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*Day*  
2011

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*519 Years of Discovery*



HONORING THE GREAT DISCOVERER  
*Christopher Columbus*

MONDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2011  
THE COLUMBUS MEMORIAL  
COLUMBUS PLAZA — UNION STATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

SPONSORED BY THE  
NATIONAL COLUMBUS CELEBRATION ASSOCIATION  
IN COORDINATION WITH THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



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# CELEBRATING CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL

## THE SITE

In the years following the great 1892 quadricentennial (400th anniversary) celebration of the achievements and discoveries of Christopher Columbus, an effort was launched by the Knights of Columbus to establish a monument in the nation's capital to the great discoverer. At their urging, the U. S. Congress passed a law which mandated a Columbus memorial in the nation's capital, and appropriated \$100,000 to cover the construction costs. A commission was established composed of the secretaries of State and War, the chairmen of the House and Senate Committees on the Library of Congress, and the Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus. With the new Union Station rail terminal completed in 1907, plans focused on putting the memorial in the plaza in front of this great edifice.

After a series of competitions, sculptor Lorado Z. Taft of Chicago was commissioned. His plan envisioned what you see this day, a monument constructed of Georgia marble; a semi-circular fountain 66 feet broad and 44 feet deep, and in the center a pylon crowned with a globe supported by four eagles connected by a garland. A 15-foot statue of Columbus, facing the U. S. Capitol and wrapped in a medieval mantle, stands in front of the pylon in the bow of a ship with its prow extending into the upper basin of the fountain and terminating with a winged figurehead representing democracy. Flanking Columbus are two seated allegorical figures. To his left, representing the Old World, is a patriarchal figure resting his arms upon a shield and grasping a crumpled map, while to his right, representing the New World, is a pre-Columbian figure (American Indian) crouching behind his crude shield and reaching for an arrow. On the rear of the large pylon is a double medallion picturing the Spanish monarchs King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella. Set at the extremes of the axis of the balustrade are couchant lions. Three towering flagpoles



rise behind the monument representing the historic ships of 1492, the Niña, the Pinta and the Santa Maria. Classic-columned lampposts in front of Union Station feature replicas of ships on their cross-axis near the base mounts.

**Daniel Burnham**, who designed Union Station, had been the major coordinating architect of the 1892-1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. Burnham's work was so well received in Chicago that it launched the "City Beautiful" movement, to transform major cities, especially our nation's capital, into a series of well-landscaped neo-classical places, expressing confidence in our Republic during the 1890 period. Burnham's Columbus Fountain and Taft's Columbus statue were influenced in part by Frederick MacMonnies' fountain at the World's Columbian Exhibition.

The dedication of the tribute to Columbus took place on June 8, 1912 in the presence of President Taft and accompanied by an elaborate three-day celebration organized by the Knights of Columbus that brought a reported 20,000 Knights and their families to the capital. Thus began the annual Columbus Day celebrations at the site.

#### THE CEREMONY

**T**hroughout the years fraternal, civic and cultural organizations provided leadership for an annual ceremony. For some years now, in collaboration with the National Park Service, which has responsibility for the site, the ceremony has been organized each year by the National Columbus Celebration Association (NCCA), established in 1989 to plan the celebration in the Quincentenary and subsequent years. Appearances of the U.S. Military Honor Guard, the service bands, and the Knights of Columbus Color Corps add to the pageantry. Reading of the annual presidential proclamation, addresses by members of the diplomatic corps—especially from Spain, Italy the Bahamas, and the Organization of American States—the awarding of a national essay contest prize (in a contest sponsored by NIAF and NSDAR), reading of the essay by the winner, and wreath-laying by embassies and many national and local patriotic groups give interest and color to the occasion. It brings in many attendees from other parts of the country each year. The event is open to the public free of charge.

This booklet has been prepared and is provided by the National Columbus Celebration Association, which expresses appreciation to the National Park Service for its collaboration in sponsoring this event.

