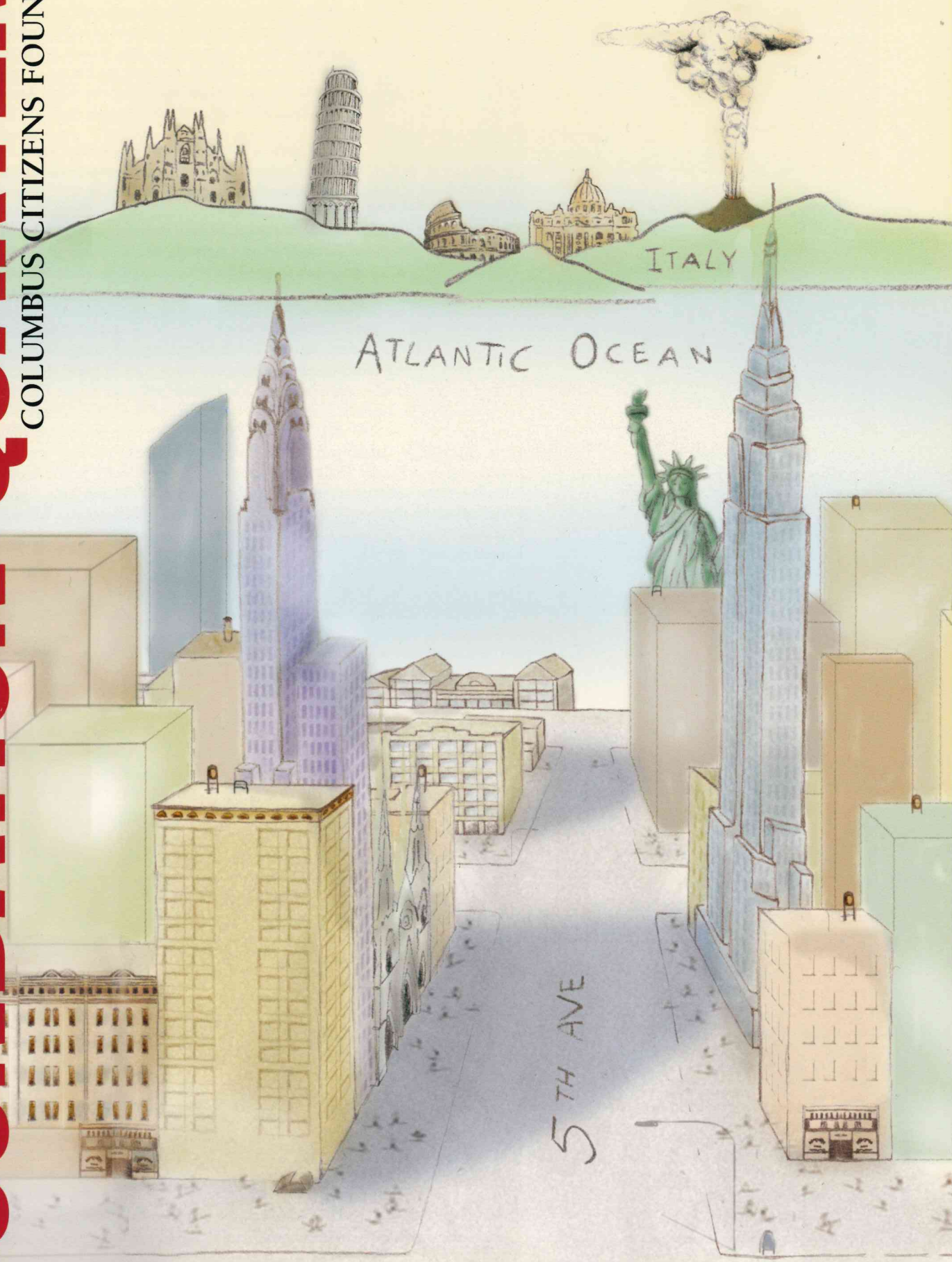


FOUNDATION QUARTERLY

COLUMBUS CITIZENS FOUNDATION

WINTER 2006-07



COLUMBUS CITIZENS FOUNDATION



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The Columbus Citizens Foundation is a non-profit organization in New York City committed to fostering an appreciation of Italian-American heritage and achievement. The Foundation, through a broad range of philanthropic and cultural activities, provides opportunities for advancement to deserving Italian-American students through various scholarship and grant programs.

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President's Message



The Foundation's 2006 Columbus Week Celebration was an unparalleled success. Thanks to the efforts of many volunteers, our Celebration presented the best of Italian culture and heritage in the United States. Over *four million spectators* experienced the pleasures of Italy and her traditions in fully interactive exhibitions and events, including our 62nd Annual Columbus Day Parade.

Four million people, all of whom now have a broader and deeper appreciation of Italy's exceptional culture, traditions, fashion and cuisine.

The exhibits at Grand Central Terminal, "Made in Italy," highlighted the wonders of two great Italian regions, *Lombardia* and *Campania*, and were enjoyed by over three million commuters from the area's affluent suburbs as well as New Yorkers and tourists. Thousands more converted from American coffee to Medaglia D'Oro espresso in villa-like pavilions set up in Times Square, where they also learned about the glorious Region of *Lazio*.

In terms of saluting achievement, we honored three men of great character and dedication. Few people who attended the Gala Dinner will ever forget the stirring sense of pride they felt as General Peter Pace, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and our Grand Marshal, recalled what it means to him to be a first generation Italian American. Honorees Joseph Moglia and Joseph Perella are businessmen who are the heads of TD Ameritrade and Perella Weinberg Partners LP, respectively. It was a great pleasure to introduce these distinguished men to the Honorable Alessandrina Lonardo Mastella, President of the Regional Council of *Campania*, and the Honorable Enzo Lucchini, Vice President of the Regional Council of *Lombardia*, who brought the best of Italy to the United States.

This year's Parade – with attendance of nearly one million people according to press reports – was held under weather conditions that were perfect for our pageant of Italian and Italian-American heritage and pride. Studio Festi, of Varese, presented an astonishing series of floats that celebrated the great artistic culture of *Campania* and *Lombardia* and clearly dazzled the crowds.

Numerous people contributed to the success of this year's Columbus Week Celebration. Sam Giarrusso, in his first year as General Chairman of the Columbus Week Celebration, handled a formidable task with grace, and his skills proved invaluable. Foundation Chairman Lawrence Auriana served as Grand Central Chairman and was truly indispensable. Alfred Catalanotto again worked his magic as Parade Chairman. Maria Bartiromo and Angelo Vivolo were Gala Dinner Co-Chairs, Anthony Giordano and Anthony Mallardi were Journal Co-Chairmen, Frank Fusaro was Media Chairman, Michael Pedone served as Marketing Chairman, Giuliana Ridolfi Cardillo as Italian Affairs Chairman, and Reverend Michael Cipolla Moynihan as Mass Chairman. I also want to thank Maria, and her co-host Joe Piscopo, for their outstanding work in anchoring the NBC broadcast of the Parade.

Our mission is to foster an appreciation of Italian-American heritage and achievement and provide opportunities for advancement to deserving Italian-American students through various scholarship and grant programs. This year's events, thanks in large part to the artistry and vision of our lead sponsors, the Regions of *Campania* and *Lombardia*, helped us fulfill our goals. It was also a great pleasure to get to know President Lonardo and Vice President Lucchini, who introduced their great Regions to so many people in America.

Sincerely,

Louis A. Tallarini, President

The Timeless Pleasures of Italy

The trip to Italy for Foundation Members was a success beyond the imagining of even the most discerning traveler. Just think of being on a hunt for untold riches – and finding treasures that surpass all expectations.

“We started calling [tour organizer] Bill Gearhart “Indiana Jones,” recalls Anthony Abbate. “He had us on more adventures than you can imagine!”

The tour was from September 21 through October 4, 2006, and included stays on Lake Maggiore in *Lombardia*; Portofino and the medieval town of Lucca near the Ligurian coast; Florence and Tuscany’s Chianti region; and Naples and Pompeii. It was organized by Classic Travel & Tours of Metuchen, New Jersey.

“Every part of the trip was elegant and meticulously planned down to the last detail,” said Alfred De Maria. “Accommodations were of the highest possible grade. Everywhere we stayed we were greeted like family.”

Mr. DeMaria was not alone in his feelings about the luxury tour. “The places where we stayed and the venues were breathtaking,” said Mr. Abbate. “We were exposed to things you normally don’t get access to, or even known that they exist.”

