civic participation. They truly are most deserving of this tribute.

The Columbus Lodge derives its strength and character from its members who work together toward a common cause and are guided by the Order's motto "Liberty - Equality - Fraternity." This lodge is to be commended for supporting so many cultural, educational and charitable endeavors.

Continue your fine work and always boast of your membership in the Order Sons of Italy in America. It is up to all of us to keep our Order growing and to carry on as respected and accomplished Italian Americans. Let us continue to celebrate the successes of New York OSIA as well as commemorate the past, present and future of our beloved organization. Be proud of your heritage and thankful to OSIA for its efforts to preserve our rich culture for future generations.

Again, best wishes for a wonderful event and much continued success!

Fraternally,

Joseph F. Rondinelli

Joseph F. Rondinelli
State President
Grand Lodge of New York
Order Sons of Italy in America



Columbus Lodge #2143



About our honoree **JOSEPH DiTRAPANI**

Joseph DiTrapani has been active in the Order Sons of Italy in America (OSIA) for over 38 years. Founded in 1905, OSIA is the oldest and largest organization representing men and woman of Italian heritage in the United States. Joseph became OSIA's National President on August 14, 2009, during the 51st Biennial National Convention in La Jolla, California. On August 13, 2011 at the 52nd Biennial National Convention held in Orlando, Florida, Joseph DiTrapani was re-elected by acclamation to serve a second two-year term as National President.

Born in Brooklyn, he was one of four children in a family with roots in Sicily and Calabria. He received his Bachelor of Business Administration in 1972 from the prestigious College of Insurance and began his career at Washington National Life Insurance Company. A year later, he joined Dascit/White & Winston, New York State's largest life, health and pension brokerage agency. Joe was appointed to the position of Vice President in 1986 and, the following year, became an Executive Vice President.

Joseph and his partner purchased Dascit/White & Winston in December 1989, and Joseph served as its President and CEO until August 1997. During that year, he merged the Dascit/White & Winston Company with the BISYS Insurance Services and served as Senior Vice President of the Tri-State area. In September 2002, he became President of the newly reacquired Dascit/White & Winston and served as President until 2004. In 2006, Joe joined as Partner the insurance brokerage agency Professional Group Marketing, Inc., and serves as Senior Vice President of

Sales overseeing all operations of their Manhattan and Hawthorne location.

A member of the OSIA Per Sempre Lodge #2344 since 1976, Joe served various positions at the filial lodge level and was elected to Lodge President for five years. For the NYS Grand Lodge, he has served as Principal Trustee, Recording Secretary, Vice-President, and then rose to NYS President in 2001. Joseph led the NY Grand through the darkest days of 9/11, and the horrific times that followed with grace under pressure. He brought a new vision to OSIA with his ease in leadership and approachability.

Joe has been active nationally since 1985, when he was appointed to the position of National Overseer of the Garibaldi Meucci Museum. He also has served as National Delegate during the past thirteen national conventions. For the last twenty-one years he has been on various national committees and Chaired the National OSIA 49th Biennial Convention that was held in New York City in 2005. It was at this convention that Joe was elected to the position of National Fifth VP. Joe also has served as National First VP in the role of National Membership Chair. This committee worked to expand all levels of OSIA membership: filial, subordinate, and national at-large membership (ALM). He assisted the State Presidents wherever possible in order to attract membership growth while expanding the use of the Internet to solicit all members. Joe traveled the country opening new lodges in States with no grand lodge and stayed in constant contact with the National Office to help grow, promote, and build a strong membership base for OSIA.

As the National President of OSIA, Joe helped continue numerous positive programs generating interest and excitement among OSIA members, as well as needed funds for the Supreme Lodge. These programs, like the Italian Heritage DVD Series, the UNITOURS-OSIA Travel to Italy Tours, and the OSIA Licensing Program (specifically, the Leone D'Oro wines and other products) focus on the history, culture, and experience of Italian Americans in the U.S., as well as developments unique to OSIA. As President, Joe helped raise funds for a center for autistic children who were devastated by the April 2009 L'Aquila earthquake. In September of 2010 in coordination with SIF President Sarno, he traveled to Italy to bring \$235,000 of OSIA/SIF funds to the center in L'Aquila, Fondazione Il Cireneo Onlus per L'Autismo.

In December 2009, OSIA officers voted unanimously to support funding for the Advanced Placement (AP) Italian language program and pledged \$50,000. Through his leadership with other Italian American organizations, including NIAF, UNICO, Columbus Citizens Foundation, and the American Society of the Italian Legions of Merit, Joe successfully helped save the AP Italian from being eliminated by schools.

After completing his four years as National President, Joseph DiTrapani's service to OSIA did not come to an end. In August 2013 he was unanimously voted to serve as the President of the National Sons of Italy Foundation (SIF). The Sons of Italy Foundation is the philanthropic arm of the Order Sons of Italy in America. Established in 1959, the SIF has given \$125 million to scholarships, philanthropy, medical research, disaster relief and cultural preservation.

Joe is a member of the prestigious Columbus Citizens Foundation in New York City and the Dante Foundation of Nassau County, widely known for its scholarship program. In addition, in December 2005 Joseph DiTrapani was presented with the title of Cavaliere through the Chancellery of the Savoy Orders in Geneva, an honor that is bestowed upon persons of importance in the Italian American community. At the present time, Joe holds two prestigious titles of Ufficiale in the Order of Saints Maurice and Lazarus and the title of Commendatore that he received directly from the President of the Republic of Italy.

Joseph DiTrapani is focused and committed to recognize the challenges ahead. Looking forward, he has reached out with new and innovative ideas and has led the way to reshape OSIA into an inviting upbeat organization. A dynamic leader, Joe has united and inspired many to take the next step together, confident in the future, confident in the ability to make OSIA stronger and more productive than it has ever been. As someone once said, "*Blessed is the leader who seeks the best for those he serves!*"

50th Anniversary Gala



About our honoree
KEITH R. WILSON

Keith Wilson was born to Ralph and the late Carol (Cook) Wilson on December 9, 1963, in Queens, New York. After three years of living in Howard Beach, the family moved to the East New York section of Brooklyn, and from there they moved to Long Island, North Massapequa on March 20, 1968. Keith is the second child of three and has an older brother Scott and younger sister Lisa Gimber. He is godfather to Brandon, who is in college studying to become a professional chef.

Keith attended all levels of education in the Plainedge Union Free School District and graduated from Plainedge High School in June 1982 with a Regents accreditation. After graduation from high school he was employed by the School District as a laborer in the Maintenance Department. In 1986, Keith's career took him to Sedco Raython Systems, a defense contractor. A year later, in 2007, he returned to the public civil service sector as a Maintenance Supervisor for the Bethpage Schools and Nassau Boces. At the time, he was one of their youngest supervisors ever hired.



In 1991, Keith found his true calling in the world of local government and politics when he was hired by the Town of Oyster Bay (TOB) in the Community and Youth Services Department. He remained there for 15 years when he seized an opportunity to work for then Oyster Bay Town Clerk Steve Labriola. Keith credits TOB Supervisor John Venditto as mentor to him and feels a deep gratitude and loyalty for a man he calls, "The finest Supervisor the Town has ever seen."

Keith rose to the level of Grand Knight in the Msgr. Delaney Council Knights of Columbus in 1989. He has been recognized at all levels of the Knights as a Grand Knight, Faithful Navigator of the 4th degree, and past Chairman of the Nassau-Suffolk Chapter. Keith has also served as a former member of the parish fundraising committee and CCD committee. Keith continues his dedication to his faith by serving as a lector, Eucharistic Minister, and mass head usher at his Parrish of forty-five years, St. James Church in Seaford. He is also the founding Chairman of the Nassau Knights for Life, a group dedicated to the principles of good legislation and elected officials.

Community minded Keith was elected to the Plainedge Board of Education and served three terms (1991-2000); is a member of the Lions Club, AMVETS Post 88 Sons of AMVETS, and Maria Regina Holy Name Society. Keith is a former member of the Nassau County Youth Board and member of the Massapequa Republican Club, where he still serves as a local Committeeman.

In 2011, Keith was unanimously elected as the 32nd President of the Columbus Lodge of Massapequa #2143, a member of the Order Sons of Italy in America, and served in that position with distinction for two terms. He has also served as Chairman of the Garibaldi-Meucci Museum (2009-11) and co-chairman with Past National President and Past NYS Grand Lodge President Joseph Sciamè (2011-13). In July 2013 Keith was elected as Grand Lodge Trustee for the State of NY and in August 2013 was elected as a delegate to the National Convention held in Philadelphia, PA.

A licensed realtor in North Massapequa, Keith maintains a very successful realty partnership with business associate Sal Polito. He recently attained twenty-years at Century 21 Prevete-Bastone Realty and is currently a Board member / Director on the Long Island Commercial Board of Realtors. In addition, Keith attained twenty-one full years with the Town of Oyster Bay. Keith also holds a current NYS License to sell life, accident and health insurance.

Keith enjoys all community work and looks forward to a thriving realty business and other activities as the years go by, however, Keith's greatest joy is his family. He spends time with his nieces and nephews and enjoys summer barbeques and winter Christmas parties with friends as well as networking and making new friends for business and future business ideas and transactions. A true community leader, it is for these reasons that we pay tribute to him here today.



Our Honorees

COLUMBUS LODGE # 2143

VENERABLES / PRESIDENTS

“Today we pay tribute to all the Past Venerables, more recently Past Presidents. It was these men, who from the day of inception passed the gauntlet of leadership into the hands of his successor; each man making his contribution to the molding of a great lodge,” ~ *Joseph Magliato.*

EDWARD P. BOCHYNSKI	2013-PRESENT
KEITH WILSON	2011-2013
ANTHONY VENTIERA	2009-2011
FRANK LOUIS GATTO	2007-2009
SAL PETRONE	2006-2007
JOSEPH CARBONE	2004-2006
ANTHONY RAGNO	2002-2004
FRANK MUSARRA	2000-2002
EDWARD BOCHYNSKI SR.	1999-2000
VINCENT DE ROSA	1997-1999
JOHN JUBA *	1996-1997
ANTHONY MUSARRA	1993-1996
ANTHONY SCOTTO *	1993-1993
DAN A. COLANTONE	1991-1993
SAM NOVARRO	1989-1991
NELSON GIORDANO *	1987-1989
ARMOND VELLA *	1985-1987
MICHAEL IANNONE	1984-1985
JACK TRINCA	1982-1984
GREG GIAMMALVO	1980-1982
JOSEPH MAGLIATO*	1979-1980
PHIL FASULLO	1978-1979
JOSEPH CANGEMI	1977-1978
VINCENT FLORIANI*	1976-1977
CARL CARDASCIA	1975-1976
FRANK DI DOMENICO*	1974-1975
NICHOLAS VIGLIETTA	1972-1974
JOHN D. DORSI*	1970-1972
LOUIS AGRESTA*	1969-1970
JOSEPH SALADINO*	1968-1969
DOMINICK BARANELLO*	1967-1968
ANGELO RONCALLO *	1966-1967
P. VINCENT LANDI *	1964-1966

*Deceased



COLUMBUS LODGE #2143



2013-2014 OFFICERS

President EDWARD P. BOCHYNSKI
 1st Vice President PHIL GUERRIERI JR.
 2nd Vice President ANTHONY MUSARRA JR.
 Immediate Past President KEITH WILSON
 Orator FRED BELLISE
 Recording Secretary WILLIAM MURPHY
 Financial Secretary AMEDEO MANTONE
 Corresponding Secretary NEIL CECORA
 Treasurer FRANK TISCIONE

TRUSTEES

RICH CAROZZA, PRINCIPAL
 JOSEPH BASILE ANTHONY CAPOGNA MICHAEL PARISI
 RICHARD RAVALICO SAL POLITO MIKE SAVALLO
 JAMES SAN FILIPPO JR. ROBERT YOPP

MASTER OF CEREMONY

PETE GISONDA CHRIS MOLINA ROCCO NAPOLI
 JAMES RAFFA JAMES SAN FILIPPO SR.

SENTINELS

WILLIAM CAPPARELLI VINCENT FRANCHI

CHAPLIAN
 AL CELESTE

NYS GRAND LODGE TRUSTEE
 KEITH WILSON

DISTRICT II STATE DUTY
 TONY VENTIERA
 (Giovanni Caboto Lodge)

1964 REPRINT

Columbus Lodge No. 2143

NAVIGATOR

Order Sons of Italy In America



Reserved
for
Columbus

VOL. 1

OCTOBER 8, 1964

No. 1

QUARTER DECK

Message From Our Venerable

Dear Brothers:

With this the first issue of *The Navigator*, I wish to extend to you my most warm greeting. I trust that you will find the news contained therein interesting and constructive.

It is the aim of the Editorial Staff and the Officers to have each and every member kept fully informed about all of the many and varied activities of the Lodge. If you have any questions to ask, do not hesitate to seek answers to them at the regular meetings of the Lodge, from the Officers.

I earnestly request that you participate actively in all our activities and become members of the various Committees. Please remember that you are the Lodge, and that all rights and duties emanate from you.

Since the inception of the Lodge less than one year ago, we have made splendid progress, due to your efforts and the splendid group of Officers, who are cooperating with me to the fullest extent. Our members consist of individuals from all walks of life. During the short period of our existence we have achieved the distinction of being the largest Lodge in the State of New York, and one of the largest in the United States. All our members are united in one viewpoint, to wit, that we are devoted to the principles set forth in the Constitution of the United States of America, a belief in God, and proud that we are Americans of Italian extraction representing an old civilization, which has contributed greatly to the enlightenment of all mankind. Our membership firmly believes in the principles of LIBERTY, EQUALITY AND FRATERNITY, which are the fundamental ideals of the Order Sons of Italy

in America. To further these ideals, we have engaged in many commendable community activities, and are planning to engage in many more in the future. We have sponsored the teaching of Italian in the Massapequa area. We have contributed savings bonds to recent graduates of the high school. We have various Committees, to wit, Welfare, Youth & Senior Citizens, Blood Bank, Entertainment, Membership, Scholarship and Building. All of these Committees are actively engaged in promoting the various activities of our Lodge in conjunction with community activity.

It will be the aim of our Membership, under the direction of the Supreme Lodge of our Order "to initiate and organize movements for patriotic and humanitarian purposes and to join in meritorious movements for such purposes which have been initiated by other organizations or groups" — "to encourage the dissemination of Italian culture in the United States" — "to keep alive the spiritual attachments to the traditions of the land of our ancestors".

One of our great undertakings is the purchase of our new Clubhouse on Boundary Avenue and Broadway. This necessitates the cooperation of all of us, and you are earnestly requested to attend all meetings so that you will be fully informed of our future plans.

I wish to inform you that commencing with October 1, 1964, the Lodge will hold weekly meetings each and every *Thursday* of the month, at the Elks Clubhouse, Brooklyn Avenue, Massapequa, New York.

I urge you all to cooperate with Alfonso Muscillo, who has been appointed the Editor of this Periodical.

I wish to again thank all of the members, and particularly, the
(Continued on Page 3)

COMMITTEE REPORT

Membership Drive In High Gear

100 To Be Initiated Oct. 15th

Brother Jack Rodi, chairman of our Membership Committee conducted a screening of new applicants on Sept. 22. Jack reports that 100 new members have been cleared for membership. This brings our total membership close to 700 and only a stones throw away from our goal of 1000 members. Hats off to Brother Jack Rodi for a gigantic effort. Let's all show our appreciation and express our thanks to one of our truly dedicated brothers., Jack Rodi, by all of us attending the initiation on Oct. 15th.

A distinguished guest from the Grand Lodge will be on hand for the welcoming ceremonies. Refreshments will be served.

Remember the date — Oct. 15th, 8:15 P.M. at Elks Lodge, Massapequa.

The following is a list of new members to be initiated:

Edgar E. Foran
Anthony Lanza
Philip A. Lombardo
Angelo Lima
Michael R. Bellucci
Thomas Lombardo
John Arcure
Vincent Miscione
Onofrio Favorito
Henry Favorito
Arthur W. Leo
Charles A. Damato
Nino Menoli
Angelo Chas. DiMuria
Fred J. DeFelice
Fred DeFelice
Michael Radulich
Anthony Arteca
Santo Puma
Eugene A. DeFelice
Antonio Teri
Manny A. Corrado
Sam Cangemi
Alexander Lombardi
Carmine Marinello
(Continued on Page 2)



The Inaugural 1964-65 Council of COLUMBUS LODGE #2143



1964-1965 OFFICERS

VENERABLE P. VINCENT LANDI
ASSISTANT VENERABLE ANGELO RONCALLO
EX-VENERABLE DOMINICK BARANELLA
ORATOR GAETANO SANZONE
RECORDING SECRETARY VINCENT FLORIANI
FINANCIAL SECRETARY LOUIS AGRESTA
TREASURER FELIX ALFINO

TRUSTEES

JOHN MUSICARO

FRANK TUCCI
ANTHONY CORSO

FRANK BADAME
ANTHONY ROMANELLI

MASTER OF CEREMONY

FRANK DIDOMENICO

JOSEPH CALI

SENTINELS

EDWARD CALIGURI



The History of the Columbus Lodge of Massapequa #2143

In 1963 a group of men, all of whom were members of the Massapequa Elks and Americans of Italian Ancestry, discussed the formation of an organization of Italian Americans in the Massapequa area. They decided they should also be part of a national organization. The group of men met with Giuseppe A. Nigro, founder of the Loggia Glen Cove #1016 in 1920 (Long Island's first OSIA lodge). Nigro agreed to have Loggia Glen Cove serve as sponsor and submit an application for a charter. A charter was granted in December 1963.