## The Columbus Memorial and Fountain,

JUNE 8, 1912

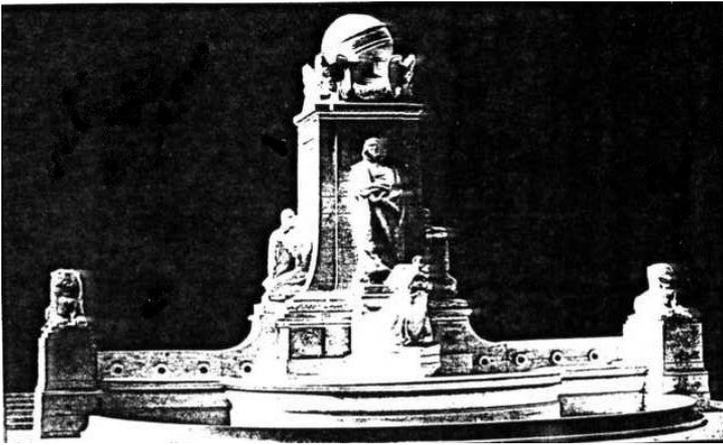
Shown on the following page is an illustration from a souvenir booklet for the unveiling of the Columbus Memorial and Fountain at Union Station on June 8, 1912, and a reproduction of the program for the event. While more attention will be given to those proceedings next year when its 100th anniversary will be observed, we give here a brief overview of what took place that day:

“Twenty thousand Knights of Columbus, with their wives and friends, flocked to Washington from every State in the Union to make the greatest gathering of the Order ever witnessed since its foundation. National commissioner Edward L. Hearn and his associates on the Committee of Arrangements had perfected the most impressive programme ever carried out in Washington since the famous parade of the veterans of the Northern army on the conclusion of peace with the South. President Taft, Cardinal Gibbons, Secretary of State Philander C. Knox, Chief Justice White and other dignitaries of Church and State reviewed the parade of the Knights led by Supreme Knight Flaherty, and were present at the unveiling of the statue and the brilliant banquet that crowned the event.

“The parade attracted the largest crowd ever gathered together in Washington. At the scene of the monument in the spacious plaza before the Union station, within view of the dome of the Capitol, the unveiling took place, the ceremony being performed by the Italian Ambassador, His Excellency the Marchese Cusani Confalonieri. Monsignor Shahan of the Catholic University recited the opening prayer, and Secretary Knox, presiding officer, presented Hon. Victor J. Dowling, of New York, and Representative James T. McCleary, of Minnesota, who addressed the gathering on the significance of the event.

“Every vantage point was occupied, and the patriotic enthusiasm of the spectators arose to a pitch unexcelled by any demonstration previously or since held in Washington. The same enthusiasm marked the banquet of the evening of the ceremonies.”

*From Maurice Francis Egan and John B. Kennedy,  
The Knights of Columbus in Peace and War. v.I, New Haven, Conn.:  
Knights of Columbus, 1920, pp. 189-190.*



Depiction of the Columbus Memorial and Fountain in the illustrated souvenir book from the June 8, 1912 unveiling.

*Order of Exercises*

PHILANDER C. KNOX, SECRETARY OF STATE  
 PRESIDING

Inauguration	Rt. Rev. Monsignor Thomas J. Shanley
Address	Judge Victor J. Dowling
March	U. S. Marine Band
Address	Hon. James T. McCleary
Unveiling of the Monument	The Italian Ambassador
Salute	Battery E, 3d. U. S. Field Artillery
Star-Spangled Banner	U. S. Marine Band
<b>Presentation of Bertha</b>	
Address	The President of the United States
Benediction	Bishop Wilbur P. Thirkield
Parade	Brigadier General Robert K. Evans, Grand Marshal

# CHRONOLOGY OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN THE LIFE OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS



- 1451** — Christopher Columbus is born in Genoa, Italy, the son of Susanna and Domenico Colombo, a Ligurian weaver and one of the keepers of the city's gates. (Queen Isabella and Amerigo Vespucci are both born this same year).
- 1453** — *Turks capture Constantinople, kill the Emperor and the thousand-year-old Byzantine Empire ends.*
- 1465** — Columbus's first sea voyages to Corsica.
- 1468** — *Gutenberg dies.*
- 1470** — *Portuguese discover West African Gold Coast.*
- 1473** — *Copernicus is born.*
- 1475** — Michelangelo is born.
- 1477** — Columbus has moved from Genoa to Lisbon; sails to England, Ireland, Iceland and possibly near the Arctic Circle.
- 1478** — *St. Thomas More is born in England.*
- 1479** — Columbus marries Felipa Moniz Perestrelo of Porto Santo in the Madeira Islands. The union gives Columbus a son and heir, Diego.

