



September 2024
Established 1920
Vol. XLIV No. 9

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

Board Members

Joe Guerrero	2024-2026
John Mazibrook	2024-2026
John Nardi	2024-2026
Don Ceremello	2024-2026
Billy Castell	2022-2024
Richard Puppione	2019-2024
Dave Nardi	2022-2024
Dino Rinetti	2022-2024
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



**Colombo Club
 Invitational Golf
 Tournament**

Sequoyah Country Club

Monday, October 14

11:30 Shot Gun Tee Time
 See the flyer in this edition.

Saturday, October 19

**Halloween Dinner &
 Costume Contest**

The inflatables, popcorn and cotton candy were a huge hit with all the kids last year and this years' inflatables are bigger and better than ever!

**Salad, Pasta,
 Pot Roast,
 Wine, Dessert,
 Coffee**

5:30 pm Cocktails with music
 by George Campi
 7 pm Dinner
 8:30 pm Dancing

Make or cancel reservations by 6 pm on October 11.
 Call 510-653-9716, press 1 and then press 4 for the family dinner.

Thank you to Mike Covione for the cotton candy, popcorn and pignatta donations!



Saturday, October 26

Reservations: Call Mary Pandolfo

(510) 276-7681 by Saturday Oct 19

Member & Spouse: \$30/each
 Guests: \$33/person
 Children 6-12: \$15/person
 Children under 6 years: Free

See the flyer enclosed in this issue for details.

**It's Time to Vote - Colombo Club
 Officers and Board**

Polls will be set up at the Birthday Dinners in October and at the Assembly Meeting & Dinner Tuesday, November 12. See the ballot in this issue



**Birthday
 Dinners**

Oct 10 and 24

Salad, Red Risotto, Roast Beef, Dessert, Wine & 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, Oct 10 (Men Only)
Thursday, Oct 24 (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.

Birthday Dinners
Thursday, Nov 7
Thursday, Nov 21
Menu: Salad, Pasta a la Anna,
 Sausage & Peppers, Dessert,
 Wine and Coffee

**Saturday,
 November 9**

Cocktails 5 pm
 Dinner 6:30 pm
 Show starts 9:00 pm

Meal your choice of
 • New York Strip
 • Roasted Chicken
 • Vegetarian



A Tribute To Fleetwood Mac

\$85 per person
 Reserve front row seats for an
 additional \$100/ for 4 persons

See the flyer in this issue for
 details and registration.

President's Message

Saluti A Tutti! October! The Bay Area weather is beautiful this time of year!

October at the Colombo Club is packed with great events! On Monday, October 14th, we celebrate Columbus Day with our annual Colombo Club Golf Tournament. This year, our tournament returns to beautiful Sequoyah Country Club. Past President Nick Nicora has once again put together a great agenda for another memorable event. Do yourself a favor and reserve a roster spot for this day-long extravaganza. You won't regret it!

Saturday, October 19th is one of our most popular annual events, the Halloween Family Dinner & Costume Contest! Club member Michael Covione fills the ballroom with an amazing array of Halloween-themed creations, plus his popcorn and cotton-candy machines and piñatas for the kids! This event includes costume contests for both children and adults, giving everyone a chance to put their creativity on display.

Please also join me and attend our Colombo Club Auxiliary Polenta Dinner, on Saturday, October 26th. Plan to arrive early, as there will be several games available for everyone's enjoyment, including a cake walk, Tombola, and ring toss. Proceeds from this event support the Auxiliary's charitable donations.

On Saturday, November 9th, Past President Nick Nicora has put together another great dinner-and-concert event, this year featuring the tribute band "Fleetwood Macrame!" This event will be a sell-out, so please make your reservations early!

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!

Ciao!

Tony Ballestero
ballestero@protonmail.ch



Children's Christmas Party

Noon, Saturday December 14.

Gift reservation cards due by October 30.

Women's Auxiliary President's Message

Ciao Members,

I want to thank our cooks who prepared the roasted chicken and pesto pasta for the Back-to-School dinner and fundraiser. It was delicious. I also want to thank all who donated school supplies to help the parents and children – including those who donated incentive gift baskets (with proceeds going to our charities). All donations are much appreciated. The 50/50 fundraiser for the Italian American Federation was successful as well.

Happy birthday to all the October-born ladies! Buon Compleanno.