The Columbus Lodge of Massapequa #2143 ("CL") was duly constituted into the Order Sons of Italy in America (OSIA) on February 16, 1964 at the Massapequa Elks Club; 328 men were sworn in as members of the newly formed lodge. During Columbus Lodge's first year it became the largest in NYS, a lodge newspaper "the Navigator" was born, a building was bought at their current home on Boundary Avenue in South Farmingdale, and a ladies auxiliary was established for the wives and daughters of the members. Before CL's second year was completed, the membership swelled to over 1,200 making it the largest in the Nation.

The idea of forming a lodge in the Farmingdale/Massapequa area and following through with that idea is credited to three men: P. Vincent Landi, Angelo Roncallo, and Dominick Baranello. Pat Landi became the first elected lodge Venerable and served two terms. All three men would hold that position over the first 4-years. Landi quickly elevated through the OSIA State ranks and became Venerable of the NYS Grand Lodge, serving from 1967 to 1971. About this time, the lodge began holding annual Children's Christmas Party. Members would drive to a local orphanage pick up the children and bring them back to the lodge for a special meeting with Santa.

On February 3, 1965 the lodge held its 1st Anniversary Dinner Dance at the Huntington Townhouse, Massapequa School Superintendent Dr. Raymond J. Lockhart was the honoree; about 1,200 persons attended the affair. On May 21st the lodge sent 30 delegates to the Grand Lodge Convention at the Sagamore Hotel, Lake George. The fee for 3-days was \$45pp, meals included. On the morning of June 2nd, the lodge took title of the building on Boundary Avenue. And on Friday, August 20th the lodge presented Yogi Berra with an honorary membership at home plate before the start of a baseball game between the Mets and St. Louis (Yogi's home town) at Shea Stadium; Brother John Musicaro coordinated the event. Also in 1965, Anthony Marino presented the lodge's first scholarship and Guido Massimeri chaired the first Blood drive. A fruit cup, steak, and soup were served to all donors.

In 1971 P. Vincent Landi was among those invited to the White House to witness U.S. President Richard M. Nixon receiving the OSIA Marconi Award. The Marconi Award, the Order Sons of Italy in America's (OSIA) highest honor, is named for the Nobel prize-winning Italian physicist who invented wireless telegraphy. It is presented biennially to an Italian American who has made significant contributions to the United States.

To date, there have been seven CL members who have received the prestigious Bene Emeritus Award, NYS Grand Lodge's top honor; fraternal brother Phil Iannuccilli became the first member to receive this award in June 1974. In October, founding member Angelo Roncallo was elected to the U.S. Congress from the Third Congressional District of New York and would be elected to the NYS Supreme Court in



1977. A year later, the lodge launched its “modern scholarship program” that includes awards for member’s children and grandchildren plus outreach awards to local high schools. Monsignor Thomas Hartman, of Telecare’s God Squad fame, served on the initial selection committee; four grants were awarded.

During the early 1980s, the Venerable title was changed to President and after a three year encounter NYS granted the lodge its Vegas Night license in 1983. The Vegas committee would emerge as the most successful fundraiser of this period. By the end of the decade, the success of Vegas would allow for the expansion of the scholarship program to its current 17 annual awards to students.

In 1985 Pat Landi became the second CL member to receive the Bene Emeritus Award and named the lodge’s first lifetime member. In addition, Joe Saladino, who served as the lodge’s 4th Venerable from 1968-69, was appointed as a judge to the NYS Supreme Court; And Past Venerable Nicholas Viglietta was elected President of the NYS Grand Lodge and Joe Cangemi as State Orator. Nick would be re-elected unopposed in 1987.

In 1988 Angelo Roncallo became the third CL member to receive the Bene Emeritus Award and four years later, John Musicaro became the fourth CL member to receive the Award in 1992. The lodge held a 25th Silver Anniversary Gala on October 13, 1989 at 2143 Boundary Avenue at the then-Crystal Palace East. IPP Nelson Giordano was honored. Past Venerable and Navigator Editor Joe Magliato wrote, “Today we pay tribute to all the Past Venerables, more recently Past Presidents. It was these men, who from the day of inception passed the gauntlet of leadership into the hands of his successor; each man making his contribution to the molding of a great lodge.”

In 1993 Dominick Baranello was voted as the second Lifetime member in lodge history. To mark the occasion of the 30th anniversary in 1994, a committee was formed to build a replica float of Columbus’ ship the Santa Marie. Fraternal Brother Paul Colissi allowed his auto service garage to provide a work area and storage for the float. The float was displayed at the Columbus Day parade held in Farmingdale.

After more than a year of planning, in 1996 the lodge launched its first annual Italian Feast & Festival for the benefit of the community. Almost two decades have passed and the festival attracts nearly thirty-thousand visitors each year and still provides live music, food, and vendors all with an Italian atmosphere. Proving to be stronger than ever, the 2013 Feast set records for attendance, revenue, vendors, and volunteers. It has become the lodge’s number one fraternal fundraiser.

In June 1997 Joseph Cangemi became the third CL Past Venerable to be elected State President of the NYS Grand Lodge. That same year the lodge launched a softball team dedicated toward raising money for local charities through softball fundraising events. The Golden Lions played for 13 seasons from 1997-2009, won 19-tournaments, and received national acclaim appearing twice in *Italian American* magazine. In 1998 John Venditto, who had held the position of Orator (1981-82), was sworn in as the Supervisor of the Township of Oyster Bay. A year later, in March 1999, Ed Bochynski Sr., who was born from Polish immigrants, was elected the first non-Italian President fortifying the lodge’s principle of equality. At the State Convention in June, two CL Past Presidents were honored. First, Joseph Cangemi was re-elected State President and second, Nick Viglietta was acknowledged for his contributions to the Order by receiving the Bene Emeritus Award.

In March 2000 Frank Musarra began the new century by becoming the first “second generation president” of the lodge (his father Tony having served 1993-96). On September 11, 2001 two hijacked commercial jet airliners intentionally crashed into each of the two Twin Towers of the World Trade Center



Columbus Lodge #2143

in NYC killing thousands. The membership opened their hearts and doors to the children who had lost a loved one and invited them to attend the annual Children's Christmas party. Every child was cared for and helped during a difficult period. At the June 2003 State Convention, Dan Colantone received the Sellaro Award for his dedication in the true spirit of the OSIA founder. In 2004 the membership adopted a House Rule which recognized all past and future presidents as lifetime members upon completion of one full term.

The Columbus Lodge has always been a community leader and has participated in many local fund raising events that included providing food baskets to the needy, toys for children in local hospitals, participating in bowl-a-thons & telethons, and lending a hand at the Special Olympics. In addition, CL holds golf outings and dinner dances to benefit local charities. CL extended its community presence when it sponsored, in conjunction with the Township of Oyster Bay, a series of *Music Under the Stars* concerts for the benefit of the local community. The Duprees performed at the inaugural concert in 2007 thru 2010. Other notable performers were Michael Amante, Julius LaRosa (in one of his final performances), and Uncle Floyd Vivino.

There have been many local communities that have benefited from the Columbus Lodge's philanthropic nature. Among the beneficiaries are the American Cancer Society, Arthritis Foundation, Boy Scouts of America, Farmingdale Baseball, Gift of Sight, Easter Seals Society, Massapequa Mustangs, the Ronald McDonald House, St. Francis Hospital, Schneider Children's Hospital, World War II Memorial Project, the United Way, and the Wounded Warriors. The lodge has also participated in National and State OSIA fund-raising endeavors most recently the Bush Clinton Katrina Fund, Cooley's Anemia Foundation, Sons of Italy Foundation, and the L'Aquila Earthquake Relief Fund. Recognized as a community leader, the Township of Oyster Bay renamed the street adjacent to the lodge's building to *Columbus Lodge Way* in 2008.

In 2009, Carmine A. Ventiera, father of CL Past President Tony Ventiera, posthumously became the lodge's second Honorary Member and the first since 1965. At the State convention in 2010, Dan Colantone received the Bene Emeritus Award and Sal Moschella received the Sellaro Award. It is believed that this was the first time members from the same lodge were simultaneously received these awards. In June 2011 Joe Cangemi became the seventh member of the lodge to receive the Bene Emeritus Award, the most awarded to members from the same lodge. During October 2011 Italian Heritage month, the lodge launched the *Columbus Day Art Contest* as a fun way for elementary school students to learn about Christopher Columbus. This contest continues today.

On March 3, 2013, the 50th installation of officer's ceremony was conducted. Famed International Italian singer Giada Valenti sang the National and Italian Anthems, and Edward P. Bochynski became the lodge's second "second generation president" sworn into office. In September, the lodge presented its first two humanitarian awards to fraternal brothers: Nassau County Executive Ed Mangano and Town of Oyster Bay Supervisor John Venditto for their dedication during Superstorm Sandy.

On January 18, 2014 the Columbus Lodge #2143 celebrated its 50th birthday at their 2143 Boundary Avenue home. The newly remodeled Stuart Thomas Manor would provide the backdrop for an event that would pay tribute to OSIA National Immediate Past President Joseph DiTrapani, Columbus Lodge IPP Keith Wilson and to the Presidents who lead the Columbus Lodge of Massapequa #2143 its first half a century.

Newsday

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1996

IN OYSTER BAY

A Little Italy Could Be Big Business

BY SORAYA SARHADDI NELSON
STAFF WRITER

LITTLE ITALY in Oyster Bay?

There could be one in North Massapequa if local government and Chamber of Commerce officials can persuade shop owners off Broadway to form the town's first Business Improvement District there.

With the economy's downturn several years back and the lure of malls, such districts are increasingly being used to revitalize downtown areas and bolster struggling mom-and-pop stores, proponents say.

Merchants who form a district benefit from enhanced marketing, better services and aesthetic improvements, which in turn help lure more customers and cut down on empty storefronts.

"It's something all residents in North Massapequa, not just merchants, should be interested in," said town attorney and local resident John Venditto. "If the area looks better . . . it's something all residents can take pride in."

Venditto and other proponents say an Italian theme is a natural for the area. Massapequa is inundated with Italian-Americans, and Broadway is dotted with old-country-style businesses such as butcher shops, bakeries and a vegetable and fruit store, all filled with inviting scents and pleasant greetings to customers.

"We're going to be . . . capitalizing not only on the Italian neighborhood, but Italian merchants and eventually try to fill empty stores with Italian merchants," said BID Committee co-chairman Walter Schmidt, vice president of the Chamber of Commerce of the Massapequas.

"When people want good Italian bread or sausages, [North] Massapequa is what they'll think of," predicted Steve Labriola, the town's director of operations and Republican candidate for former Rep. Phillip Healy's assembly seat.

There are nine BIDs on Long Island and 85 statewide, according to the state comptroller's office. Island districts are in Bay Shore, Cedarhurst, Great Neck, Greenport, Huntington, Patchogue, Port Washington, Riverhead and Westbury.

In such districts, businesses join together and tax themselves up to 20 percent of what they pay in gen-

eral municipal taxes each year, not including school and county levies or other special assessments.

Under state law, such special taxing districts can only be set up if at least half of the property owners in the area approve or don't object, and even then, the town board and state controller must OK it. If 51 percent or more of the property owners disapprove, the district cannot be established, Schmidt said.

Once it's created, all for-profit businesses within the district are required to pay the extra tax money.

In the proposed Broadway district, that would amount to roughly \$125 per business per year, for which they would be able to set up a board of trustees to govern how tens of thousands of tax dollars in their district is spent, Schmidt said.

"It's one of the few ways you can compete with malls these days," said Democratic Town Supervisor Lewis Yevoli, who wrote a memo supporting the creation of a BID in Massapequa in April, 1995. "My own

hope is that other downtown business areas realize the importance of this."

Some Broadway business owners agree with BID proponents that their neighborhood needs a boost. Traffic and parking concerns are on the top of their list of complaints.

"It scares everybody," A & S Italian Pork Store owner Pat Giammarino said of Broadway traffic that races past his front door. I've been here thirty years and seen three people killed right outside."

"It doesn't look good," Steve DiGrigoli, part owner of San Remo Bakery, said of the empty storefronts. "Less and less people are shopping here and it's becoming more of a passageway from Southern State Parkway to Sunrise Highway or Hempstead Turnpike."

But they and A & S Italian Pork store manager Tony Notaro were also skeptical of becoming a business improvement district.

"It sounds like a great deal," Notaro said, but "I don't know if it's going to work."

That type of reaction has been common in the two years Schmidt said he has tried to get Massapequas to consider establishing a BID. "We have not yet gotten the businesses on board," he said.

But Schmidt, Labriola and Venditto predicted that a first-ever Columbus Day Feast and Festival, planned by the BID project and the Sons of Italy Columbus Lodge in Massapequa and scheduled for Oct. 13 on Broadway, will drum up support.

Street lines will temporarily be painted red, white and green for the event and festive flags will be hung to give shopkeepers and visitors alike a feel for how a business improvement district could beef up the appearance of their neighborhood, Schmidt said.

"We'll be walking the streets, talking to merchants," Schmidt said. "We'll be able to do something in one day that a dozen meetings would be hard-pressed to emulate."

"Most people when they need food, they think of big supermarkets," said Labriola, who also lives in Massapequa. "We're going to remind them through the BID that maybe they should be thinking of the mom and pop shops who live in the community and who support the community instead of some faceless corporation." •



Newsday / Bill Davis

Business Improvement District project members pose before a meeting to plan Columbus Day festivities.



The Bene Emeritus Award

EACH YEAR THE BENE EMERITUS AWARD (ALSO KNOWN AS “THE BENNIE”) IS PRESENTED BY THE NY STATE GRAND LODGE TO THE MEMBER WHO HAS PERFORMED OUTSTANDING DEEDS TO ENHANCE THE IMAGE OF THE ITALIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY, BOTH WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE ORDER. IT IS THE HIGHEST HONOR THAT THE GRAND LODGE CAN BESTOW UPON A MEMBER. SINCE THE FIRST AWARD WAS PRESENTED, THERE HAVE BEEN SEVEN COLUMBUS LODGE #2143 MEMBERS WHO HAVE RECEIVED THIS AWARD, MORE THAN ANY OTHER LODGE.

AWARD WINNERS

1974 PHILIP IANNUCILLI
1985 P. VINCENT LANDI
1988 ANGELO RONCALLO
1992 JOHN MUSICARO
1999 NICHOLAS VIGLIETTA
2010 DAN COLANTONE
2011 JOSEPH CANGEMI



2010: Then NY State President Carl Lanzilotta and Bene Emeritus recipient Dan Colantone.



Dr. Vincenzo Sellaro Award

THE DR. VINCENZO SELLARO AWARD IS PRESENTED EACH YEAR BY THE NEW YORK STATE GRAND LODGE TO THE MEMBERS WHO SERVE THE ORDER WITH DEDICATION AND COMMITMENT, IN THE TRUE SPIRIT OF OUR FOUNDER – DR. VINCENZO SELLARO.

SINCE THE FIRST AWARD WAS PRESENTED, THERE HAVE BEEN THREE PEOPLE WITHIN THE COLUMBUS LODGE #2143 FAMILY WHO HAVE RECEIVED THIS AWARD:

1998 THERESA ROMEO (Ladies Auxiliary)

2003 DAN A. COLANTONE

2010 SALVATORE MOSCHELLA



2003: Then President Tony Ragno
with Dan Colantone.



2010: Sellaro Award recipient
Sal Moschella.