*Italics denote relevant contemporary events;  
Bolded italics denote some important recurrent New World locations*



**1483** — *Martin Luther is born.*

**1484** — Columbus approaches King John II of Portugal with a plan for an expedition to seek lands to the west via a sea route; Columbus and Diego arrive in Palos, Spain (going to the Franciscan Monastery La Rábida, near Palos) to discuss sponsorship of expedition westward on the “Ocean Sea.”

**1485** — Felipa Perestrello dies.

**1488** — *Son Fernando (Ferdinand) is born of union with Beatriz Enriquez.*

**1488** — *Bartholomew Diaz rounds Cape of Good Hope.*

**1492** — *Spanish take Granada, ending the Moorish kingdom in Spain and consolidating the monarchy of Ferdinand of Aragon and Isabella of Castile. Jews expelled from Spain.*



**1492** — **April 17:** King and Queen of Spain sign the Santa Fé document defining Columbus’s proposed expedition.

**1492** — **May 23:** King and Queen decree citizens of Palos will be crew members.

#### FIRST VOYAGE: DISCOVERY OF THE NEW WORLD (BAHAMAS, CUBA, AND HISPANIOLA), 1492-1493

**1492** — **August 2:** Mass held for Columbus and crew at Church of St. George, Martyr, in Palos at noon; Columbus embarks from Palos de la Frontera that day with three caravels (Niña, Pinta, and Santa Maria) and 90 men.

**1492** — **October 12:** After 33 days crossing the Atlantic, land is sighted at 2 a.m., and at dawn Columbus lands on the island of Guanahani in the Bahamas archipelago. On October 27 at nightfall the shore of Cuba is sighted, and on December 6 the three vessels reach the western end of the island of Hispaniola, containing the modern Dominican Republic and Haiti.

**1492** — **December 24:** The Santa Maria runs aground on the north coast of Hispaniola. A fort and tower are constructed and 39 or 40 men left behind in this first settlement, named *La Navidad* because of the day of the accident. Columbus and the rest leave in the Niña to rejoin the Pinta and return to Spain.

**1493** — **March 15:** Columbus returns to Palos and receives a special audience at the Spanish court in Barcelona.

**1493** — **May 4:** *Pope Alexander VI establishes a line of demarcation dividing the New World between Spain and Portugal; it will be revised June 28.*



SECOND VOYAGE: COLONIZATION OF HISPANIOLA AND  
EXPLORATION OF SOUTHERN COASTS OF CUBA, JAMAICA,  
AND HISPANIOLA, 1493-1496

- 1493 — September 25:** Second voyage leaves Cadiz with 17 ships and 1200-1500 colonists, including 200 volunteers not on salary from Spain, youngest brother Diego (Giacomo, or James, not to be confused with his son of the same name, who, with his other son Ferdinand, would become a page at court early in 1494), and five religious with the mission of evangelization.
- 1493 — November 2:** Columbus's second expedition arrives in the Indies on a Sunday, and he names the landfall island Dominica.
- 1493 — November 27:** After sailing up the Leeward Islands, through the Virgin Islands, along the south shore of Puerto Rico, and then along the north coast of Hispaniola, the expedition arrives at *La Navidad*. They find the colonists dead, the town and surrounding villages burned to the ground in vicious retaliation for reported mistreatment of the Indians by the garrison. Columbus treats kindly the local chief of this northwest part of Hispaniola, his earlier friend Guacanagarí, who (apparently rightly) blames the attack on another cacique (of the north central part of the island), Caonabó. On December 8, the expedition leaves, heading eastward. Later that month, Columbus is sick, until mid-March.
- 1494 — January 2:** In a solemn ceremony a new settlement is established about seventy miles east of *La Navidad*. It is named *Isabela* to honor the queen,

and planned to be a grand capital city. Established to be within reach of reported gold mines, it is otherwise poorly sited near a river that flooded and a miasmatic marsh, and will last only a couple of years.

