



August 2025
Established 1920
Vol. XLV No. 8

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

2025 Officers

Joe Ianora	President
Vince Fratangelo	First Vice President
Mark Rezente	Second Vice President
John DeRespini	Corres. Secretary
Perry Vittoria	Financial Secretary
Matthew Moran	Treasurer
Marc Emeldi	Sergeant-At-Arms

Board Members

Tony Ballestero	2025-2030	Chair
Joe Guerrero	2024-2026	
John Mazibrook	2024-2026	
John Nardi	2024-2026	
Don Ceremello	2024-2026	
Dave Nardi	2025-2027	
Dino Rinetti	2025-2027	
Anthony Tedeschi	2023-2025	
Mark Amaro	2023-2025	
Tom Gallinatti	2023-2025	
Nick Nicora	2023-2034	
Albert Traille	2025-2027	
Nicholas Bloisa	2025-2027	
Rich Puppione	2025	

Sunshine Chair, Gordon Bowman
gbowman999@yahoo.com

Birthday Dinners

Father Daughter Nights
Aug 14 and 28

*Salad, Pasta, Italian Ham,
Dessert, Wine & Coffee*

Birthday Dinners

Thursday, Sept 11 (Men only)

Thursday, Sept 25 (Co-ed)

Menu: Salad, Pesto Pasta, Chicken
Cacciatore, Dessert, Wine and Coffee

5:30 pm Cocktails; 7:30 pm Dinner

\$33 Members, \$38 Guests

\$16 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**

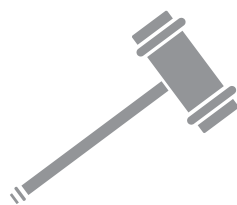
Thursday, Aug 14 (Co-ed)
Thursday, Aug 28 (Co-ed)

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.

COLOMBO CLUB
105th Anniversary
AUGUST 23 2025
COCKTAILS 5:30 DINNER 7 PM DANCING FOLLOWS
MENU: SALAD, RAVIOLI, NEW YORK STRIP, DESSERT, WINE AND COFFEE
FEATURING THE DENNIS CRUDA BAND
\$33 MEMBERS, \$38 GUESTS,
\$16 CHILDREN AGES 6-12 YRS
MAKE OR CANCEL RESERVATIONS
BY 6 PM ON AUGUST 18. CALL
510-653-9716, PRESS 1 TO MAKE
RESERVATIONS, PRESS 4 FOR
THE FAMILY DINNER.



Assembly Meeting

and Dinner

Tuesday, August 12

Cocktails 6 pm

Dinner 7 pm

Meeting 8 pm

\$20 Members Only

Members, please attend this important club meeting! It's your last opportunity to nominate candidates for our Club Officer & Board Member positions. We will also discuss potential Bylaws Amendments.

Thank You! – Tony Ballestero, 2025 Chairman - Board of Directors

Menu Salad, Pasta, Sausage & Peppers,
Dessert, Wine, Coffee

Only Online Reservations accepted for this
dinner. See www.thecolomboclub.com

COLOMBO CLUB AUXILIARY
5321 Claremont Avenue, Oakland, CA 94618
BACK-to-SCHOOL Dinner
Saturday, August 9th, 2025
Cocktails & Bake Sale: **5:30 PM** Dinner: **6:30 PM**
MENU:
Colombo Club Salad & Rolls, Pesto Pasta, Roasted Chicken
Veggies, Dessert, Wine, and Coffee
RESERVATIONS:
Mary Pandolfo • (510) 276-7681
Make reservations by Saturday, August 2, 2025
Auxiliary Members/Spouses: \$32.00
Guests: \$38.00
Children 6 to 12: \$16.00
Children 0 to 5: FREE
Cancellation: A \$15 fee per ticket applies if you cancel within 3 days of the event.
No Shows: You will be charged the full ticket price if you do not attend the event.
DRESS ATTIRE: Business Casual
PARKING AVAILABLE
at the DMV across the street
GEORGE CAMPI
playing Accordion music

President's Message

Ciao a tutti! What a wonderful summer it has been so far and it is only promising to get better at the Colombo Club. August is a very busy month for us, so please make sure to your calendar to celebrate with us!

