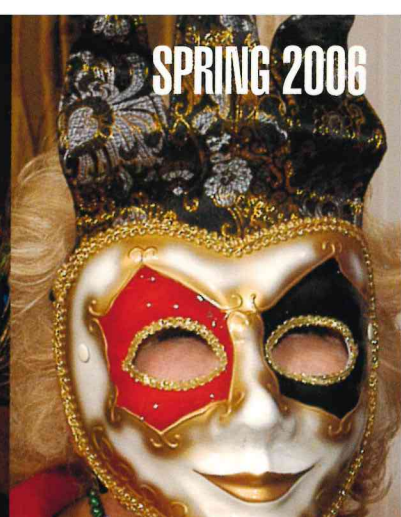


FUNDATION QUARTERLY

COLUMBUS CITIZENS FOUNDATION

SPRING 2006



Carnevale!
3-for-1 Scholarship Initiative
New Mentoring Program
Intrepid Salute

COLUMBUS CITIZENS FOUNDATION



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The Columbus Citizens Foundation supports cultural programs, educational scholarships for financially disadvantaged children and other charitable causes.

Since its founding in 1929, the Foundation has organized New York City's Columbus Day Parade.

Columbus Citizens Foundation

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President's Message



It is a pleasure to be addressing you for the first time as President of the Foundation. As some of you know, I've been a Member of the Foundation since 1979 and the General Chairman of the Columbus Week Celebrations for several years. Since I joined the Foundation, I've watched it grow – especially over the last decade – to become a powerful force in the national Italian-American community in numerous ways: our scholarship giving, our championing of Italian-American culture, and the sheer joy that comes from producing the Columbus Day Parade and all of the related events as well as others held throughout the year.

I'm pleased to report that the Foundation is having an exceptional year. After a search that lasted nearly 12 months, we have found a new Executive Director, Christine M. Meola. She comes to the Foundation not only from my alma mater – Fordham University – but from the highly regarded New York Weill Cornell Medical Center. She arrives with a distinguished career and great skills as a leader, a fundraiser and an administrator, and it is a pleasure to welcome her to the Foundation.

Ms. Meola will help the elected officers administer the Foundation as a professional organization. We have been working to streamline some of the Foundation's operations and to put in place new processes and procedures. These efforts will help us achieve our goals of fostering a broad appreciation and love of Italian-American culture and help provide deserving students of Italian ancestry with the opportunities that come with a good education.

Part of this effort is a rebranding. We are redesigning the Foundation's marketing and informational materials as well as the newsletter, which will now be published quarterly. The rebranding is being overseen by Member Mike Pedone, of Pedone & Partners. In addition to the various print materials, we will be updating our website, and the work on that will be implemented by Member Joseph Maniscalco, of Maniscalco & Associates. We hope you like our new look, which will span a variety of our publications and brochures, and I ask you to keep in mind that this is part of an on-going process to improve the public understanding of our Foundation and to provide our Members with information about the Foundation's cultural and social events.

We will soon publicly announce the Grand Marshal of the 2006 Columbus Day Parade. As a veteran, I am especially pleased to report that Marine Corps General Peter Pace, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the highest ranking Marine in the history of the United States Marine Corps, will be the Grand Marshal this year. As was the case with last year's Grand Marshal, Associate Justice Antonin Scalia, we are continuing to gain recognition for Italian Americans as people who have achieved an exceptional level of accomplishment and respect in the international community.

This issue of the newsletter contains a number of interesting articles and information about new programs, but I would like to call your attention to a Tour of Italy that we have put together exclusively for Foundation Members and their guests (see p. 3). This is a truly exceptional opportunity to visit the country of our common ancestors with a great group of people – your fellow Members. The tour provides an unhurried, in-depth visit to some of Italy's most spectacular settings and unparalleled cultural and culinary attractions, and there is no question that anyone who participates will return with an even greater appreciation for our ancestral homeland. I would like to thank Dr. Frank Celenza for his hard work in this endeavor.

I look forward to helping further the growth and development of the Foundation and to continuing the traditions of past Presidents and Chairmen. I am confident that we will experience a period of tremendous growth and success and that we will reaffirm our position as the most important Italian-American organization in the United States.

In closing, I would be remiss not to acknowledge the support and encouragement of Ambassador Charles Gargano, who first appointed me General Chairman of the Columbus Celebrations, and Lawrence Auriana who saw fit to honor me four times with that responsibility. I look forward to their continued support and encouragement.

Sincerely,

Louis A. Tallarini, President

Christine M. Meola

The Foundation's New Executive Director

Christine M. Meola comes to the Foundation with a stellar career in fundraising and a strong background in education. After graduating from Fordham University with a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in sociology, she became Director of Counseling and Career Services and Anniversary Class Programs at Manhattan College, then Assistant Vice President for Development at her alma mater, Fordham University, and, most recently, Director of Development at New York Weill Cornell Medical Center.

Her vast experience covered numerous areas – special events, communications, direct mail, corporate, foundation and donor relations, and gift planning as well as her primary area of expertise – cultivation, solicitation and stewardship of leadership and principal gift prospects. Ms. Meola's 20-year career path took her to developing multi-million dollar gifts and to contributing to two very successful campaigns – a \$750 million fundraising campaign for Weill Cornell that was achieved in January, and a \$1 billion campaign for New York Presbyterian Hospital.

In joining the Foundation, she is in familiar territory. Her parents were Italian American, from the Region of Campania, and she grew up the youngest of five children in Massapequa, Long Island. She now lives in Manhattan with her son Christopher, age nine. But even with her great success, she knows how tough it can be to get



Christine M. Meola

a good education and to have opportunities to excel professionally. "When I was at Fordham, I was a resident assistant for three years in three different residence halls – at Queens Court, at 555 (now Walsh Hall), and at Hughes Hall," she says. "I also worked in the President's Dining Room and for the campus dining service. Working 35 hours a week, in addition to a full course load, various internships, etc. taught me a great deal – namely, how to juggle multiple competing priorities. While at times it was difficult, it provided a solid foundation on which a great work ethic was built. It also taught me the value of a dollar, and gave me the confidence of knowing that I could work hard for anything I wanted in life." Tenacity and resilience are two of her favorite words.

Ms. Meola said that the mission of supporting Italian-American culture and education for those in need ultimately led her to join the Foundation. "This Foundation has been sustained by the voluntary efforts of its Membership," she said. "The

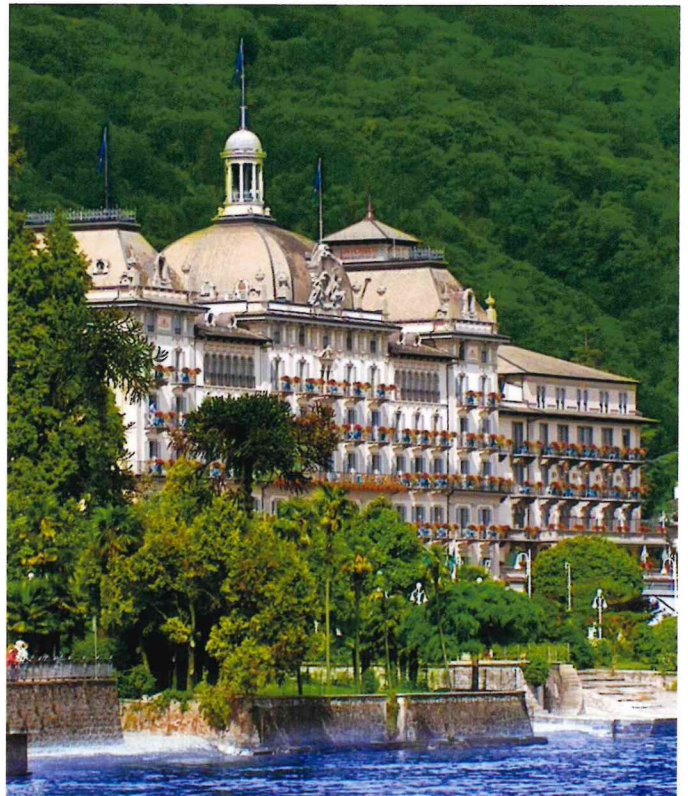
Members carve time out of their very successful, very busy careers to give back to the community. That level of commitment is exceptional, and along with devotion to family and Sunday dinners at grandma's, it is one of the many great characteristics and traditions of our Italian-American heritage and culture. Helping the Foundation broaden its programs, fulfill its mission and provide a positive impact on the lives of deserving Italian-American students is going to be a pleasure."

