



March 2024
Established 1920
Vol. XLIV No. 3

The Colombo Club
5321 Claremont Avenue
Oakland, California 94618
www.TheColomboClub.com

24 Hour Reservation Lines:
(510) 653-9020 or (510) 653-9716
FAX Line: (510) 653-9053

2024 Officers

Anthony Ballesterio	President
Vince Fratangelo	1st Vice President
Joe Ianora	2nd Vice President
John DeRespini	Corres. Secretary
Perry Vittoria	Financial Secretary
Matthew Moran	Treasurer
Marc Emeldi	Sergeant-At-Arms

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Joe Guerrero	2024-2026
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John Nardi	2024-2026
Don Ceremello	2024-2026
Billy Castell	2022-2024
Richard Puppione	2019-2024
Dave Nardi	2022-2024
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Randy Bodas	2022-2024
Anthony Tedeschi	2023-2025
Mark Amaro	2023-2025
Tom Gallinatti	2023-2025
Mark Rezente	2023-2025
Nick Nicora	2023-2034

Sunshine Chair, Gordon Bowman
gbowman999@yahoo.com

Birthday Dinners

March 14 and 28

Salad, Pasta Pesto, Corned Beef,
Dessert, Wine and Coffee

Birthday Dinners
Thursday, Apr 11
Thursday, Apr 25

Menu: Salad, Pasta Fagioli,
Sausage & Peppers, Dessert,
Wine and Coffee

5:30 pm Cocktails; 7:30 pm Dinner
\$25 Members, \$30 Guests
\$12 Children 6-12 yrs
Call (510) 653-9020
*Press 1 to make reservations,
press 1 for the 1st Birthday Dinner, or
press 2 for the 2nd Birthday Dinner*

Thursday, March 14 SOLD OUT
Thursday, March 28
Call now for reservations

*To cancel reservations call by 7 pm Sunday
before the dinner. Use the same extensions,
above, to cancel.*

Cashless policy will be followed.

Lobster Time!

If you like your tails and claws, you have an opportunity to indulge on March 23 at the Colombo Club. The event is open to everyone but is limited to 350 due to the number of pots we need to cook the lobsters. The enclosed flier has additional details.

Saturday, March 23

Cocktails 6 pm • Dinner 7 pm

Antipasto, Salad, Red Risotto, **One Entire Lobster**
Wine, Coffee & Dessert

\$80 per person, Use the reservation form enclosed or
reserve online at www.thecolomboclub.com

Auxiliary St. Patrick's Dinner Thursday, March 21



Salad, Pesto Pasta, Corned Beef &
Cabbage, Dessert, Wine & Coffee
6 pm Cocktails • 7 pm Dinner

For Reservations call Mary Pandolfo (510) 276-7681
or (510) 912-2906 by March 14.

Members/Spouse	\$30/each
Guests	\$33
Children ages 6-12	\$15
under 6	Free

See the flyer for details.

Family Dinner, Saturday April 27

Cocktails: 4:30 pm • Dinner: 6:30 pm

Salad, Pasta your choice of 2 sauces, Pork Scaloppini, Dessert, Wine and Coffee

Make or cancel reservations by 6 pm on April 21. **Call 510-653-9716**, press 1 and then press 4 for the family dinner. No shows will be billed for the full price of the dinner.

Members:	\$25/person
Guests:	\$30/person
Children 6-12:	\$12/person
Children under 6 years:	Free

The Club is Open for Your Next Private Party!



Book the Colombo Club for your private event. You can also have a Party within a Party at one of our dinners. Your guests can enjoy the Ed Basso Room before and after dinner.

Call the Club at (510) 653-9020 and **press 3** for events and leave a message for the Member Event Coordinator Francis Bienati or House Chairman, Tony Tedeschi.

President's Message

Saluti A Tutti!

Leap-Year February at the Colombo Club was a lot of fun! Our Men's Lunch was very popular, with almost 200 attendees. Thank you to club member Michele Gasparro for preparing the Trippa Alla Fiorentina; the meal was outstanding!