First, a quick recap of last month. Besides our birthday dinners, which are always a big success, we also had a wonderful Family Pizza Night. Besides great pizza, we also had pignatas for the kids. A great time was had by all. *Mark your calendar for this event next year as Tony Gemignani (12-time world pizza throwing champion) will be joining us to celebrate this special occasion.* Additionally, we had our "Past Presidents" dinner. This was another wonderful celebration and thank you to all of the past presidents. A bit more formal than the pizza party, this celebration was complete with dancing afterwards. Thank you to all who attended.

On to August. This month our birthday dinners are Father-Daughter Nights; everyone is welcome. This is a special time to bring your daughter, granddaughter, or a special someone to the club as your guest. This Father-Daughter event was always much anticipated by my daughter and me. We have many special memories from coming to the club for this event through the years. Now, I hope to continue it with my granddaughter! This is a perfect opportunity to bring the whole family out for this special occasion.

Another big event is our Annual Boccé Tournament, being held in Martinez on August 9th. Whether you play bocce or not, it is a great time to come and enjoy the tournament and camaraderie.

A special addition to this month is our Assembly Meeting & Dinner. This is a time for you as a member to come and here the latest updates from the Board. At this event, we will be inducting new members, as well as time to bring up your questions and concerns. The dinner will be sausage and peppers. I hope to see you there! Sign ups for this meeting & dinner will be on-line only.

August 23rd is the Colombo Club's 105th Anniversary! Please make your reservation and come to the club to celebrate, and bring your family and friends, too! We have another wonderful menu and a band for dancing after dinner. Thank you for supporting the Colombo Club.

As you surmised from reading above, the club is moving toward on-line reservations. On-line reservations will be in full swing by November. We know change can be hard, so to that end we have a couple of events that will be on-line only to give you a chance to practice. The first time will be the Assembly meeting on the 12th of August. After that, we will publish dates for our Birthday Dinners in September and October that will accept on-line reservations only.

If you're considering volunteering at the Club, we're also looking for a few dedicated members to train to run our always-popular Incentive Program at each Birthday Dinner. It's a great way to become involved, it's only a few hours each month, and it's critically important to the financial success of our Club! Please email me, if you're interested.

Lastly, 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 help-out at our Club, then please contact me at my email address below. I look forward to seeing you at the Colombo Club this month!

Ci Vediamo!

Joe Ianora, President – jianora1@gmail.com

Women's Auxiliary President's Message

Ciao a tutti,

La canicola estiva is how the Italians say "the dog days of summer", with the appearance of Sirius, the dog star. The history of how that came about is interesting. (Please stay cool and hydrated).

The Back-to-School dinner is coming up on the 9th (see flyer) that will be delicious and fun. We have George Campi playing his accordion for us and we have prepared the dining hall with decorations, incentive gifts, and school supplies for the less fortunate children starting school soon. Also, the dinner falls on the same day as the Bocce Championship in Martinez which makes it the perfect day Not to Cook Dinner. It is the perfect summer menu, with roasted chicken and many side dishes that the Colombo Club Cooks have prepared for you, I hope you've made your reservations. Thank you in advance to all the ladies who have helped put this dinner together. The set-up, decorations, selling incentive tickets for the prizes and helping with the bake sale as well as the school supplies for our charities. I hope to see you all there.

The Colombo Club Men's Club will be celebrating their 105th Anniversary this month on the 23rd. Please come and help us congratulate them and enjoy a great evening. To make reservations please call: (510) 653-9020.

Congratulations to the new Queen and her court. The Queen is Guiliana Sorbi, and Princesses are Luciana Bagneschi, Emily Stenzler and Valentina Grazzini. The Coronation date is coming up.

I also want to congratulate all the winners of the Colombo Club and Bossola scholarships.

Another East Bay Italian Clubs Bocce Tournament held at the Fratellanza Club is on August 30th. We have two teams to represent the Women's Auxiliary. Wish them luck as well as the Men's team(s).

Watch your mailboxes for the Children's Christmas Party. Sign-Up coming soon.

Nominations for the elections are coming up soon. Please volunteer for the position you would like or promote another member.

If you know of a member who has been ill or hospitalized, please contact our Sick & Sunshine Ambassador, Elaine Kleiss, at (925) 858-9245.