Luxury Tour of Italy for Foundation Members

In the spirit of 18th and 19th century grand tours of Italy undertaken by members of the European aristocracy, the Foundation has partnered with Classic Travel and Tours to create a breathtaking, exclusive Tour of Italy, which will take place from September 21 to October 4, 2006 – 13 days and 12 nights to enjoy the best Italy has to offer.

The destinations for this exceptional tour, open only to Foundation Members and their guests, will be Lake Maggiore, Tuscany and the town of Ravello on the Amalfi Coast. For thousands of years, visitors have journeyed to these areas to absorb the exceptional natural beauty. But even Roman ceasars did not have the advantages that will be offered on this tour.

Guests will stay at historic palazzos, villas and hotels that have been impeccably restored and fitted with every modern convenience. Bi-lingual guides who are native to each of the destinations will facilitate the seamless itineraries to both public and private sight-seeing venues, including private villas and gardens not open to the public. The trip features gourmet meals, special wine and cheese tastings at some of Italy's finest cellars and private concerts. And there will be sightseeing and a luncheon on a private yacht on Lake Maggiore and a personal tour of Puccini's *Torre del Lago* home



The architectural splendor of the *Grand Hotel des Iles Borromees* seen from Lake Maggiore

Continued on page 18

At the Townhouse

Carnevale!

The Foundation became the setting of an authentic *Carnevale* on February 24 with Members bedecked in dazzling masks and filled with high spirits. A wandering magician performed sleights of hand and a palm reader foretold futures, while Lonnie Youngblood's band performed dance numbers in the foyer and singer and songwriter Giada Valenti debuted some of her newest and most moving songs on the second floor. Working with *Carnevale* Committee Member Maria Theresa Fauci, General Manager John Boden transformed the Townhouse into a spectacular wonderland. Other committee members were Dr. Ottavio Arancio, Dr. Frank Celenza, Alexander Conti, Dr. Stephen DiGiovanni, Rosemary Maniscalco, Rosana Mazzia, Mario Occhicone, Madeline Penachio, Lawrence Trapani and Angelo Vivolo. ♣

Who were these masked men and women? See page 9.





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Awards Ceremony

2005 Columbus Week Sponsors

Scores of benefactors from the United States and Italy joined Foundation Members at the Townhouse on February 15 for the Sponsor Awards ceremony in honor of the 2005 Columbus Week sponsors.

“*Signori e Signore, buona sera e benvenuti alla Columbus Citizens Foundation,*” said President Louis Tallarini in welcoming the guests. “Last year, we granted over \$2.5 million in educational grants to 610 young Italian-American students. On behalf of the Foundation and the hundreds of young Italian-American students who will now have greater opportunities in life, thank you.” ❖



Above: Entertainer and 2005 Parade Co-Anchor Joe Piscopo with Massimo Magliaro, Director of RAI International, and Louis Tallarini.

Below left: Dr. Enzo Lucchini, Vice President of the Regional Council of Lombardy. Below right: Peter Sidoti, CEO of Sidoti & Company

In Attendance

Dr. Enzo Lucchini,
Vice President of the
Regional Council
of Lombardy

Adam Cotumaccio

Peter Sidoti

Felice Murale
San Vesuviano

Dr. Aniello Musella,
Italian Trade
Commissioner

Francesco Merlino

Tony Brusco

Lawrence Auriana

Albert Paniccia

Michael Pedone

Richard De Zego

Joseph Meccariello

David Hyman

Massimo Magliaro

Richard Wilson

Sandro Diani

Michele Alios

Giulio Libutti

Erica Schafer and
DeDe Brown

Babe Rizzuto

Joel Dein

Riccardo Chioni

Matt Delaney

Representing

*Consiglio Regionale
della Lombardia*

Barilla

Sidoti & Company

Provincia di San Giuseppe

Comune di Milano

Eurocopy Italiana S.p.A

*Consiglio Regionale della
Calabria*

Federated Investors and
Federated Kaufmann Fund

Casa Redimix Concrete Corp.

Sweet'N Low

HSBC BANK

Mecc Contracting, Inc.

NBC - Channel 4

RAI International

Pepsi

Tesori Italiani

Cortis-Alios

Alitalia Airlines

New York Post

Conair

Big Apple Circus

America Oggi

Coachman Limousines



New Foundation Awards Make Their Debut At Sponsor Awards Reception



The Foundation unveiled its new awards at the Sponsor Reception. The bronzes are replicas of the Foundation's sculpture of Christopher Columbus by Attilio Piccirilli. They were designed and fabricated under the watchful guidance of Michael Pedone, Marketing Chairman of the Columbus Week Events.

Opera Night

The Genesis of a Tragedy: *Madama Butterfly*



Dr. Frank V. Celenza
Chairman, House Committee

The Foundation presented Giacomo Puccini's *Madama Butterfly* during our 71st Opera Night, which was held on February 10. Before it became the masterpiece we know today, the tale evolved through short stories, a light opera and a play before it became one of

Puccini's greatest works.

At its core, the narrative of most versions is the same: an imperialist foreigner on duty in Japan contracts for a bride, a young woman who was forced by circumstances to become a geisha after her father disgraced his family. The lieutenant considers the marriage a business transaction, but Butterfly wants more. She follows his suggestion that she sever relations with her friends and family and that she convert to Christianity, and her transformation leaves her an outcast in her own village. When his tour ends, the lieutenant departs, never intending to return. Soon she finds she is pregnant, gives birth, and dreams that he will come back. Three years later, the lieutenant – now married to a Westerner – returns to Japan. He learns he has a son and wants to claim him, and Butterfly learns he is married. She falls into despair, realizing that she has abandoned her culture in the vain hope of winning a Western husband and is about to lose her son.

Although the narrative to that point is generally the same, the endings of various stories and a play on which *Madama Butterfly* are based

vary. In one short story version, when Butterfly learns that the lieutenant has returned to Japan with a wife and that she will lose her son, she attempts suicide but is rescued by her maid, who whisks her and the child away.

In the Puccini version, the lieutenant is remorseful when he learns of his son and the difficulties of Butterfly's life. He expectantly climbs the hill to her house and calls "Butterfly" three times as the curtain descends, her suicide having come moments before.

In another ending, Butterfly agrees to give up their son, but only if the lieutenant comes to her house. When he arrives, he watches in horror as Butterfly commits a vengeful suicide.

Poor Butterfly... or is she? To some, she was a deluded girl who refuses to accept the change in her family's fortunes and her new station in life as a geisha, and she brings ruin upon herself by refusing to honor her community and culture: she is undone by her sense of self-importance. To others, she was a victim of a powerful, wealthy and unfeeling foreigner.

In fact, Butterfly is to be pitied. The "temporary marriage" arrangement – a man's convenience in exchange for the woman's financial security – was commonplace in Japan and involved two willing participants who understood the nature of the exchange. Unlike most geishas, Butterfly may well have been a virgin when she entered her marriage, at age 15. She fell in love and wanted to better her situation and join the lieutenant's world. This was her tragic mistake, and she paid for it by losing her son and her life. ♣

Book Signing

Mamma in Her Village by Maristella de Panizza Lorch

Ms. De Panizza Lorch visited the Foundation for a book signing on January 17 and read passages from her latest novel, *Mamma in Her Village*. Set in Tajo, an Italian village in the Central Alps during the years leading to World War I, the novel traces the life of a girl as she passes from childhood in a humble home to motherhood as part of a family of nobility in decline. The world around her changes as well, as the forces of industrialization and the gathering political storm create upheaval.