For 12 days, Members received privileged entry in the worlds of

Continued on page 22



Clockwise from far left: Constance Silveri, Joseph Mattone, Cindy De Maria, Richard Naclerio, Alfred De Maria, Angelo Silveri and Nancy Silveri aboard the *Maria Giovanni* off the Amalfi Coast



From left: Rosemarie Abbate, Linda DeSabato, Georgiana Reese, Nancy Silveri, Marilyn DiDuca, Constance Silveri and Barbara Naclerio enjoying a Tuscan cooking class



Foundation Members and guests at Borgo Bernardini in the Tuscan countryside

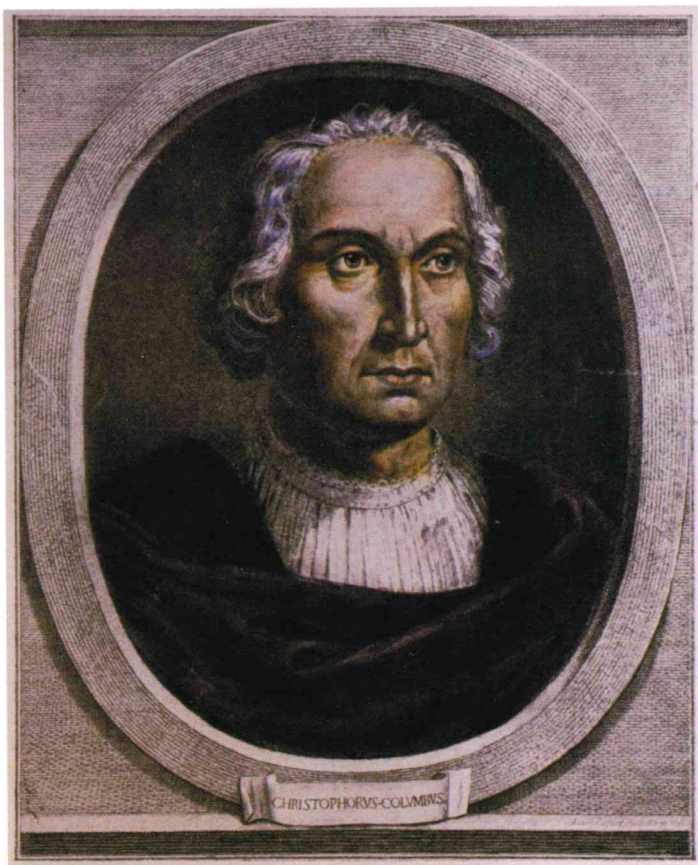
The Many Faces of Christopher Columbus

Christopher Columbus made one of the greatest and most courageous explorations in history and is the namesake of countless towns, cities and a country. His name is known the world over and he has been the subject of hundreds of portraits and likenesses.

Yet no one knows what he actually looked like. He never sat for a portrait during his lifetime. Two artists who did his portrait may have known him and another worked based on descriptions, but that didn't stop painters and printmakers from producing image after faulty image. As recorded by history, Columbus has turned out to be a man of many faces, perhaps none of them his own.

There are images of Columbus as full-faced with a rosy complexion. Or with a sharp, angular face and pale complexion. In some his hair is nearly black, or red, or tending towards blonde, or entirely gray. Or he is balding. Often he is shown with a hat or cap, though nothing suggests that Columbus was partial to either.

Written descriptions of Columbus are scant. His son, Ferdinand, wrote, "The Admiral was a well-built man of more than medium stature, long visaged with cheeks somewhat high, but neither fat nor thin. He had an aquiline nose and his eyes were light in color; his complexion too was light, but kindling to a vivid red. In youth his hair was blonde, but when he came to his thirtieth year it all turned white."



Anonymous print based on an anonymous portrait in the Naval Museum in Madrid, Spain. Photo: Library of Congress.



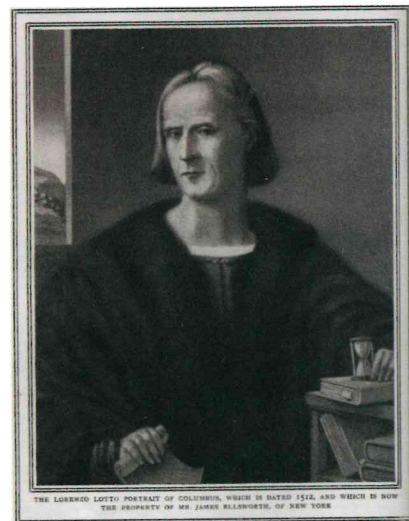
Columbus as depicted by Spanish artist Alejo Fernandez in *Virgin of the Navigators* from the 1530s. Photo by a Columbus historian, Manuel Rosa.

Columbus was also described on his triumphant return to Barcelona, Spain, in 1493, following his first voyage to America, by Gonzalez Fernández de Oviedo y Valdés in his later book, *Historia General y Natural de Was Indias*. The author described Columbus as of "good stature and appearance, taller than the average and strongly limbed: the eyes lively and other parts of the face of good proportion, the hair very red, and the face somewhat ruddy and freckled"

Did Columbus have white hair by 1481, as his son suggests? Or was it red even after his return in 1493 from his inaugural voyage to America, as the eyewitness claims? Was his complexion light, or ruddy and freckled?

The artists who painted his portraits ranged from prominent figures of the Renaissance to recorded or unknown painters and printmakers in later centuries, according to Paul Martin Lester's 1993

article in *Visual Anthropology*. Among the recognized geniuses who painted portraits of men thought to be Columbus were Sebastiano del Piombo and Lorenzo Lotto, as well as the lesser known Pedro Berruguete, who worked at the Spanish court of Ferdinand II and Isabella I. Berruguete's portrait of Columbus shows a slender man with sunken cheeks, red hair and a pale complexion and is closer to written accounts than any other. Unfortunately, the painting is not in a museum, was discovered only around 1990 and has not been widely exhibited.



Italian artist Lorenzo Lotto's painting of Columbus, dated 1512, was based on a description provided by an artist who had seen the explorer

Lotto, who was influenced by Raphael, depicted Columbus as more angular and muscular, in keeping with physical descriptions of the artist.

The greatest of the artists who may have painted Columbus was Sebastiano del Piombo, who was a pupil of Giorgione and who worked with Michelangelo. Sebastiano, as he was known, did two portraits of the same man who bears almost no resemblance to the Columbus described in writings. But Sebastiano was a leading artist of his day, and the image was soon copied in paintings by other artists and printmakers. [See sidebar.]

Over time, the image of Columbus took on many shapes. There was a seemingly Anglicized, Elizabethan Columbus, with a white ruffled collar and Vandyck beard; a frontiersman Columbus raising a toast with Native Americans; a 1905 Samson-esque Columbus of great brawn; the list is seemingly endless.

Perhaps one of most fitting in spirit is a 1928 illustration for *National Geographic* showing Columbus at the door of a Franciscan Brotherhood; it was believed to be the intervention of a Friar that led to Columbus's commission from Queen Isabella. Columbus was extremely devout and spiritual and often wore the robes and simple rope belt of the Franciscans. The title of the illustration, by Alfred Dehodencq, is *Fate Directs the Faltering Footsteps of Columbus*. The subtitle reads, "The weary dreamer, with his son, Diego, comes to the Convent of La Rabida."

We will never know a good likeness of Columbus, but over time it has become clear that accuracy is not the crucial concern. Because of his achievements, he has taken on the nearly mythic quality of a god of discovery and exploration. Looking at the portraits and scenes from his life, it is remarkable to see how he has been presented time and again throughout the centuries as the personification of courage, determination and vision. ♣



Clockwise from top: a portrait of Columbus attributed to Pedro Berruguete (1450-1504) was discovered around 1990 and is claimed by the owner to be the only portrait made of Columbus during his lifetime; an Italian 500 lira coin issued in 1992 to commemorate the 500th anniversary of Columbus's first voyage to the Americas; Images of Columbus were used to sell processed meat in the 19th century

An Authoritative, Inaccurate Likeness?



The two portraits by Sebastiano del Piombo in the Uffizi Gallery and the Metropolitan Museum of Art bear inscriptions identifying the sitter as Columbus. But Sebastiano's Columbus has bushy brown hair, wears a three-corner hat (though Columbus was not known to have worn one) and has plump cheeks and a rounded nose that is anything but aquiline. A note by the Metropolitan about the painting

states that the inscription "though old... may not be original, and the date 1519 means that the picture cannot have been painted from life, as Columbus died in 1506. There are other portraits purporting to show Columbus that depict a very different looking person. Nonetheless, from an early date our picture became the authoritative likeness." The Met, clearly uneasy about

a definitive identification, titles the painting *Portrait of a Man Said to be Christopher Columbus*. Within decades, the important and popular German printmaker Theodore De Bry had picked up on the image, which continues to echo throughout the world today.



Clockwise, from upper left: Sebastiano del Piombo portrait; a 16th century Theodore DeBry engraving (photo: Library of Congress); the Sebastiano portrait was the basis for an image on currency issued by the Central Bank of El Salvador

Made in Italy: Lombardia Enthralls New York

The majestic, dynamic Region of *Lombardia* turned Grand Central Terminal's Vanderbilt Hall West into an alluring sea of emerald green in a breathtaking exhibit that highlighted the region's great history, art, mountains, industry and, of course, fashion. The exhibit, which ran from October 3 through October 12, 2006, featured an iMax-style screen that flashed spectacular images of the Region, from Leonardo da Vinci's *Last Supper* to the Dolomites, from the humming bustle of Milan's streets to the bucolic valleys of its countryside.

Yet *Lombardia*, represented by the Honorable Enzo Lucchini, Vice President of its Regional Council, did not reveal all in Grand Central Terminal. In a series of dazzling tableaus created by Studio Festi, *Lombardia's* presence in the Columbus Day Parade was without precedent. The region featured its world-renown cultural landmarks in the *carros* and displays that paraded up Fifth Avenue to the applause of the crowds of nearly one million people, according to press estimates.

The most photographed float featured performer Irina Losnykova, who swam in a giant bowl filled with water representing the ancient resorts of the Lombard lakes. Submerged within the mini-lake, Ms. Losnykova's executed graceful, acrobatic turns and then, on breaking through the water's surface, sent arcing sprays of water into the air, eliciting gasps of appreciation from the onlookers.

Artistic flourishes associated with great Italian operas were highlighted on a number of floats from provinces throughout the Region. The Teatro alla Scala, in Milan, was suggested by eight ballerinas standing atop structures three meters tall. The structures were concealed by ballet skirts made of brocade, silk and crinoline four meters tall and three meters in diameter.

