



December 2024

Established 1920

Vol. XLIV No. 12

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 Ballestero	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

Birthday Dinners

Dec. 5 and 12

Salad, Spaghetti and Meatballs, Dessert, Wine & Coffee

Birthday Dinners

Thursday, Jan 9 (Men)

Thursday, Jan 23 (Co-ed)

Menu: Salad, Roast Beef, 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

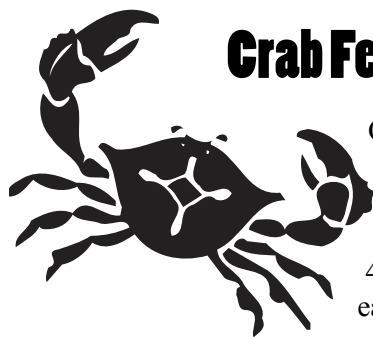
Thursday, Dec. 5 (Co-ed)

Thursday, Dec. 12 (Men Only)

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.



Crab Feed Time is Here Again

Crab season is open once again and the Colombo Club will have four Crab Feeds for you to choose from in January, February and March. We are limiting attendance to 450 for each event so get your reservations in early so you will not be left out!

Saturdays,

January 18,
February 8
February 22
March 22

Menu

Salad, Linguini with Clams
(except March 22 - Risotto with Clams) all you can eat Crab,
Wine, Coffee and Dessert

This is a prepaid event. Use the reservation form, enclosed, pay online www.thecolomboclub.com

No host Cocktails 6 pm
Dinner 7 pm

\$80 per person



Auxiliary
87th Anniversary Dinner
Saturday, December 7

5:30 pm No host cocktails
6:30 Dinner
Dancing follows

Caesar Salad, Antipasto, Ravioli,
Prime Rib, Wine, Dessert & Coffee

Featuring the
Dennis Cruda Band

\$47/person
(cash or checks only please)

Reservations:

Call Mary Pandolfo
(510) 276-7681

by Sunday December 1

73rd Annual Children's Christmas Party Saturday, December 14

Doors Open at 11 am

Children receive gifts from Santa and Mrs. Claus beginning at Noon

Gift reservation cards were due October 30.



President's Message

Saluti A Tutti!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

My two-year tenure as President of the Colombo Club is now coming to an end. Wow! That was quick! Incoming President, and good friend, Joe Ianora will do a great job as President; Joe is dynamic and very creative. Please continue to show Joe all the kindness, courtesy, and support that you've given me these past two years. Thank You!

The month of December at the Colombo Club is always a great time to spend with family and friends! Our Women's Auxiliary will celebrate its 87th Anniversary, on Saturday, December 7th. Please join me and attend this festive celebration! Our 72nd Annual Children's Christmas Party on December 14th promises to be another fun-filled gala; everyone enjoys meeting Santa and Mrs. Claus! "Thank You!" to co-Chairs Denise Picetti and Joe Ianora and their staffs for organizing another great holiday tradition at the Colombo Club!

Looking ahead to January 2025 it's never too early to make your reservations for our January Scholarship Crab Feeds, as these events will sell-out! Thank you to everyone who supports our Scholarship Program!

December is also a time for reflection, to review the year that has now flown-by so quickly. I want to sincerely thank our members who work daily to keep our club operating efficiently and well-maintained. So, "Thank You!" to House Chairman Tony Tedeschi, Maintenance Chair Don Ceremello, Kitchen Manager Ken De Crosta, Board Chairman Rich Puppione, Head Bartender Vic Tufo, and Head Waiter Mike Pandolfo. These gentlemen, and the capable staffs that they lead, are the reason that our club is always a great place to bring your family and friends for a good time and a great meal!

Please consider volunteering at the Colombo Club; your help is needed! We need a few dedicated members to train to run our always-popular Incentive Program at each Birthday Dinner, and to help sell club wardrobe at each club event. Volunteering is a great way to become involved, it's only a few hours each month, and it's critically important for the financial success of our Club! Please email me if you're interested. I will personally train you to perform the requested tasks.