Ms. de Panizza Lorch, a native of Bolzano, Italy, is a Professor Emerita of Italian and Medieval and Renaissance studies at Barnard College and Columbia University and is the Founding Director Emerita of the Italian Academy for Advanced Studies in America at Columbia where she teaches courses for adults on Dante, Homer, Virgil, and Ovid. ♣



Louis Tallarini with
Maristella de Panizza Lorch

Donation

Sculpture Illustrates Italian Artistic Tradition

Last winter, the Foundation received a gift of Arnold Hofer's *Holy Family*, a sculpture that continues and refines a 400 year-old tradition of Northern Italian wood carving. Starting in the 16th century, residents of the Ladin valley carved toys, tools, utensils and religious figures during the harsh winter months as a pastime. The hobby became a cottage industry and has since grown into a vibrant tradition. Mr. Hofer created *Holy Family* on behalf of Pema International for Fortunoff. The donation to the Foundation was made by Joel Kier, the president of Fortunoff, on behalf of the company, and arranged by Alberto Quartaroli of Kelo International. ♣



Holy Family,
by Arnold Hofer

Book Launch and Signing

Crusade of Charity: Pius XII and POWs, by Margherita Marchione

Sister Margherita Marchione presented her most recent book at the Foundation on March 2 in an event that also celebrated the 130th anniversary of the birth of Pius XII and the 63rd anniversary of his election as pope.

In attendance at the event were Edward Cardinal Egan, Archbishop of New York; Archbishop Celestino Migliore, Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations; and Rabbi Joseph Ehrenkranz, Executive Director, Center for Christian-Jewish Understanding, Sacred Heart University of Fairfield, Connecticut.

Crusade of Charity: Pius XII and POWs presents hundreds of letters to the Vatican written during World War II from people seeking news and information about prisoners of war and the Vatican's replies, which offered solace, information and hope to distraught relatives and friends of those who were missing. The letters cited in "Crusade of Charity" were taken from among nearly 20 million pleas the Vatican received during the war.

"The evidence concerning Pius XII's work on behalf of prisoners of war adds a new level of information concerning the charitable work carried out by this dedicated servant of God," Sister Margherita stated. The 84 year-old historian, Fulbright scholar and member of the Religious Teachers Filippini said, "Immediately after World War II began in 1939, the Vatican Information Office established a powerful system for prisoners of war to communicate with their loved ones." She continued, "Under the



Sister Margherita signed nearly 100 copies of her book for Foundation Members and their guests

Archbishop Migliore commented, "Sister Margherita brilliantly and passionately dispels the myth of Pius XII's alleged silence during World War II. With the patience of Job, she brings to the surface an historical sketch of the marvelous care shown by Pius XII towards people in need, whether they were Christians or Jews or those of other religious persuasions."

"There is absolutely no question that Pius and the members of his administration in Rome undertook important initiatives on behalf of all Jews, and not merely Jewish converts to Christianity," said Rabbi Ehrenkranz. "In fact, the word 'silence' should not be included in Jewish-Christian conversation about the role of institutional Catholicism during the holocaust."



Archbishop Celestino Migliore; Antonio Bandini, Consul General of Italy; Lawrence Auriana; Sister Margherita Marchione, Author; Edward Cardinal Egan; Dr. Claudio Angelini, Director of the Italian Cultural Institute; Rabbi Joseph Ehrenkranz; Louis Tallarini

supervision of His Holiness, families separated by the conflict were contacted. Refugees and the missing, both military men and civilians, as well as other victims of war, were ensured spiritual and material assistance."

Several of those attending the event made remarks before or after the presentation. Cardinal Egan said, "Sister Margherita has had a tremendous dedication to making the truth about Pius XII well known. He was a man of compassion, a man of wisdom and a skilled diplomat dedicated to world peace."

Crusade of Charity is Sister Marchione's sixth and culminating book on Pius XII and the role of the Vatican during the War. Previously, she had authored "Yours Is a Precious Witness: Memoirs of Jews and Catholics in Wartime Italy," Paulist Press, 1997; "Pope Pius XII: Architect for Peace," Paulist Press, 2000; "Consensus and Controversy: Defending Pope Pius XII," Paulist Press, 2002; "Shepherd of Souls: A Pictorial Life of Pope Pius XII," Paulist Press, 2003; "Man of Peace: Pope Pius XII," Paulist Press, 2003; and "Pope Pius XII," Ancora Editrice, 2003. ❀

Dialogue

Building Bridges

For 2,000 years, the relationship between Christians and Jews has been, at times, marked by periods of distrust and animosity. On March 9, Foundation Member Father Michael Moynihan and Rabbi Joseph Ehrenkranz presented a provocative and moving evening on the subject of Christian-Jewish understanding at the Foundation, "Building Bridges with Bishops: From Auschwitz to the Vatican."

Rabbi Ehrenkranz is Executive Director, Center for Christian-Jewish Understanding of Sacred Heart University of Fairfield, CT. He recalled meeting Pope John Paul II in 1990 with a group of bishops, rabbis, and Jewish lay people. The pontiff reminded the group of the stance of Vatican II, that it was "inappropriate for Catholics to try to convert Jews because Jews do not get to heaven through Jesus but through their earlier covenant with God."

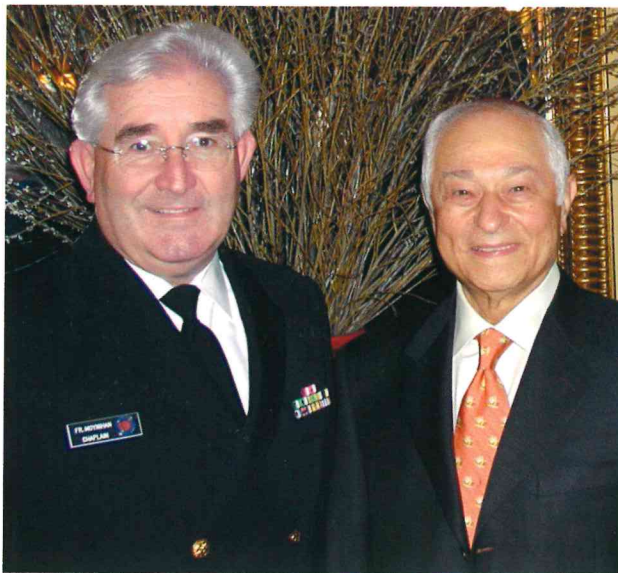
The power of Pope John Paul II's message – of coexistence, acceptance and respect – was so strong that Rabbi Ehrenkranz relayed it to his synagogue as soon as he returned to the United States. "People said to me, 'Rabbi, you're so naïve.' I was shocked that people would not accept yes for an answer!"

Rabbi Ehrenkranz said, "Some people remember only the evil times that have happened between us. Too many people are still intent on remembering the bad times. In 2,000 bad years, a lot of feelings are created. That's not going to be changed in a day. It's going to take 100 years, 200 years. Too many people remember a poor past rather than think about a different present."

Speaking on a similar topic, Father Moynihan said, "While we can never forget the past, we live in the present, and the future is ours to create with God's help."

Rabbi Ehrenkranz cited numerous instances in which Catholics had come to the assistance of Jews. In Rome, during the Second World War, he recalled, "Italian ambulances rescued scrolls, which are religious texts that are sacred to us, from synagogues, and took them to parishes and convents in Rome and safeguarded them. That could only happen within a hierarchy that allowed it."

Through the Center for Christian-Jewish Understanding of Sacred Heart University, Rabbi Ehrenkranz last year led a group of six American bishops on an international study group funded in part by Members of the Columbus Citizens Foundation. The group visited the Nazi concentration camps of Auschwitz-Birkenau. It is



Father Michael Moynihan and Rabbi Joseph Ehrenkranz

well known that hundreds of thousands of Jews died in the camps. Less well known is that thousands of Catholics died there, as well.

"When we visited Auschwitz," said Rabbi Ehrenkranz, "we saw the room where Father Maximilian Kolbe, who had protected Jews from the Nazis, was starved to death. We saw the inhumanity to man. It rekindled in us the understanding that man is responsible for his deeds and actions, not God. We are the ones responsible for the evil. Sometimes just by being silent, sitting on your hands you foster evil. But when we work together, people are a great force. We as human beings can dedicate ourselves to creating a better world."

Father Moynihan, who joined the group at the Vatican, recalled growing up in Queens in an apartment building that was three-quarters Jewish and seeing numbers tattooed on a woman's arm as a child. He learned from his mother that the tattoo meant that the woman was a concentration camp survivor as well as "how many people had suffered, how many people had died... I think that prejudice and preconceived notions are still out there. Prejudice exists about Italians, about Catholics, about Jews and so many others. Children have to be taught to learn, love and respect, not to hate. These prejudices are held by individuals, and they are changed one by one."