Our Club Crab Feed was a complete sell-out and raised significant funds for the maintenance of our building. Thank you all for your continued generosity and support of our Club.

March features our always popular Corned Beef & Cabbage Birthday Dinners. These dinners will sell-out, so please get your reservations in "ASAP". Fortunately, you will have an additional opportunity; Thursday, March 21st, the Ladies Auxiliary Dinner will also feature Corned Beef & Cabbage. Last, but not least, our Lobster Dinner will be held on Saturday, March 23rd. Please join me and attend at least one of these worthwhile events.

Last year at this time I had described how our Incentive Program raises funds for our Club and requested that each member consider donating one (1) bottle of wine or spirits each year to our Incentive Program. The response has been very favorable. We have some members who now donate monthly to our program; you see their names listed in every Newsletter. We'd really like to see your name noted in the newsletter this year, too! Your donation will represent a significant savings to the Club! Thank You in advance for your support.

Our annual Membership Dues are now due. These funds are critical to the operation of the Club. It's convenient to pay your Dues online, on the Club's website, www.thecolomboclub.com. Thank you for your continued membership and support of our Club! If you have a friend whom you believe would enjoy being a member of the Colombo Club, then please consider sponsoring them; membership applications are available at the Club bar, and on our website.

If you have an idea for an event that you'd like to see held at our Club, and/or if you would like to volunteer at our Club, then please contact me at my email address below.

I look forward to seeing you at the Colombo Club this month!

Ciao!

Tony Ballestero, President
ballestero@protonmail.ch

Colombo Club Auxiliary President's Message

Greetings,

With Winter ending this month and Spring coming, birds are chirping and flowers blooming, signaling Daylight Savings time and more sunlight. What will you do with that extra hour of sun in your day? The time change is on March 10 at 2:00 am. Don't forget to "spring forward."

On Thursday, March 21, please remember to wear a bit of green to help celebrate our first Auxiliary Dinner to commemorate St. Patrick's Day. Please invite all your friends and family to this dinner. We will begin with a Bake Sale put on by our ladies. Please bring small bills to buy the 'homemade' goodies (while supplies last). It will only be open an hour before dinner is served. Then, we adjourn to have a fantastic Corned Beef and Cabbage meal with our special pesto pasta. This dinner will be chaired by Dianne Marangio and Elaine Kless. These ladies have organized a great evening. Also, there will be lots of incentive gifts there too. I hope to see you all there.

On March 23rd join us for the Lobster Night Dinner. There are a few seats left for this limited attendance dinner. RSVP soon. Just delicious, but bring your lobster crackers to this event. There will be claws as it is a whole lobster.

Don't forget that Easter is this month, falling on Sunday the 31st.

Auxiliary members – We have our next meeting on Wednesday March 20 at 7 pm on Zoom (the last one), then it will be in-person and happy times seeing all your beautiful faces there in the Isabella Room again each month.

Happy birthday to all our March ladies.

If you are Italian and want to become a member of our Auxiliary, please contact a member to get an application. We also take applications for the wives of the Colombo Club members. We would love to have you join.

Renee Amaro
Auxiliary President

Ballestero Engineering

Civil Engineering - Land Surveys - Construction Management

Anthony P. Ballestero, PE, LS

P.O.Box 73
Novato, CA 94948

(415) 794-9113
ballestero@protonmail.ch

Buon Compleanno!

Martin Aiello
Mark Amaro
James R. Anderson
Stelvio Andora
Henry Andreotti
Robert Patrick Anzilotti
Anthony P. Ballesterio, PE, LS
Louis R. Barella
Mark Benedetti
Bob Berry
Chase Betta
Tom Betti
Lawrence M. Bienati
Dylan Boldt
Jim Boyd
Danny Brown
Frances Gabriel Cabrita
Russel E. Carrel
Steven J. Cecaci
Dave Cecaci
Max Charlton-Robb
Marc Colombo
David Conti
Steven Correia
Mike Covione
Natale D. Cusumano, Jr.
Gerry D'Agostino
Johal Dasreep
Richard Delmonico
Richard Delsoldato