The Province of Bergamo's Teatro Donizetti paid tribute to Gaetano Donizetti's *L'Elisir d'Amore*, and Brescia's Teatro Grande captured the spirit of *La Traviata* as Violetta capriciously danced with a series of four partners, sharing her charms and inciting her partners' desires. The Provinces of Como, Cremona, Lecco, Mantova and Pavia paid homage to the Teatros Sociale, Ponchielli, alla Società, Bibiena and Fraschini with *carros* that embodied moments from other operas and, in the case of Pavia, flying spheres that recalled the conceptions of Leonardo da Vinci and Gianlorenzo Bernini and suggested the eternal relationship between the sun and the moon.

All day long, as the *carros* paraded triumphantly up Fifth Avenue, the eyes of New Yorkers and tourists were wide in appreciation of the enduring legacy of *Lombardia's* treasures – its architecture, operas, cultural landmarks and history. The affinities between the Region's great city, Milan, and New York City, which is the cultural and financial capital of America, did not go unnoticed, either along Fifth Avenue or in Grand Central Terminal, where people appreciated the sophistication of Milan's industry and the inspiring beauty of its countryside. ❀



Paolo Sensale, the Region of *Lombardia's* Deputy Director for PR and Press, Enzo Lucchini, Vice President of the Regional Council of *Lombardia*, and Louis Tallarini, President of the Columbus Citizens Foundation



Floats designed by Studio Festi suggested the Lombard lakes of the Province of Varese (left) and the magic of Donizetti's *L'Elisir d'Amore*, from the Province of Bergamo's Teatro Donizetti



Millions of visitors passed under *Lombardia's* banner in Grand Central Terminal. Above the banner, a frieze highlighted contributions to America made by men and women of Italian descent.



The Province of Cremona's Teatro Ponchielli was represented by an element of the world-renown *La Danza delle Ore*



Before the crowds descended: *Lombardia's* Vanderbilt Hall exhibit presented the remarkable industry, tourist attractions and landscape of the Region



The Milanese Province's Teatro alla Scalla, the historic heart of ballet in Italy, was evoked by dancers in towering ballet skirts



Power, Design and Excellence in Grand Central

Millions of people of all ages, races and backgrounds broke their unrelenting strides in Grand Central Terminal's Main Concourse to take in one of *Lombardia's* icons of excellence: the unparalleled designs of Lamborghini sports cars. The Foundation arranged the exhibition of two 2006 Gallardos, one a Coupe and the other a Spyder. Virtually everyone who passed by the installation, from corporate chairmen to bicycle messengers, stopped to appreciate the sleek knife-edge, cab-forward cockpit design of the Gallardos. Both cars were auctioned to benefit the Columbus Citizens Foundation's scholarship funds. The Coupe was won by Anthony Austria, and the Spyder was claimed by Timothy Stephenson.



Left: The Province of Brescia's Teatro Grande was represented by a moment from Giuseppe Verdi's *La Traviata*; above: The Province of Como's Teatro Sociale highlighted the grace of Italy and its music by presenting moving "arias" by Francesco Paolo Tosti that were inspired by Lake Como and its magical atmosphere

Campania: Made in Italy, Enchanting New York

Early October marked the beginning of a love affair between Americans and *Campania* as the Region presented its exquisite fashion, crafts and culture in an exhibit at Grand Central Terminal and in *carros* in the Columbus Day Parade.

From the moment the velvet ropes came down on October 3 to open “Made in Italy” until it closed on October 12, 2006, the elegantly installed exhibit sparked the imaginations of over 2.5 million attendees. Set in Grand Central Terminal’s landmark Vanderbilt Hall, visitors ranged from New Yorkers to tourists from around the world and to commuters from the many affluent suburbs that surround New York City such as Greenwich, Connecticut and Chappaqua, New York.

Within the marble walls and beneath Vanderbilt Hall’s historic chandeliers, the exhibit presented sumptuously woven men’s silk sport coats that adorned spotlighted figures dressed also in shirts made of Egyptian cotton. Women’s dresses, in fitted classic black and joyously colored prints, introduced the visitors to a level of design unsurpassed in the fashion houses of New York.

A glittering, diamond-encrusted flat-panel television captivated the crowd as people stopped dead in their tracks to consider the opulence and style that can be brought to the most prosaic of objects. In the hands of master designers, such items can be transformed in ways never before imagined.

Native crafts of *Campania*, too, were featured, as were simple foods brought to exalted heights, from pastas and breads to light and exquisite olive oils.

“Made in Italy” touched all the senses, yet it was merely the first act in an exposition that came fully to life in the Columbus Day Parade, held on October 9, 2006. That day, with Fifth Avenue lined with an estimated one million spectators, glorious *carros* and moving displays proceeded up America’s most famed shopping boulevard. The timeless beauty and power of Vesuvius were suggested in a float that served as a stage for lissome young women who performed fire dances in an homage to the eternal glory of nature.

The Province of Avellino was represented by the music of madrigalist Carlo Gesualdo, which wafted from a float that transported women dressed in costumes that portrayed musical instruments.



Alessandrina Lonardo Mastella, President of the Regional Council of *Campania*, was among the distinguished guests at receptions in Vanderbilt Hall; from vibrantly colored to formal (see below and opposite page, top), creations of designers from *Campania* introduced New Yorkers to the exquisite style and craftsmanship of the Region’s couture



The *Campania* exhibit was an oasis of refinement and culture in the bustling heart of New York





Eight small, Baroque style coaches alluded to the resplendent gala balls held in palaces in the Province of Caserta

The superb cuisine of Naples was conjured in a series of ten dining tables bearing the fruits, produce and delicacies of the great Mediterranean city. Baroque-style coaches recalled the elegance of court balls in the Province of Caserta, and the Province of Salerno was suggested by an enchanting mermaid who rode in the Shell of Venus, reminding viewers of Italy's ancient heritage and its place as a land where the gods once lived.

The procession and exhibit in Grand Central were but a fleeting dream for Americans, who were bewitched by *Campania's* beauty and magic and who now know, as Ulysses once did, the irresistible call of the sirens – the call of *Campania*. ❖



Left: the energy of Mt. Vesuvius came alive in fire dances; below: the Province of Salerno was represented by "The Sea of Mermaids," a float that suggested Botticelli's *Birth of Venus*



The Province of Benevento was portrayed in a spectacular, transparent bubble that rolled up Fifth Avenue with an aerialist inside, summoning the image of The City of Witches



The Artistry and Allure of Lazio

While Grand Central Terminal was celebrating Lamborghini sports cars and the sights, sounds and spirit of *Campania* and *Lombardia*, the Region of *Lazio* gave Times Square a makeover. From October 6 to October 9, 2006, *Lazio* converted the world-famous intersection into a *piazza* celebrating the Region.

A Roman goldsmith was on hand, pounding, shaping, incising and molding metal sheets in artistic demonstrations of his craft, an art form that is virtually unknown to most Americans despite their love of jewelry and adornment.

Another stand, provided by Medaglia D'Oro, provided complimentary espresso. Hour after hour, people lined up for the espresso, which they took with them as they toured four tents that suggested Italian villas dramatically placed in the heart of New York. Each villa provided visitors with a respite from New York's bustle and served as welcoming information centers. There, people discovered *Lazio's* innumerable activities and sights detailed in elaborately produced booklets and brochures.

Also installed in the *piazza* were large format screens that played videos and images depicting the inviting romance of Rome. No one who visited the exhibitions walked away empty-handed, and all left with images of the Region's beauty dancing in their minds. ❖



Members of the delegation from Rome and the Province of *Lazio*, including Deputy Mayor Mariapia Garavaglia (center, in red), cut the ribbon at the Times Square installation



New Yorkers and tourists lined up for free Medaglia D'Oro espresso (left) before heading into pavilions stocked with information about *Lazio* (above)

Italian Navy Band in New York

One of the great traditional ensembles of Italy – the *Banda Della Marina*, or Italian Navy Band – performed its musical magic throughout the Columbus Day Weekend. In the Main Concourse of Grand Central Terminal on October 6, 2006, the sharply dressed ensemble performed lyrical renditions of Italian arias as well as American and Italian standards (“*Finculi, Fincula*”) and anthems. The band also played at the Wreath Laying on October 8, 2006 [see opposite]. And, by tradition, the group performed on the Red Carpet during the Parade, as Italian Bands have done for years. ❖



Columbus and Sacrifices of Ancestors and Civil Servants Commemorated at Annual Wreath Laying

The Annual Wreath Laying, held at Columbus Circle on the morning of October 8, 2006, commemorated Columbus's courageous explorations, the men and women who followed him, and those in the civil service who protect and preserve America. Numerous members of the Foundation, including President Louis Tallarini, attended, as did Joseph Guagliardo, President of the National Council of Columbian Associates in Civil Service, which represent the Italian-American members of New York City's Departments of Police, Fire, Sanitation, Correction Officers, Transit and Court Officers.

Among those who spoke was the Hon. Richard Greco, Jr., Foundation Member and Assistant Secretary of the Navy. Secretary Greco is also founder of The Montfort Academy, a classical high school for boys dedicated to character formation and academic excellence; Italian is one of the languages offered. Secretary Greco's remarks follow:

America is the land of good, truth and beauty. The good, truth and beauty that lay before Christopher Columbus 514 years ago is the same that lay before our parents and grandparents as they sailed from Italy. They came to a land of promise where the realization of dreams depends not on one's last name nor on how much money one has, but rather what one does with the talents God has given him. They came to a land where sacrifice and hard work ensured that their children would be better off than they.