Buon Cumpleano to the August birthday members.

Renee M. Amaro

Colombo Club Auxiliary President
reneeamaro@comcast.net

Buon Compleanno!

Michael Ballerini
 Martin Barbano
 Peter George Barbounis
 Steve Bauer
 Azar Benabou
 Kevin Jean Bohm, Jr.
 David Bozzone
 Thomas Bradley
 Adam Brissey
 Richard Brophy D.C.
 Martin J. Brusco
 George Campi
 Jack Cannata
 Michael Carano
 Bob Cellini
 Lonnie J. Chase
 John Christ
 Michael Cobb
 Kent A. Cremolini
 C. M. Cronin
 Tony Cutaia
 Matt Dallara
 Albert De Nurra
 Ed Dean
 John DeFazio
 Jonathan Drescher
 Danny Duncan
 Danny Eplin
 Caurindo Manual Fagundes
 Robert E. Falaschi
 Jon Feldhammer

Steve Ficarra
 Matthew Fortayon
 Alexandros Frangoolis
 Lenny Freitas
 Anthony Gasparini
 Tony Gelfuso
 Anthony Gemignani
 John Gentilin
 Clifton Hayden
 Todd Hill
 Jeffry Scott Hughes
 Maron Impagliazzo
 Joe Iovino
 Salvatore Lamanna
 Peter Lucchese
 Thomas A Lucini
 Vincent Macaluso
 Dr. Vincent Malfitano
 Dylan L. Martinelli
 Denis Martinez
 Richard Mazzuto
 David McPartland
 Michael Melchior
 Victor Minchillo
 Steven C. Montevago
 John Morris
 Ralph L. Mossino
 Ed Nelsen
 Robert Novich
 Glenn Occhipinti
 Joey Ogden

Michael Frank Orlando Sr
 Gino Thomas Paoletti
 John Perata
 Robert Petri
 Jeremy Anthony Poggio
 Don F. Potestio
 Robert "Bobby" Puppione
 Christopher Puppione
 Patrick Ramsey
 Steve Re
 Thomas Reese
 Ron Romano
 Robert Rossi
 Troy Russo
 Gary M. Sabatté
 Calvin Sakamoto
 Derek Sanchez
 Brian Sanford
 Joseph Santini
 Paul Schafer
 Daniel Schultz
 Joseph A. Sciortino
 Ryan Sparacino
 Rob Stoker
 Jonathon Tapping
 James Gabriel Togneri
 Thomas Viglienzzone
 Tony Vignale
 Vincent Vittoria
 Joseph Anthony Zumbo
 Anthony Zumbo III

Grazie Mille

Incentive Program Donors

Thank you to these generous donors who contributed to our incentive program in July: Fredi Moehl, "KG", Tom Bradley, Michael Britton, Dino Rinetti, Michael Covione, Aaron Yang, Jerry Jennaro, Joe Gennaro, James Bartha, Heffernan-Brignole Insurance, Danny Foster, Stefan Molnar, Tim Tomei, John Porras (Crown Wine & Spirits), Craig Jaber (Royal Auto Repair).

NOT JUST A FORKLIFT DEALER

NEW AND USED EQUIPMENT
RENTALS, SERVICE, & PARTS

TOTAL-IND.COM
800-527-3746

TOTAL
INDUSTRIES

Ballestero Engineering

Civil Engineering - Construction Management
Land Surveying

Anthony P. Ballestero, PE, LS

P.O. Box 73 (415) 794-9113
 Novato, CA 94948 ballestero@protonmail.ch

Work Party, Saturday August 16

Attention Members: We will have a Work Party at the Colombo Club on August 16, 2025. We will start at 8:00 am and work till 12:00 Noon. We will then sit down to a fabulous Colombo Club lunch. If you can help out your Club please call the Special Events Line at: (510) 653-9716, then press 1, then 6 and leave your name and phone number. It will be much appreciated! Thank you.