Lastly, if you have an idea about 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. Thank you again for your support over the past two years; I look forward to seeing you at the Colombo Club this month!

Ciao!

Tony Ballestero
ballestero@protonmail.ch

Women's Auxiliary President's Message

Happy Holidays!

I really enjoyed the Fleetwood Macramé concert and dinner last month at the club. It was such a fun event. I hope that we will have more music dinners here.

I trust your Thanksgiving was a joyful success. What a great year it has been so far with a fantastic month to top it as we remember family traditions that we all hold dear. Christmas decorations, shopping, making Christmas cookies & Panettone. Ravioli and baked pasta dishes, my favorite is Lasagna Bolognese. Mmm...the smells of the season bring memories of my Nonna's home, prompting us all to make new memories with our own children and grandchildren. What do you enjoy best this time of year?

I hope you will join us at our 87th Anniversary Dinner/Dance Celebration on the 7th. Enjoy a fantastic meal, (please invite family & friends- mangia bene) with dancing after dinner to live music by Dennis Cruda.

On Thursday, December 12th, we will be having our Auxiliary Member Appreciation Christmas Dinner and Installation of Officers and Board members for the 2025 year. The club will be serving spaghetti and meatballs.

Then, comes our 73rd Annual Children's Christmas Party on Saturday, the 14th (reservations closed) doors open at 11:30. Santa & Mrs. Claus arrive at noon.

With the Christmas holidays following on Tuesday, 24th, Christmas Eve and Wednesday, 25th is Christmas Day. Please enjoy your families and holiday festivities. Best wishes to you all.

Remember to let our Sick & Sunshine Representative, Elaine Kless, know if a member has been hospitalized or ill. Please call her at (510) 858-9245.

Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo a tutti i nostri soci,

Renée M. Amaro
Auxiliary President



*Buon
Natale*

Buon Compleanno!

Rick Adamo	Niccolo DeLuca	Eden Mazzola
Larry Angeli	Joseph Eandi	Tim A. McGallian
Anthony Angerame	Erik Emerson	Edward Charles McLean
Vincent J. Anzilotti	James Ervin	Aaron Meadows
Ernie Avila	James Fazio	Brian Mendes
Russell Barretta	John J. Ferrara	Matthew Moran
Larry S. Bianchini	Jason Fox	Tim Murphy
Mark Bledsoe	Peter Franco	Nicholas Nicora, Jr.
Kevin Bohm, Sr.	Robert Gianotti	Peter Nuti
Bruce Bondi	John Ginochio	Jim Pacheco
Chris Brady	Mike Giovannetti	Danny Pesco
Michael Bresso	Matt Heafey	Gerald A. Pittore
Dalton Brown	Richard Hocking	Francesco Poggesi
Keith Bryan	Michael Jennaro	Dino John Ramacciotti
Robert Calegari	Travis Johnson	Steven Randall
Mark Caputo	David Lara	Tai Nakama Rawlinson
Christopher D. Carrano	William Lemas	Michael D. Rezente
Alan Caruso	David Limato	Robert G. Scalise
Mark Castagnini	Scott MacIntyre	John Sinibaldi
Glenn Chen	Christopher Todd Mack	Tommy Sotiropulos
Louis J. Conti, Jr.	Mark Steve Magnania	Frank Tornaghi
Michael Cosentino	Maurice M. Manown	Sandy Vergano
Robert A. Costa	Gianfranco Marchesiello	Joseph Michael Vittoria
David Cutaia, Jr.	Gary Maslowski	Ralph H. Watkins III

Grazie Mille

Incentive Program Donors

Thank you to these generous donors who contributed to our incentive program in November: Dino Rinetti, John Porras (Crown Wine & Spirits), Danny Foster, Vincent Traverso (The Kingfish Pub & Cafe), Stefan Molnar, James Bartha, Heffernan-Brignole Insurance, Jerry Jennaro, Joe Gennaro, Tim Tomei, Gary Sabatte, Fredi Moehl, Craig Jaber (Royal Auto Repair), Aaron Yang, Austin Britton.