G.K. Chesterton, a literary giant of the early 1900s, once commented, "The true soldier fights not because he hates what is in front of him, but because he loves what is behind him." The same can be said of anyone who serves in uniform – whether sailor, marine, police officer or firefighter. The good, truth and beauty of America that lay before Christopher Columbus and our parents and grandparents is the same that lay behind our soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines as they serve in far off lands to protect our liberty and freedom. And it is the same that lay behind our police officers and firefighters as they protect us from crime and disasters.

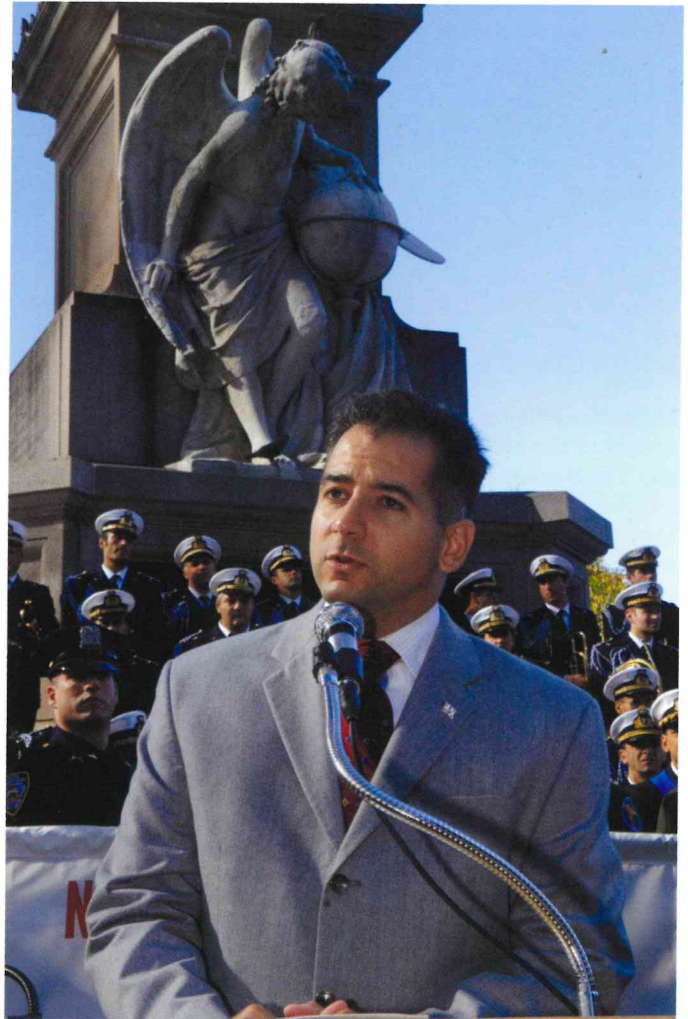
We are taught that the three highest virtues are faith, hope and love, and the greatest of these is love. The virtues of faith, hope and love are also known as the virtues of faith, hope and charity. There really is no difference because true charity is true love. And within the word charity is the true meaning of love.

Charity comes from the Latin word caritas, whose root is the word caro. Caro means flesh, and true charity is the sacrifice of flesh – the giving of one's own body out of love. Love for whom? Love for God and love for neighbor.

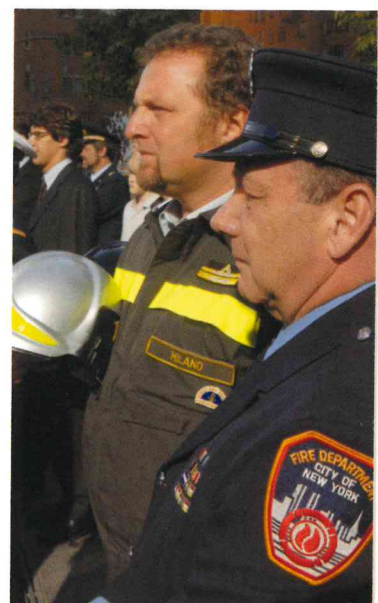
Indeed, we are also taught, "No greater love hath man than this, than to lay down his life for his friends."

On this Columbus Day, let us remember the good, truth and beauty of America, and let us remember those who love and defend and protect their country and neighbor. And let us remember by this wreath those who have given their flesh in the greatest act of charity a human being can make: to lay down his life for his friends.

Happy Columbus Day.



Honorable Richard Greco, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Navy



Members of Italy and America's civil service attended the wreath laying

Shared Heritage, Passions and Goals Are Themes of Annual Gala

Italian-American achievement and the spirit of cooperation between Italy and the United States were motifs that ran through the Gala Dinner on October 7, 2006, at the Waldorf-Astoria Grand Ballroom. America's friends from Italy were well represented, including the Honorable Alessandrina Lonardo Mastella, President of the Regional Council of *Campania*, and the Honorable Enzo Lucchini, Vice President of the Regional Council of *Lombardia*. Among those Americans honored were General Peter Pace, Parade Grand Marshal and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, innovative financier Joseph Perella and business leader Joseph Moglia.

Highlights of the evening abounded. Timothy Stephenson was the winner of the 2006 Lamborghini Coupe Raffle; Johnny Maestro and The Brooklyn Bridge took a star turn on the stage as dancing returned to this year's event after an absence of several years; Dinner Co-Chairs Maria Bartiromo and Angelo Vivolo put together a flawless evening, once again, this time in consultation with Honorary Dinner Chairman Angelo Mozilo; and the silent auction raised tens of thousands of dollars for the Foundation's scholarship programs.

But the most memorable moments came from the speakers, and the sense of a shared vision – respect and indebtedness to the past, friendship and cooperation in the future – resounded time and again throughout the evening. General Pace delivered a speech that was filled with passion, pride and humility, recalling his father's early years in America and his own experiences alongside servicemen from Italy [see sidebar].

President Lonardo spoke of her grandparents coming to this country and growing up here before returning to Italy: "America has given a lot to me, and it is and it will ever be in my heart for all the rest of my life. We are very proud of you, as we are very proud of your grandparents, my grandparents who came here many, many, many years ago. Now we are here to work so that we can build more ideal bridges between the United States and Italy. I love Italy, but believe me, I love America and God bless them both!"

Noting that *Lombardia* had been involved with the Columbus Week Celebration since 2002, Vice President Lucchini said, "The most important outcome of these five years of working together has been the growth of our friendship with the members of the Columbus Citizens Foundation, a mutual feeling of shared values, which also has a strategic meaning. This year we participate in partnership with the region *Campania*. A partnership such as this demonstrates that Italy is one country, and its style and economy will be successful only if all of its kaleidoscopic companies work together as a team."

The sense of camaraderie extended across the Atlantic, as well, Vice President Lucchini said. "We are here in the best city of the world, an American city and a cosmopolitan one, the ideal place for a fruitful encounter between different cultures, but New York has also a lot in common with Milan's energy, industriousness and success. Thank you America for loving Italy and *Lombardia*."

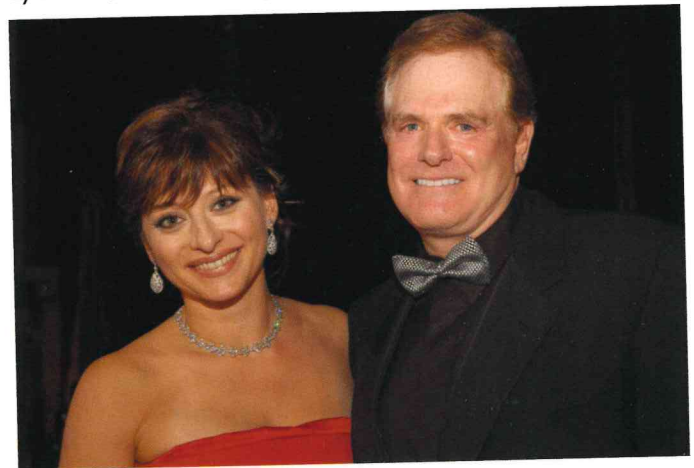
Honoree Joseph Moglia, CEO of TD Ameritrade, recalled that his father arrived in America from *Lombardia* when he was 11 but never received a formal education: "My father never had a chance



Enzo Lucchini, Vice President of the Regional Council of *Lombardia*, Foundation President Louis Tallarini and Alessandrina Lonardo Mastella, President of the Regional Council of *Campania*



Lynn Pace, Amb. and Mrs. Joseph Zappala and General Peter Pace



Gala Host, Dinner Co-Chair, and Broadcast Anchor Maria Bartiromo with Honoree Joseph Moglia



Foundation Media Chairman Frank Fusaro and Carol, his wife, with General Pace

General Pace – Disarming, Indebted, Devoted

As the reception for the Gala was just underway, General Pace entered a room on the third floor of the Waldorf-Astoria for a press conference to discuss his heritage and the Columbus Week Celebration. He strode up to a cameraman, put out his hand, and said, “Pete Pace, good to meet you.”

General Pace took several minutes to introduce himself to each man and woman in the room, American and Italian alike. The first question, from a news radio station reporter we will be kind enough to leave unnamed, asked was why General Pace, someone serving a conservative administration, was here in New York, one of the most heavily Democratic and liberal states in the country. With patience and grace, General Pace stressed the importance of “diversity” in America and lauded the wide variety of backgrounds, opinions and beliefs as one of our country’s greatest strengths. In that moment, the reputedly fierce New York press corps was disarmed.

During the Gala itself, General Pace took the podium and delivered one of the most remarkable speeches ever presented at a Gala. It follows below, virtually in its entirety.

Thank you so much. Well if there was ever any doubt in anybody’s mind whether or not I was Italian, I can tell you right now the blood is running through my heart right now.

