



**AND AFFILIATED FEDERAL AGENCIES, INC.
P.O. BOX 848, JFK AIRPORT STATION, JAMAICA, NY 11430**

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.....Holy Mackerel! The summers over! Where did it go? Once again I want to thank all of you for your support of our organization's yearly functions. This year we had a golden opportunity (more like a stroke of luck) in securing a location like the Westbury Manor for our Dinner and Dance on a Saturday night, at a price that would allow us to raise funds for our organization's charitable goals. You all know too well how difficult it is, year after year, to find a location, price, date and noteworthy honorees from all areas of Customs and the International Trade Community that will be representative of all our members and guests at our Annual Dinner and Dance. Friday night is a great time to party, but sadly New York traffic always makes things difficult. Weekend dates are easier to deal with, but then prices can become prohibitively high. We had a Sunday Brunch two years ago. Traffic became a non-issue, but there were those who complained that Friday evening events were more fun. In short, it's not easy! I have always appreciated the support I received from the executive board members for all their assistance in making the right decisions and resolving the problems that are bound to come up. This year was particularly painful, because although we had invited a number of potential honorees from New Jersey area, none were able or willing to accept our invitations. I look forward to seeing all of you soon. Until then, be well.

ANNUAL DINNER & DANCE.....was held on June 29, 2013 at Westbury Manor in Long Island. It was one of the best affairs The Columbia Association has held in its history. The food and service at Westbury Manor were amazing and the affair was a success both socially and financially. Our honorees, their families and other guests made a great showing of support for the persons being honored and for our organization. Thanks to **Wayne Biondi** (Assistant Director NTC-P) for accepting our invitation and coming up from Virginia to accept our Man of the Year Award; **Joan Mazzola** (NIS) was beautiful, as was her speech and I was proud to present her The Woman of The Year Award and **Mr. Robert Chin Quee** (Sr VP of Barthco Int'l) was elegant in accepting our Businessman of the Year Award and graciously mentioned his affiliation of over 30 years with The Columbia Association. My thanks to the honorees for making this affair an unforgettable event.

17TH ANNUAL HERITAGE DAY.....will be held on Thurs., Oct. 3, 2013 at Russo's On The Bay in Howard Beach, Queens, NY. This year's honorees are **Det. Frank Serpico**, known Internationally from the movie of his life titled "Serpico" and **Joseph Rondinelli**, State President Sons of Italy in America. At this time other honorees are still pending. All are welcome to attend! Donations are \$40 per person. Cocktail hour 12pm to 1pm – Dinner 1pm to 5pm; includes dancing!! For tickets contact President Phil Maddalena at 516-791-2958 or area representatives at JFK, Newark & Penn Plaza. See telephone numbers on flyers.

COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION'S 32ND ANNUAL OPEN GOLF TOURNAMENT.....will be held once again at Clearview Golf Course, 201-12 Willets Point Blvd, Queens, NY on Fri., Sept. 20, 2013; telephone #718-229-2570. Chairman is **Don Ambrosio** at 516-790-7402 or contact **Phil** at 516-791-2958 or Area Representatives on flyers. Price \$150, includes green fees, electric cart, continental breakfast, lunch at the turn, beer or soda, to be followed by buffet including beer, wine, soda, coffee & dessert.

PROMOTIONS.....the following to Supervisors at JFK – **Thomas D'Osaro, Jr, Juan Hernandez, Kevin Hooper & Steven Tepper...Isabel Galatino** to Assistant Port Director for Tactical Operations (JFK)...**Reggie Manning** promoted to Director Field Operations, will head Atlantic & New Orleans Field Office...**Rich Loria** promoted to Supervisor (Supply Chain Specialist JFK).

DEMOTIONS.....none this month!!!

BIRTHS.....Jackie, Scott, Robert & Haley Salamon have a new member in the family, **Gavin Joseph**, born Aug. 15, 9lbs 11ozs. Mom and baby doing well...**Edwina Rohrbach** welcomed the birth of her newest Grandson, **Xavier Timothy Rohrbach**, born Apr. 8, 6lbs 1oz & 19in. God Bless All!

RETIRED.....**Tom Russo** (Director (NCSO) National Commodity Specialist Division in NY) retired in Aug. 2013. I attended Tom's retirement party in NYC. As everyone said, Tom was a legend in Customs. Good Luck Pal!...**John Piraino** (Entry Specialist JFK) also retired in Aug. Stay Well!. Please stay in touch.

DECEASED.....**Richard "Ritchie" Williams** (ret CBPO NWK) Aug. 11...**Bill Winters** (ret Imp Spec NYC) passed away Jan. 19...does anyone from JFK remember **Frank DePasquale**? He worked for me in the Entry Section in Bldg. #80 and was promoted into the Maiden Program when the computers first come into Customs. I just heard he passed away about a year ago. Please pray for our deceased.