Perry Vittoria
 Rinetti & Co. Realtors

510.326.0378
 www.RinettiCo.com

HB HEFFERNAN BRIGNOLE
 INSURANCE SERVICES, LLC

Joseph Brignole Jr.

elena@brignoleandghiri.com
 office: 510.653.0685 x1
 fax: 510.336.6646
 www.brignoleandghiri.com

4685 Telegraph Avenue
 Oakland, CA 94609
 License #6006388

"As a proud member of the
 Colombo Club, I'm always
 happy to help with your
 home selling, buying, &
 investing goals!"

AZAR BENABOU
 REALTOR® | DRE #01373297

Call me today!

975.766.5121
 azar.benabou@kw.com
 homesbyazar.com
 KELLER WILLIAMS EAST BAY

Our Cultural Heritage

Our Trip to Italy

by Tony Ballesterio

During a two-week bus tour, we stopped for two nights in the city of Sorrento. The second night there, my wife, Jeanne, and I strolled into the old downtown section; streets so narrow that only 1 car could travel, and if you didn't live there then you were not allowed to drive into this area. As we wandered down one street, we stopped to read a menu posted on the corner of the building. The restaurant was located about half-way down an alleyway, and the owner was standing in the doorway beckoning us to come in.



The restaurant was small and had an outdoor area where we were led to and seated. The owner asked where we were from, and I responded "A vicino de San Francisco" (Near San Francisco). He excitedly stated that he had lived in San Francisco, from 1970-72. I asked him if he had ever gone over to Oakland and visited the Colombo Club and he said "Yes! I have been to the

Colombo Club!". At that moment, two tables behind me, I hear two ladies voices simultaneously state "We've been to the Colombo Club!" (they grew up in the Bay Area). My wife was more than a little surprised; here we were, more

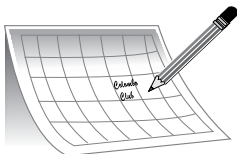


"IT'S AMAZING WHO YOU MEET WHEN YOU WEAR YOUR COLOMBO CLUB JACKET"

than 6,000 miles from home, and we were surrounded by people who had been to the Colombo Club! I had ordered his medium-priced bottle of wine for our dinner; the owner brought out his best bottle of wine and we spent the next one and a half to two hours intermittently talking, drinking and eating another great dinner in Italy!

Send Rich Photos of Your Trip!

If you have made a trip to Italy, Rich Puppione would like to know about it! Share a few photos with him and your trip could be featured in the newsletter. Please send a maximum of four photos and **no more than 100 words** (captions included). Email your submission to richpup46@gmail.com.



Mark Your Calendar

Aug 9 - Auxiliary Back to School Dinner, Pesto Pasta and Roast Chicken

Aug 9 - Bocce Day at Martinez Marina (Sold Out)

Aug 12 - Assembly Meeting & Dinner

Birthday Dinners, Father - Daughter Nights, Italian Ham & Pasta

Aug 14 - Co-ed

Aug 28 - Co-ed

Aug 23 Colombo Club Anniversary, New York Strip & Ravioli

Birthday Dinners, Chicken Cacciatore, and Pesto Pasta
Sept 11 - Men Only
Sept 25 - Co-ed

Birthday Dinners, Sausage & Peppers, and Pasta a la Anna
Oct 9 - Men Only
Oct 23 - Co-ed

Oct 18 Family Dinner, Halloween Costume Party, Pot Roast

Birthday Dinners, Roast Beef and Risotto
Nov 6 - Men Only
Nov 20 - Co-ed

Nov 18 - Assembly Meeting & Dinner

In Memoriam

Charlie Scarano

Past Board member, member since 1991

William Zeppelin

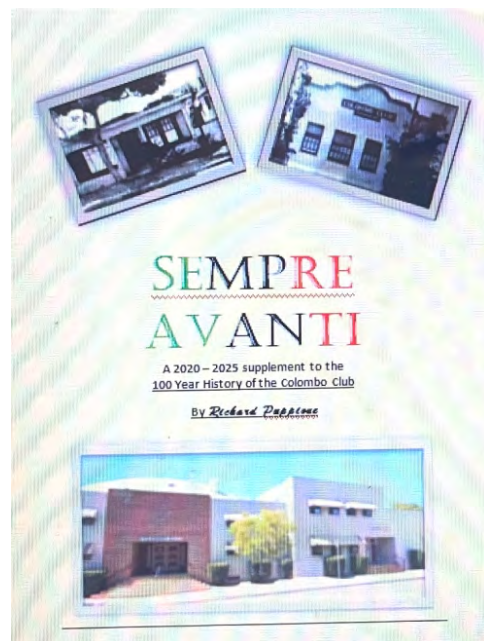
Member since 2022

Funeral Services for Charlie Scarano will be held August 6, Noon - 2 pm at the Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, 26320 Mission Blvd., Hayward.