Italy has been, in so many ways, such a fundamental part of my life. My dad, born in Noci, came here when he was five. By the time he was eight, he was selling bananas in Hell’s Kitchen. When he was a teenager he was hauling blocks of ice to other people’s apartments. After he married my mom, he worked multiple jobs so that he and my mom could take care of their four children. He wanted us to be able to live the American dream. My sister, Elizabeth, the oldest, went to college. She had a wonderful professional career, and at age 60 she decided she wanted a law degree, so she did, because she could.

My brother Sam, preceded me by two years at the Naval Academy. He joined the Marine Corps, went to Vietnam, was wounded twice, received the Silver Star Medal and is still my personal hero. Our younger brother Tom went to college, got a law degree and is president of a company here in New York City. I’ve done okay myself. There is no other country on the planet where the father can stand on a street corner selling bananas, and the son can march past that street corner as Grand Marshal of the Columbus Day Parade.

Lynn and I are proud of our two children, Peter and Tiffany. Peter is here tonight. He served our country for six years as a United States Marine. He is now working with Goldman Sachs. Our daughter, Tiffany, is a senior accountant in Washington D.C. They are doing what they want to do in a country that lets them do it.

But I said that Italy has impacted my life in so many ways. The very first marine I lost in combat was a great young man named Lance Corporal Guido Farinaro. Guido was born in Italy, he was raised in Bethpage, New York, graduated from Chaminade High School, and like all of his other classmates could have gone on to college. But Guido loved his adopted home, and chose to volunteer for the Marine Corps to repay what he thought was a debt of gratitude to the nation that had allowed him to be educated and to live the way that he wanted to. Guido died in July of 1968. I was with him when he died. I promised him that as long as I had the strength that I would try to serve this country to the best of my ability. Guido’s picture is on my desk where every day he reminds me of that promise, and the enormous privilege that it is to be the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in the greatest country on earth.



Joseph M. Murphy, Chairman of Country Bank, and Joanne, his wife, with General Pace

Two-point-four million Americans, active guard and reserve, proudly wear the uniform of this country. Two-point-four million Americans protect 300 million of our fellow citizens. It’s a great honor to represent them and to try as best as I can to help provide them the leadership, the resources and all that they so richly deserve from us as they protect us.

But Italy has impacted my life in another way. I served two tours in Somalia. In both of those tours I served side by side with some incredible soldiers from the Italian Army. My good friend Admiral Giampaolo Di Paola, Chief of Defense of Italy and his incredible soldiers are standing side by side with us all over the world: in Afghanistan, for a long time in Iraq, and most recently Italy stood up to lead in Lebanon. So I look with great pride on the Italian armed forces, both because that’s where my dad was born and also because as an American fighting man, I could not be prouder to stand next to Italian fighting men and women who serve their country as well as we try to serve ours.

The [words of Richard Greco, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Navy, who introduced General Pace] tonight were overly generous. And your round of applause was equally so. I can’t tell you how humble I feel to be honored in the way that you are honoring me tonight and throughout this weekend. The best I think I can do is to tell you that I will certainly focus my energies and rededicate myself to trying to be the person that you think I am.

This is an incredible country. We have inherited so much. To be part of a legacy that has been handed down and have the opportunity to nurture it and to pass it on to our children and grandchildren is a blessing that I embrace. I truly thank you for the warmth that you have shown me, Lynn and Peter tonight. I thank you for the warmth that you have for your armed forces, and I promise you that although I may not always get it right, I will surely try to get it right.

Annual Gala Continued from page 12

to go to high school. He worked 75 hours a week in a fruit and vegetable store from the time he was 13 years old until the time he retired at 80. But any small degree of success I may have been fortunate enough to achieve is directly attributable to my parents. My dad would be incredibly proud tonight, but he couldn't be here. He died a few months ago of Alzheimer's. But tonight, Dad, I just want to say, thank you for having given me my work ethic, my sense of dedication and the spirit to at least try to be the best I can be.

"My mom was absolutely my best friend. I don't remember my mom without a smile on her face. My mom died of cancer when she was 62. But tonight Mom, I want to thank you for having given me my spirit, my positive attitude and my sense of humor."

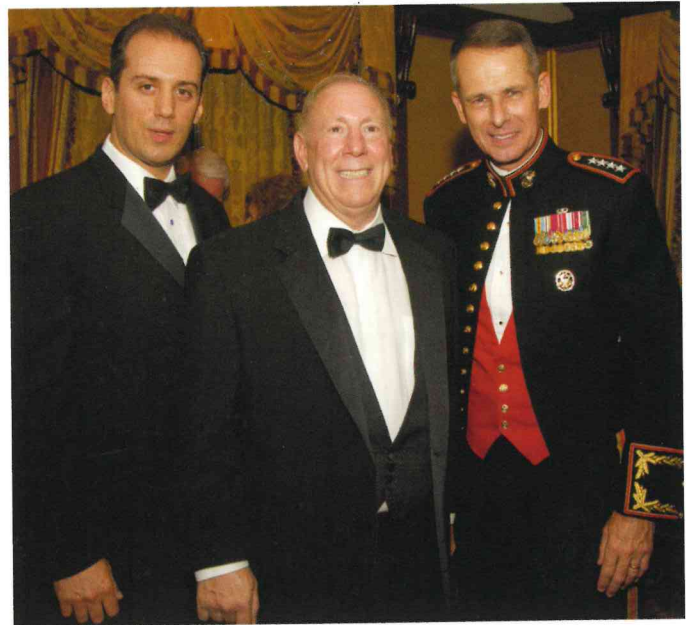
"So thank all of you for coming here tonight," said Mr. Moglia. "For me, an Italian-Irish American, to be honored by the Columbus Citizens Foundation, here at the Waldorf-Astoria, in New York, which is my hometown, in front of my family and friends, is truly one of the greatest honors of my life. From the bottom of my heart, I thank you."

Joseph Perella, founder of Perella Weinberg Partners LP, talked of his grandfather, also named Joseph, who came to America during the Great Depression and found work at a country club "because he figured out that it was one of the few places, in otherwise desperate times, where people were still living it up. He worked and brought his daughter and wife over: women didn't travel alone, so the two came together. He brought his youngest son over, and all during this time he was paying for my father's education back in Italy, all the way through to my father receiving his Ph.D. in economics. And only then did my dad come over, in 1938.

"So while I thank you for paying me this tribute, my life was a piece of cake compared to the first Joe Perella. In my mind, by honoring me, you honor the entire Perella and Russo families and all of those who came before me to show me the way. Thank you very much!" ♣



Throughout the Columbus Week Celebration, sponsor Torre Gaia provided delicious wines with depth and polish that met the Foundation's standards of excellence. *Mille Grazie!*



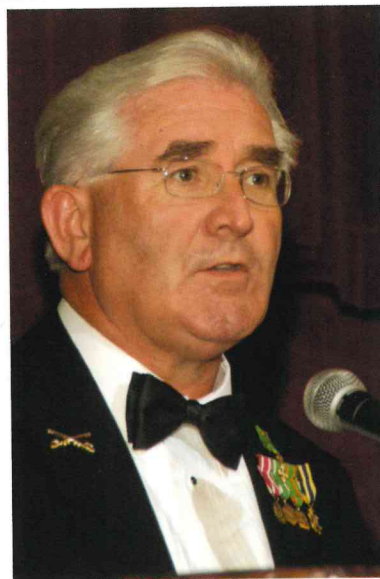
Journal Co-Chairmen Anthony Giordano and Anthony Mallardi with General Peter Pace



The eternally youthful Johnny Maestro and members of his group, The Brooklyn Bridge, got the audience on its feet



Foundation Executive Director Christine Meola with General Pace



Rev. Michael R. Cipolla Moynihan, Mass Chairman



Marketing Chairman Michael Pedone with General Pace



Giuliana Ridolfi Cardillo, Chairman of Italian Affairs, with Dr. Gianluigi Ricciolio

Culture, History and Traditions of Italy are Brought to Life In 62nd Annual Columbus Day Parade

Nearly one million New Yorkers and tourists witnessed a dazzling pageant of heritage and culture from America and Italy in the 62nd annual Columbus Day Parade, which was held on October 9, 2006. Spectacular floats celebrating the great cultural landmarks of *Campania* and *Lombardia* rolled up Fifth Avenue under vivid blue skies.

Over 35,000 marchers spanned the three-mile Parade route. Traditional folk singers, dancers and performers dressed in colorful costumes and masks brought rousing applause from the thrilled spectators of all nationalities. The Parade was broadcast by NBC affiliates and by RAI International, reaching television audiences on four continents.

The Parade capped the two-week long Columbus Week Celebration that featured revealing exhibits in Grand Central Terminal, Vanderbilt Hall and Times Square. Throughout the Celebration, millions of New Yorkers and visitors to the city were treated to interactive exhibitions about the vibrant arts, crafts, cuisine, design and landscapes of Italy, whose immigrant sons and daughters helped build America, and learned about the contributions of Italian Americans to the history and culture of the United States.

People lined Fifth Avenue shouting "*Italia!*" Many saluted Grand Marshal, General Peter Pace, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, with cheers and the word "*Grazie!*" "By order of the mayor, everybody in New York is a little bit Italian today," said New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg, who marched up the Avenue with a spring in his step. "One of the great strengths that we have is the diversity of our population."

"Just look at this," said Columbus Citizens Foundation President Louis Tallarini, waving to the throngs of people. "This is the busiest and most famous shopping venue in America, Fifth Avenue, and it's normally jammed with cars and impatient people getting to their next appointment. Today, you see nothing but radiant, smiling faces. Only the sights, sounds and vital, living culture of Italy could bring New Yorkers together like this."