"I am so proud that the Columbus Citizens Foundation has sponsored this night," Father Moynihan said. "We're never too young or too old to be educated." ❖

RSVP Today for the
May 12

Ballo Romantico

Dining and Dancing at the
Magical Rainbow Room!

Carnevale!

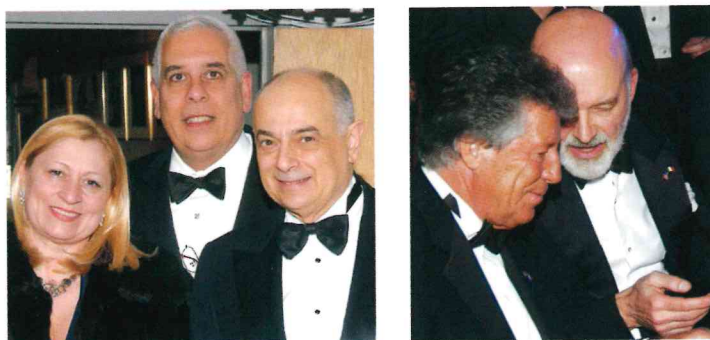
1. Judith Amato & Friend	9. Ms. Marian Pardo
2. Mrs. Frank Paladino	10. Mr. & Mrs. A. De Maria
3. Guests of Toni Elliott	11. Dr. & Mrs. Frank Celenza
4. Mrs. Rosana Mazzia	12. Jessica & Paul Insalaco, guests of Marian Pardo
5. Stephen Aiello and Lorraine Grillo	13. Parents of Michael Ferrier
6. Mrs. Angelo Vivolo	14. Mr. John Cioffi
7. Mr. Gene Raicovich	15. Mr. Louis Aidala
8. Maria Theresa Fauci	16. Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Mattone

The Foundation Honors Prime Minister Berlusconi, Families of Fallen Soldiers

The Foundation and several of its individual Members participated in a spectacular black-tie gala during the Intrepid Foundation's 14th Annual Salute to Freedom. The event honored Italian Prime Minister Sylvio Berlusconi for his courageous leadership in the fight against terrorism and his outstanding friendship with the United States.

Prime Minister Berlusconi, who earlier in the day had addressed a Joint Meeting of the United States Congress, arrived on the Intrepid's flight deck in an Agusta helicopter and passed by an AerMacchi M346 on his way down to the retired aircraft carrier's hangar deck. Speaking at the event, Prime Minister Berlusconi said, "I would like to dedicate [the Intrepid Freedom Award] to the Italian and American soldiers who together are serving in Afghanistan, Iraq and Bosnia, for as long as there was and there is a need for them.... Thank all of you, and thank you to the American people."

The evening's co-chairs and major contributors were Members Louis Tallarini, Lawrence Auriana and Joseph Perella (see New Members, page 14). Also present at the event were Vice-Chair Giuliana Ridolfi Cardillo and Members Maria Bartiromo, John Cioffi, Frank Fusaro, Anthony Giordano, Oscar Nordstrom, Michael Santangelo and Angelo Vivolo, as well as Foundation Executive Director Christine Meola. Vice Co-Chair Ambassador Charles Gargano was unable to attend. In addition to the individual contributions made by the event's Chairmen, the Foundation made a donation of \$100,000 to benefit the Intrepid Foundation, which administers the Sea, Air & Space Museum and supports the families of servicemen killed in the line of duty. ❖



Clockwise from top: Giuliana Ridolfi Cardillo, Mr. Tallarini and Lawrence Auriana; 2004 Grand Marshal Mario Andretti with Joseph Perella; Amb. Joseph Zappala and his wife, Isabel, with Prime Minister Berlusconi



Photo: Matthew Gillis

Mr. Tallarini's Remarks, which opened the March 1, Intrepid Dinner Honoring Prime Minister Berlusconi:



Good evening ladies and gentlemen. Buona sera a tutti... benevenuto negli stati uniti sul Intrepido signore Presidente Berlusconi.

As President of the Columbus Citizens Foundation, it is a great honor to be with you tonight.

As a Vietnam veteran, I am especially proud of the Columbus Citizens Foundation's long history of support for the American military and the Intrepid Foundation's efforts to comfort the families of our military and the military of our allies, including Italy. I would like to mention that tonight one of our guests is a former Columbus Citizens Foundation mentor student, and now the Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Richard Greco. Richard, please stand.

The Columbus Citizens Foundation has good reason to be with you tonight welcoming Prime Minister Berlusconi inside this historic aircraft carrier.

In 1991, our Foundation, under the leadership of former Foundation President Michael Santangelo, who is here tonight, donated \$350,000 to the Marine Corps veterans of the first Gulf War.

In 2003, when a major portion of our Columbus Celebrations took place right here on the Intrepid, our Foundation made a similar contribution to the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund under the leadership of Lawrence Auriana, my dinner co-chairman tonight.

And in the shadow of 9/11, the Columbus Citizens Foundation, under then President Ambassador Charles Gargano, who could not be with us tonight, donated all of the proceeds of the 2001 Columbus Celebrations - \$1,000,000 - to the New Millennium High School in the 9/11 district.

So you see, the Columbus Citizens Foundation has much in common with the Intrepid Foundation, and we also affectionately recall all of our history with the Fischer family, and especially Larry Fischer, who served as a Columbus Week Honoree and provided our Foundation with important financial support.

Thank you ladies and gentlemen. Enjoy the evening.



Partnership in Education Program Launched

By Frank G. Fusaro, Chairman
Philanthropic Committee

Last winter, the Philanthropic Committee launched its newest initiative, the Partnership in Education Program. The Partnership program is effectively a three-for-one matching program that involves scholarship donations from the Foundation, from the schools we work with and from the schools' supporters. Based on meetings with educators and development specialists, we feel the program will significantly increase the effect of our scholarship giving without requiring additional contributions from our Members.

The program builds on our highly successful Adopt-A-Scholar Program (see p. 12) and grew out of a scholarship we gave last year. We provided \$20,000 for a student to attend Wagner College in Staten Island. Although a substantial commitment, the student still was unable to afford the education of her dreams. One of our Members, Dr. Richard Guarasci, who is also President of Wagner, initiated conversations with the Foundation. Through Dr. Guarasci's intercession, we reached an agreement with Wagner and a group of its supporters, the Da Vinci Society. Under the agreement, each of us would provide \$5,000 a year over four years to help the student get a private (and expensive!) education. Through the partnership, the Foundation's \$20,000 scholarship yielded a \$60,000 education grant, which is enough to get the highly motivated student a terrific education.

Seizing on the idea behind that situation, we began a series of one-on-one dinners with educators. The initial dinners included Father Joseph M. McShane, President of Fordham University; Brother James Liguori, a Foundation Member and the President of Iona College; Dr. Guarasci; and Father Bernard Tracy, Development

Director at St. John's University. Their reactions were extremely positive, and we then reached out to the education community through a series of dinners at the Foundation with leaders of over 100 schools. In all cases, the educators were amazed at the extent of our scholarship giving and extremely enthusiastic about the Partnership in Education Program.

We are now starting to work closely with development directors to launch the program, which we see as a win-win-win situation. The participating schools must provide scholarships themselves, but they win by receiving additional funding from their supporters and from the Foundation. The donors to the Partnership in Education Program win because they see the effect of their commitments triple. And the Foundation wins by multiplying the effect of our scholarship giving and by helping more students get quality educations. For more information about the Partnership for Education Program, please contact Executive Director Christine Meola at 212.249.9923. ♣

And the Meek Shall Inherit the Earth

In rolling out the Partnership in Education Program, we assumed that university development officers would be first to participate. However, smaller, more traditional schools were the first to respond: St. Athanasius Elementary School in Brooklyn, under the leadership of Monsignor David Cassato, and the Montfort Academy in Westchester, under the direction of its headmaster, Dr. David Petrillo. We are selecting the students and providing four-year scholarships to St. Athanasius (\$10,000 a year) and the Montfort Academy (\$2,500 a year). The net effect of these seemingly small pledges of \$12,500 a year will yield a remarkable \$150,000 for the students, which will be granted under the Foundation's scholarship program.

I would like to extend a particular vote of thanks to both Dr. Guarasci and our Membership Chairman John Cioffi, who contributed to this effort. F.F.