Columbus Lodge #2143

**Congratulations and Best Wishes
to
All the Scholarship Winners**



From the
Scholarship Committee

Peter Gisonda, Chairman

William Murphy, Co-Chairman Jamie San Filippo, Co-Chairman

Mike Bonavia, Collation Chairman

Lee Barella	George Lauro
Ed Bochynski, Sr.	Chris Molina
Pauline & Sonny Bove	Sal Moschella
John Giovenco	Emelia Vella
Ed Esposito	Robert Yopp
Bill Iannone	

50th Anniversary Gala



Congratulations to the 2013 Scholarship Recipients



Highest Scholastic Award

Sara Patricia Golshahr - Farmingdale High School Drexel University

Zabbia Memorial Award for Health Care

Jennifer Helen Pusaten – Massapequa High School Wagner College

Columbus Lodge Excellence in Italian Language Studies Awards

Olivia M. Bologna - Bethpage High School University of Rhode Island
Brianna Josephine Epstein - Plainedge High School Marist College
Alexandra Rose Lettieri - Massapequa High School Penn State University
Marisa Nicole Taliercio - Farmingdale High School University of Connecticut

Columbus Lodge Scholastic Achievement Award

Kevin F. Brown - Wantagh High School Binghamton University
Caitlyn June Melecca – Belton High School Texas A & M University
Mikaela Lee Moschella – West Hampton High School George Washington University
John Michael Ragno - Farmingdale High School U.S. Military Academy at West Point
Melanie Rose Sheehan - Massapequa High School Fordham University
Emily Ann Smith - Massapequa High School College of the Holy Cross

P. Vincent Landi Award

Michael Joseph Rotondo – Levittown High School Long Island University – CW Post
Anthony Michael Sorrentino – St. Joseph High School Pennsylvania Institute of Technology
Gabrielle Arlene Weiner – Bellmore High School University of New Haven



Columbus Lodge #2143

A Salute To the women who have led The Columbus Lodge #2143 Ladies Auxiliary

	2013-2014	Angie LoBiondo	
2012-2013	Janet Marotto	1989-1990	Josephine Lobato
2011-2012	Janet Marotto	1988-1989	Marge Moschella
2010-2011	Marie Matera	1987-1988	Marge Moschella
2009-2010	Emilia Vella	1985-1086	Anita Novarro
2008-2009	Emilia Vella	1984-1985	Anita Novarro
2007-2008	Theresa Casella	1983-1984	Gloria Dumolo
2006-2007	Theresa Casella	1982-1983	Gloria Dumolo
2005-2006	Julia Salamone	1981-1982	Marie Frandy
2004-2005	Lenore Barrella	1980-1981	Marie Frandy
2003-2004	Lenore Barrella	1979-1980	Pauline Bove
2002-2003	Pauline Bove	1978-1979	Pauline Bove
2001-2002	Marie Ott*	1976-1977	Theresa Romeo*
2000-2001	Marie Ott*	1975-1976	Theresa Romeo*
1999-2000	Pauline Bove	1974-1975	Barbara Sferrazzo
1998-1999	Pauline Bove	1973-1974	Barbara Sferrazzo
1997-1998	Emilia Vella	1972-1973	Corinne Jury
1996-1997	Emilia Vella	1971-1972	Corinne Jury
1995-1996	Lucy Giordano	1970-1971	Angela Massi*
1994-1995	Lucy Giordano	1969-1970	Angela Massi*
1993-1994	Stella Castrogiovanni	1968-1969	Eleanor Virgadomo
1992-1993	Stella Castrogiovanni	1967-1968	Eleanor Virgadomo
1991-1992	Gloria Pryzbytowski	1966-1967	Jane Landi*
1990-1991	Josephine Lobato	1965-1966	Jane Landi*

* Deceased



Columbus Lodge #2143 Ladies Auxiliary

The history of Columbus Lodge #2143 ("the Lodge" or "the Men") would not be complete without the story of the Ladies Auxiliary. Just months after the lodge was constituted, Venerable Pat Landi recognized a need to have an auxiliary for the wives and daughters of his members. An initial meeting was held on December 10, 1964 to establish a committee which became known as the Columbus Lodge Ladies Auxiliary ("the Auxiliary or "the Ladies"). At the initial meeting, Mrs. Anthony Cesario served as chairwoman and the first elected president, Jane Landi, wife of lodge founder Pat Landi, was named. Corinne Jury, who would one day serve as a Ladies Auxiliary President (1971-73), offered to hold future meetings at *Corinne's Dance Studio* in Massapequa.

In 1966 two notable ladies were installed as auxiliary members, Eleanor Vigadamo and Pauline Bove. Eleanor followed Jane Landi as the second President and served two terms (1967-69). She helped fortify the auxiliary mission, which was to help the cash strapped Columbus Lodge raise money to maintain the building. For Pauline Bove this was only the beginning of a journey that would carry her through the next 48 years and cement her place in both the Ladies Auxiliary and Columbus Lodge history.

In 1966 the Children's Christmas Party was in its beginning stages. Back then, the Men bussed children from the Wading River Home and Little Sheppard Family Care Home. They fed the underprivileged children and gave them gifts. In future years, the Children's Christmas party would evolve into a family event for the children and grandchildren of the lodge. Back then and still today, the Ladies would dress in traditional red and white Christmas colors and care for the children as Santa delivers gifts, while the Men served dinners for needy families. Some years the lodge took care of over 250 children and then distributed gifts to a local children's hospital.

In 1975-76 discussions began to swell about converting Columbus Lodge into a co-ed lodge. When that attempt failed, the Ladies were encouraged to begin their own lodge. With the Columbus Lodge sponsorship, the women who wished to be part of an independent lodge received a charter to create the Ann Bambino Lodge. Corinne Jury, who had recently completed a two year term as Auxiliary President served as one of Ann Bambino Lodge's first presidents. Teresa Romeo, who also served as Auxiliary President (1975-77), would soon defect to the new lodge and serve as president. Terri also became active at the State level and became a pioneer and champion for the Gift of Sight program that is still in existence today. For her efforts with the Gift of Sight Terri was awarded the Sellaro Award in 1998. That award is given by the Grand Lodge to the member who serves the Order with dedication and commitment in the true spirit of founder Dr. Vincenzo Sellaro.

The fall out that occurred because of the new lodge was best described by Pauline Bove, who recalls "there was no more Ladies Auxiliary for all practical purposes until Venerable Carl Cardascia reached out to me and several other ladies to revitalize the Auxiliary." In 1978 Pauline was elected president for the first of five terms and pioneered the rebirth of the Auxiliary. That same year, Venerable Joe Cangemi invited Pauline onto the selection committee of the lodge's scholarship awards program. Pauline, a retired school principal, was joined by future lodge president Mike Iannone, and Fr. Thomas Hartman (of the God Squad). For Pauline it continues to be a labor of love that has lasted more than 36-years and 23 lodge presidents. Pauline continues to serve and is currently a member of the upcoming 2014 selection committee.

As the Auxiliary headed into the 1980s it began a decade of growth. They ran many functions and assisted on many events to raise money for the Lodge. The Ladies Auxiliary renewed the practice of marching in parades, something that began in the 1960, and they would continue to do for the next thirty years, marching in their blue blazer, white pants and gold scarf.

Leadership was important and the Auxiliary was in the good hands of President Marie Frandy (1980-82), Gloria Dumolo (1982-84), Anita Novarro (1985-87), and Marge Moschella (1988-89). When Sam Novarro was



Columbus Lodge #2143

installed as lodge president in 1989, Anita and Sam became just the second couple to serve as president of the Ladies Auxiliary and Columbus Lodge, respectively; Jean and Pat Landi were the first to obtain that distinction in 1965. In 1986, the Ronald McDonald House of Long Island was built to help house families whose children were serious ill and being treated at Schneider Children's Hospital (today known as Cohen Children's Medical Center). This charity soon became the annual charity of choice and each year the Ladies donate non-perishable goods and made a monetary donation to the Ronald McDonald House during Holiday time. This tradition is in its 28th year.

During the mid-1980s, the Columbus Lodge began holding Vegas nights. In order to run a successful event a commitment of both the Men and the Ladies was needed. An agreement was struck which allowed for six months of proceeds to be controlled by the lodge and six months of proceeds to be designated for the Auxiliary. Use of these proceeds would be given too many charities. Vegas nights would continue to be a primary source of fund raising for over a decade. Before the end of the decade, Marge Moschella would move on to become an Ann Bambino lodge president and then served in various State level capacities. For her efforts she and husband Sal would receive the NYS Grand Lodge Family of the Year Award in 2003.

During the 1990s the Ladies Auxiliary continued to be guided by the strong leadership of Stella Castrogiovanni (1992-94), Lucy Giordano (1994-1996), Emelia Vella (1996-98), and Pauline Bove (1998-2000); For Pauline it was her third and fourth term as president. These women continued to provide leadership and upheld many of traditions of the lodge. They also knew how to have fun at their meeting. Quite often they held line dancing classes as they "strut their stuff" to Billy Ray Cyrus' "Achy Breaky Heart" and Los Del Rio's "La Macarena." Upon Lucy Giordano's installation as president she and husband Nellie became the third couple in lodge history to become president of the Auxiliary and Columbus Lodge, respectively. Two years later Emelia and Armand Vella became the fourth and currently the last couple to obtain that feat.

On September 11, 2011 two hijacked commercial jet airliners intentionally crashed into each of the two Twin Towers of the World Trade Center in NYC killing everyone on board and many others working in the building. Both towers collapsed within two hours. The Men and the Ladies opened their hearts and doors to the children who had lost a loved one and invited them to attend the Children's Christmas party. President Marie Ott (2000-2002) and the Ladies made sure every child was cared for and helped these children get through a difficult period.

In 2002, Pauline Bove was sworn in for a record fifth term as Auxiliary President; the most in Ladies Auxiliary history. That same year, Lenore "Lee" Barella was installed into the Auxiliary and brought valuable experience as a past PTA president. Lee's experience made her a rising star and she was elected president in 2004, serving two terms. Theresa Casella was installed as president in 2006 but by the end of her second term, developing future leaders was becoming problematic. By 2008, when Emelia Vella was reinstalled as president, a contingent of Auxiliary leaders, which included Barella, Bove, Casella, and Vella met with President Frank Gatto and the Chair officers of Columbus Lodge to discuss a revitalization plan which would include allowing the ladies of the Columbiettes, a group affiliated with the Knights of Columbus, to enter the Ladies Auxiliary despite no prior affiliation with Columbus Lodge. An agreement was struck and the auxiliary membership soon doubled in size.

In 2010 Emelia Vella had completed her fourth term as president, which was the second longest tenure in Auxiliary history. Emelia handed her gavel to Columbiette Marie Matera, thus began an era of Columbiette Presidential leadership that included Janet Marotto (2011-13) and Angie LoBiando (2013-present). Still providing valuable assistance to the Men, in recent years the Ladies purchased new tables and chairs for the Meeting Hall room and has picked up some of the financial burden of the annual installation collation.

The Columbus Lodge members wish to thank the Ladies Auxiliary for their years of dedication and support to the lodge's mission and look forward to another fifty years of great accomplishments.



HAPPY 50th ANNIVERSARY COLUMBUS LODGE
AND
CONGRATULATIONS & BEST WISHES
TO ALL THE
COLUMBUS LODGE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

FROM ALL THE OFFICERS & MEMBERS
OF THE
**LADIES AUXILIARY OF
COLUMBUS LODGE #2143**
Order Sons of Italy in America

2013-2014 OFFICERS

President ANGIE LoBIONDO
1st Vice President DENISE IANNONE
2nd Vice President LEE BARRELLA
3rd Vice President MARY ANN CAPPARELLI
Immediate Past President JANET MAROTTO
Recording Secretary MARY ANN CABRI
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Corresponding Secretary AMELIA AMMIRATI
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STELLA CASTROGIOVANNI
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PAULINE BOVE

MARJORIE MOSCHELLA
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ANITA NOVARRO
GLORIA DUMOLO
MARIE FRANDY
JOSEPHINE LOBATO
PAULINE BOVE
CORINNE JURY
THERESA ROMEO*
BARBARA SFERRAZZO
ANGELA MASSI*
ELEANORE VIRGADOMO*
JANE LANDI*

*DECEASED



Columbus Lodge #2143

We extend our sincerest best wishes

to

Columbus Lodge No. 2143

Your dedication and commitment to the
Order Sons of Italy in America
is to be applauded.

Much continued success and congratulations to all
on your
50th Anniversary Celebration!



Fraternally

National Immediate Past President Joseph DiTrapani

and

National Past First Lady Carol DiTrapani

Supreme Lodge

Order Sons of Italy in America

50th Anniversary Gala

Columbus Lodge #2143



Congratulations
Columbus Lodge #2143
On your
50th Anniversary!

Keep up the Good Work!



Nicholas & Maureen
Viglietta

VENERABLE COLUMBUS LODGE 1972-74

NEW YORK STATE PRESIDENT 1985-1989

MEMBER BENE EMERITUS

50th Anniversary Gala



Columbus Lodge #2143

*Congratulations & Best Wishes
to the
Scholarship Recipients*

*from
Jo LaScala & Family*

In Memory of...

Stephen H. LaScala



50th Anniversary Gala



CONGRATULATIONS
TO
ALL OUR
SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

“ALWAYS BE PROUD OF
YOUR HERITAGE!”



Brother Nick Pallante



Columbus Lodge #2143

CONGRATULATIONS TO PRESIDENT ED BOCHYNSKI

AND TO

COLUMBUS LODGE #2143

ON YOUR 50th ANNIVERSARY

AND THE

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS



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50th Anniversary Gala



*Congratulations & Best Wishes
to the*

COLUMBUS LODGE #2143

Order Sons of Italy in America

and all the

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



John Venditto

Oyster Bay Town Supervisor



Columbus Lodge #2143

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES
TO THE
SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



FROM

Joseph V. Belesi

NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATOR

DISTRICT 14

jbelesi@nassaucountyny.gov

Tel.: (516) 571-6214

50th Anniversary Gala

Columbus Lodge #2143



CONGRATULATIONS
COLUMBUS LODGE ON 50 YEARS
AND BEST WISHES
TO ALL THE
SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



FROM
OYSTER BAY TOWN COUNCILMAN

Joseph G. Pinto

MEMBER OF THE COLUMBUS LODGE NO. 2143

50th Anniversary Gala



Columbus Lodge #2143

*– Compliments –
of*

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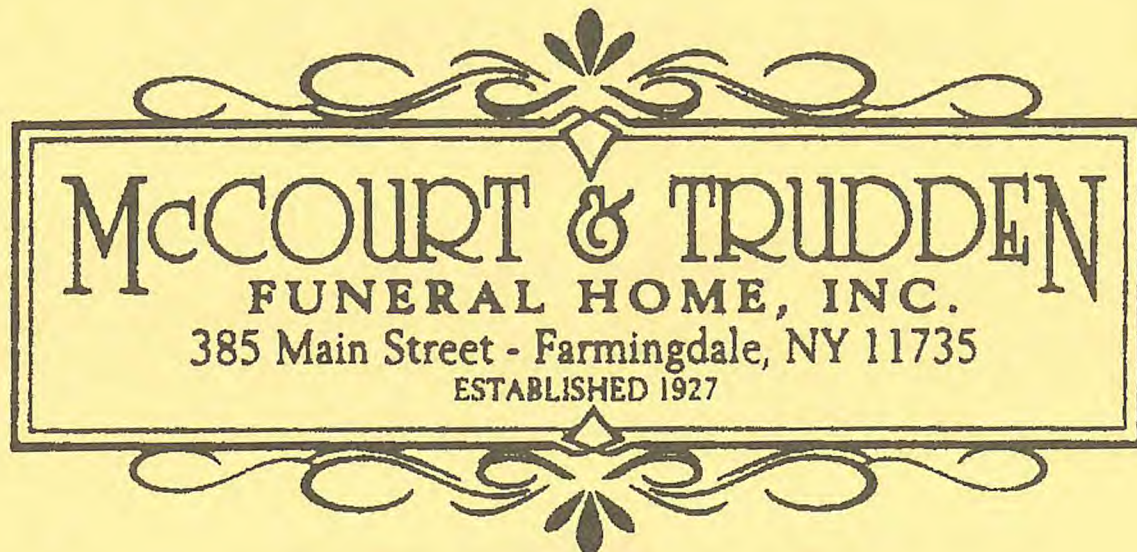
50th Anniversary Gala



AUGURI PER TUTTI
GLI STUDENTI

BUONA FORTUNA
PER UN AVVENIRE

DALLA



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Columbus Lodge #2143

*Congratulations
to
All the Winners!*

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and

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50th Anniversary Gala

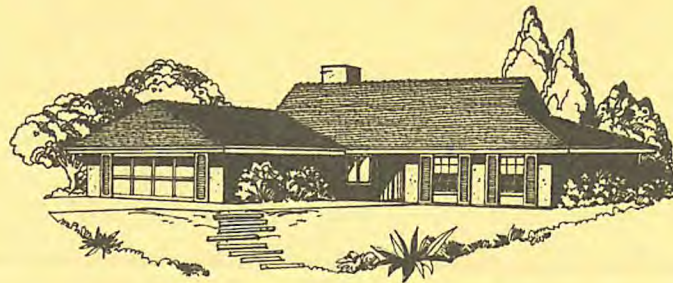
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In Memory of our Deceased Members