Prominent among the floats and entrants were displays that focused on Provinces from *Campania* and *Lombardia* that highlighted the performing arts and the remarkable geographic beauty and diversity of the Regions.

Mark Luongo marched with the Garibaldi Guard, which nearly 150 years later continues to commemorate the participation of Italian Americans in the war between the states. "It's part of my heritage as an Italian, because a lot of the Italians did enlist in the Civil War," Mr. Luongo, a teacher of American history told the *Staten Island Advance*. "They felt [strongly] enough about the country to do so."

Tina Vaccaro, of Deer Park, Long Island, told the Associated Press, "We're proud to be Italian, especially this year: Italy won the World Cup," referring to the country's masterful victory. (In the one game they played against each other, Italy and America tied.)

Notable contingents from Italy included Roman gladiators in chariots. A woman on an oversized clamshell suggested the goddess Venus and summoned thoughts of Italy's central place in the ancient world. Papal infantry wearing chain mail and tunics

Continued on page 16



General Peter Pace with Lynn, his wife



Lawrence Auriana, Mayor Michael Bloomberg, Louis Tallarini and Dinner Co-Chairman Angelo Vivolo



The Province of Benevento's magical float, which transported a suspended acrobat inside as it rolled up Fifth Avenue

62nd Annual Columbus Day Parade

Continued from page 15

emblazoned with red crosses recalled the valor of soldiers of another era. Designs for flying machines by da Vinci and Bernini attested to the achievements of Italian artists and scientists during the Renaissance. Jumping to the 21st century, the Parade presented a series of five decades of breathtaking Lamborghini sports cars capped by a 2006 Gallardo Spyder.

"It's a tremendous pleasure to share with New York, with the United States, with the world the beauty and passion of Italy and the shape that has taken over the centuries in America," said Mr. Tallarini. "Viva Italia! Viva America!" ♣



Members of the clergy from St. Patrick's Cathedral with General Pace



A few of the Foundation's nearly 750 scholarship recipients



Left: General Pace with Zachary Fazekas and possible future Parade Chairman Angelo Catalanotto; above: Honoree Joseph Perella with Amy, his wife



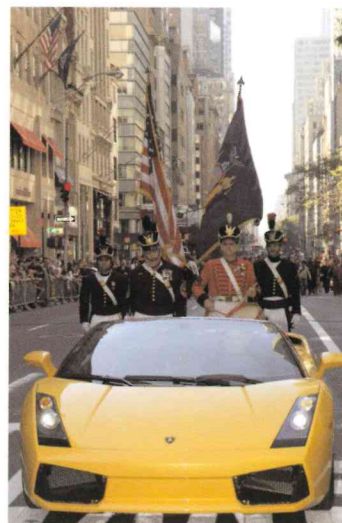
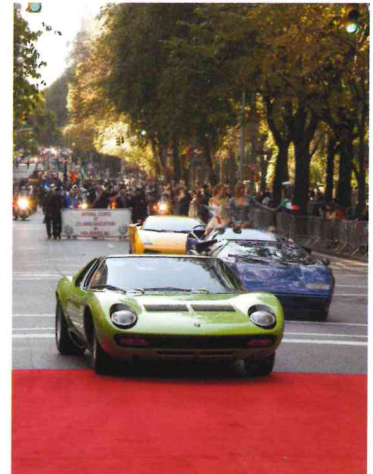
General and Lynn Pace, Lidia Bastianich and Angelo Vivolo



Above: General Pace, Louis Tallarini, and Major General Giuliano Ferrari, the Italian Military Advisor to the United Nations; right: Johnny Maestro with General Weekend Chairman Sam Giarrusso



A day to remember...



Spotlight: Anthony Abbate

Anthony S. Abbate grew up in the Bronx and is President and CEO of Interchange Bank, of Saddle Brook, New Jersey. He attributes part of his success to marketing, which he first noticed, without that label, when he helped his father and uncles at their corner candy store on 110th Street in East Harlem in Manhattan.

He was about 10 years old at the time. Looking back, he recalls, "In those days, people didn't have telephones in their houses. We had two telephones in the rear of the store. People would call and leave a message for a customer. I'd run upstairs to let them know, and they'd come down to return the call. On the way out, they'd feel obliged to buy something. We had magazines to the right, candy on the left. There was a display of five shelves of cookies."

On Saturday evening, Mr. Abbate would accompany his father on a trip to midtown to meet the *Daily News* truck so they could get the Sunday newspapers to the store an hour or two ahead of other local shops.

Business schools teach the ideas of value added services that breed consumer loyalty, being first to market with a product and careful product placement. Mr. Abbate grasped these concepts as a kid.

Mr. Abbate, who lives with his wife Rosemarie in Montvale, New Jersey, never went to college but took those business-school type lessons with him in 1959 when he started working at the

When Mr. Abbate became President of Interchange in 1981, the bank had \$77 million in assets. By 2002, that figure was nearly \$1 billion, and over the past four years, as he greatly expanded Interchange's commercial and business-oriented services, its assets have grown to more than \$1.6 billion, and it now has 30 branches in 26 Bergen County towns.



Anthony Abbate

A large part of success in marketing stems from a sharply defined message that appears in a variety of forums. Mr. Abbate has testified a number of times before the House Banking Subcommittee, written numerous letters to the editors of various publications and authored over 30 articles on his own. His opinion article, "Community Banking is Alive and Well" was published in *The Record*, of New Jersey and won the IRIS Award of Excellence from the New Jersey Chapter of The International Association of Business Communicators.

Like many businesses, Mr. Abbate believes, the Italian-American community faces the challenge of creating an accurate, balanced image in the media. "The media, movie and television industries deride us as being bad people. But certainly the media, and many other people, have no idea what our community and our history are about. An Italian trapper, Francesco Vigo, who was living in America, lent Revolutionary Colonel George Rogers Clark funds to outfit his troops over 200 years ago. Thomas Jefferson's neighbor Filippo Mazzei wrote the phrase that inspired Jefferson's immortal words, 'All men are created equal.' Luigi Palma di Cesnola, a Civil War medal of honor recipient, was the first director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art."

Mr. Abbate counts his own ancestors as the embodiment of Italian character. His maternal great-grandfather, Salvatore Miano, came to America in 1887 from Nicosia, Sicily, worked for a railroad, and brought his family over in 1896. Five years later, he formed a committee of Nicosian immigrants that raised money to commission a gold crown of thorns to adorn a statue of Jesus Christ located in the Cathedral of Santo Nicolo in Nicosia. The effort was so successful that it led to a second commission for a crown of stars for the Madonna at the Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore, also in Nicosia.

Mr. Abbate has continued the tradition of generosity established by his great-grandfather. In 1998, he helped arrange a \$50,000 grant to Ramapo College via the Columbians of New Jersey to expand its Italian Studies Program, which focuses on the achievements of Italian Americans. And this year, he became a Perpetual Scholarship Benefactor by making a substantial donation to the Foundation's Adopt-A-Scholar Program.

The generosity, sense of community and instinct to pay homage to one's heritage and ancestry are among the great strengths of the Italian-American community, and they are traits he finds at the Foundation. "The fraternity that we have here is very important," said Mr. Abbate. "The Foundation's charitable work is great. The Foundation raised funds in perpetuity to maintain the statue of Columbus at Columbus Circle. And certainly the Columbus Day Parade and the Columbus Week Celebration are tremendous events. They've taken the recognition of contributions of Americans of Italian descent to another level. We should all be grateful for that." ♣



The NASDAQ celebrated the fifth anniversary of Interchange Bank's listing on its exchange by having Mr. Abbate ring the closing bell and illuminating his image on its jumbotron

Commercial State Bank & Trust Company in the garment district. After 22 years in the banking industry, he was running Interchange Bank and incorporating more sophisticated marketing techniques. "We did focus groups and surveys," he said. "We shopped our branches. We shopped our competition. We had loan sales, with lower interest rates for the day, and people would line up with our advertisements.

"I was out to differentiate us from the competition. In our business, you have to be the first and fastest in getting to the market because in three to six months your competitors will offer the same thing."

Johnny Maestro, Philanthropist

At the Gala Dinner and on the Red Carpet during the Columbus Day Parade, Johnny Maestro, with his band, The Brooklyn Bridge, did what he has been doing for five decades: bringing joy to anyone who has a sense of melody, harmony and rhythm. They performed Mr. Maestro's break-out hit, "16 Candles," "The Worst That Can Happen," "You'll Never Walk Alone," and a medley of "Runaround Sue," "The Wanderer" and "Ruby Baby." No one within earshot could resist the ebullient riffs that got people to the dance floor.

The songs draw inspiration from swing, blues and country music and are rooted in rock 'n roll, but they are distinctive for the depth of passion and feeling that Mr. Maestro conveys. Within the performances are compassion and feeling that can come only from experience and a life of opportunities seized and an understanding of potentials unfulfilled.

"I was raised on the lower East Side of Manhattan, in Little Italy," Mr. Maestro said, "and I'd say that maybe one percent of the kids I grew up with went to college. Money was very sparse, and most guys got into labor. In fact, the only person I knew who went to college was a cousin, and he went on to work for NASA."

His cousin's success is an enduring reminder of what can be achieved when a child has the chance to receive a good education. "There's so much that can be done in this country," Mr. Maestro said, "There are so many minds out there that can be developed, but they need the opportunity."

This fall, Mr. Maestro donated a College Scholarship for a music student to the Foundation's scholarship funds.