- 1494 — January 6:** On the Feast of the Epiphany all attend the first Mass known to be offered on the soil of the Western Hemisphere, celebrated by Fray Buyl who heads the religious contingent. Afterwards, a party of 2 captains and 15-30 men and Indian guides set out to find the mines, in an area several dozen miles distant, returning on *January 20* with some gold in hand. Several hundred men take sick by the end of January, and soon half the population are laid low. Columbus himself will be sick again in April for eight days.
- 1494 — February 2:** With provisions spoiled by rain and humidity, Columbus orders twelve ships back to Spain under Antonio de Torres, his second in command, with a request that three or four be returned with food, medicines, clothing, work animals, and 100 miners.
- 1494 — March:** Columbus leads a party of 500 men to the area of the mines and erects a fort, naming it Santo Tomás. After returning to *Isabela* he learns that the native King Caonabó plans to attack the fort. Columbus sends 400 men to deter the Indians, and a small amount of bloodshed results. At *Isabela* in this period there is much dissension, and even rebellion. Unfortunately the colony had been set up by the crown with a fragmentation of the authority Columbus had on the first voyage. He has to arrest the comptroller, who had schemed to make off with several ships and a load of gold; to threaten to withhold rations from workers who don't work; and to deal with the hidalgos who refuse to do manual labor (required due to the general sickness) and resent orders from this foreigner.
- 1494 — April 25:** Leaving his brother Diego in charge, Columbus takes an expedition to explore neighboring lands. He visits Cuba, thinking it a peninsula, and, for the first time, Jamaica, and will be gone five months.
- 1494 — June 7:** *Treaty of Tordesillas between Spain and Portugal moves the Pope's 1493 line of demarcation 600 miles west, following Columbus's suggestion before he left Spain that the Pope's original specifications be treated as guidelines for further negotiations.*
- 1494 — June:** During the Admiral's absence, his dearest brother, Bartholomew, arrives at *Isabela* with three caravels and supplies, joining brother Diego there. During the Admiral's prolonged absence, there is a rebellion of Indians because of the behavior of Margarit, commander of the fort at San Tomás. Summoned by Bartholomew to explain his conduct, the quick-tempered Margarit grabs the three ships Bartholomew had brought and, before the return of the Admiral, leaves for Spain with the aggressive Fray Buyl (who thought Columbus should have been tougher on the Indians),

arriving in November to spread more negative and slanderous reports on Columbus. On Hispaniola some of Margarit's men and disaffected colonists run rampant on the island with licentiousness and brutality toward the natives, with responses from the Indians and counter responses.

- 1494 — June 13:** Meanwhile, away exploring the southern coast of Cuba, the Admiral is convinced it is part of the Asian mainland. He turns back within a few miles of the western tip of the island, and his extended indirect return to *Isabela* involves more explorations—including the southern coast of Jamaica and of Hispaniola. At the site of the future Santo Domingo he dispatches a land party of nine men to cross Hispaniola by way of San Tomás to *Isabela*, which they do while he takes the sea route around the eastern end of the island. On this return trip Columbus becomes very seriously ill.
- 1494 — September 29:** The Admiral's expedition arrives back at *Isabela* and he has to be carried ashore sick, and is in bed for weeks. The three Columbus brothers are now reunited, and the ill Christopher appoints Bartholomew his deputy and as Adelantado (equivalent to a provincial governor), an honor to this Italian that is much resented by the Spaniards. Along with a friendly letter from the sovereigns, Bartholomew had brought news that many negative reports had been sent to Spain by dissatisfied colonists.
- 1494 — Fall:** De Torres and the four caravels requested by Columbus in February arrive with more provisions, apparently the first women and children as well, and another letter from the sovereigns.
- 1494 — late:** A series of military campaigns against the disaffected Indians starts.
- 1495-98 — Leonardo Da Vinci paints "The Last Supper."**
- 1495 — February 24:** De Torres with his four caravels, and Columbus's brother Diego, leaves again for Spain, carrying as slaves about 500 of the 1600 Indian captives from the recent punitive expedition (200 die during the voyage, probably due to lack of immunity to unfamiliar diseases suffered by these tropical natives in a winter crossing of the cold North Atlantic).
- 1495 — March 27:** Columbus leads 200 men, horses, and native auxiliaries under his friend, the cacique Guacanagarí, deep into the island where another chief had assembled an impressive army of thousands. The Indians are frightened and routed by the cavalry, and many are captured. Alonso de Ojeda later captures Caonabó (responsible for the massacre at *La Navidad*) by a ruse.
- 1495 — May:** Starting in May, for about ten months the Admiral and Bartholomew are engaged in subduing the island, traveling throughout it. Three forts are built, and a harsh and much-criticized system of tribute in gold or cotton is initiated. The Indians fight a guerrilla war, adopt a scorched earth policy, suffer a famine, and thousands die, from violence, hunger, and suicide.