† May They Rest In Peace †

Salvatore Mazza	Rocco Desantis	Felix Malinowski	Gondolfo D'Amico
Edgar Foran	John Savello	Salvatore Grizzaffi	Fred DeFelice
Ferdinando DeVivo	Anthony Fucci	Michael Mancini	James Monti
Joseph Continelli	Joseph DeVito Sr.	Victor DeVivo	Joseph Zaccaria
John De Rosa	Andrew Cuomo	Stephen Farina	Ronald Martorelli
Antonio Sisia	Frank Sasso	Joseph Toscanini	John Barbarisi
Alfred Graziano	Ralph Rabasca	Anthony Scotto	Robert Grillo
James Kumas	Frank Esposito	Thomas Burriciello	Paul George
Orlando Iaboni	John Garone	Albert Cappellino	Nord Marro
Salvatore J. Russo	Greg Cuercio	Carmine T. Franco	Vincent Prezzano
Alfonso Avallone	Rosario Colore	Anthony Ambrosio	Frank Lazio
Peter La Macchia	Joseph DeSantis	Michael Cestaro	Alfred Capato
Joseph Heimbauer	John Carmine	John Cordray	Joseph Brognano
Joseph Marrazzo	Louis Ciulla	Julius DeVivo	Victor Genovese
Anthony DiPrima	Mario Testa	Jack Ferrante	Frank Valenti
Michael N. Petit	Philip Salvaggio	Michael Santoriello	Paul DiGiovanna
Frank Tursi	Charles Cosma	Albert Sabatano	Charles Raymond
John Manfredo	Pasquale Papa	Pasquale Alberino	Armando Testa
Anthony Corrozzo	James Pacilio	Gus Isoldi	August Mazzocchi
Domenic Bonanno	Anthony Marriello	Louis Massaro	Emil Lavorini
Sam Catanzarite	Victor Morrone	Louis Yanelli	Louis Ricci
Anthony Rocco	Dominic Proscia	George Mannino	Edward Zerbo
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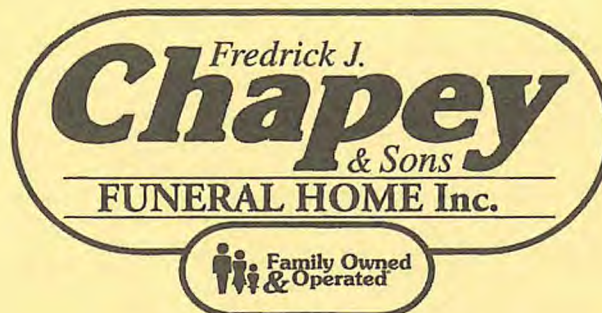


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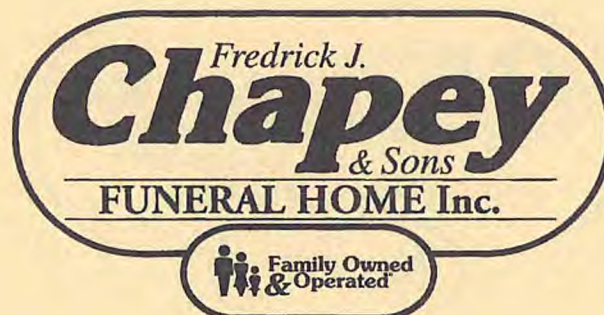
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All Past Presidents of Columbus Lodge #2143
On the occasion of your
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Columbus Lodge #2143

Congratulations
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On your 50th Anniversary



Yours truly,

Tony Ceriello

District II State Deputy

for

Columbus Lodge #2143

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THE COLUMBUS LODGE #2143 ON ITS
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COLUMBUS LODGE SOFTBALL spans parts of 50 years however, 1997-2009 is considered the team's greatest era. The Golden Lions won 19 tournaments including three McDonald Sports Festival, three AFSC titles, 11 ESSC titles, were semi-finalist in both NYC Mayor's Cup and ABA Turkey Shoot Out. The Lions also faired well in the ASA Hooters Nat'l Tournament. The team excelled in both Men and Co-ed Tournaments.



Dave Saviano combined speed with power and holds the Golden Lions All-time record for hits.



Columbus Lodge softball jersey worn from 1999-2009.



Original 1965 Columbus Lodge softball jersey.



2007 Golden Lions

The 2007 Golden Lions were arguably the best assembled team. The Lions won the AFSC Championship, McDonald's Sports Festival, and CJ Rovin Foundation Tournament; And had a winning percentage of .900 in tournament play.



Above: Ed Bochynski has played in 85 tournament games for the Golden Lions, a Columbus Lodge record.



Left: Anthony Curran's 27 HRs in 2004 stands as a lodge single season record.

OSIA Nation

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OSIA Lodge Goes to Bat for Charities

Members of the Golden Lions co-ed softball team of Farmingdale, N.Y., take a soft-hearted approach to their sport. They play for charity, batting in more than \$230,000 for local and national charities during the past two years. At the same time, the team attracts younger people to join the lodge.

The players are members of the OSIA Columbus Lodge #2143. In 1997, Ed Bochynski and Pete Gisonda took over as co-chairmen of the lodge's softball committee and decided that younger members might enjoy competition against other OSIA lodge teams, rather than the usual Sunday pickup games they played against each other.

Bochynski said that playing against other lodges increased the Golden Lions' sense of pride in their own lodge. Early success led to increased enthusiasm from younger members and eventually to the entire membership. The next year the team decided to go in a new direction. He began to contact local charities and enter the team in charitable softball tournaments.

The Columbus Lodge has always operated

under the principle that the value of a man should be seen in what he gives and not what he is able to receive.

The team earned the lodge's first softball trophy in 30 years with victories in the 1998 Easter Seals Softball Classic, and the team's success was noted in local newspapers. Soon area cable television stations began following the team's success on the field.

In addition to Easter Seals, charities that the team has raised funds for include the Arthritis Foundation, the Alzheimer's Association, Big Brothers Big Sisters, and the local Ronald McDonald House.

Money isn't the only thing the team raised. Bochynski said that as the team's popularity grew, former members began to rejoin the lodge, especially members in their 20s and 30s.

"Softball introduced our younger members to volunteerism, and their commitment to their community and to the Order continued after the softball season," Bochynski said.

During this past winter, young members stayed active in the lodge by providing com-



The local Ronald McDonald House is one of the charities helped by Columbus Lodge #2143.

munity service. Members delivered dinners through Meals on Wheels, assisted the mentally and physically challenged at the Nassau County Special Olympics, manned telephones for the Telecare Telethon, and bowled with the New York Islanders hockey team at a Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowl-A-Thon.

In softball, the lodge has competed against the New York Jets professional football team, the World Federation Wrestling Champ Sunny Beach and his all-star team, the U.S. Postal Service, and the accounting firm of KPMG Peat Marwick.

During the 1998 summer, the team made the semifinals in the Ronald McDonald House Softball Tournament, raising more than \$63,000.

"Naturally we wanted to win the tournament," said 25-year-old shortstop Daron Tripoli. "But, we were happy to hear that the sports festival raised more than \$63,000."

The team's success reaches beyond the playing field.

"Getting the younger member involved in community service, through charitable softball games, has built camaraderie among the members. It's built awareness about the Sons of Italy, and we have helped raise a lot of money for charitable organizations," Bochynski said.

- contributed by M.M. Rexroat



Over the past two years the Columbus Lodge #2143 in Farmingdale, N.Y., has sponsored a softball team that has raised more than \$230,000 to help local charities.



Columbus Lodge #2143

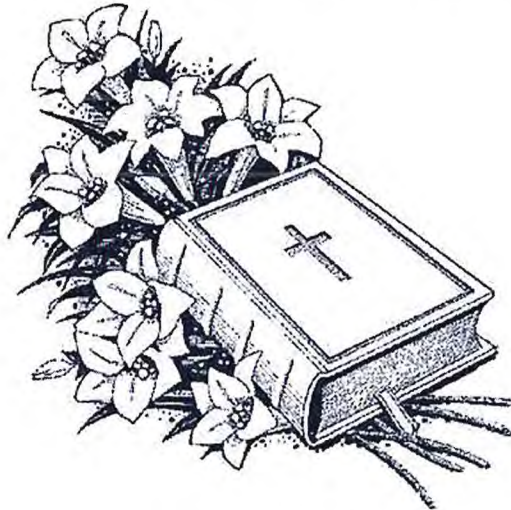
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Anthony Scotto

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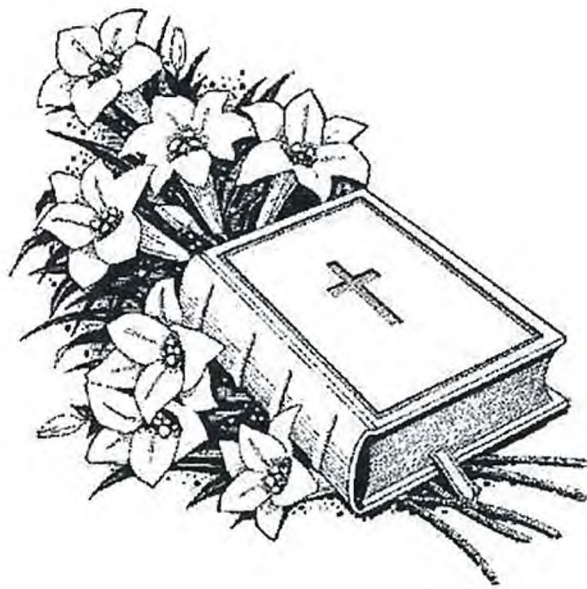
50th Anniversary Gala



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Nelson J. Giordano



September 13, 2003 - 10th Anniversary

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Keith Wilson, Columbus Lodge #2143 IPP

AND

All Past Presidents of Columbus Lodge #2143



Joseph Cangemi

State Past President

Columbus Lodge #2143 Past President

and

Michelina Cangemi

Past First Lady

50th Anniversary Gala



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John Michael Bove

In Loving Memory of...

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from

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and

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Lodge #2143 Presidents

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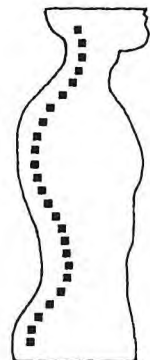
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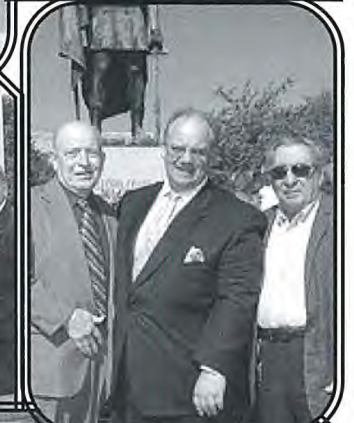






CASINO











Columbus Lodge #2143

THE PRESIDENTS (1964-73)

The first decade of Columbus Lodge produced a series of leaders that would forge the path for the next fifty years. Of the seven men who served as Venerable, three would receive Bene Emeritus Awards, two would become State Grand Lodge President, and two would become NYS Supreme Court Judges. As membership expanded, leaders were challenged to do their best; truly a remarkable group of visionaries and leaders.

P. VINCENT "PAT" LANDI (1964-66)

Pat is recognized as one of the founders and is the first elected Venerable of Columbus Lodge #2143. Pat Landi hails from Brooklyn, NY and received his undergraduate education from Columbus University and his law degree from Brooklyn Law School of St. Lawrence University (1933). He was an attorney by profession and served as Venerable of the Sons of Italy's Silvio Pellico Lodge in Brooklyn (1932-35). Twenty-nine years later, Pat Landi recognized a need to unite Italian-Americans against negative stereotypes. He organized and became a charter member of Columbus Lodge on the day the lodge was constituted, February 16, 1964. He was given membership #1 and elected as the lodge's first Venerable at age 56. Under Venerable Landi's leadership the membership swelled to over 1,200 members, making Columbus Lodge the largest in the Nation.

Known for his ability to command an audience, President Landi was a visionary that orchestrated the purchase of a building during the first year in which the lodge was constituted. The building served as a symbol of permanence at a time when some did not welcome Italian-Americans moving next door. Fifty years later, the building at 2143 Boundary Avenue is still the home of Columbus Lodge. Pat also recognized a need to involve the membership's family and supported the establishment of a Ladies Auxiliary. His wife Jane served as the first president of the Ladies Auxiliary. In 1971, Pat and Jane have the distinction of having a lodge named after each of them – the P. Vincent Landi Lodge #2239 and the Jane H. Landi Lodge #2239A; both are located in Rocky Point, NY.

Upon completion of his second term as Venerable, Pat Landi expanded his influence in the Sons of Italy to the Grand Lodge. Pat would serve only two years as Assistant Grand Venerable before being elected for two terms as NYS Grand Venerable, serving from 1969 to 1973. Nationally, Pat served as Supreme Treasurer (1977-81) and National Chairman of the Commission on Bias, Bigotry & Prejudice which he initiated in 1970. This committee would evolve into the Commission of Social Justice (1980). He also served as Supreme Deputy of the Northeast and Canada.

In 1980 Pat and Jane Landi received the Family of the Year Award. And in 1985 the NYS Grand Lodge awarded Pat Landi the prestigious Bene Emeritus Award for outstanding deeds that enhance the image of the Italian American community, followed by the Columbus Lodge bestowing the honor of Lifetime member. Brother Pat was also involved in other community organizations. He was an active member of the Elks and Knights of Columbus. He received the honorary awards from the Boys Town of Italy and a Humanitarian Award from the American Committee on Italian Migration for his assistance during the 1968 earthquake in Sicily. Preceded by his wife Jane, Patrick Vincent Landi died on October 8, 1994, at the age of 87.

ANGELO RONCALLO (1966-67)

Angelo is recognized as one of the founding fathers of the Columbus Lodge and was part of the original group of men that recognized a need for an Italian organization in the Farmingdale/Massapequa area and then followed through. Brother Angelo is a Veteran of World War II and served in the U.S. Army (1944-45). He is a graduate of Manhattan College and received his law degree from Georgetown University. Brother Angelo passed the NYS Bar exam and served a long and distinguished career in public service. In 1972 he was a delegate at the Republican National Committee. He served as Town of Oyster Bay Councilman, Nassau County controller, U.S. Congressman, and NYS Supreme Court Judge. Upon appointment to the bench the lodge honored Brother Angelo with a robe and gavel.



Angelo became a charter member on the day the lodge was constituted, February 16, 1964 and was given membership #2. He served as Assistant Venerable under Pat Landi and was instrumental in the rapid growth of the lodge – a growth that became number one in the nation. At age 38, his charisma and leadership abilities made Brother Angelo a likely successor to lead Columbus Lodge into its third year of existence. After his tenure as Venerable, Brother Angelo continued his commitment to Italian-Americans on Long Island by establishing the Nassau County chapter of the American Committee for Italian Migration. He became involved in the Grand Lodge by serving as Grand Trustee and served as Chairman of the Commission for Social Justice Committee. On an OSIA National level Angelo was appointed National Deputy to the State of Connecticut. In 1988, the NYS Grand Lodge bestowed upon Brother Angelo the prestigious Bene Emeritus Award in recognition for his lifetime of achievements and, in 2004 he was selected as a lifetime member of Columbus Lodge.

Angelo's leadership abilities transcended to other areas in his life. He was a founding parishioner at Maria Regina R.C. Church in Seaford. He was also co-founder of the Massapequa Elks Club and the Nassau County Chapter of the American Committee for Italian Migration. During his retirement years, Brother Angelo served as a mentor to many lodge members. Each Saturday morning, until his passing, he would enjoy meeting with old friends for breakfast to discuss lodge politics or the issues of the day. Angelo was proud of Columbus Lodge and supported the lodge's scholarship program. Brother Angelo died of a heart attack on May 4, 2010; just three weeks shy of his 83rd birthday.

DOMINICK "DOM" or "ZITZI" BARANELLO (1967-68)

Dominick is recognized as one of the founding fathers and is the third Venerable of the lodge. He became a charter member of Columbus Lodge on the day the lodge was constituted, February 16, 1964 and was given membership #3. Raised in Brooklyn, Dom was an enterprising person determined to succeed; a real go-getter who could get things done. He worked in the purchasing Department at Ford Instrument Company and at the Brooklyn Navy Yard. He moved to North Massapequa in 1952 and started a plumbing and heating business. Dom then began working for the Town of Oyster Bay, where he held several positions in the Building Department, including Chief Plumbing inspector.

The son of an Italian immigrant and highway laborer, Brother Dominick was instilled with a strong sense of pride in his Italian heritage and a strong work ethic. It was that work ethic that made him a perfect complement for visionary Landi. Dom served on the original 1964 council and was elected as an original lodge delegate to serve at the Grand Lodge Convention. He also has the distinction of being the chairman of the lodge's First Anniversary Gala. Known as "Zitzi" because of his unbridled energy, magnetic personality, and commitment to growth of the lodge Zitzi helped propel the lodge to reach a high of 1,800 members.

In a challenged 1966 election Zitzi was elected First Venerable under Angelo Roncallo. A year later he was unopposed when elected Venerable at age 53. About this time, the lodge began holding annual Children's Christmas Party. Members would drive to a local orphanage pick up the children and bring them back to join members' children; 600 had met with Santa. Soon after his term ended, Zitzi served four years as a Grand Trustee (1971-75). He was also elected and served as Supreme Delegate in 1977.