"There are so many ways to help," Mr. Maestro said. "It's just all part of life – helping other people when you can. I'm honored that the Foundation feels that a scholarship in my name will help other people recognize the importance of creating opportunities for young people." ❀



Johnny Maestro with Sam Giarrusso, General Weekend Chairman

Italian Committee Honors Louis Tallarini, Foundation For Efforts on Behalf of Italy-United States Development

The Filippo Mazzei Award Committee, acting under the auspices of the President of the Republic of Italy, Hon. Giorgio Napolitano, presented its Bridge Award to Louis Tallarini, President of the Columbus Citizens Foundation of New York City. The award was presented by Apostolic Nuncio Monsignor Luigi Barbarito in a ceremony held on September 11, 2006, in the Maria della Neve Most Holy Sanctuary in Morroni, in the town of Bonito, Italy.

Mr. Tallarini was cited for his efforts to improve the welfare of Italian émigrés and their descendants in the United States and his continuing recognition of the contributions that immigrants of Italian heritage have made to this country.

"I am deeply honored to receive The Bridge Award," said Mr. Tallarini. "Like so many other Americans, my grandparents immigrated to the United States in pursuit of a better life. This award, two generations later, is an acknowledgement of the sacrifices and hard work that they and my parents made throughout their lives, and it is a great pleasure for me to serve the Italian-American community and to do whatever I can to recognize America's debt to the great country of Italy."

Also at the ceremony, Monsignor Barbarito on behalf of President Napolitano awarded a presidential plaque to the Columbus Citizens Foundation for its efforts on behalf of the Italian-American community in the United States. Mr. Tallarini received the award on behalf of the Columbus Citizens Foundation. ❀



Louis Tallarini being congratulated after receiving The Bridge Award

Dr. Lawrence A. Yannuzzi Honored by American Society of Italian Legions of Merit

Foundation Member Dr. Lawrence A. Yannuzzi received the decoration of Grande Ufficiale in the Order of the Star of Solidarity of the Republic of Italy in a ceremony held by the American Society of Italian Legions of Merit on December 1, 2006. Ambassador Paolo Fulci, former Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations, presented the award in recognition of Dr. Yannuzzi's distinguished service and many contributions to the field of Ophthalmology. Amb. Fulci presented the decoration on behalf of Hon. Giorgio Napolitano, President of the Republic of Italy, at the Society's 41st Annual Reception and Dinner.

Dr. Yannuzzi is a world-renowned retinal specialist whose particular field of interest is macular degeneration and unusual chorioretinal diseases. He is associated with Vitreous-Retina-Macula Consultants of New York, a professor of Clinical Ophthalmology at Columbia University Medical School and Surgeon Director of Ophthalmology of Manhattan Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital, among numerous other affiliations. He has been a visiting professor at numerous universities, including those in Italy. Dr. Yannuzzi is also the founder of The Macula Foundation, Inc., which has distributed several million dollars to eye research across the country, and is the author of nine textbooks and over 270 publications.

Attending the event, which was held in New York City at the Colony Club, were numerous Foundation Members, including Louis Tallarini, Lawrence Auriana, past Foundation President



Amb. Paolo Fulci, former Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations, Dr. Lawrence A. Yannuzzi and General Counsel of Italy Antonio Bandini

Michael Santangelo and his wife, RoseMarie Gallina-Santangelo, Giuliana Ridolfi Cardillo, past Foundation President Hon. Eugene Nardelli and Vivian Cardia. Mrs. Gallina-Santangelo is also President Emerita and Chief of Protocol of the Society and was Chair of the Society's 41st Annual Reception and Dinner. Earlier in 2006, the Society presented President George W. Bush with a Medal of Honor commemorating the 40th anniversary of their organization. The event was held in the Oval Office on Italian Independence Day, June 2, 2006 (see Foundation Quarterly, Spring 2006, page 14).

Sons of Italy Commission for Social Justice Honors Foundation Chairman Lawrence Auriana

Lawrence Auriana received the 2006 Commission for Social Justice's Positive Image Award on November 4, 2006, for his leadership in campaigns to end the stereotyping of Italian Americans in the entertainment industry. In his speech at the Commission of Social Justice's Positive Image Awards Luncheon held at the Hilton New York in New York City, Mr. Auriana said, "We are making progress in our fight against defamation... By speaking out quickly and forcefully, we are opening peoples' eyes to the injustice of negative stereotyping." He continued, "We cannot let the media define our community. We must define ourselves to all Americans through positive cultural events like the Columbus Day Parade and the many positive programs of the Sons of Italy. And we must continue the good work of the Commission for Social Justice."

The Commission for Social Justice is the anti-defamation arm of the Order Sons of Italy in America (OSIA). ❖



Lawrence Auriana on receiving the Commission for Social Justice's Positive Image Award

Citywide Bocce Tournament



Members of the Bocce Tournament's winning team

Hundreds of players and spectators turned out over the weekend of September 9 and 10, 2006, to compete in the 12th Annual New York City Bocce Tournament, which was sponsored by the Foundation. Held in city parks in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens and Staten Island, a Brooklyn team manned by John Pepe, Ben Natoli, Vito Stancanelli and Michele DeVito took first place and rode on a float in the Columbus Day Parade.

"There is no other Parks event that brings together a crowd as diverse and multigenerational as the Citywide Bocce Tournament," said Parks & Recreation Commissioner Adrian Benepe. "Rarely do we see New Yorkers young and old engaged in the same recreational activity with the same level of enthusiasm as we do during this tournament. Bocce is not only a celebration of active lifestyles, community and sports, but it also pays tribute to Italian and European tradition so prevalent in this cultural melting pot of a city." ❖

In Brief

Mr. and Mrs. **Richard J. Naclerio** have endowed the Richard J. and Barbara Naclerio Endowed Chair in Business at Villanova University. The Chair holder will conduct research relating to bilateral trade between the United States and the European Union, specifically Italy and England, and develop courses on corporate social responsibility and business ethics. Mr. Naclerio graduated from Villanova's college of Commerce and Finance (now the Villanova School of Business). Their children Elizabeth, Lisa and Richard also attended Villanova.



Madeline and Frank LoRe at the Madeline Fiadini LoRe Women's Center

Madeline LoRe, wife of **Frank LoRe**, has been honored by the Bayonne Medical Center. On October 3, 2006, the Center dedicated the Madeline Fiadini LoRe Women's Center. A two-time cancer survivor, Mrs. LoRe said, "Early detection is the best prevention," and said to women fighting the battle with breast cancer, "Keep your faith, keep your chin up and focus on yourself."

The **Louis R. Cappelli** Foundation made a \$1.5 million gift to support a new emergency child care facility at White Plains

Hospital. The center, which will be separate from the hospital's general emergency room, will be named the Kylie and Louis R. Cappelli Pediatric Emergency Center. Mr. Cappelli is a leading real estate developer and builder and is founder and CEO of Valhalla-based Cappelli Enterprises and George A. Fuller Construction Company. He has developed and built more than 10 million square feet of commercial and residential properties in the Westchester County area, including the City Center complex in White Plains.



Louis and Kylie Cappelli with Jon B. Schandler of the White Plains Hospital at a ceremony establishing the Kylie and Louis R. Cappelli Pediatric Emergency Center

In an unprecedented act of generosity that acknowledges his grandfather and the support his family received during his youth, real estate developer and investor **Mario Occhicone** has donated a plot of land to the Nyack Housing Authority (NYHA) for use as low income housing. In the '50s, Mr. Occhicone grew up in a city-run housing project in the South Bronx. His donation gives needy families the chance to live in a good home, as the city had done for his family. The .62 acre lot, worth nearly \$1.25 million, is now

part of the NYHA's Highview Court and will be the site of approximately 30 additional units of low-income housing. The donation marks the first time in New York State history that an individual has given land to a housing authority. "If I hadn't grown up in low-income housing," Mr. Occhicone said, "I wouldn't be so partial to it. My family needed help, and the City of New York helped us." Mr. Occhicone's grandparents immigrated to the United States from the Region of *Campania* in the early 1900s, and the housing complex will be named in honor of Mr. Occhicone's grandfather, Giuseppe Occhicone. The ribbon cutting was held on October 26, 2006.



Mario Occhicone

Angelo Vivolo was named Restaurateur of the Year by the prestigious Les Amis d'Escoffier Society of New York, the nation's foremost fraternity of dedicated gastronomes. Mr. Vivolo received the award at the Society's 70th Spring Dinner, which was held on June 16, 2006. Mr. Vivolo is President and Owner of Angelo Vivolo Restaurants Associates, Inc., which operates Vivolo, Bar.Vetro and New York's two Cucina Vivolos, as well as Bruschetteria.

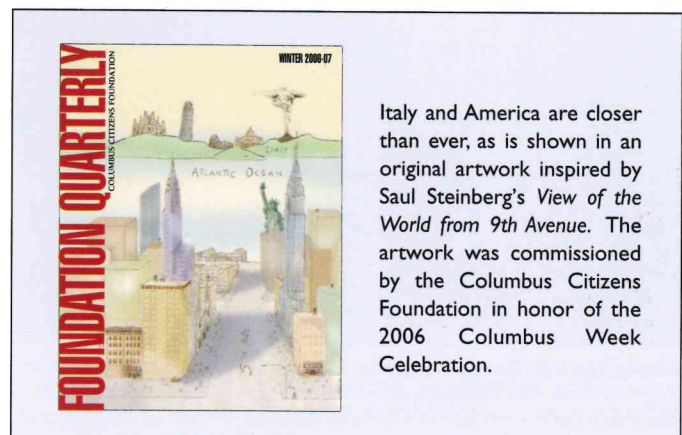
Dr. **John Romano** was cited by *New York* magazine in "Best Doctors '06," its annual survey of New York City's best health professionals. Dr. Romano is a dermatologist and is affiliated with St. Vincent's Hospital of Manhattan.