New College Student Mentoring Program

By Peter Campanella

This spring, the Foundation is unveiling an important new program related to our scholarship activities: the College Student Mentoring Program.

The program will fill a gap in our support of scholarship recipients. The funds we provide needy and deserving college students are crucial to their education and their opportunities in the future. But as we all know, college provides only the tools that students need in their professional lives. The mentoring program will help them stay on track during their college years and help them develop some of the skills they will need to make the tools useful after graduation.

We have developed the program for several reasons. Having served on the College Scholarship Committee for several years, I know that well over 70 percent of our recipients are the first members of their families to attend college. Each of them will benefit from the knowledge, experience and positions that our Members have. Mentoring also lets us improve their chance for success down the road and, in terms of its benefits for us, is extremely rewarding.

There is another benefit for the Foundation and the community.

As the students move through college and into the professional world, they will be reminded that the Foundation has helped them achieve success. This connection will help ensure that they give back to the Italian-American community.

The commitments required of mentors are modest. Mentors will be matched to students with similar professional interests (for instance, law or accounting). They will be in touch with the students at least twice a year to answer questions about college, summer internships or career paths, or simply to provide encouragement. At the end of each academic year, mentors will be asked to send in a one-page summary about the student and their challenges and accomplishments.

This program gives us the opportunity to support students in ways that are far less tangible, but no less important, than the financial assistance we now provide. By sharing our hard-won knowledge and experience, we will help turn the promise of these motivated and determined young men and woman into success and build a stronger Italian-American community and a stronger Foundation.

To get this program in place for the coming academic year, we need volunteers immediately. Those interested should call Phyllis Rizzo at the Foundation office (212.249.9923), and we will send you information about the program. ♣

Adopt-A-Scholar Program Passes \$5m Mark, Receives First Grant From an External Foundation

By Frank G. Fusaro, Chairman
Philanthropic Committee

The Foundation's Adopt-A-Scholar Program reached important milestones this winter. We surpassed the \$5 million level, which takes us past the halfway mark of our goal of \$10 million. And for the first time, we received a donation from an existing foundation, and it is a philanthropic organization that has special meaning for us.

Since its inception in 2001, the Adopt-A-Scholar program has exceeded all expectations. Funding now stands at \$5.3 million, which is a testament to the generosity and caring of an amazing group of Members and friends of the Foundation. Combined with the incredible success of the Columbus Week Celebrations, this coming scholarship season we will be able to support the education of over 700 students through our elementary, high school and college grant and scholarship programs.

The generous donation from a foundation, at the Perpetual Scholar level, comes from an organization bearing a storied name in our history: the Generoso Pope Foundation. Mr. Pope was a businessman

and publisher, and he was a co-founder of the Columbus Citizens Foundation. The donation was presented by David Pope, Mr. Pope's grandson and the president of the Pope Foundation. We are delighted to report that David Pope has applied to become a Member of the Foundation and will continue the good works of his grandfather, who was a legendary philanthropist.

As mentioned in the Partnership in Education Program article (see p. 11), this winter we hosted dinners and presentations for leaders of 100 schools, virtually none of whom was aware of the extent of the scholarship aid we provide their students. The effects of our presentations were extraordinary, as all who attended left with a clearer understanding and greater appreciation for everything we represent. Resulting letters and e-mails from the educators described our work as "amazing" and said they were "eternally appreciative" of our efforts.

As you should now be aware, we welcome our new Executive Director, Christine Meola, an experienced development officer who will focus much of her time on both the Adopt-A-Scholar and Partnership in Education Programs. Please respond to her as she reaches out to advance the Programs that help define us as a Foundation. ♣

FOUNDERS

Lawrence Auriana
The Bellucci-DePaoli Scholarship
Mario Gabelli

PERPETUAL SCHOLARSHIP BENEFACTORS

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John & Connie Cioffi
Denise & James Daly
Leonard F. De Luca
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Joseph Valenti

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Joseph & Geraldine C. La Motta
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David Pope / Generoso Pope
Foundation
The Sabatine Foundation
Dr. Thomas P. & Cynthia
Sculco 2004
Dr. Thomas P. & Cynthia
Sculco 2005

Dr. Thomas P. & Cynthia
Sculco 2006
Angelo & Constance Silveri
& Rev. Francis J. Fajella, M.S.A.
Angelo & Constance Silveri
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Frank V. Carone
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Anthony N. & Mariuccia Correria
Joseph De Gennaro
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Anthony & Linda Dolce
Nicholas T. Donovan 2001
Nicholas T. Donovan 2004
Michael Ferraguzzi
Virginia & Al Ferrara
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John D. Filice
Paul & Kristine Fornaby
William C. Freda
Nicholas L. Giannuzzi
Richard & Catherine Girgenti
Victor J. & Claudia Guadagnino

Joseph & Yusi Gurrera
Ladies Auxiliary 2003
Ladies Auxiliary 2005
Joseph & Kathy Licata
Bartley & Julie Livolsi
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph V. Lo Buono
Lombardia, Region of
Anthony & Gail Marino
Eldo S. Netto, Jr.
Marion U. Pardo &
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Vincent Pizzimenti
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Salvatore Family Foundation
Sigma-Tau Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
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Carl Simoni
Louis A. Tallarini
Van Hise Estate
WNBC-TV
Young Adults Auxiliary 2002

COLLEGE ANNUAL

The Amicucci Family
Peter & Monica Campanella
Richard C. De Zego
Sam & Pam Giarrusso
Alan Guarino

Gail & Cleveland Guy
Lyn & Robert Ingenito 2002
Lyn & Robert Ingenito 2005
The Ingenito Sisters
John A. Loconsolo 2004

John A. Loconsolo 2005
Ronald & Suzanna Mannino
Richard & Barbara Naclerio
John & Donna Pugliese
Louis Salvatore

Aldo & Melissa Verrelli
Young Adults Auxiliary 2004
Young Adults Auxiliary 2005
Joseph & Isabel Zappala

Roma – New York: 2005 Zeffirelli Scholarships

The recipients of the 2006 Franco Zeffirelli Scholarship for the Arts, Giacomo Battisti and Jacopo Nardi, from the *Istituto Statale D'Arte* in Florence, successfully completed a six-week study course in New York City in January, and their final projects can now be seen in the Members Lounge.



Students Jacopo Nardi (left) and Giacomo Battisti with instructor Greg Wyatt and the sculptures they created under his direction

Working under the guidance of Greg Wyatt, an internationally known artist who is also Sculptor-in-Residence of the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine, the students recreated models of Michelangelo's "Giorno," from the Tomb of Giuliano De Medici. The students executed the bronzes after studying at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine sculpture studio and the National

Academy School of Fine Arts. Mr. Wyatt said the "comprehensive and challenging" project required them to apply mold-making and plaster-casting skills.

The Foundation awarded the third annual Zeffirelli Scholarships at a ceremony at the American Embassy in Rome on May 18, 2005. Attending the event were Mr. Zeffirelli and Dr. Maria Anna Franceschini, Director of Educational Programs of the *Istituto*, along with 2003 Special Honored Guest from Italy, Antonio Martino, Minister of Defense and, from the Foundation, Chairman Lawrence Auriana and Italian Affairs Chairman Giuliana Ridolfi.



Franco Zeffirelli with Dr. Maria Anna Franceschini

The Foundation inaugurated the Zeffirelli Scholarship Fund for the Arts in 2002 in honor of Mr. Zeffirelli's contributions to the worlds of film and stage. ♣

Scholarship Recipients at *Lago Del Bosco*

By Cav. Maria T. Fosco

Last summer, I had the pleasure of shepherding a group of four New York area children, who were Foundation scholarship recipients, to the Italian language camp, *Lago Del Bosco*, and staying with them for a two-week intensive immersion course.

Lago Del Bosco, in Fosston, Minnesota, is a world of Italian language and culture where children explore and deepen their ties to their heritage. Among the activities were playing bocce, making masks for *carnevale* and enjoying the music of Italy, from Italo-pop to folk to opera. The program is supported by the Foundation. Children from ages eight to 18 are welcome at the camp.

When we arrived, the children were given Italian names in order to immerse themselves quickly. The kids bravely introduced themselves in Italian, and we quickly learned we would make friends from across the country since few of the campers were from the Northeast.