In 1974 Dom became superintendent of Building and Public Works in Nassau County. In 1978 he became Superintendent of Town Beaches until he retired in 1984. On April 14, 1993 Dominick became the second member to be elected as a Lifetime member. Looking back at his contributions, one may conclude that Brother Dom was the fuel that drove Columbus Lodge in its early years. During Dominick Baranello's twilight years, he stepped back from OSIA council decisions until his untimely passing on May 17, 1996 at the age of 83.

JOSEPH J. "JOE" SALADINO (1968-69)

Joe was elected as the fourth Venerable and will always be remembered for his humility and sense of humor. The son of Italian immigrants, Brother Joe came from humble beginnings and was a self made man. Drafted into the Army Infantry during WWII, Joe volunteered twice to serve as a Marine in Korea, attending St. John's University



Columbus Lodge #2143

Law School between both service terms. In 1964 he moved to Massapequa and became a charter member of Columbus Lodge. He was given membership #583. Challenged elections each year were common place during this era. Joe was only on the council a couple of years when he won a challenged election for 1st Assistant Venerable under Venerable Baranello and then won elected Venerable at age 43. As Venerable Saladino, he helped nurture the lodge's growth. Member Pete Gisonda recalls that he ran an effective and efficient administration and that his meetings were often peppered with humorous anecdotes and witticisms.

After his term as president, Brother Joe took his experience to the Town of Oyster Bay Board where he spearheaded the completion of John J. Burns Park and Bayfront Park, and paved the way for senior housing. He then served as Nassau County First District Court Judge. In 1985 brother Joe became the second Columbus Lodge Venerable to be appointed as a NYS Supreme Court Judge. To properly honor him, the lodge purchased robes and gavel thus continuing a tradition that occurs whenever a member is appointed or elected to sit on the bench. In 1990, Joe proudly witnessed his son Joseph S. Saladino's installation into Columbus Lodge. On April 17, 2000, Joseph J. Saladino died on Palm Sunday after a lengthy battle with conjunctive heart failure, he was 75.

In September, 2010 the Tobay Marina was re-christened the Joseph J. Saladino Memorial Marina in Brother Joe's honor. Presiding over the proceedings was Oyster Bay Town Supervisor John Venditto, who had first suggested the dedication of the marina to honor Saladino for his accomplishments. Judge Saladino's son, Assemblyman Joseph S. Saladino and the Judge's family unveiled the new sign officially proclaiming the new marina in Joseph J. Saladino's name.

LOUIS NEIL "LOU" AGRESTA (1969-70)

Lou's ties to Columbus Lodge begin before the lodge submitted an application for a charter. He was among the original group of men that made the decision to establish a lodge in the Massapequa area and be part of the Sons of Italy, a national organization. After a few informal meetings, Lou's connections pointed him toward Giuseppe A. Nigro, founder of the Loggia Glen Cove #1016 in 1920. Nigro and others members from Glen Cove completed and submitted the application for a charter, which was granted in December 1963. Nigro served as acting Herald for the ceremony institution of the lodge and Hon. Carmine A. Ventiera, father of CL Past President Tony Ventiera, acted as presiding officer.

Lou became a charter member of Columbus Lodge on the day the lodge was constituted, February 16, 1964 and was given membership #6. He served on the original 1964 council as Financial Secretary, not an easy task since he had to create a record keeping system from scratch, track costs for the newly purchased building that was bought with bonds issued by the lodge using membership money, and was responsible for monitoring the membership count which swelled to 1,200 in just two years. Lou was also elected as an original delegate to represent the lodge at its State Convention. Yet despite his efforts, he was unsuccessfully challenged when seeking Orator and Assistant Venerable positions before finally being elected the 5th Venerable of the lodge at age 49.

President Agresta served admirably and after completing his term in office served as Immediate Past Venerable under John D. Dorsi. In 1976-77 he was served as NYS Grand Lodge Deputy to Mario Biaggi Lodge before focusing his attention on a music store that he owned and operated in Massapequa. Some still remember the music store's location, which was opposite Krisch's Restaurant & Ice Cream Parlour at Central Avenue in Massapequa. Lou's commitment and the role he played during the formation of the lodge should never be trivialized. Lou Agresta died in 1995 at the age of 86.

JOHN D. DORSI (1970-72)

At age 50, John was the sixth Venerable of Columbus Lodge, the first Venerable elected during the decade of the 1970s, and the first Venerable to serve two terms since P. Vincent Landi. In 1964 John became a charter member of Columbus Lodge and was given membership #633. He was known for his enjoyment of a good cigar and had a jolly personality. Having served as Assistant Venerable, when Lou Agresta completed his term John ran unopposed



for Venerable. Through his ties as a regional distributor with Coca Cola Company, Venerable Dorsi ensured the lodge had all the soda it needed at no charge. Members fondly remember a storage room filled with boxes of Coca Cola.

It was during this era of the 1970s and into the early 1980s that the lodge held some of its most lavish dances, almost monthly, as a means of fraternalism and financial support. The Entertainment committee was one of the most prestigious and hardest working of all committees as dances regularly ranged between 400-600 people. According to someone in the know, before the decade would end, one affair hit a record 875 people which was just 25 shy of the Fire Marshal's limit. Truly the 1970s was an amazing era.

Upon completing his term as president, Brother John Dorsi was soon whisked away to serve at the Grand Lodge level. He was elected NYS Grand Orator in 1972 and served thru 1974. John's election as Grand Orator reunited him with Pat Landi, who was beginning his second two year term as NYS Grand Venerable. During his time as Grand Orator, John Dorsi was among those credited with helping to bring Italian Night as an annual event to Eisenhower Park in East Meadow. Over the past 42 years, Italian Night at Eisenhower Park continues to be a tradition in Nassau County. In 1974 he presided over the installation of over 200 members of the newly formed Dr. Vincenzo Sellaro Lodge in Smithtown. After serving at the Grand Lodge level, Brother John's involvement wane over time, last appearing at the lodge only months before he passed away. John D. Dorsi died November 18, 2000, he was 81.

NICHOLAS "NICK" VIGLIETTA (1972-74)

Nick was unanimously selected as the seventh Venerable of Columbus Lodge just one month before his 40th birthday and is recognized as one of the most articulate, appealing, and charismatic Venerable in lodge history. Nick was born in Corona, NY and raised in Massapequa where he achieved awards in both scholastics and athletics. He is a graduate of Hofstra College in 1956, majoring in Economics and served in the U.S. Army upon graduation from college. He started a Formal Wear Rental business which led to the tradition of tuxedos being worn when being installed.

Nick became a charter member of Columbus Lodge on the day the lodge was constituted, February 16, 1964 and was given #286. From his first day as a member, Nick participated in just about everything associated with the lodge from sweeping the parking lot and scrubbing the bathroom floors, to running the catering hall, to making and executing policy decisions on the local lodge and Grand lodge level. One of Nick's greatest assets was his problem solving abilities. When the lodge needed a banner with which to march in its first parade, Nick had two days to design and get a specially embroidered banner made. The purple Altar Cloth was actually made by Nick's mother in 1965 and can be seen today proudly displayed in the meeting room at the lodge.

Nick joined the council as Master of Ceremony in the second year of the lodge's existence. As entertainment chairman he ran dances that are still talked about in some circles. His dances became so popular that the revenue sustained the building's financial costs. Nick worked his way up through the ranks and was the popular choice to follow John Dorsi as venerable. As Venerable, Viglietta ensured the lodge had a strong financial foundation. When he ran for a second term, Nick Viglietta became only the third venerable to serve consecutive terms; the others being Landi and Dorsi. "Brother Nick has set an example we should all follow," said then-President Sam Novarro at a testimonial held in Nick's honor in 1990.

After his term in office Nick became involved at the Grand Lodge and in 1985 and again 1987 was unopposed in his election to the position of State President. During this time, Nick was instrumental in the purchase of a Grand Lodge building in Bellmore, NY. Recognized for his contributions to the Grand Lodge, Brother Nick was selected as Bene Emeritus Award Winner in 1999 and was selected as a Lifetime member of Columbus Lodge in 2004. Despite moving to New Jersey, Nick has never forgotten his Columbus Lodge roots. He continues to financially support the scholarship program, avails himself to provide mentoring advice to current council members, checks in with past presidents on lodge affairs, and attends (sometimes host) lodge installations. Nick and his lovely wife Maureen currently reside in New Jersey.



THE PRESIDENTS (1974-83)

The decade was part of the Wild West era that was filled with challenged elections throughout the ranks. This era also continued the tradition of large, lavish dances, recreational poker, and Friday night family dinners. Following in the then-traditional “one term” Venerable/President path forged by Angelo Roncallo, the first six venerable during this period served one term. However, by 1980 that trend would change when back-to-back presidents would serve two consecutive terms, unprecedented at that time but the start of a new trend that would dominate Columbus Lodge politics over the next thirty years.

FRANK “FRANKIE D” Di DOMENICA (1974-75)

Brother Frank was elected as the lodge’s 9th Venerable and served during its 10th anniversary. A World War II veteran, Frankie D. had a very charismatic personality. He was part of the original group of men that proposed the concept of a Massapequa Lodge to Giuseppe Nigro, founder of the Glen Cove Lodge. A charter member, Frankie D. was initiated on the day the lodge was constituted, given membership #30, and served on the original 1964 council as Master of Ceremony. Although challenged along the way, Frankie earned his reputation as a dedicated member with an electric personality. He always wore a smile. He served as Trustee (1966-70), Orator (1970-72) and Assistant Venerable (1972-74).

After ten years on the Council, Frank Di Domenica was unchallenged in his bid to become Venerable of the lodge in 1974. As Venerable, he oversaw the lodge’s catering operations, which was run by the members at the time to maintain the building expenses. The captivating Venerable continued to hold lavish fraternal dances and Friday spaghetti night, which was popular with the membership. In what is now the fireplace room in the catering portion of the building, members could take their families out for dinner at a reasonable price. A Vegas style slot machine decorated the restaurant area. The “one armed bandit” dime slot machine was popular with both adults and children. In his final president’s message Frank stated, “I was lucky to have a good year, sometimes grueling, sometimes discouraging, but always rewarding. I have never seen a year go by so fast.”

Unfortunately, Frankie D.’s full value to the lodge was cut short. In 1975, just months after completing his term in office, Frankie suffered a fatal heart attack; the news of his death sent numbness throughout the membership. Not only was his death sudden and unexpected, he was the first Venerable (past or present) to die. Soon after his burial, the lodge placed a commemorative plaque in the lobby to honor him. Part of the inscription reads, “His dedication to his community and Columbus Lodge, his unselfishness, and constant giving of himself will remain inspirational to all of us.”

CARL CADASCIA (1975-76)

Brother Carl is the 9th Venerable in lodge history. He joined the lodge in 1967 and was given membership #1611. During the early 1970s, Carl was Vice President of the Flushing Federal Savings and Loan Association when he began an aggressive move up the council ranks. In 1975, at the tender age of 36, Carl was the first non-charter member to be elected as Venerable; a notable event at that time. As Venerable, Carl launched a short-lived Flea Market and Bazaar in the parking lot as a fund raiser. About this time the Second Assistant Venerable position was created for the council; Frank Di Domenica Jr. (the son of Past Venerable Frankie D) served in the inaugural position.

While Venerable Cadascia was on vacation, a movement ensued to convert from a men’s lodge into a co-ed lodge. This was perhaps the closest CL would come to being co-ed during its first 50-years. The motion passed however, upon his return Cadascia declared the vote null and void. Members of the Ladies Auxiliary were encouraged to create an all women’s lodge. With Columbus Lodge’s sponsorship, the Ann Bambino Lodge was created. The new lodge unknowingly decimated the Ladies Auxiliary, which had served as a valuable support arm for generating revenue. According to Five-term Auxiliary President Pauline Bove, “During this time the Ladies



Auxiliary was dead until Carl Cadascia asked me to try and bring the Auxiliary back.” With the President’s encouragement the Auxiliary was rebuilt and began running fund-raisers to help sustain building expenses.

In keeping with the trend at the time, upon completion of his term as Venerable, Cadascia did not seek re-election. He served as Grand Trustee from 1977-79. In December 1981 Carl was promoted to President of the Flushing Federal Savings and Loan Association and by 1984 he found himself entangled with World Wide Ventures, a holding company that planned on developing a resort in the Pocono Mountains. Cadascia’s entanglement took him away from the lodge until 2000, when he made a brief return to the Council. In 2009 he moved to Florida and today, Carl Cadascia, 75, is believed to be residing in the Naples, Florida area.

VINCENT J. “VINNIE” FLORIANI (1976-77)

Brother Vinnie became a charter member of Columbus Lodge and was given membership card #55 on the day the lodge was constituted, February 16, 1964. Known as a quiet man with a big heart, at age 52, he was elected as the tenth Venerable of the lodge and served one term. Brother Vinnie was a longtime Massapequa attorney and resident, whose knowledge of general and contract law would serve the lodge well, especially during its early formative years. In 1975 when the lodge sponsored the Ann Bambino Lodge #2353 into the Order, Brother Vinnie served as presiding Herald at the Ceremony of its Institution.

After serving many years at various council positions, including Recording Secretary, Orator and Assistant Venerable, and having overcome challenged elections Vincent Floriani was unchallenged when he ran for Venerable and won the 1976 election by affirmation. Although sometimes tested because of continuous building issues, Venerable Floriani had a good term in office. In one of his last messages to the membership, he stated, “Overcoming the problems of maintaining a lodge such as ours takes a lot of work and dedication, requiring the cooperation and assistance of all the members of the lodge as well as the guidance from its officers. We can ill afford to fragment or polarize the membership at any time and especially at a crucial period when elections are in the offing.”

After completion of his term, Vinnie Floriani continued to offer legal expertise spanning sixteen administrations. During the late 1990s, Vinnie used his influence to save the lodge thousands of dollars in potential “Code” violation penalties. He was appointed as NYS Grand Lodge Deputy to the Mario Biaggi Lodge and serve as a lodge delegate at numerous Grand Lodge conventions. A long time financial supporter of the lodge’s scholarship program, Vinnie was selected as a Lifetime member of Columbus Lodge in 2004. Vinnie was also involved in other civic organizations, serving on the Nassau County Youth Board, was a Republican Committeeman, and was a member of the Massapequa Elks Club. Vincent Floriani died on May 18, 2007, he was 83.

JOSEPH “JOE” CANGEMI (1977-78)

Brother Joe was unanimously elected as the eleventh Venerable of the lodge. Before joining, he served in the 24th Division of the U.S. Army Medical Corp in Korea, receiving an honorable discharge and is proud member of the American Legion. He had a successful business career that includes launching Accurate TV Corp., Ltd., Authorized Data Service, and Data Vision, Inc. In 1972 Brother Joe joined the lodge, receiving membership #2302. Immediately, he seemed comfortable among the lodge and Grand Lodge leadership; joining then-Venerable John Dorsi at the first annual Italian night event held at Eisenhower Park in Nassau County (1972). By 1973 he was elected as a Trustee and in 1975 served as State Membership chairman.

Joe’s assertive movement up the council ranks enabled him to become Venerable in just five years at age 39. Under Venerable Cangemi’s administration, the lodge’s scholarship program expanded to include grants to members’ children, grandchildren and outreach program at local high schools. Joe would support this program after his presidency by serving as scholarship journal chairman. Years later, upon being selected as the seventh Columbus Lodge member to receive the prestigious Bene Emeritus Award (2011) Joe specifically mentioned his admiration



Columbus Lodge #2143

and pride for the lodge's scholarship program in his biography. The program has awarded scholarships to over 530 graduating high school students. In a twist of irony, Joe's granddaughter Christina Michelle Ahlsen was a recipient of the lodge's Scholastic Award in 2009.

Upon completion of his term in office, Brother Joe became an officer of the Grand Lodge. He joined P. Vincent Landi as one of the pioneers of the Commission of Social Justice (1980) and served in numerous State positions including State 2nd VP under fellow Brother Nick Viglietta. Ultimately, Brother Joe would be elected Grand Lodge President and serve two terms from 1997-2001. Joe has always been extremely proud of his Italian-American heritage and dedicated his presidency to do all he could to end bias, bigotry, and stereotyping. The motto he brought forth during his tenure was "Strength in Unity, Pride in Heritage, Love of Family!"

In 2004 Joe was selected as a Lifetime member of Columbus Lodge and in 2010 he was honored for his contributions at the Commission for Social Justice's 30th Anniversary celebration. Today, Joe still stays informed about lodge matters through the Navigator and by contacting old friends. Now in his seventies, Joe Cangemi is retired and currently living in Hicksville.

PHILIP "PHIL" FASULLO (1978-79)

Brother Phil became a charter member of Columbus Lodge on the day the lodge was constituted, February 16, 1964 and is the last charter member elected to lead the lodge. Brother Phil was 34 years old when he was handed membership card #52 and although fifty years have passed, he vividly recalls the years of hard work and the late night meetings filled with disagreements that seemed to extend to the early morning hours during the early years. "I was on the entertainment committee for many years and we'd have a thousand people attend. At the end of the night I would grab a scraper and take the gum off of the floor," said Fasullo.