Frank V. Carone recently was appointed Of Counsel to Kaufman Dolowich Schneider Bianco & Voluck LLP, a national law firm that specializes in employment and labor law, construction law and insurance defense. Mr. Carone's Berkshire Financial Group, Inc., a licensed mortgage banker that Mr. Carone founded and of which he was president, recently merged with Power Express, a national lender.

Joseph Germanotta's daughter, Stefani Germanotta, just signed a recording contract with Universal/Island Def Jam Records, the recording label of Mariah Carey and Lionel Richie. Her stage name is Lady GaGa. Her first album for Universal/Island Def Jam Records is scheduled for the summer 2007.

Marriages

Stephen Acunto IV, a member of the Young Adults Auxiliary, wed Veronica Sanguineti White on July 1, 2006. The service was performed at the historic Church of San Martino in Cividale del Friuli in the Friuli-Venezia-Giulia region of Italy. Mr. Acunto is the son of Comm. **Stephen Acunto**.



Italy and America are closer than ever, as is shown in an original artwork inspired by Saul Steinberg's *View of the World from 9th Avenue*. The artwork was commissioned by the Columbus Citizens Foundation in honor of the 2006 Columbus Week Celebration.

The Timeless Pleasures of Italy

Continued from page 3

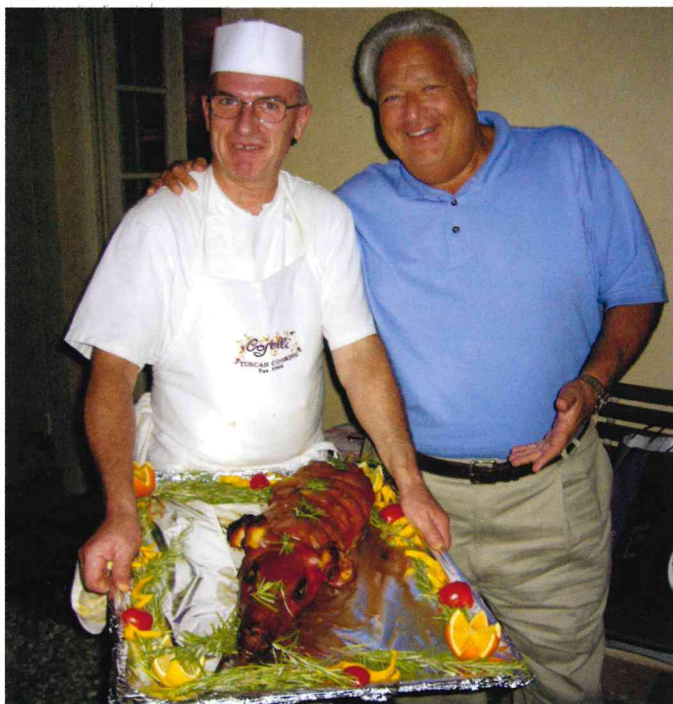
Italy, both ancient and contemporary: shopping in Positano; meals in exquisite centuries-old restaurants where recipes and presentations have been refined over generations; private tours of newly opened excavations at Pompeii; private musical performances and entrée to restricted collections in the museums of the nation that gave birth to much of the world's great music and art.

Among the many highlights was a visit to the Uffizi Gallery. "We had the opportunity to visit the Corridoio Vasariano, inside the Uffizi Gallery, and the Palazzo Vecchio," said Mr. Abbate. Giorgio Vasari is widely considered the first art historian, and the Vasari Corridor, which contains scores of artists' self-portraits going back 400 years, is not open to the public yet reveals the evolution of Western art, as does the Uffizi itself, highlighted by Sandro Botticelli's *Birth of Venus*.

The trip also included a visit to the American War Memorial Cemetery near Florence, where 4,500 American servicemen are buried, visits to a vineyard in Chianti, a pre-dinner champagne tasting with caviar, samplings of local cheeses, including *Campania's* world-famous mozzarella, and a tour of the Amalfi coast aboard a 110-foot yacht. "The tour of the Coast of Amalfi on the yacht was probably the greatest day of my life," said Mr. De Maria. "You can't appreciate the Amalfi Coast when you've got your hands on the wheel of a car and are trying not to drive off the road. It's just the most beautiful scenery, and there was swimming in the waters off Capri, and we had a crew at our every command."

The sights, sounds, smells and flavors of a place that is foreign and yet feels like home are best enjoyed in the company of family and friends, and the Members Tour of Italy provided all that and more. "I've been to Italy a number of times, but this was the best trip ever," said Mr. Abbate. ♣

For individual or group tours booked through Classic Travel & Tours, please contact Bill Gearhart at 732.494.7100.



Above: The Villa Borgo Bernardini's executive chef and Richard De Zego present the evening's entrée; right: Classic Travel & Tours' Bill Gearhart (left) with Baron Giovanni Ricasoli, owner of the Castello di Cacchiano castle and vineyards, toasting Foundation Members



Constance and Angelo Silveri prior to a private concert at Villa Medici Guilini



The *Maria Giovanni* approaches the Faraglioni Rocks off the coast of Capri, with Cindy De Maria and Joseph Mattone on deck



Angelo Silveri (left) and Richard Naclerio enjoying local cuisine during a day trip to the Cinque Terre off the Ligurian Coast



Alfred Calabro

Alfred Calabro, who was Parade Chairman for 17 years, passed away on August 2, 2006, at his home in East Quogue, Long Island. He was 79 years old.

Mr. Calabro was among the most active and dedicated Members of the Foundation throughout the '80s and '90s, both socially and in volunteering his time as Parade Chairman. Member Vito Nardelli, who served as TV Chairman during Mr. Calabro's tenure, recalls, "He was the Columbus Day Parade! He always said, 'When I get up in front of that Parade, and blow the whistle, that's when it starts.' He helped to build the Parade to the point that the next generation could take it to the next level. When I was TV Chairman, we got WPIX to televise the Parade. Under his guidance, Sophia Loren, Frank Sinatra, Joe DiMaggio, and Tommy LaSorda were Grand Marshal. He introduced the competition between the marching bands. Al was very open to the ideas and suggestions of Members, and every year the Parade got a little bit bigger and a little bit better."

Mr. Calabro's family was from Calabria, and he grew up in Brooklyn, where he maintained a residence throughout his life. He attended New York University and went into the field of



Alfred Calabro with Grand Marshal Joe DiMaggio

marketing. He became director of marketing at the national office products company, Boeurman Pease and later opened his own firm.

Italy bestowed a Cavaliere on Mr. Calabro for his contributions to preserving Italian culture, and he was involved in numerous American historical and cultural celebrations, as well. He performed services for the Brooklyn Bridge Centennial Commission leading up to the bridge's centennial in 1984 and was deeply involved in the restoration of the Statue of Liberty, which reopened on the anniversary of its centennial, July 4, 1986, following a multi-year renovation project.

Mr. Calabro's son, Gregory, said that his father "lived the American dream. He was born to immigrant parents, survived the Depression and World War II, got a college degree, provided well for his family, who he loved, and loved being an Italian American."

Mr. Calabro is survived by son, Gregory, his second wife, Ruth Elaine, and his stepson Walter Pettus.

Laura Delano Adams Eastman, Last Resident of Townhouse

Laura Delano Adams Eastman, who grew up in the Foundation Townhouse, passed away last year. Miss Adams was the daughter of Frederick Baldwin Adams and Ellen Walters Delano and married and later divorced Jack Eastman, Director of the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture. Her late brother, Frederick B. Adams, Jr., was the former Director of The Morgan Library. The highly-cultured Mrs. Eastman was a curator, horsewoman and a first cousin once removed of Eleanor Roosevelt. By chance, she was visiting the White House on December 7, 1941, the day that lives in infamy. She founded Assistance Dogs International, a coalition of not-for-profit agencies that train dogs to assist blind, deaf and physically disabled people.



Frank LoRe, Foundation House Manager John Boden, the late Richard Bellucci (rear) with Lawrence Auriana and the late Mrs. Eastman (seated)

Anna Moffo, Remembered by the Metropolitan Opera Guild

The Metropolitan Opera Guild held a memorial tribute in honor of Anna Moffo last September [see Spring 2006 Quarterly, p. 19]. The program booklet began, "Anna Moffo was quite simply one of the most beautiful and talented women ever to grace an opera stage, a film set, or a television studio." Baritone Sherrill Milnes hosted the memorial. Speaking about Mrs. Moffo's signature role, Violetta in *La Traviata*, he said that no one had "captured the essence" of the character as she had. The legendary Marilyn Horne paid tribute as well. She recalled a mutual friend who once said that Mrs. Moffo "never said a bad word about anyone." The New York *Sun's* Jay Nordlinger reported on the event.

In Memoriam

Hon. Judge **Edward D. Re**, Member since 1994

Tussio Amicucci
Father of **John Amicucci** and Grandfather of **Dario Amicucci**

Michelle Celenza
Daughter-in-law of Dr. **Frank V. Celenza**

Augustus J. Genova
Father of **Angelo Genova**

Marjorie Elizabeth Tese
Mother of **Vincent S. Tese**

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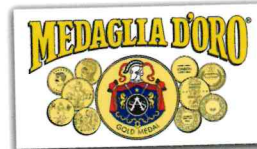
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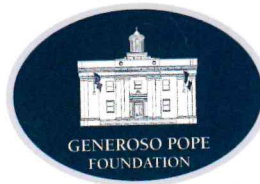
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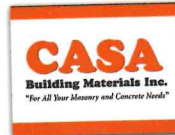
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