John DeMarinis
Dario C. DeVincenzi
Bill Dobert
Alexander Duran
Michael Edwards
Benton Englehart
Duke Evans
Kenny Robert Fazzio
John P. Fillipucci
Gino Fissore
Patrick J. Fracisco
Francis J. Furino
Jordan Gatto
Jim Gilchrist
Pedro Gonzalez
Gilbert M. Granucci
Michael J. Guerrero
Spencer Harmola
Frank Hennefer
Michael Henning
David E. Hunt
Joseph W. Huston
Jamie Karg
Tim Keller
Scott Lambert
Christopher A. Lamiero
William David Marshall
Quentin Martin
Edward J. Matraia, Jr.
Ronald Mescola

Raymond Milani
Michael Miller
Stefan Molnar
Bill Neill
Mike Northrop
Bart Orsi
Gary Pacini
Louie A. Pandolfo
Mark Passalacqua
Curtis Perata
Richard Phipps
Bill Pinto
Fred Radwan
Matthew Raimondi
Tony Riccardi
Giuseppe Ricucci
Gary J. Russello
John Sandroni
Chris Schenone
Derek Sciacqua
Rich Sciortino
James Senneca
Jose Valdez
Cyril Vierra
Mark Williams
Paul Yezzi
Daniel Zumbo

Grazie Mille

Incentive Program Donors

Thank you to these generous folks who contributed to our incentive program: Donors: Dino Rinetti, Stefan Molnar, James Bartha, Adolph Adragna, Heffernan-Brignole Insurance, Tim Tomei, Jerry Jennaro, Ed Rington & Associates, www.eastbayoffice.com, Fred Naranjo, Gary Sabatte, Fredi Moehl, Friends of Angelo Magurno, Craig Jaber - Royal Auto Repair.

Sunshine Corner

If you know of a member who's been ill or has been in the hospital, please let Sunshine Chairman Gordon Bowman know. gbowman999@yahoo.com.

In Memoriam

Shawn Crane

Member since 1993

Message from the House Committee Chairman:

I would like to thank Joe Guerrero, Ron Gerton, Mike Guerrero, Randy Bodas, Vic Tufo, Don Ceremello, and Steve Pittlick for helping to make our Men's Luncheon fantastic.

The Colombo Club would like to thank Nicosia's Gourmet Products, long-time member Nick Nicosia for the donation of sausage for the Men's Luncheon on Presidents' Day. It was greatly appreciated by all of our members and guests. Thank you very much Nick.

I would also like to thank Michelangelo Gasparro and Leon Vingnale for cooking up the tripa for the luncheon. Fantastic!

-Tony Tedeschi

Deadlines for 2024

Scholarship Applications March 15

1) Colombo Club/Colombo Club Auxiliary 2024

Scholarships:

Applicant Requirements:

- Must be the child or grandchild of a current Colombo Club or Colombo Club Auxiliary member
- Must be a high school senior who is graduating from a high school accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.
- Must provide completed application, including required attachments, before March 15, 2024.

Scholarship applications are available at the Colombo Club at the bar in the Club Room. Any questions, contact Rich Puppione at richpup46@gmail.com.

2) The Bossola Scholarship for 2024

Applications are available by sending an email request to bossolascholarship@gmail.com. The deadline for completed applications is March 15, 2024.

Our Cultural Heritage

The Legacies of Al Giordano, Tony Zeni and Tony Albino

by Rich Puppione



Al Giordano influenced the growth of the club devoting an extraordinary commitment of time, support and leadership to the Colombo Club. Al's contributions include: Colombo Club President, Chairman of the Board of Directors, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Board of Director, Parliamentarian, Chair of the club's 75 Anniversary Committee, Colombo Club Work Day Volunteer and Club representative at the first Italian-American Organization Executives

Washington D.C. Summit. Tony Zeni described Al as "an outstanding president who was firm in his convictions. He was not a smooth talker, quite demanding, analytical mind that one would say that he should have been a lawyer. He remained active in club business working with the Board as Parliamentarian long after he was no longer obligated as an official club officer."