Phil was known as a man of few words but many accomplishments. He began as a Master of Ceremonies and was unchallenged at every position he sought, which he recalls as "unusual at that time." Taking a pause from Council to serve as Grand Deputy to the Rocky Marciano Lodge (1975-76) and chairman of the basement renovation committee, Phil returned to council in 1977 and was elected First Assisted Venerable. In a 2012 conversation, Phil recalls "Joe's (Cangemi) original intent was to serve one term because he had State aspirations." And so a year later, at the age of 48, Phil Fasullo was elected the 12th Venerable of the lodge.

As Venerable Fasullo, he recalls "in those days there were no hand outs because there was no money. Back then, the only glory about being Venerable was that I didn't have to wait on lines for my meal." Before leaving office, the lodge's application to hold Las Vegas Nights was submitted. Through the years, Phil remained active on various committees and was a frequent delegate at the annual Grand Lodge conventions. His last council position was serving on the Commission of Arbitration from 1994-96. He was selected as a Lifetime member of Columbus Lodge in 2004. In recent years Phil continues to attend lodge socials and makes it a point to attend annual officer installations. Now in his eighties, Phil Fasullo currently resides in Massapequa.

JOSEPH A. "JOE" MAGLIATO (1979-80)

Brother Joe was the last Venerable elected in the 1970s and the 13th Venerable in lodge history. He was a World War II veteran who served as a U.S. Army Medic and became a member of the lodge in 1973. Joe served on many committees, was elected delegate to the State convention on many occasions, and earned a reputation as someone who was always available to lend a hand. As editor of the Navigator, his editorials showcased his superior writing skills. Even tempered and well spoken, Joe moved up the ranks quickly and in less than six years he was unchallenged in his bid to become Venerable at age 50.

Once elected, Venerable Magliato maintained a calmness and stability at a time when outside distractions included exploding gas prices, high inflation, and rising unemployment. He selected Frank DeFazio to chair his first of many



roast beef dinner Blood Drives. BINGO nights provided added revenue. When Joe completed his term the lodge was financially sound. In his final Venerable message, Joe stated, "In one year I have stored enough memories that will last for a lifetime. I dedicated myself to those ideals of our Order: Liberty, Equality, Fraternity, with the emphasis on fraternity."

After completing his presidency, Joe returned as editor of the Navigator for the next dozen years and even elected to council serving as Orator (1987-89), before gravitating to the State at a time when fraternal brother Nick Viglietta became State President. Soon after Viglietta's reelection in 1987, Joe was appointed as a State Deputy to the Galileo Galilei Lodge #2253 in Hicksville and continued to serve as a State Deputy until 1993. At the lodge's 25th Anniversary Gala, (1989), Joe wrote, "This lodge is a spawning ground for men with talent and ambition. Men who have served as leaders of this lodge have gone onto loftier goals."

After residing in Farmingdale for forty years, Joe moved to Tampa, FL in 1996. Once in Florida, he co-founded Loggia Mona Lisa #2699 and was elected to serve as its first president. Under Joe's leadership the Tampa based coed lodge flourished. He established a scholarship program, a newspaper, and arranged for social events. Joe's wife Annette aided her husband during these years in various capacities. Even today Annette currently serves as recording secretary. Joseph A. Magliato died suddenly on February 26, 2008 at the age of 79. Soon after his death Loggia Mona Lisa honored Joe posthumously by naming a scholarship award in his honor.

GREGORY J. "GREG" GIAMMALVO (1980-82)

Brother Greg was initiated into the lodge in 1973 and carries card membership #2418. He served as By-Law Chairman from 1975-76 and was elected to serve on the council as Second and then First Assistant Venerable from 1978-80. At 30-years old, just four months shy of his 31st birthday, Greg opened the decade of the 1980s as the youngest installed Venerable/President in lodge history. The Council also featured 31-year old Recording Secretary, John Venditto. In his acceptance speech, published in the March 1980 Navigator, Venerable Giammolvo stated, "Involvement is the only way to reap the friendship and the experience that our lodge is ready to offer."

During his first term the outside of the building was painted and gym equipment was purchased. During this time fraternal brother Joe Saladino was presented with judicial robes and John Musicaro was named National Trustee. In 1981 Venerable Giammalvo became only the fourth Venerable to serve two terms, unusual for that era but the beginning of a new trend that would dominate elections over the next 34 years. His second term ended with the eviction of tenant North Star Caterers for nonpayment. In his final message Greg selflessly stated, "Personally, the most gratifying event occurred at the Grand Lodge Convention when the P. Vincent Landi Family was presented the Family of the year Award." Greg would continue to attend lodge functions and serve as a state delegate before career and family commitments consumed his time. In 2004, Brother Greg was selected as a Lifetime member of the lodge.

Greg was admitted to the New York Bar in 1975 and would go on to have a successful career in public service as Town Attorney for Township of Oyster Bay. Greg also coached Massapequa U7 Girls Soccer in 1988 and credits himself as being the first soccer coach of young Christie Welsh. Welsh would become the most decorated player in Massapequa High School and Penn State soccer history. A 4-time college All-American, she would play 10-years on the U.S. National Women's Soccer Team alongside soccer legend Mia Hamm. Great coaching Greg! Today, Gregory J. Giammalvo, 65, maintains a private law practice in Massapequa and currently resides in Massapequa Park.

JACK TRINCA (1982-84)

Brother Jack was unchallenged in his bid to become the 15th President in lodge history and served two terms. Installed as a member in early 1965, he proudly carries membership #1079. Jack is the last elected Venerable in



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lodge history; the Grand Lodge changed the title from Venerable to President during his tenure in office. Known for his no nonsense persona, Jack vividly recalls the early years were filled with long hours and hard work; still he considers it the best fraternal days he would experience, “Gene Nitti and I would put up beams, doors, Gene just did it all without any approval. We needed a wall he would put it up.”

During the 1970s Jack served four terms as Financial Secretary. He recalls, “We would do anything just to pay the bills. I remember one party the band just stopped playing and we had the money by midnight to pay the mortgage otherwise the bank would foreclose the next day.” Encouraged to leap to Second Assistant Venerable, Jack was elected in 1979, followed by a successful run for First Assistant Venerable in 1980. Just two months shy of his 50th birthday, Jack Trinca was elected Venerable in March 1982.

Installed during one of the lodge’s financial pinches, Venerable Trinca made decisions that centered-around fundraising and financial survival. In his second term, the three year battle with NYS to obtain a Las Vegas license ended with approval. Under the watchful eyes of Nellie Giordano and Fred Penna, Vegas Nights would become a key source of revenue over the next 15-years. The Crystal Palace became the lodge’s new tenant and as Jack’s term was ending the lodge reached its 20th birthday with an improved balance sheet.

Jack would become president Selecto Flash Safety Inc., a Lindenhurst based company which he joined in 1960 and worked his way up to owner. He would continue to attend lodge meetings and engage in spirited discussions. In 2004 he was selected as a Lifetime member. Today, Jack is still President of Selecto and can also be found at the lodge enjoying an occasional afternoon card game. An avid golfer when his back holds up, he continues to support lodge fundraisers including golf outings and the annual scholarship journal. Now in his eighties, Jack Trinca currently resides in Babylon, NY.



30 Years Ago...

MADONNA

In 1984, Italian-American recording Artist Madonna Louise Ciccone (better known as Madonna) had her first 10 Ten Bill Board hit, “Borderline” on June 16th. The song peaked to #2 and was the song that made her a Star.



THE PRESIDENTS (1984-93)

The men that governed the lodge during this decade had broad range of leadership styles. The decade had its surprise challenges and its tragedies. The men of this period were all elected president while in their fifties and all had a history of long term dedication to the lodge before moving up the ranks. One left us suddenly with an unfilled promise. The others all entered office with a passion toward wanting to leave the lodge better than when they entered. All would continue to support to the lodge and the Order long after their term in office.

MICHAEL "MIKE" IANNONE (1984-85)

Mike became the third elected president of the 1980s and overall became the 16th president in lodge history. As a young man, when the Korean War broke out Mike enlisted in the Navy and served four years as 3rd Class Petty officer. He moved to Farmingdale in 1960, installed as a member of the lodge in 1967, and carries membership card #1079. Mike enjoyed a successful 40-year career at Narda Microwave, a manufacturer of electronic equipment. He was involved in cutting edge space technology and tested equipment.

Along Mike's journey he served on a variety of committees, including being on the original scholarship selection committee in 1978 with Monsignor Tom Hartman (of God Squad fame) and Pauline Bove (of Ladies Auxiliary fame). Mike would serve as Scholarship Chairman until his election as lodge president. Other notable committees included BINGO, Las Vegas, and Spaghetti night. On the Council, Mike was Recording Secretary in 1978 and then First and Second assistant President. After serving two years as First Assistant President under Jack Trinca, he was elected President at age 53.

President Iannone was a humble and serene leader who carried himself in a dignified manner. During this time, the first ever Committeeman Dance was launched and it became an annual event for the next 20-years. President Iannone did not micromanage his committees, instead he allowed his committee chairman to run their programs. After completing his term in office, Mike continued to serve the lodge and OSIA. He was appointed by the Grand Lodge to serve as a District II Deputy of the Loggia Glen Cove – a position he has accepted on several occasions. Before, during, and after his presidency, Mike has been routinely elected to represent the lodge as a delegate at the State convention.

Because of his knowledge of Bi-law policies and procedures, Mike has been appointed by several lodge presidents to preside as chairman of the Nominating Committee. In 2004, he was selected as a Lifetime member of Columbus Lodge. Today Mike's dignified presence and support of incumbent presidents is felt at every meeting. He continues to assist on committees including the Italian Feast & Festival, and supports lodge fund-raisers and functions including golf outings, scholarship journals, local dances, and galas. Now in his eighties, Mike Iannone still resides in Farmingdale.

ARMAND J. VELLA (1985-87)

A hard worker and a man of principle, Armand was elected the 17th president of the lodge nearly twenty years after being initiated. A lithographer foreman by trade, Armand joined the lodge in September 1965 and was assigned membership card #995. A throwback to the traditional values of the lodge's Founding Fathers, he served on many committees and was elected as Trustee in 1981. After a 1982 setback attempt for Orator, Armand beat the odds by running off the floor in 1985 to become the first and only challenger to beat an incumbent president. At the time he



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ran, Brother Armand felt it was in the lodge's best interest but in recent years he admitted regret calling it "a mistake."

Once elected President, the 56-year old Vella ignited a perceptible upsurge in fraternal interest, the Vegas tent boomed, and the lodge's finances were strengthened. Maintaining a strong popularity, President Vella was unopposed when he ran for a second term. After his presidency, Armand continued to hold significant influence on lodge decisions and election politics over the next 25 years. As IPP he was appointed Chairman of the financially successful Vegas Committee; holding that position for nearly a decade. He continued to occupy elected council positions serving as Treasurer and Financial Secretary. He was a mainstay as Chairman of the Children's Christmas Party for nearly 20-years, ran Atlantic City trips, and championed the Columbus Lodge Youth Program ("CLYP").

A decade after he had served as president, Armand once again surprised many by running and winning the First VP position in 1997. His decision to run anchored a slate of candidates that would all become president. Despite his popularity and influence, Armand held true to his campaign promise of only serving for one term and did not flirt with the idea of returning for a second stint as president. Appreciated by the membership, Armand was routinely elected as a delegate to the annual State convention and in 2004 he was selected as a Lifetime member and received the State President's Award. Armand and his wife Emilia are one of only four couples to have served as president of the lodge and president of the auxiliary, respectively.

At the State level, Armand has been elected State Trustee and appointed District II Deputy on three occasion (Edward J. Speno Lodge in East Meadow, the John Michael Marino Lodge in Port Washington, and the Donatello Lodge in Westbury) serving two terms each. He was appointed State special Olympics Chairman, coached youth baseball, and has served 15 years as Chairman on both the State Convention and State Bowling committees. A year ago he was spotted helping at the annual Children's Christmas Party. In 2013, Armand he was nominated and finished first runner-up for the prestigious Bene Emeritus Award. On September 21, 2013 Armand Vella died, he was 84.

NELSON "NELLIE" GIORDANO (1987-89)

Nellie was unanimously elected the 18th president at age 57 and served two terms. Nellie joined the lodge in 1976 and those who knew him described him as a very loyal and hard worker; a reputation earned because of the many hours spent working at the lodge. Nellie served on many committees and council positions - working his way up the ranks. Upon installation, President Giordano's approach toward governing ignited spirited discussions that could extend into the night. He appointed Armand Vella to assist Fed Penna as co-chairman of the financially successful Las Vegas Committee. The Vegas committee's continued success provided funds for scholarship expansion, lodge donations, and building repairs.

With improved finances, President Giordano was unchallenged in his bid for a second term. During this time, the lodge ran a successful moonlight bowling event and Angelo Delligatti, a second generation lodge member, was sworn in as Town of Oyster Bay Supervisor. After Nellie's presidency was completed, he continued his commitment to the lodge, joining the Vegas committee for the next eight years. In October 1989 Nellie was the honoree at the lodge's 25th anniversary gala and soon after elected as a State Trustee joining State IPP Nick Viglietta and State Second VP Joe Cangemi at the Grand Lodge. He served six years as State Deputy (1990-1995) including a stretch with the Giuseppi Verdi Lodge in Syosset. Five years after his presidency, Nellie was elected Trustee to the Columbus Lodge council and served from 1994-96. In addition, Nellie was regularly elected by the membership to serve as delegate at the annual State convention.



Brother Nellie had a distinguished career at Grumman Aerospace in Bethpage before retiring and was involved in other local community organizations. He was a supporter of Farmingdale Football Team in the 1960s and one of the founders of the Nassau County Babe Ruth League in the 1950s. Nellie and his wife Lucy are one of only four couples to have served as president of the lodge and president of the Ladies Auxiliary, respectively. Nellie Giordano died on September 13, 2003, he was 73. Since his passing, Lucy has dedicated a journal ad annually in his memory.

SANTO "SAM" NOVARRO (1989-91)

Sam closed out the decade of the eighties by being elected as the 19th president of the lodge in an unchallenged election and served two terms. Before becoming president, Sam served over 20-years as a NYC police officer, taught at Farmingdale State College, and was owner and operator of his own real estate business. These positions would help prepare him in leading the lodge. Sam initiation into the lodge in 1974 began a 15-year journey, complete with twists and turns, to the presidency. At age 58, Sam became president, "If you want something badly enough you will learn to be patient and persistent until it comes to you."

President Sam Novarro served during the lodge's 25th Anniversary. Then-NYS Governor Mario Cuomo wished for continued success. Novarro ran economical meetings and handled Crystal Palace tenant issues and fraternal issues in a serene manner. Vegas revenue continued to be a strong fundraiser and allowed for the scholarship program to expand to four high schools in the community. In 1990, President Novarro hosted a testimonial honoring then out going State President Nick Viglietta. After serving, Sam continued his commitment to the lodge by chairing numerous committees including membership and, mortuary & welfare. He sponsored his brother Lenny into the lodge in 1998; Lenny would serve 12 years as chaplain. In 1999, Sam volunteered and successfully led a task force that found a new tenant for the lodge; his real estate background aided in this success.

Sam's involvement in the Grand Lodge expanded in the late 1990s. He was appointed on three occasions as State Deputy to the following lodges: the Loggio Glen Cove Lodge, Giuseppe Verdi Lodge, and the Giovanni Caboto Lodge, in successive order serving from 1998-2003. He was regularly elected to serve as lodge delegate at the annual State convention and in 2004 he was selected as a Lifetime member of lodge. Sam and his wife Anita are one of only four couples to have served as president of the lodge and president of the auxiliary, respectively. Now in his eighties, Sam rarely attends council meetings however he does keep informed about lodge politics and still enjoys afternoon visits. Sam and Anita currently reside in Farmingdale.

DOMENICO "DAN" COLANTONE (1991-93)

Dan was elected as the 20th president of the lodge by affirmation and a year later was unchallenged in his reelection bid. Sponsored by Nick Viglietta, Dan was initiated as a member of the lodge in 1979 and worked his way through various council positions. A stickler when it came to running his committee within budget, Dan would work hard to ensure a financial success. After serving on numerous committees, including chairman of the picnic & parade, and after completing six years at the Chair officer ranks, Dan was unanimously elected president at age 57.

A World War II veteran, President Colantone applied the skills he developed during his career as VP of Sales for a major transportation company. His easy going St. Louis style was never mistaken as being soft. Those who made that mistake felt the stoutness of a man that could be tough as nails when he had too. Under President Colantone's leadership, the lodge continued to have successful Las Vegas nights which allowed for further expansion of the scholarship program; installed a new central air conditioning system, and extended the tenant agreement. In his



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last message to the membership, Dan thanked “all who helped me and gave me full cooperation and assistance.” Upon completion of his term, Danny served on many lodge committees, most notably the Annual Testimonial Dinner and New Year’s Eve Dance for which he chaired both for nearly a dozen years.