Many of the counselors were graduate students studying Italian or disciplines that required them to have knowledge of Italian. Each day, we shared our feelings and experiences, from the slowly yielding difficulty of the Italian language to the delights of learning about our shared heritage and culture and participating in activities and traditions that our great-grandparents enjoyed as part of their daily lives. Of course, we also had more traditional camp experiences as well, including a child who swallowed a fly and an encounter with a wasp nest.

When we returned to LaGuardia Airport and the children ran into the arms of their mothers and fathers, I could feel the sense of pride each of them shared. The children, for learning so much of what is important to their parents and their families, and their parents, for having given their kids an opportunity to learn about Italy



Photo: Maria Fosco

Campers Emily Macchia, Madeline Cassello, Teddy Perretti and Danielle Amodeo

and its traditions. I felt proud, too, knowing that the Foundation had helped provide the boys and girls with an experience that will stay with them for the rest of their lives. ♣

Lago del Bosco offers two-week immersion programs for children ages eight to 18 and a four-week credit program for high school students. Students enrolled in the four-week program earn a one-year language credit. Tuition fees include room and board.

Dates	Ages	Tuition
July 24 - August 5	8-14	\$1,325
Aug. 7 - August 19	13-18	\$1,325
Credit Program		
July 24 - Aug. 19	14-18	\$2,950

The Membership Committee Welcomes Our Newest Members



John V. Cioffi
Chairman,
Membership
Committee

This winter, 24 new Members joined the Foundation. All are prominent in their professions, important contributors in their communities and committed to helping others. We look forward to their involvement in our efforts and in helping us to achieve our goals. Please extend them a warm welcome and make them feel at home.

Once again, I would like to thank the Committee Members, who have worked tirelessly to identify and recruit new Members and review candidates. I would also like to thank the staff, particularly Lisa LoRusso and Millie Aponte, for their work on this important aspect of the Foundation's operations.

Finally, I encourage all of you to sponsor friends and colleagues who share our Italian-American heritage and the desire to support our philanthropic and cultural initiatives. Please direct your recommendations to Ms. LoRusso and Ms. Aponte.

Membership Committee

Lawrence Auriana	Marian U. Pardo
Alfred T. De Maria	Angelo V. Vivolo
Anthony F. Giordano	Amb. Joseph Zappala
Anthony M. Mallardi	

Please join us in congratulating and welcoming our new Members.

Dr. Ottavio Arancio

Sponsors: Giuliana Ridolfi Cardillo
Lawrence Auriana

Dr. Arancio is a Professor at Columbia University. His family is from Sicily and Naples. Dr. Arancio is affiliated with Boys Town of Italy, Pajama Program for Kids, Alzheimer's Association and the Society for Neuroscience. He looks forward to supporting the Foundation's fundraising efforts and to attracting other prominent Italian-American Scientists to the Foundation.



Gabriel A. Battista

Sponsors: Lawrence Auriana
Joseph Del Raso

Mr. Battista is the President, Chairman and CEO of Talk America, a company that provides local and long distance services to residential and small business customers. Both of his grandparents were born in Abruzzo. He is on the Board of Trustees of Capitol College and the Board of Directors of TEOCO Corporation. He was named the Greater Washington Area Communications Entrepreneur of the Year by Ernst & Young in 2004. Mr. Battista is interested in supporting those who need help to pursue their education.



Michael Cornette

Sponsors: Kenneth J. Savio
Lawrence Auriana

Mr. Cornette is the Senior Managing Director of Bear Stearns, a brokerage and trading company. He derives his Italian heritage from his grandparents, who emigrated from Sicily and Naples. Mr. Cornette is affiliated with the James Martello Foundation, Marist College, and Monsignor Farrell Charities. He is interested in being a part of the Parade Committee and is willing to try to solicit sponsors for the Parade as well as for Journal ads.



Dr. Stephen A. Di Giovanni

Sponsor: Hon. Eugene L. Nardelli
Mauro C. Romita

Dr. Di Giovanni is the President of his own medical practice, Stephen A. Di Giovanni, M.D., PA. His father was born in Sicily and his mother was born in Naples. Dr. Di Giovanni is affiliated with the Rockland Country Club, American Society of Anesthesiologists, New York County Medical Society and the American Society of Regional Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine. He is very proud of his Italian heritage and would like to return the benefits he has received.



Thomas J. Ferraro

Sponsors: Lawrence Auriana
Alfred Catalanotto

Mr. Ferraro is the Director of Credit Suisse Bank, an investment bank. His father was born in Benevento. Mr. Ferraro is on the Board of Trustees of Chestnut Hill Academy and is affiliated with Living Beyond Breast Cancer. He looks forward to learning about and exploring his heritage through the Foundation.



Joseph Forgione

Sponsors: Anthony J. Marino
Frank G. Fusaro

Mr. Forgione is the Managing Partner of Sterling Properties, a real estate company. His parents were born in Alberona. Mr. Forgione is on the Board of Trustees of St. Barnabus Medical Center and founded the Reed Academy School of Autism. He looks forward to participating in various committees and to assisting in fundraising efforts.



Joseph Gamberale

Sponsors: Anthony J. Marino
Frank G. Fusaro

Mr. Gamberale is the Managing Partner of Sharp Capital, L.P., a financial services company. His grandparents were born in Naples. He is a regular contributor to the Central Park Conservatory and he looks forward to donating his time and resources to helping the Foundation in its mission and to using his political fundraising skills to raise capital.



Rosemary Maniscalco

Sponsors: Alfred T. De Maria
Dr. Joseph V. Scelsa

Ms. Maniscalco is the President and COO of Corporate Image Makers, Inc., a consulting and training company. Her father was born in Naples. Ms. Maniscalco is on the Board of Directors and Chairperson of Comforce Corporation. She is interested in working on various committees and will assist with fundraising, marketing and public relations.



Frank P. Marzano

Sponsors: Frank G. Fusaro
John V. Cioffi

Mr. Marzano is Managing Principal for GM Advisory Group, Inc., a wealth management company. His mother was born in Sicily. Mr. Marzano is affiliated with the Cooley's Anemia Foundation, AICPA, NYSSCPA and FPA. He is also interested in being a part of the Dinner, Journal, Marketing, Parade and Philanthropic Committees.



Luigi J. Moccia

Sponsors: Louis A. Tallarini
Joseph Meccariello

Mr. Moccia is President of Mecc Contracting Inc., a construction company. Both of his parents were born in Naples. Mr. Moccia is affiliated with the Ferrari Club of America and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. He looks forward to being involved with the Italian-American community and helping young Italian-Americans through the gift of scholarships.



Kathleen Mucciolo

Sponsors: Alphonse Ferrara
Robert Castro

Ms. Mucciolo is the owner and Artistic Director of Focus on the Footlights Studio, Inc., an acting studio. Her father and grandparents were born in Salerno. She would like to be a part of the Journal, Dinner, Marketing and Parade Committees.



Eugene Nardelli, Jr

Sponsors: Hon. Eugene L. Nardelli
Vito R. Nardelli

Mr. Nardelli, Jr. is attending Yale Law School, where he is the Editor for the Yale Journal of Regulation and Yale Law & Policy Review and is also a member of the Yale Club. Both Mr. Nardelli's father, who was born in Fasano, and his uncle are active Foundation Members. He will promote an awareness of the Foundation's goals during his time in law school.



Emilia Nuccio

Sponsors: Enzo Pizzimenti
Lawrence Auriana

Mrs. Nuccio is the Vice President of Marketing for Enclaves Group, Inc., a real estate company. She was born in Sicily, as were her parents and grandparents. Mrs. Nuccio is on the Board of Directors for the *Famiglia Piemontesa*. She would like to participate in the Marketing and Parade Committees.



Mario Occhicone

Sponsors: Lewis Barton
John A. Loconsolo

Mr. Occhicone is the Founder and CEO of Apple Real Estate MCT Co., a real estate company. All of his grandparents were born in Italy. Mr. Occhicone is the past President of the Town of Ramapo Italian Twinning Committee, which gives local high school students the resources to visit Italy so they can learn about their Italian heritage.



Joseph P. Oliveri

Sponsors: Felix M. Petrillo
Michael V. Petrillo

Mr. Oliveri works at BGC Partners, an equity trading company. Mr. Oliveri's mother is from Calabria and his father's parents are from Catanzano. He is affiliated with the Miracle Day annual event, which benefits St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Mr. Oliveri hopes to promote the Italian culture, its beauty and the grandeur of its history through the Foundation.