It's Autumn already and our home gardens have slowed down production. We begin to prepare for the upcoming holidays and get-togethers. Here are a few things to add to your calendars. We have the San Francisco Italian Heritage Parade happening on **October 13**, featuring our I.A.F. Queen Ashleigh Maple. Lots of our families and their children will be marching with our club and the East Bay Italian Clubs float. Please come and represent our Colombo Club. (FYI-Monday, October 14, Originally Columbus Day for which the Club was named is now called Indigenous Peoples Day.)

The Colombo Club men are having a Halloween Dinner/Costume Contest with dancing afterward on Saturday, **October 19th**. (For reservations, please see their announcement).

Then, on Saturday, **October 26**, our famous Polenta Dinner with Chicken, sausage & veggies, hosted by Frances Bienati and Laurie Castell. Please make sure you have contacted all your friends and families as this is a fun family event. We will have games, a cake walk and the live music of George Campi. For reservations call Mary Pandolfo at (510) 276-7681.

Please make sure you continue to attend our monthly meetings as we need a strong Auxiliary. Your attendance and participation are acknowledged as you learn what is happening within the Club, including nominations accepted for the ballots. This month's meeting is on October 16th.

Please contact our new Sick and Sunshine representative, Elaine Kless, if you know someone who has been hospitalized or ill. Contact Elaine at (925) 858-9245.

Stai bene,

Renée Amaro,
Colombo Club Auxiliary President

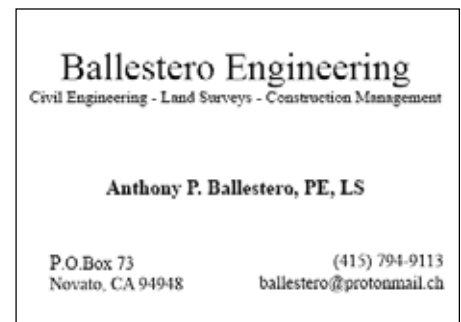
Buon Compleanno!

Scott Alstad	David Guidotti	Daniel Radwan
Tom Baldocchi, Jr.	David Hanks	Jeffrey Raimondi
Rocco Biale	Matthew Hawk	David Rainero
Raymond Bonetti	Mike Isola	Dr. Anthony S. Ravnik M.D.
Joseph Brignole	Craig J. Lucchese	Jon Re
Stefan Brown	Baldassare Lucido	David Rinetti
Daniel J. Cabral	Mel Manes	Leonard R. Rocca
John Camozzi	Ralph Martin	Alex Rossi
Allan Canestro	Brandon Mascola	Kris Sanford
Ted Catanesi	Louis D. Mascola	Tim Sbranti
Dave Ceccanti	John Mazibrook	Charles H. Scarano
Chris Cormier	Eric McClaskey	Jonathan Sciacqua
Michael John Cronin	Michael McNeilly	Joe Scornaienchi
Dennis Crudo	Gregory Motta	David Scornaienchi
David Cutaia, Sr.	David J. Nardi	Gerry Shelley
Kenneth M. DeCrosta, Jr.	Stephen Anthony Natale	Todd Silva
William J. Delucchi	Nick Nicosia	Tom Simonetti
Charles B. Enea	Larry Nuti	Shawn Sobrero
Anthony Ferreira	J. Corbin Pacheco	Donato J. Stingham
Shawn R. Finato	Michael Pandolfo	David Thornley
David Fraioli	Gino F. Paoletti	Vince Vera
Louis Gervolino	Ron Pastrone	Christopher Waldmann
Dennis Ghiggeri	Joseph Perillo	Robert Wheeler
Ronald J. Ghiglieri	John Puccini	Brian A. Wiesendanger
		William Zeppelin

Grazie Mille

Incentive Program Donors

We thank the generous donors who contributed to our incentive program in September: Dino Rinetti, Danny Foster, Bryan Baptist, Austin Fox (New Member!), Adapt Dwellings (ADU Specialists!), James Petersen, James Bartha, David Thornley, Joe Gennaro, Jerry Jennaro, Gary Sabatte, Craig Jaber - Royal Auto Repair, Stefan Molnar, Heffernan-Brignole Insurance, Tim Tomei and Fredi Moehl.