Most of you have a copy of the 100 Year History of the Colombo Club.

You will now want to add the 2020-2025 updated supplement.



Last Chance to Get Your Family or Business Sponsorship in the 2020 -2025 Colombo Club History Book.

When the supplement book comes out in January 2026, there will be a separate section thanking the sponsors of the book. We already have 10 sponsors, but we would appreciate your support for this club fund raising project. The book is an 8 1/2 x 11, 100+ page, hard bound documentary filled with over 350 color photos chronicling the history of the Colombo Club through these past five years. Please consider buying into the sponsorship pages of the book to help pay for its publication.

Grazie mille tutti, Rich Puppione

Sponsorship Fees

Every sponsor will receive a complimentary copy of the book.

*Full Page Ad (could include photo(s))-\$375	1/8 page Ad (Business Card)).....\$75
*1/2 Page Ad (could include photo(s))-\$200	Family Name (4 words max), plus a 10 word sentence.\$50
*1/4 Page Ad (could include a photo)-\$125	List your Family Name as a sponsor (4 words max).....\$35

Deadline for being included in the sponsorship pages is September 15, 2025.

Please send your donation and ad to:

Colombo Club History Book, 5321 Claremont Avenue, Oakland, Ca 94618

*If you have a question, email me. If you have a photo of you/your family at a Colombo Club event, email it to me and I can include in the book with your sponsorship of a full page, 1/2 page or 1/4 page. (richpup46@gmail.com)

Festa Italia

MONTEREY

92ND

Free Admission!



JOIN US for the **92nd Festa Italia Santa Rosalia Fisherman's Festival** honoring Monterey's fishermen, past and present. Festa is a family friendly, **FREE** event that shares the sights, sounds, food and culture that make the Italian experience so special.

MARK your calendars now to attend this year's gathering for three days of Italian cuisine, bocce, music and fun.

September 5-7, 2025

Custom House Plaza, Downtown Monterey



CELEBRATE Monterey's Sicilian Italian Heritage

with 3 Days of
Great Entertainment,
Bocce Tournament,
Fun, Food and
Drink at Custom
House Plaza,
Monterey State
Historic Park!



PRESENTED BY FESTA ITALIA FOUNDATION

FEATURING
Pasquale Esposito
The Money Band
Anthony Lane Band
Tarantella Dancers

SINGERS Erasmo Aiello,
Dave Marzetti, Rachel Marotta
Halim and Anna Marotta Halim,
accompanied by Mike Marotta Jr.,
Dennis Murphy, Paul Tarantino
and John Beron

VISIT US AT
FestaItaliaMonterey.org
for more information on our
Bocce Tournament, schedule of
events, and the history of this
great annual event.

THREE DAYS
Friday: 3:00pm–9:00pm
Saturday: 10:00am–9:00pm
Sunday: 10:00am–6:00pm

COLOMBO CLUB AUXILIARY
5321 Claremont Avenue, Oakland, CA 94618

BACK-TO-SCHOOL *Dinner*

Saturday, August 9th, 2025

Cocktails & Bake Sale: **5:30PM**

Dinner: **6:30PM**

MENU:

Colombo Club Salad & Rolls, Pesto Pasta, Roasted Chicken,
Veggies, Dessert, Wine, and Coffee

RESERVATIONS:

Mary Pandolfo • (510) 276-7681

Make reservations by Saturday, August 3, 2025

Auxiliary Members/Spouses.....	\$33.00
Guests	\$38.00
Children 6 to 12	\$16.00
Children 0 to 5.....	FREE

Cancellations: A \$15 fee per ticket applies if you cancel within 3 days of the event.

No-Shows: You will be charged the full ticket price if you do not attend the event.

DRESS ATTIRE Business Casual

PARKING AVAILABLE
at the DMV across the street



GEORGE CAMPI
playing Accordion music