Tony Albino and Zeni played an extremely important role in preserving the history of the Colombo Club. Tony Albino was a businessman and financial advisor, served as President from 1982 to 1983 and was very proud of his Italian ancestry. He served in World War II as a Technical Sergeant in the Army Air Forces in France. Among the honors that Tony was awarded were the EAME Ribbon with four bronze stars and the Air Medal with five Oak Leaf Clusters for his meritorious service against Germany with his Liberator group. During his second term as president, Tony requested that Tony Zeni write a history of the first 55 years of the Colombo Club so that it would not be lost for future generations.



Tony Albino



Tony Zeni

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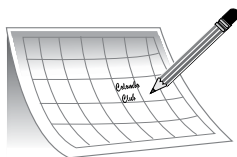
Joseph Brignole Jr.

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Mark
Your
Calendar

Birthday Dinners: 5:30 pm Cocktails, 7:30 pm Dinner
Family Dinners: 5:30 pm Cocktails, 7:00 pm Dinner

Mar 14 ~~SOLD OUT~~ Birthday
Dinner, *Corned Beef &
Cabbage*

Mar 21 Auxiliary St. Patrick's
Dinner, *Corned Beef &
Cabbage*

Mar 23 Lobster Feed

Mar 28 Birthday Dinner, *Corned Beef
& Cabbage*

Apr 11 Birthday Dinner, *Sausage &
Peppers*

Apr 25 Birthday Dinner, *Sausage &
Peppers*

Apr 27 Family Dinner, *Pork
Scalloppini*

May 9 Birthday Dinner, *Pork Roast*

May 23 Birthday Dinner, *Pork Roast*

The Colombo Club Auxiliary presents:



St. Patrick's Day Dinner

at the Colombo Club ~ 5321 Claremont Avenue, Oakland



Thursday, March 21, 2024

No host Cocktails: 6:00 pm

Dinner: 7:00 pm

Menu:

Salad ♦ Dinner Rolls ♦ Pesto Pasta
Corned Beef & Cabbage ♦ Dessert ♦ Wine & Coffee

Members/Spouses ... \$30

Children 6 to 12 ... \$15

Guests ... \$33

Children under 6 ... free

Bring your friends!

Reservations: Mary Pandolfo (510) 276-7681 or (510) 912-2906

RESERVATION DEADLINE: Thursday, March 14, 2024

Cancellation fee of \$15 per ticket for all cancellations made within 72 hours of event



Parking is available at the DMV parking lot across the street



Chaired by Dianne Marangio & Elaine Kless



Attention Claws and Tails Lovers

Lobster Feed Time is Here Again

Lobster is once again on the calendar for the Colombo Club so save the date of March 23, 2024. Enjoy the rich taste of the lobster, cooked right here at the Colombo Club!

The cost is \$80 per person (no child discount) and you get the full menu we are well known to serve at our mouthwatering events:

- Antipasto
- Salad
- Red Risotto
- 1 Entire Lobster
- Wine
- Coffee
- Dessert



We are limiting attendance to 350 so get your payment and reservation early.

Lobster Night, March 23: ___ seats @ \$80 for a total of \$ _____

The event is pre-paid and your payment must accompany your reservation. You can pay by check, made out to the Colombo Club or by Credit Card. You can also reserve your seats at our web site – www.thecolomboclub.com

Member Name: _____

If paying by Credit Card, additional information is required:

Card Number: _____ Expiration: ____/____ CVV: _____

Name on Card: _____

Billing Address on Card: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Signature: _____

Any seating requests: _____ Number of Chicken plates: _____

The dress code is business casual. All checks must be from a member, no guest checks please.

Questions: email to jtmazibrook@earthlink.net, or call John at 510.304.7211.

WE ACCEPT ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS



No Host Cocktails at 6:00p; Dinner at 7:00p