Italian History Evening – Sunday November 3

The Colombo Club of Oakland is inviting all generations of Italians in the Bay Area to an enlightening evening of Italian history. The event will feature the acclaimed documentary “*POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS: When it was a crime to be Italian.*” This documentary has garnered prestigious awards, including the 2021 National IAF and the Golden Dragon award for best documentary at the 2022 Ferrara Film Festival in Italy among others.

All Italian Americans should know the fear, insults, disrespect and financial harm done to our immigrant ancestors during the war. This history is little known because our forebears did not talk about what happened to them during the early days of the war due to embarrassment, fear and a genuine desire to become “Americani.”

Additionally, there will be a Presentation of Lawrence DiStasi’s book, **Branded: How Italian Immigrants Became ‘Enemies’ During WWII**, by Frank B Bruno.

Join the Colombo Club for an evening of reflection and learning, as we celebrate and remember the resilience of the Italian community. Make reservations at (510) 653-9716 and press 1 for reservations and 6 for special events.

2025 Scholarship Applications Available Now!

1) Colombo Club/Colombo Club Auxiliary 2025 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, 2025.

Scholarship applications are available at the Colombo Club at the bar in the Club Room. Any questions, contact Tony Ballestero at tonyb1369@comcast.net.

2) The Bossola Scholarship for 2025

Applications are available by sending an email request to bossolascholarship@gmail.com. The deadline for completed applications is March 15, 2025.

Our Cultural Heritage Members Who Have Influenced the Growth of the Colombo Club

by Rich Puppione



John Nardi has been a very involved member of the club. John BBQed at club's events at A's baseball games, helped with Children's Christmas set ups, organized the email version of the club's monthly newsletter, co-chaired the First Annual Colombo Bocce tournament. He is always willing to lend a helping hand. His family recipe for biscotti for the Board Christmas dinners is always a big hit. His notes of

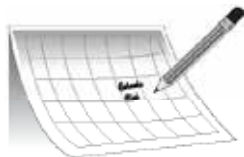
the board meetings was very valuable in the writing of the 100 year history of the club. Perhaps his most notable contribution is co-chairing and cooking meals for the yearly bocce tournament and co-chairing the annual club crab feed in February that raises funds for club renovations. As a current member of the Board of Directors, John maintains the club email list and sends out the email blasts to the membership. Look for John's photo on the club Appreciation Wall.

Dave Nardi served as Past President 2001-2002, 1st vice president, 2nd vice president and currently as a club board member. Dave BBQed at



club events at A's baseball games, chaired of the By Law committee, volunteered for club Children's Christmas set ups, organized the email version of the club's monthly newsletter, co-chaired the First Annual Colombo Bocce Tournament, makes biscotti for the Board Christmas dinner, chairs and cooks meals for the yearly bocce tournament, and co-chairs the annual club crab feed in February that raises fund for club renovations. The club benefits from the large group of guests the Nardis bring to the club crab feeds. Look for Dave's photo on the club Appreciation Wall.

Domenic Torchia has put in an extraordinary commitment of time, support and leadership to the Colombo Club. Domenic served as club president for 2013-2014. Domenic was also a Board member for many years and was Chairman of the Board. Domenic frequently volunteered at the club work parties and helped set up for the club Christmas parties. Even after he moved up to the foothills, Domenic still travels over 100 miles each way to attend board meetings and bring large groups to club events. His financial support of the History of the Colombo Club helped support the printing of the book. Every month Domenic and his son Ron still attend a birthday dinner. Dom signs up volunteers for the incentive program and Ron helps sell tickets every month..



Mark Your Calendar

Birthday Dinners, Roast Beef

Oct 10 - Men Only

Oct 24 - Co-Ed

Oct 14 Golf Tournament

Oct 19 Family Dinner, *Pot Roast*

Oct 26 Women's Auxiliary Polenta Dinner

Nov 3 Colombo Movie Night

Birthday Dinners, Sausage Peppers

Nov. 7 - Men Only

Nov. 21 - Co-Ed

Nov 9 Fleetwood Macrame Dinner & Show, *New York Strip Steak, Chicken or Veg*

Nov 12 Assembly Meeting & Dinner, *Menu TBA*

Nov 16 Family Dinner, *TBA*

Birthday Dinners, Spaghetti & Meatballs

Dec. 5 - Co-Ed

Dec 12 - Men Only

Dec 14 Children's Christmas Party

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