Joseph R. Perella

Sponsors: Maria Bartiromo
John V. Cioffi

Mr. Perella, until last year Vice Chairman of Morgan Stanley, has been an investment banker since 1973, when he founded First Boston's Mergers & Acquisitions Group. His father was born in Abruzzo and his mother was born in Avellino. Mr. Perella is on the Board of the American-Italian Cancer Foundation and the Foundation for Italian Art and Culture and is a Trustee of the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund. He would like to be a part of the Dinner and Philanthropic Committees.



Natale S. Ricciardi

Sponsors: Vincent Cappucci
Lawrence Auriana

Mr. Ricciardi is the President of Pfizer Global Manufacturing and the Senior Vice President of Pfizer, Inc., a pharmaceutical company. He was born in Limina. Mr. Ricciardi is affiliated with St. John's School and other organizations and is willing to offer his business skills to assist the Foundation and achieve its goals.



Dr. Robert S. Rigolosi

Sponsors: Dr. Robert Riggio
Dr. Mary Parisi

Dr. Rigolosi is the Director of the Department of Hemodialysis at Renal Medicine Associates, P.A. Both of his parents were born in Marineo, Sicily. He is the Director of the Regional Hemodialysis Center in New Jersey, was on the Board of Directors of Tiro A Segno. He looks forward to assisting the Foundation in its fundraising efforts.



Dr. Ralph V. Rosato

Sponsors: Lawrence Auriana
John Saia

Dr. Rosato is President of Pavillion Dental, a Dentistry office. His grandparents came from Italy in 1940. Dr. Rosato is affiliated with the Second District Dental Society. He would like to be a part of the Dinner, Journal, Philanthropic, Parade and Marketing Committees.



Frank Somma

Sponsors: Frank G. Fusaro
John V. Cioffi

Mr. Somma is Vice President of the Candle Business Systems, an office automation company. He derives his Italian heritage from his grandfather who came from Scafatti. Mr. Somma is the national President of the Cooley's Anemia Foundation. He looks forward to participating on the Parade, Dinner, Marketing and Journal Committees.



Vincent Tizzio

Sponsors: Joseph Lombardo
Thomas Tizzio

Mr. Tizzio is the President of AIG Small Business, an insurance company. His grandparents were born in Italy. Mr. Tizzio is affiliated with Make A Wish Foundation and Freedom House, to which he is very dedicated. He would like to be a part of the Journal Committee.



Lawrence Trapani

Sponsors: Dominick Capolarello
Anthony Giordano

Mr. Trapani is Vice President of Brooks-Waterburn Corp., an insurance company. Both grandparents were born in Sicily. Mr. Trapani is affiliated with the East Harlem Giglio Society and part of the Certified Work Compensation Advisors. He has attended the Parade since childhood and is eager to volunteer for fundraising efforts.



Joseph F. Uvino

Sponsors: Dominick Capolarello
Vincent Toscano

Mr. Uvino is a Partner at McGuire Woods LLP, a law firm. All four of his grandparents were born in Caserta or Avalino. He is affiliated with the New York State and Oklahoma Bar Associations and is also a contributor to Westminster School and NYU. He looks forward to assisting in fundraising activities through the Gala and other events.



George A. Vecchione

Sponsors: Salvatore Salibello
Salvatore Zizza

Mr. Vecchione is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Lifespan Corporation, a healthcare company. All of his grandparents were born in Italy. Mr. Vecchione is a Board Member of the Hospital Association of Rhode Island and the Citizens Bank of Rhode Island and Connecticut. He is interested in being a part of the Marketing, Dinner and Parade Committees.



Members in the News

Ambassador Charles Gargano, Dr. Joseph Scelsa, Alfred Catalanotto, Maria Fosco and Sal Zizza were among the hundreds of people who gathered at Columbus Circle on January 7 in support of Justice Samuel A. Alito, Jr.'s nomination to the Supreme Court. The rally came just days after a political operative – in a memo that was leaked to the press – implied that Justice Alito, as a circuit court judge, had been soft on organized crime because of his Italian-American heritage. Ambassador Gargano said at the rally, “We are speaking out against the stereotypical portrayal of Italian Americans in the media, which has also come to light in this case of Samuel Alito’s nomination. Alito is a notable jurist and, therefore, he should be judged for his competence and professionalism. All we ask is that in the Senate he will be submitted to a fair examination, leaving all stereotypes aside.” Justice Alito became the second Italian American to sit on the Supreme Court, joining 2005 Grand Marshal Antonin Scalia. He was sworn in on January 31, 2006.



Dr. Joseph Scelsa and Ambassador Charles Gargano at the Alito Rally

Founding Member **Dr. Andrew G. Franks, Sr.** at the age of 97, was Grand Marshal of the 2005 Memorial Day Parade in Pelham, NY. He received the honor in recognition of his service as a medical officer in the U.S. Army during World War II and his distinguished career as a dermatologist: in addition to having a private practice, he was a Professor of Dermatology at NYU Medical School, where he is still Professor Emeritus, and is the author of over 60 articles and two books on dermatology, as well as a laboratory manual. Dr. Franks’s daughter, **Joy Catapano**, is also a Member of the Foundation.

The Casa Italiana Zerilli-Marimò, of New York University, was the site of “Now Playing... Italian Film Posters from the **Lawrence Auriana** Collection” from December 1 to December 22, 2005. The exhibition

presented works by such notable Italian graphic artists as Anselmo Ballester, Ercole Brini and Averardo Ciriello who, from the 1940s through the 1960s, designed posters for movies directed by Roberto Rossellini, Luchino Visconti, Federico Fellini, Vittorio De Sica and Bernardo Bertolucci. The exhibition preview was attended by Foundation Members **Louis Tallarini**, **Alfred Catalanotto** and **John Cioffi**, among others.



Lawrence Auriana, Baroness Mariuccia Zerilli-Marimò, Curator Victor Wiener, Exhibition Designer Stephen Earthman and Casa Italia Director Stefano Albertini

Maria and George Simeone were the recipients of the FOTA Troubadour Award, presented by Friends of the Arts (FOTA) in recognition of their support of the arts. Mr. and Mrs. Simeone received the award from the Manhasset non-profit on November 17 at the North Hempstead Country Club in Port Washington, NY. “Maria and George have been among our most loyal supporters,” said FOTA Executive Director Maryann Beaumont, “and we are proud to honor them with the FOTA Troubadour Award.” Mr. Simeone joined the Board of Directors of FOTA in 1997, served as Treasurer and is now its Vice President. He is a partner with Deloitte & Touche.

Lawrence Auriana was part of the Presidential Delegation that attended the Closing Ceremonies of the 2006 Olympic Games in Turin, Italy. All members of the delegation were Italian-American leaders, including former Columbus Day Parade Grand Marshals Mario Andretti and Rudolph W. Giuliani... **Lee Rizzuto, Jr.** is dinner chairman and honoree of Beauty Ball 2006, the Professional Beauty Association’s 21st annual dinner. To be held at New York’s Marriott Marquis on April 29th, the event’s theme is a disco extravaganza, “Let’s Dance.” The event will benefit the organization’s Benevolence Fund, which supports salon professionals who face hardship due to ill health, and the Locks of Love Foundation, which provides hairpieces

for poor children who have suffered hair loss, often as a result of cancer treatments. Mr. Rizzuto is a Senior Vice President of Conair Corporation... Emily Macchia, the 12-year old niece of **Maria Fosco** and a *Lago Del Bosco* scholarship recipient, cut her long, full hair short and she donated it to Locks of Love after learning about the program... **Vito R. Nardelli** was appointed Chief Operating Officer at OceanFirst Bank, a subsidiary of OceanFirst Financial Corporation, of New Jersey. The appointment took effect in September 2005.