2025 Dues Notice

Happy December everyone, as we enter the last month of 2024, we need to begin to think of our 2025 obligations. The Colombo Club uses your dues payments to maintain the Club as the largest club in the East Bay. You can begin to make your dues payments on line now or mail your payment into the Club. You did receive a postcard from us in November reminding you that your dues payments are now due.

The normal dues payment for 2025 is \$275. If you are a 20-year member and age 75 or more, your payment is \$137.50. If you have any questions, please call or email John Mazibrook at 510.304.7211 or jtmazibrook@earthlink.net.

In Memoriam

Nick Villa, member since 2013

Robert Sapeta, member since 2019

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

What's Cooking?

by Rich Puppione

What's Cooking?

The Colombo Club has been blessed with numerous outstanding head cooks over the years starting with the very first Colombo Club cook Mike Roggero. He set the standard for Colombo Club cooks, and our most recent set of head cooks have lived up to that standard. If anyone should be showcased as people who influence the growth of the club, it should be our cooks. Currently we have two head cooks, Rick Caula and Ben Ratto, but I would be remiss not to include John Tandi, who recently passed away. We all owe a debt of gratitude to each of these three talented men.

The wonderful "pasta ala Anna," John Tandi's famous pasta dish named after his wife was truly John's signature recipe. John, has not only made a name for himself in the kitchen (right), but he was quite an accomplished bocce player. With his team, he won the "All Club Bocce Championship" in 2023.

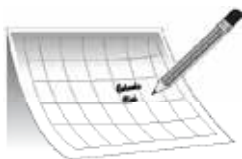


Rick Caula cooks almost every birthday dinner, family dinner and numerous other club dinners. Both he and Ben Ratto often volunteer their services for special events. Rick is seen here on the right tending to the pasta.



Ben Ratto, seen here below with kitchen manager Ken Decrosta, Italian Consul General Sergio Strozzi and Ed Cimenello, loves to cook and on this occasion was the head cook for the corned beef dinner.

The club is so fortunate to have these three dedicated men as our head cooks!!!



Mark Your Calendar

Birthday Dinners, Spaghetti & Meatballs

Dec. 5 - Co-ed
Dec 12 - Men Only

Dec. 7 Auxiliary 87th Anniversary Dinner

Dec 14 Children's Christmas Party

Birthday Dinners, Roast Beef

Jan. 9 - Men Only
Jan 23 - Co-ed

Jan 18 - Scholarship Crab Feed

Jan 26 - Old Fashioned Family Dinner - Spaghetti and Meatballs

Feb 8 - Colombo Club Crab Feed

Birthday Dinners, Roast Chicken

Feb. 13 - Men Only
Feb 27 - Co-ed

Feb 17 - Men's Lunch - Sausage & Tripe

Feb 22 - Colombo Club Crab Feed

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Anthony P. Ballestero, PE, LS

P.O.Box 73
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ballestero@protonmail.ch

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Crab Feed Time is Here Again!

Crab season is open once again and the Colombo Club will have four Crab Feeds for you to choose from in January, February and March. We are limiting attendance to 450 for each event so get your reservations in early so you will not be left out!



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

- Salad
- Linguini with Clams, except March 22 – Risotto with Clams
- Crab – Chicken is available
- Wine
- Coffee
- Dessert

The dates to reserve are (reservation cut-off is 1 week prior to the event):

January 18: ___ seats @ \$80 for a total of \$ _____ (net proceeds for Scholarships)

February 8: ___ seats @ \$80 for a total of \$ _____ (net proceeds to the Club)

February 22: ___ seats @ \$80 for a total of \$ _____ (net proceeds to the Club)

March 22: ___ seats @ \$80 for a total of \$ _____ (net proceeds to the Club)

The events are 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 for all four events is business casual

Questions: ask John Mazibrook by email to jtmazibrook@earthlink.net or call 510.304.7211

WE ACCEPT ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS



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