Dan’s dedication to the Sons of Italy extended to the National and State levels. He successfully ran for many positions using the campaign slogan, “I have the time and the experience.” Among the positions served were National Trustee, National Delegate, Commissioner of the Garibaldi Meucci Museum, State Trustee, State Delegate, State Commissioner of Arbitration, and District II Deputy to the Judge Frank A. Gulotta Lodge #2180 in East Rockaway. He also served many years on the Golden Lion Dinner Committee, Winter Charity Ball Journal Chairman, and Walk for Education Chairman. Dan’s efforts were recognized by the Grand Lodge when he received the Sellaro Award in 2003 and the Bene Emeritus award in 2010.

In addition, Brother Dan and wife Gloria, a past president of the Ann Bambino Lodge, won the State’s Family of the Year honors, and Dan has received the President’s Award. Without question, he ranks as one of the most decorated member in NYS OSIA history. In 1984 Dan was selected as a Lifetime member of Columbus Lodge and in 2011, twenty years after being elected lodge president, Dan ran off the floor at the State Convention for the position of National Delegate; defeating a highly touted candidate chosen by the nominating committee. Today, Brother Dan, 81, still keeps his pulse on lodge and State activities and is a long supporter of the Gift of Sight. He and wife Gloria Colantone currently reside in Massapequa.

ANTHONY “TONY” SCOTTO (1993-93)

Anthony was unchallenged in his election as the 21st president of the lodge. He joined the lodge in 1984 and quickly got involved in the picnic and Las Vegas committees. He was also instrumental in getting the kitchen and bar build in the Hall Meeting room. Hard working, an outgoing personality, and well liked Tony logged over eight years of service on the council, emerged victorious when challenged for the First VP position, and had accumulated six years at the Chair Officer positions when elected president. In his first message, President Scotto took a moment to mention his installation, “As always Columbus Lodge outshone itself. After the ceremony everyone who had attended was invited to a most enjoyable meal. I will remember it always.”

At the State Convention, President Scotto presented the lodge’s By-law proposal to allow the IPP to achieve automatic delegate status; the motion passed and is still on the books today. That summer he praised the July picnic, which was catered, and attended the August Queen’s Dance. Never a loss for words, in his September President’s Message he urged all new members to get involved, “We need your participation, your ideas, and your involvement to be successful.” Soon after tragedy struck when the President suffered a fatal heart attack; Anthony Scotto would never reach his potential as president. Without warning, the leadership and togetherness he inspired would have to come from another but first the lodge needed time to grieve.

Soon after his burial, the lodge dedicated a plaque in Anthony Scotto’s honor; which stood in the lodge’s lobby for many years. The inscription reads, “Deepest regrets for the loss of our dear departed president. Love, respect, family in his personal life as well as all was of the utmost importance to him. His dedication, unselfishness and constant giving of himself will never be forgotten.” In 1998, Tony’s widow Rosanne Scotto donated a chairlift to the lodge and each year since his passing, Rosanne sponsors an ad in the annual scholarship journal in remembrance of her husband, Anthony Scotto.



THE PRESIDENTS (1994-2003)

This decade produced a unique group of men that had a long standing history of service time before reaching the office of the Presidency. These men went up the ranks through hard work and dedication. Their commitment and abilities were put to the test as they faced many challenges including death, illness, financial, and inner fractions. Yet despite these challenges, these men persevered and all continued to assist incoming presidents long after their presidency ended.

ANTHONY "TONY" MUSARRA (1993-96)

Tony was installed as the 22nd president at age 62, a position he assumed after the sudden death of President Anthony Scotto. Having originally been initiated as a member in 1966, (#1295), his first challenge as president was to get the membership through a tough grieving period after the loss of Anthony Scotto. President Musarra's sensitivity, passion, and his ability to explain things in understandable terms appealed to the membership. His common sense approach toward governing inspired the confidence of a membership. That confidence re-elected him to consecutive terms making him, at 2 years and 6-months, the longest tenured president in lodge history.

Open to new ideas, President Musarra explored having Italian lessons, supported building a float for a Columbus Day Parade, and when a then-Town Attorney John Venditto (before he became Town of Oyster Bay Supervisor) proposed a street festival, Tony embraced the idea and appointed his VP Joe Pasale to lead an exploratory committee. These meetings were the genesis that would eventually evolve into the annual Italian Feast and Festival, which is still run by Columbus Lodge today. Tony also built a strong relationship with the tenant; which ensure timely collection of the rent. After his presidency, Brother Tony continues to help all the presidents that followed him.

Always ready to roll up his sleeves and lend a hand, Tony puts his heart and soul into everything he does (i.e. Bingo, fraternal dances, picnic, Palm Sunday collation, Testimonials, Vegas Nights, and the Feast committees). Tony initiated the lodge's calendar game and when news of its success reached the State level, an attempt to replicate his success was made at the State level. He served as Commissioner of the Garibaldi Meucci Museum from 1997-99 and was appointed State deputy to the Giuseppe Verdi Lodge #2163 in Woodbury from 2000-02. In 2004 he was selected as a Lifetime member of Columbus Lodge.

Since 2010 Tony has formally served as Facilities Co-Manager of the lodge's building. He has orchestrated resurgence in fraternal dinner/dances and continues to run successful calendar games. Tony still enjoys marching in parades, although sometimes he takes a car, and he always pays his respects to every member that passes away. In 2012 Tony was elected to his third two year term on the State Commission of Arbitration; Previously he was elected in 2010 and 2000; and in 2013 he was appointed Chairman of the Commission. A U.S. Army veteran, Tony Musarra is the father of Past President Frank Musarra and the grandfather current Second VP Anthony Musarra Jr. Now in his eighties, Tony Musarra resides in Farmingdale.

JOHN JUBA (1996-97)

Elected the 23rd president at age 53, John was initiated into the lodge in 1980 and immediately got involved with several committees. An engineer by profession, John had a systematic and analytical approach toward moving up the ranks. For many years, he served as Chairman of the scholarship Journal, was a dedicated Vegas committee member, assisted at the Children's Christmas Party, and served on the picnic committee. John's dedication ultimately led him to Orator in 1991 followed by an unchallenged run up the Chairs. After serving almost three years as First VP from 1993-96, John was unchallenged in his bid to become president.



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A month before John's installation, he suffered a heart attack and had to be installed from his hospital bed. During President Juba's recovery, his absence led to membership unrest and mid-term resignations from both the First VP and 2nd VP. Although President Juba returned by year-end, he did not run for a second term due to continued health issues. Despite distractions, it should be noted that the first Italian Feast & Festival was successfully launched. "My illness cut short my term and though I attempted to resume at Convention, I obviously was not well enough. I had a relapse and subsequent stroke," said Juba in his farewell message at the 1997 installation of officers.

At the conclusion of his term, John was appointed State Deputy to the Marco Polo Lodge in Levittown. In later years he would be elected to the State Commission of Arbitration and serve two terms. Annually, the respected past president was also elected by his membership as delegate to the State Convention; often serving on the State By-law committee because of his strong knowledge of the subject. This knowledge transcended to the lodge's House Rules committee where he served as an advisor to sitting presidents. In 2004 John was selected as a Lifetime member of Columbus Lodge.

Brother John's final act of heroism occurred at the 2011 Grand Lodge Convention when he got out of his hospital bed to cast the final and decisive vote that ensured fraternal brother Dan Colantone was elected as National Delegate. Upon his return from the convention John was greeted by the membership with a thunderous standing ovation for his act of heroism. John Juba died two months later on August 11, 2011 at the age of 69.

VINCENT "VINNIE" DeROSA (1997-99)

Vinnie was elected the 24th president of the lodge at age 59 and was unchallenged in his bid for a second term. A retired member of the NYPD, Vinnie became a member in December 1984. He participated in Sunday morning softball games in which he lumbered a 36-oz wooden bat. Working 11-years on the picnic committee helped gain him notoriety as a "roll-up his sleeves" guy. Although sometimes portraying a gruff exterior, Vinnie would often gravitate toward committees that helped other (i.e. the Children's Christmas Party, Special Olympics, and Walk-for-Education) and is still fondly remembered for his legendary roast beef dinner served at lodge blood drives.

After more than a dozen year of service, including Orator and First VP in which he ran the lodge during the president's extended absence, Vinnie found himself embroiled in a malevolent '97 election for the presidency. He led a list of candidates that became known as "the super-slate." Although all would emerge victorious, post campaign animosity lingered. This provided President DeRosa with a platform for unity best stated in his inauguration speech, "It's time to forget our ill feelings toward each other. We must go back to a time when we did have fraternalism."

President DeRosa's allowance for all to have a voice during meetings often led to spirited decisions that extended deep into the night. His swift handling of a water main break was commended in some circles and by the end of his second term President DeRosa made great strides in reuniting the membership however he couldn't escape mounting unpaid rent which escalated to vandalism and abandonment by the lodge's tenant. In his farewell message, President DeRosa summed up the situation, "Two years ago we started out with some problems and now two years later we are ending with some problems."

Upon leaving office Vinnie remained supportive of all future presidents and in 2004 he was selected as a Lifetime member of the lodge. Like many past presidents, Vinnie was active at the State level. He was elected as State Trustee, convention Delegate, and appointed State Deputy to two NYC lodges: the Williamsburg Lodge and the Giuseppe Mazzini Lodge. Vinnie was also a strong supporter of all fundraising activities sponsored by the Columbus Lodge, the Grand Lodge, CSJ, the OSIA Foundation, and strongly supported the lodge's scholarship program. Vincent DeRosa currently resides in North Massapequa.



EDWARD “ED” BOCHYNSKI (1999-2000)

With an infectious smile, Ed was unchallenged and installed as the 25th president of the lodge just two months shy of his 78th birthday. He is the oldest CL member sworn into office and born of Polish immigrants he is the first non-Italian American to become president. He is also the last elected president to have served in World War II, as a pilot in the UWS Navy. A member since 1972, Brother Ed is a self made man having been raised on the lower East side of Manhattan, graduated NYU with a Civil Engineering bachelor degree, and had a 40-year career in aviation.

Brother Ed earned a reputation for assisting on “every” committee. He spent 14-years as entertainment chairman, helped build a bar in the meeting hall, and was part of the committee that assembled a replica of Columbus’ ship for an October parade in 1994. Before and after his presidency, Ed served as Scholarship Chairman and in 2005 received a Citation from then-Nassau County Legislator Peter Schmitt for his 25-years of dedication toward the advancement of education. Upon Ed being elected as president, Vincent DeRosa, referred to his Polish heritage and jokingly remarked, “And they said it couldn’t be done.”

With no tenant, no rent, and a vandalized building, President Bochynski and his officers knew they inherited a difficult situation. He formulated a plan to restore the damage portion of the building; negotiated full replacement value with the insurance company; received Town approval on a new sprinkler system; and began negotiations with a new tenant for a lease that would be consummated soon after he left office. His leadership triggered a swell of confidence and brotherhood among the council and membership. President Bochynski humbly stated in his farewell speech, “Thanks to our Brothers and Sisters pulling together in true fraternalism we were able of address our problems.”

Like many presidents of this era, Brother Ed continued to serve the lodge long after his presidency ended and in 2004 was selected as a Lifetime member of Columbus Lodge. On May 11, 2011 (Ed’s birthday) the well-respected senior past president was treated to a sing-a-long of happy 90th birthday by the membership at a regular meeting and the following year he returned to the scholarship selection committee. Ed is actively involved with the Fairchild Retirees, which he has served as its Chairman since 1985. He is a lifetime member of the Knights of Columbus and, in 2012 Ed became a Cradle of Aviation Museum Board member. Built to last at, 92, Ed currently resides in Farmingdale and is the father of current President Edward P. Bochynski.

FRANK MUSARRA (2000-2002)

Frank has the distinction of being the first, “second generation president” of the lodge (his father Tony having served 1993-96) and he was the first president to have been born during the Kennedy era of the 1960s. A member since 1981 and a retired NYC police officer, Frank’s ties with the lodge go back to the 1970s when then-Venerable Nick Viglietta hired him work in the catering hall kitchen. Although he faced obstacles and setbacks during his climb up the ranks, Frank was unchallenged in his bid to become the lodge’s 26th president and served two terms. At 38-years old, the newly elected president was forty years younger than his predecessor and represented the dawning of a new era. Frank stated in his campaign message, “I possess a youthful and innovative perspective towards the lodge.”

During his first six weeks in office, President Musarra completed the final negotiations and signing of a new tenant, “I would like to wish our new tenant (Stuart Thomas Manor) the best of luck.” He would forge a strong business relationship with the new tenant that ensured timely rent collection. He integrated younger members into key committee positions as part of a transition plan to get younger members prepared for leadership roles; two of these men become future presidents. Faced with the inheritance of depleted funds, President Musarra established a Bingo Committee to raise money and then set in motion a course for belt tightening and fiscal responsibility.



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With Council and membership support, President Musarra was able to get financial reform put into place which included restructuring membership dues, new lifetime membership regulations, and a hard line stance on a balanced budget. By the end of his second term in 2002, these actions directed the lodge down a path of financial stability. In 2004 Frank Musarra was selected as a Lifetime member of Columbus Lodge. Twelve years have passed since his presidency ended and Frank continues to remain active in council matters. Now in his fifties, Frank is regarded as a respected senior statesman with good common sense and possesses a quiet behind-the-scene influence. In 2013 Frank supervised extensive roof repairs and an air-conditioning/heat installation for the catering hall.

Like his father Tony, Frank is ready to lend a hand to incoming presidents and always pays his respects to departed members and their wives. Regularly, he is appointed to serve on key committees including By-Laws, Tenant, and Testimonial. He often represents the lodge as convention delegate; has served on the State Nominating committee (2011 and 2012); and received the Columbus Lodge's inaugural President's Award in 2013. His son Anthony Musarra currently serves as Second VP at the lodge. Frank Musarra resides in North Massapequa.

ANTHONY "TONY" RAGNO (2002-2004)

Tony's natural leadership qualities inevitably led him down the path toward becoming the 27th president in lodge history at age 57. Initiated as a member in 1990, Tony's assertive persona was instrumental in the renovation of the original Lions' Den during the mid-1990s and was a proponent of full financial disclosure to the membership. He inspired a widely successful fundraiser to aid a fraternal lodge member with medical needs and has orchestrated several of the lodge's most financially successful golf outings. He has co-chaired Committeeman Dances, Special Olympics, and was regularly available for grilling at lodge picnics.

Leading up to his presidential election, First VP Ragno had logged nearly a dozen years on the council, was chairman on numerous committees, served at all Chair officer levels, and was well schooled in lodge operations. Yet despite his accomplishments, the 2002 election saw all incumbent officers challenged for Chair position. On election night, Tony's broad based appeal led him to victory; he was the only incumbent candidate to win on that night. In his president's message, Tony felt his victory "reinforced the belief that anyone seeking a position of leadership should work his way up the Chairs."

Once installed, President Anthony Ragno ruled with unweaving authority. He had the façade of the building resurfaced, initiated plans for a first construction of the lodge website, and boldly closed the Lions Den due to unhealthy air quality conditions (an unpopular decision at the time but the right decision). In addition, President Ragno established a membership Directory of Business services, launched a lodge social night, and authored the visitation policy currently used today. In his final president's message, Tony humbly proclaimed, "It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve as your president."

In 2004 Tony was named a Lifetime member of Columbus Lodge. Although his presidency ended a decade ago, Brother Tony continues to serve the membership in many capacities. In 2006 he initiated a welcome home dinner/concert at Jones Beach for several seriously injured soldiers who returned from Afghanistan. In recent years, he has become known as "Mr. Broadway" for his orchestration of fraternal trips to Manhattan. He continues to grill at the lodge's annual picnic, volunteers at the Italian Feast & Festival, and regularly serves on the House Rules and Tenant Committees. Tony Ragno currently resides in North Massapequa.



THE PRESIDENTS (2004-Present)

This decade of presidents produced a broad range of leadership styles. Three of these men had a father who was past presidents of an OSIA lodge. Two of these men never served as Orator. All headed into their presidency with a high level of commitment toward the future prosperity of the lodge, a strong sense of the OSIA heritage, and a strong understanding of the direction they wanted to move the lodge. Their commitment to the lodge and the Order has continued long after their presidency ended.

JOSEPH "JOE" CARBONE (2004-2006)

Joe was unchallenged in his bid to become the 28th president in lodge history and served two terms. A U.S. Army veteran who served during the Korean War period, Joe had a successful career, first with the teamsters and then with the Department of Sanitation Special Police. He joined the lodge in 1994 and soon after began serving on the council. After stints as Financial Secretary and Treasurer, Joe took a two year sabbatical from the Council but in 2002, he boldly made a run for First VP, reasoning "Since I am retired I am able to be present at the lodge five days a week. A one day a week officer will not be able to handle the functions and responsibilities of the lodge."