Dr. Andrew Franks, Grand Marshal of the Pelham Memorial Day Parade



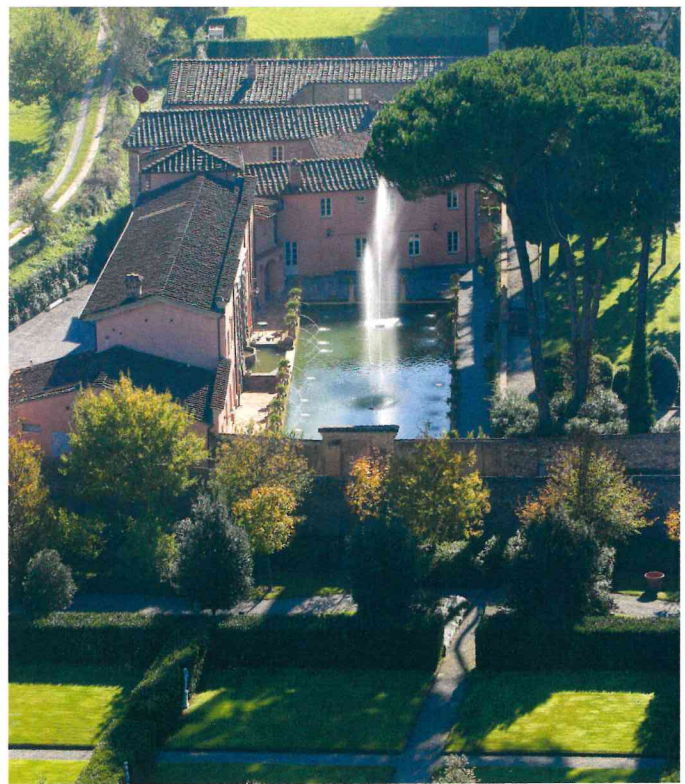
Maria and George Simeone

Luxury Tour of Italy for Foundation Members *continued*

conducted by his granddaughter, Simonetta Puccini – plus many other unforgettable moments.

Accommodations will be for three nights at the *Grand Hotel des Iles Borromees* on Lake Maggiore; five nights at the deluxe private villas of *Borgo Bernardini* and *Villa Controni* in Tuscany; and four nights at the *Orient Express Hotel Caruso* in Ravello, on the Amalfi Coast.

The tour is an exceptional opportunity to explore and enjoy Italy with fellow Foundation Members. Please note that reservations must be received by May 15. For more details and a complete itinerary, please call Phyllis Rizzo at the Foundation (212.249.9923) or Classic Travel and Tours' award-winning Italy Travel Planner, Bill Gearhart (732.494.7100 or 888.494.7600). ♣



Aerial view of the *Borgo Bernardini* in Tuscany



The luxurious, serene grounds of the *Villa Controni*



The breathtakingly opulent interior of a suite at the *Grand Hotel des Iles Borromees*



The *Orient Express Hotel Caruso* in Ravello overlooks the Amalfi Coast

In Memoriam

Richard J. Bellucci, M.D.

The Foundation lost a wonderfully committed and generous Member on December 22, 2005, when Dr. Richard Bellucci passed away at the age of 91.



Dr. Bellucci was a legendary pioneer in the field of microscopic ear surgery and the treatment of conductive hearing loss. His research led to new surgical procedures, and he was among the first surgeons to use a microscope in surgery and the author or co-author of three books and over 90 scientific articles. He also invented the Bellucci Micro Ear Scissors, which have a 90 degree angle in the shaft, to make ear surgery less difficult.

Throughout nearly all of his professional life, he was affiliated with Manhattan Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital (now a subsidiary of Lenox Hill Hospital), where he was Chairman of the Department of Otolaryngology, while also holding positions at a dozen other hospitals. He trained over 150 residents and taught several thousand students through his position as professor and director of residency programs at various hospitals.

Dr. Bellucci performed volunteer medical service at the *Hôpital de Sacré Coeur* in Milot, Haiti twice annually during the 1990s. In a 1998 interview with *Catholic New York*, Dr. Bellucci termed himself a “medical missionary” and said that working with the poor “gives

you an opportunity to return something we’re given privilege over – medical expertise.”

Dr. Bellucci belonged to 23 professional societies, including the American Otological Society, the oldest medical society in the United States, which he served as president in 1981.

Among the many honors Dr. Bellucci received during his lifetime was membership in Knights of Malta and the *Cavaliere de Merito*, or Legion of Merit Award, from the Republic of Italy.

Dr. Bellucci was a first generation Italian American. Both his father and his mother, Frank and Litzia Bellucci, immigrated from San DeMetrio di Corona in the region of Calabria. Dr. Bellucci is survived by his wife of 55 years, Dr. Eleanor De Paoli Bellucci, of New York City, their daughter Dr. Eleanor B. Handler, of Bayside, Maine, and a grandson, David S. Handler.

In addition to his great contributions to the medical community and his other volunteer work, Dr. Bellucci was an instrumental Member of the Foundation. He was a co-founder of the Foundation and served on numerous committees over the years. In 2003, through the Adopt-A-Scholar Program, Dr. Bellucci endowed a perpetual scholarship for a student attending New York Medical College. He was an honoree during the 2004 Columbus Week Celebrations and described riding up Fifth Avenue in a convertible on Columbus Day, past cheering crowds, “As one of the greatest days of my life.”

A Tribute to Dr. Richard Bellucci

By Dr. Frank V. Celenza

On December 22, 2005, the Columbus Citizens Foundation lost one of its most prominent Members. Dr. Richard Bellucci was one of our Founding Members and a world-renowned otolaryngologist.

Richard was a very quiet and modest man. His dedication to his profession and his rapport with all around him made him a unique individual. He had an ability to disseminate knowledge without intimidation. He was a teacher in the highest sense, and he influenced and taught literally thousands of physicians.

He was a kind and gentle man who gave of himself willingly for the sake of others. This is his legacy, and he transferred it to all around him. He was the epitome of role models as exemplified by his daughter, Dr. Eleanor B. Handler, who followed in his footsteps, and his wife of 55 years, Dr. Eleanor DePaoli Bellucci.

Richard and I became instant friends when I joined the Foundation in 1975. When I think of him, I think of the words that describe him best – words like kind, gentle, humble, thorough, dedicated, moral, unselfish and giving.

In addition to being his friend, I was his patient for ten years. The only time he ever hurt me was when he died. I shall miss him; we all will.

Anna Moffo Sarnoff

By Dr. Frank V. Celenza



With the passing of Anna Moffo Sarnoff, on March 9, the Foundation lost a dear Member, great artist, humanitarian and warm human being. Her beautifully colored soprano voice was heard at the Metropolitan Opera House for 17 seasons, and while her Lucia, Manon and Liu in *Turandot* were favorites of many, she will but she will be best remembered for her role in *La Traviata* as one of the greatest Violettas of all time.

She was a joy to listen to and be with. She possessed a physical beauty that will long be remembered, and her musicianship and talent as an actress set standards that remain unsurpassed. She was a complete artist, a diva in every sense of the word. We will miss her dearly.

In Memoriam

Frances De Maria

Mother of member Alfred T. De Maria

Philomena Saitta

Mother of member Dr. Richard Saitta

Births

Talia Licata, February 11, 2006

Granddaughter of Joseph and Catherine Licata

Luca Michael Cuttita, September 11, 2005

Grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Cuttita

Save the Dates!

April 27 **Cardinal's Dinner**

Join us and His Eminence, Edward Cardinal Egan,
for an evening of insights

May 9 **Spring Luncheon**

Sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary: Boutique and Music

May 12 **Ballo Romantico**

Dancing and dining in the exquisite Rainbow Room

May 14 **Mother's Day Dinner**

Mothers, grandmothers and children welcome!

May 15 **Tour of Italy Reservations Due!**

The last day for reserving space for the **Foundation Members and guests only** Tour of Italy: 13 days and 12 nights of luxury lodgings and exclusive events

July 27 **Shore Dinner**

The fruits of the sea, at our celebration of summer!

Scholarship Awards Ceremonies at the Church of St. Jean the Baptiste

June 7 **Elementary School Grant Awards Ceremony**

June 28 **College Scholarship Awards Ceremony**

July 11 **High School Scholarship Awards Ceremony**

For Children and Grandchildren

July 24 – Aug. 19 **Lago del Bosco · Fosston, Minnesota**

Italian language and culture immersion programs
for children ages 8 to 18 (with course credit for older students!)



COLUMBUS CITIZENS FOUNDATION, INC.

8 East 69th Street, New York, New York 10021-4906
www.columbuscitizensfd.org

Columbus Foundation Townhouse Dress Code:
Men: Jacket and Tie. Women: Appropriate Attire