DECEASED.....**Frank Franco** (ret Sr Insp at JFK) passed away on Jun. 3, 2013. In 1984 Frank was the JFK VP for The Columbia Association of U.S. Customs. He was always a staunch supporter of The Columbia Association throughout his career. Frank's wife **Betty** made mention to me that Frank had two families, The Franco Family & the U.S. Custom's Family. I want to talk about the U.S. Custom's Family and the love & respect they showed to one of their former employees. Frank was retired 24 years and the past 10 years or so were not so pleasant for Frank. He was not able to drive any longer, he lost part of his eyesight & had a hard time walking. I know this 1st hand because I visited Frank at home and in the hospital over the years. As far as I know I was the only connection Frank had to his beloved U.S. Custom's Family. All during the services his U.S. Custom's Family now known as Customs & Border Protection came to Staten Island to show their respect for Sr. Insp Franco under the guise of the CBP Honor Guard from JFK Airport. This little old man, who was unable to function anymore because of strokes & diabetes, was given a sendoff by the Honor Guard that would be suitable for the President of the United States. Family & Friends of The Franco Family were immensely impressed by their conduct & the ceremony they performed in Honor of Sr. Insp Frank Franco. I give thanks to the JFK Honor Guard, starting with CBP Officer-in-Charge **Paul Attanasio**, CBP Officer **Kevin Bradley**, CBP Officer **Mark Kuscsik**, CBP Officer **Tertia Lynch** & CBP Officer **Michael Marmol**. My thanks also to **Mr. Robert Perez**, Director NY Field Operations for allowing the Honor Guard to attend. God Bless You Frank, RIP.

SICK.....**Ritchie Schmidt** (ret CBPO NWK) had both of his knees operated on recently. On May 30th he had his shoulder operated on in Hackensack Hospital in NJ. Ritchie is now making plans to attend our Golf outing on Sept. 20. Good Luck Pal!...**Joe Smith** (Supervisory CBP Officer) who suffered a stroke at JFK is now in Helen Hayes Hospital in Haverstraw, NY undergoing rehabilitation. Good Luck & God Bless You, Joe!

NEWEST LIFETIME MEMBERS.....**Gail David (JFK); Francesco Racanti (JFK); John Cianci (S/A); April Avalone Cutuli (NY); Robert LeGoff (NWK) and Lee Jacobs (JFK)**...Names that were inadvertently left off our last Lifetime List: **Joe Mannucci (NWK); Tony Midea (JFK); John Tufano (JFK); Ron Suess (JFK); Joe Alois (NY) and Bill Losco (NWK)**.

HURRICANE SANDY.....On Oct. 29, 2012, Hurricane Sandy hit the JFK Area & a Section of Howard Beach, Queens among many other areas in NY. That evening a CBP Officer called the Command Center of JFK Airport to inform that he was trapped in his house in Howard Beach, NY with 5 of his family members. CBP Officers **Vincent Martucci** (a Columbia Association member) & **Matthew Bowling** responded to the call for help. Because of the flooding, they were only able to get within 4 blocks of the trapped Officer. They abandoned their vehicle, grabbed over 50 pounds of equipment & ventured into neck deep water to find the stranded CBPO Officer & his family. Once they found the house, they were able to rescue the family & bring them to safety. Many thanks to Officers Martucci & Bowling! You did the Customs Service Proud!

CHATTER.....Our good friend **Susan Mitchell** (Port Director JFK Airport) is off to Washington DC on a TDY and taking her place at JFK is **Diane Sabatino** from Miami (don't know if I know her)...to our newest Lifetime Member, **Francesco Racanti (JFK)**. Did you get married yet?...**Rose Aprigliano** is a former Import Specialist who worked for **John Martuge** many years ago. She retired in 1980 and will be 100 years young in September 2013. Rose presently lives in The Savoy at Brandywine in Little Neck, NY. She is the Aunt of **George Aprigliano** (Nat'l Analysis Specialist) who retired a few years ago. I would like to do something special for Rose. Any ideas Mr. Martuge?...My apologies to President **Pete Salamone** of the JFK F.O.P. I had promised Pete that The Columbia Association would join the F.O.P. for a Summer Barbecue at Lido Beach in Long Island. Unfortunately I was unable to keep my promise. I owe you Pete!...while visiting Bldg. #77 at JFK this week, I was happy to see Supv. **Ron Suess**, who is also a Lifetime Member...also nice to talk to **Cathy Mazzella** (Entry Officer)...thanks to **Rich Pahopin** (Deputy Chief NWK) for phone call and for your friendship...I implore you to please notify me of any promotions, retirements, transfers, marriages, births, etc. I can be reached at the numbers & addresses above. Please keep in touch. Grazie!

Fraternally,

Philip J. Maddalena
President