Joe's campaign message resonated with the membership and he was elected First VP. During this time Joe participated in the Dance of the Giglio, he kept members informed on Veterans Administration updates, and was appointed the task of overseeing a major restoration of the building's façade. Under his supervision the building was restored professionally and within budget. After receiving much praise for his handling of building project, 70-year old Joe Carbone was elected president and then was re-elected the following year by affirmation. President Carbone took a hard line stance on Officers dress attire (jacket and tie); this position was commended in many circles. He had an American flag and pole installed at the lodge entrance, initiated a fraternal trip to Niagara Falls, and ensured the lodge's finances were strengthened. In his final president's message Joe thanked his officers, committee chairmen, and Ladies Auxiliary for their support then jokingly thanked "all the members who put up with my picture in this newsletter (the Navigator)."

Post presidency, Joe was appointed Building & Facilities manager, a position he continues to hold today through eight years and five presidential administrations. He became a Lifetime member of the lodge in 2006 and his recent credits include supervising the refurbishing of the lodge lobby, repairs to the roof, stairway entrance, and tenant kitchen. Joe has represented the lodge as a State convention delegate and the past five years (2009-2013) has served on the Cooley Anemia Foundation Dine-A-Round committee winning much acclaim for his dedication. Joe is a proud member of the American Legion and involved with the Seeing Eye Dog Foundation. Joe Carbone, 80, currently resides in Syosset.

SALVATORE "SAL" PETRONE (2006-07)

Sal was unchallenged in his bid to become the 29th president of Columbus Lodge and served one term. Brother Sal was initiated into the lodge in 1995, carries membership #3546, and a year later joined the council as Master of Ceremony. Over the next ten years, Sal served on several committees, eventually becoming chairman of the Annual Picnic, Lions' Den Christmas Party, Day at the Races, and Committeeman Dance. During this period, he formed a bowling team that competed in the annual State Bowling Tournament. The team brought several trophies and plaques back to the lodge. Sal was appointed Principle Trustee in 2003 and then made a successful leap to Second VP in a contested runoff election held in 2004; it was the last contested election Sal would face during his 8½ year run up the council ranks.

At 54, President Petrone brought a low key persona to the office. Upon installation, he faced unforeseen personal setbacks that included the passing of his father and a medical condition that landed him on disability at work. Aided



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by a cane, President Petrone persevered and performed many of his ceremonial duties throughout the year. In February 2007, his final month in office, the Council approved plans to move forward with the renovation of the lodge's lobby entrance. Soon after completing his term as president, Sal's health returned and, after a distinguished career as Supervisor with the U.S. Postal Service, he retired. Sal Petrone became a Lifetime member of lodge in 2007, served as State delegate, and remained an active committeeman, which included the Annual Italian Feast & Festival, before relocating to Ellenton, Florida in February, 2012.

FRANK LEWIS GATTO (2007-2009)

Frank was installed as the 30th president of the lodge. He was unchallenged and served two terms. Frank's beginnings with the Sons of Italy start with his parents Pasquale and Teresa, who were members of Hicksville's Galileo Galilei Lodge. In 1994 Frank transferred from that lodge to Columbus Lodge and immediately set his sights on joining the Council. As early as 1995, Frank was a key contributor in the early planning and success of the first Italian Feast & Festival and would continue to nurture the event in its early years. Frank served the lodge at various council levels and chaired numerous committees. Overcoming an election setback in 2002, Brother Frank persevered and in 2007 the "comeback kid" was elected president by affirmation just shy of his 40th birthday.

President Gatto ruled confidently and forcefully. He took command of the renovation of the meeting hall and lobby projects. He initiated and followed through with the first lodge sponsorship of the Music under the Stars program that enhanced the lodge's community presence. Holding true to tradition, in 2008 President Gatto honored fraternal brother Joe Delligatti on his appointment to the judicial bench by presenting him with a robe and gavel. Delligatti was the first member to receive this honor since Past Venerable Joe Saladino's appointment to the State Supreme Court in 1985. Later that year Brother Ed Mangano became the first lodge member elected as Nassau County Executive.

President Gatto fulfilled a campaign promise when the lodge received a Membership Achievement Award by the NYS Grand Lodge for having installed fifty or more new members in one year. He was instrumental in having the adjoining street from the lodge renamed Columbus Lodge Way. "I don't think anything we did, could not have been accomplished without the help and input of my officers and our members," said Frank Gatto in his last president's message.

After serving office, Frank remains an active voice on topical issues of the day. In 2009 Frank became a Lifetime member of Columbus Lodge. He has served as a State delegate and served on the Grand Lodge Golf Outing committee. After a distinguished tenure at Grumman Aerospace, Frank currently works for the Town of Oyster Bay in a supervisory capacity and is a licensed realtor. Community minded, Frank has also been involved in Farmingdale Youth Soccer where he has served as a Board member and coach. He is involved with the Boy Scouts of America. Frank currently resides in Farmingdale.

ANTHONY "TONY" VENTIERA (2009-2011)

Tony was unchallenged in his bid for president and served two terms. A member since 1993 and the son of the Hon. Carmine Ventiera, a past Grand Venerable of NYS and Bene Emeritus Award recipient, Tony was destined to become lodge president. A graduate of St. John's University with both a Bachelor and Masters Degree, Tony was part of the early planning of the initial Italian Feast & Festival and continues to serve as its chairman throughout the years; last year setting records in attendance, revenue, and vendors. As a prelude to becoming lodge president, Brother Tony logged in over 16-years of service on various lodge committees and council positions including Trustee, Recording Secretary, and all Chair positions. He overcame an election setback; served as president of the Massapequa Chamber of Commerce; and felt well prepared to lead during the critical period that lied ahead.



At age 65, President Ventiera entered under difficult circumstances due to a substantial amount of uncollected receivables on the books and a tenant contract near completion; this would consume his presidency. Perhaps his greatest strength during this period was his ability not to overreact; a skill he developed over his 35-year career working in a Corporate HR environment. Patience gave him the time to consult and ponder difficult decisions concerning the lodge's future; not an easy task with Long Island's economic climate deteriorating at that time. President Ventiera was rewarded for his patience with his biggest presidential accomplishment, a lucrative 10-year lease with businessman Aron Govil that he negotiated and sign with membership approval. This lease would ensure Columbus Lodge of a stable financial position for the foreseeable future. "Although it was signed on Friday the 13th, I truly believe this is not a bad thing," said Ventiera in a president's message.

Before his term ended, President Ventiera would manage to implement the Calling Post System that automated membership wake calls, revisited and successfully launched the first working Columbus Lodge website, and held an unprecedented Officer's meeting that included both the National & State presidents. After his presidency, Brother Tony continues serving as Festival Chairman and has been elected on numerous occasions to serve as lodge delegate at State conventions. In 2011 he became a Lifetime member of Columbus Lodge and was appointed State Deputy to the Giovanni Caboto Lodge #2371 in North Bellmore. Tony Ventiera is also the first known Columbus Lodge president to perform professionally with well-known oldies bands. Tony currently resides in Massapequa Park.

KEITH R. WILSON (2011-13)

Keith was the first elected president in recent memory to climb up the ranks without facing a challenge. His quick ascent up the ranks can be attributed to his ability to multitask many prominent committees including Italian festival, lodge picnic, and St. Joseph's dance. These committees gave Keith a forum to showcase his superior oratory and delegating skills; which quickly made him a rising star. Keith embraces children and utilized his stout physique to ensure Santa Claus would visit each year at the Children Christmas Party. Having served seven years on the Council, including all chair positions, Keith was elected the 32nd president at age 47 and served two terms.

President Wilson loved the microphone and had the ability to add humor and length to any meeting. Predominantly unburdened by financial woes, President Wilson addressed badly needed facility upgrades which included a new central air system, walkway, tenant kitchen, and roof. Fraternaly, President Wilson brought back the popular Atlantic City trips, broadened the use of the calling post, held military veteran tribute & Italian culture nights, launched the Gold Star program, and created the lodge's first President's Award. Fraternal dances also received a spike up in popularity during this time.

While president, Keith served as Chairman of the Garibaldi Museum (2009-2013) and is recognized as the first sitting Columbus Lodge president to hold both positions, simultaneously. In addition, he ambitiously chaired the State Bowling and State Parade committees. Never tiring, upon completion of his second term, Keith was appointed lodge membership chairman and received Lifetime member status. At the State level, Keith has expressed Grand Lodge aspirations in the tradition of Landi, Viglietta, and Cangemi. In 2013, he was elected National Delegate and appointed State Trustee on both the Grand Lodge and CSJ Councils. As he continues to move up the State ranks the final chapters have not been written.

Brother Keith enjoys a successful career as a licensed realtor and also works for the Town of Oyster Bay. The lifelong bachelor has also been involved in other community organizations. He was elected and served as Grand Knight in the Msgr. Delaney Council of the Knights of Columbus (1989) and he was elected and served on the Plainedge Board of Education (1991-2000). Sponsored into the lodge by then-President Tony Ragno, Brother Keith is a member of the Columbus Lodge since 2002 and currently resides in North Massapequa.



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EDWARD P. BOCHYNSKI (2013-Present)

Ed was unchallenged in his bid to become the 33rd president and is a second generation president, whose father served in the late 1990s. With ancestors hailing from Salerno, Italy Ed's beginnings with the lodge date back to the '70s when he bused tables as a teen. Formerly initiated in 1989, he received membership #3343. During the 1990s, Ed created the *Golden Lions*, a softball team that gained national recognition, twice appearing in *Italian American* magazine because of the team's 13 seasons of fundraising and on-field success. In 2000 he was nominated by Past President Tony Musarra and elected to his first council position.

Ed served a dozen years as Chairman on both the budget and finance committees. To date, a combined ten State and CL Presidents have utilized his *corporate finance* expertise during financial quandaries. As journal chairman he raised thousands for education grants; authored the lodge's conflict of interest policy; and raised Italian awareness by instituting the annual Columbus Day art contest at a local elementary school. Having served as Treasurer and Trustee Ed overcame an early election setback by being elected Orator in 2006 and proceeded strongly up the Chairs until becoming president at age 52, in an unchallenged election.

President Bochynski has brought a candid, straightforward approach to meetings. He tightened up officer dress attire and developed a strong working relationship with the Ladies Auxiliary. Taking office during a financial freeze, Ed effectively & efficiently brought back "normalcy" by fortifying tenant relations and lodge finances. He launched CL's inaugural Facebook page; presented the lodge's first humanitarian award; orchestrated a fraternal trip to Yankee Stadium; and embarked on replacing major building equipment in disrepair. At the State level Ed has attended many fundraisers. As convention delegate, he has served on the election committee twice and has co-chaired the budget committee. According to Past President Frank Musarra, "Eddie is old school."

Currently, Ed is an Assistant Vice President at North Shore-LIJ Health System. His recent professional accomplishments include being selected by the American Hospital Association to address a joint commission on Health Care in Washington D.C. (2011 & 2012) and completion of the *Forces of Change Program* at Harvard University (2010). Ed has a Masters from LIU and a BBA degree from Hofstra University. A devoted humanitarian, he was two term president of the *Ronald McDonald House Advisory Board* and Chairman of the *Friends of Schneider Children's Hospital*. He has also coached youth baseball & soccer, and appeared in the 2006 movie *Rocky Balboa*. President Ed and First Lady Margie Bochynski currently reside in Merrick.





5th GRADE COLUMBUS DAY ART CONTEST



2013 NORTHSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
WINNERS TYASIA COWAN & CHENGYAN HUANG

5th GRADE COLUMBUS DAY ART CONTEST

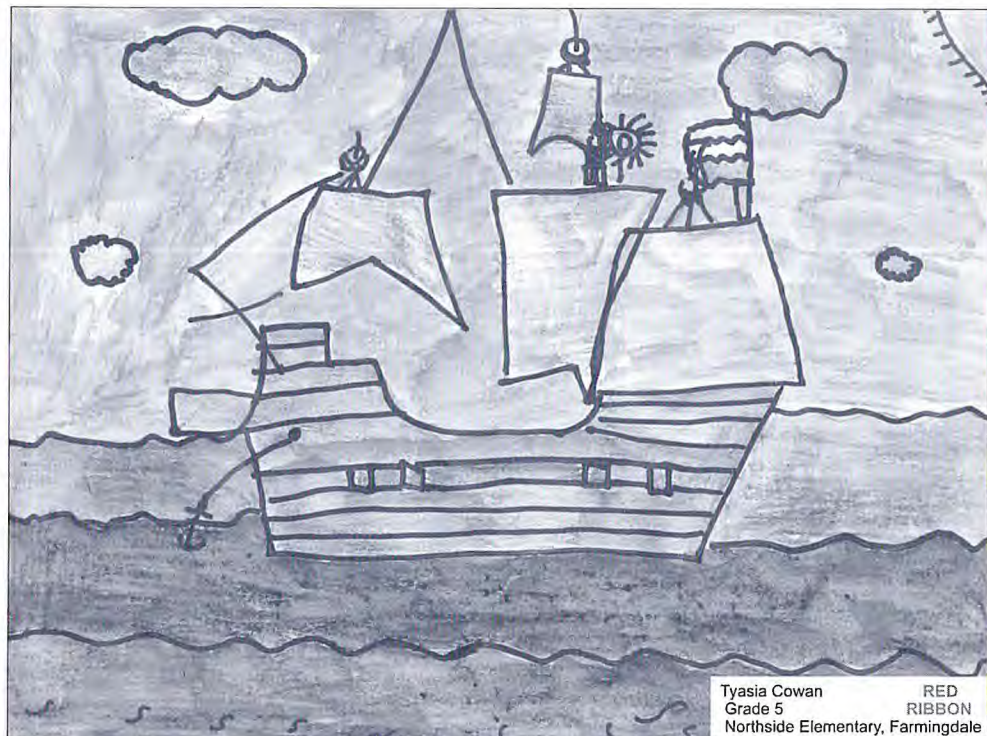
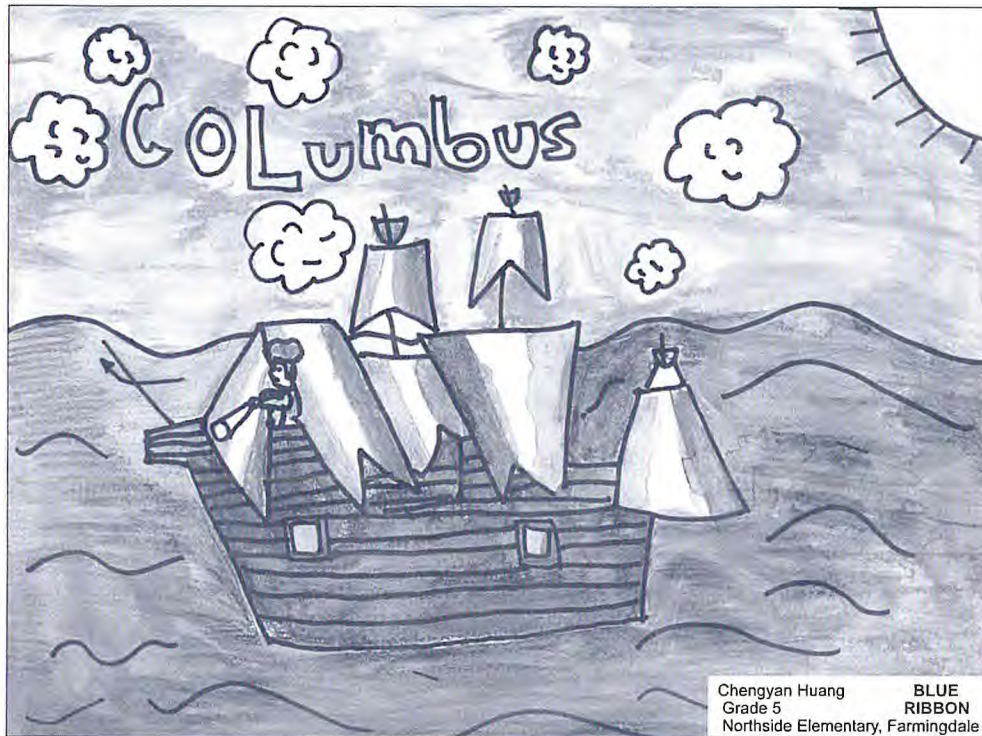


2012 NORTHSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
WINNERS MIANNA WELSH & KAITYLN HARROP



Columbus Lodge #2143

2013 NORTHSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 5th GRADE COLUMBUS DAY ART CONTEST



Angelo D. Roncallo

Husband

Father

Grandfather

Second Venerable Columbus Lodge 1966-67



*No words can adequately express how deeply we love you
and how sorely we miss you.*

Love,

Your Family

CONGRATULATIONS
to
Columbus Lodge #2143
Order Sons of Italy in America
CELEBRATING 50 YEARS!

**Thank you for your
selfless dedication
to our community.**



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