- 1495 — June:** A hurricane destroys three ships, leaving only the *Niña*. From salvage a ship similar to her, the *Santa Cruz*, also called India, is built.
- 1495 — October:** Four caravels arrive from Spain under the command of Juan Aguado, a former friend, sent by the monarchs to conduct a judicial investigation of Columbus' behavior in light of the negative reports that had been spread in Spain. There is great discontent in *Isabela*, where most—who had come to get rich quick rather than settle—want to leave. The disadvantages of the settlement's location have become evident, and the Admiral has been looking for a new site. He decides to return to Spain to answer the allegations against him.
- 1496 — March:** Columbus leaves for Spain in the *Niña* and the *India*, after telling Bartholomew, left in charge, to relocate the city on the southern shore. Both agree it is to be named for their father, Domenico. Traveling via Mariagalante and Guadeloupe, he arrives at Cadiz June 11. Bartholomew's first job is to erect a fort, San Cristóbal, near the site of present-day *Santo Domingo*. July: Supply ships to Isabela bring a letter from Columbus and royal instructions to relocate the capital to the Ozama River near Fort Cristóbal.
- 1496 — Summer:** Work begins on *Santo Domingo*, originally called Isabel Nueva, destined to be the first permanent settlement by Europeans in this hemisphere. This time the site has been very well chosen.
- 1497 — April 23:** The sovereigns issue instruction for the third voyage. His titles and privileges and Bartholomew as adelantado have all been confirmed.
- 1497 —** *Cabots, father and son, reach the east coast of North America.*

THIRD VOYAGE: SOUTH AMERICAN DISCOVERIES;  
ADMINISTRATION OF HISPANIOLA, 1498-1500

- 1498 — January 23:** *Niña* and *India* depart from Sanlúcar with supplies for the settlement, sent in advance of Columbus's own departure.
- 1498 — May 30:** Columbus departs from Sanlúcar on his third voyage with six caravels, three of which he takes on a very southerly route to investigate rumors of a southern continent. After a becalming near the Equator in terrific July heat, he opts not to go as far south as planned, but much more directly to the west.
- 1498 — July 31 — August 13:** He discovers Trinidad and explores mainland South America (principally the Gulf of Paria and the Paria Peninsula on the north coast of Venezuela, both just west of Trinidad), and records on August 14/15 that he has discovered a hitherto unknown large continent, which he later comes to believe holds the Garden of Eden.
- 1498 — August 31:** Columbus is escorted to the new *Santo Domingo* by

## SLAVERY IN THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY

In the 16th century all theologians held that it was licit to enslave pagans, but not Christians, captured in a just war, and Moors and Christians enslaved each other without scruple. Presumably it was that understanding that underlay the enslavement of the Indians, who were also seen as potential converts and as a profitable income source. Isabella did not approve of this policy. Early on, the Spanish monarchs prohibited enslavement of the Indians because they were not known enemies of Christianity like the Saracens, and had committed no crime against Spain. But exceptions were allowed: for Caribs, understood to be cannibals who preyed on others, and for rebellious Indians, according to the doctrine on pagan captives in war. Spain was the first country to examine seriously the moral aspects of slavery and to bring about changes in thinking in this regard. Perhaps for the first time in history a great ruler—in this case, Charles V, who ruled most of Europe and the New World—called a halt to all conquests until it was clear whether they were just or not. A famous debate was held at Valladolid in 1550-1551 before learned and high-ranking men about the morality of slavery, as a result of which the antislavery view gained general acceptance. (See Louis H. Rivera, *A Violent Evangelizing: The Political and Religious Conquests of the Americas* [Louisville: Westminster/John Knox Press, 1992], pp. 93. 96. 103; Gianni Granzotto, *Christopher Columbus* [Norman, Oklahoma: University of Oklahoma Press, 1987], p. 222); John Noble Wilford, *The Secret History of Columbus* [New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1991], pp. 185-190; Robert Royal, *1492 and All That* [Washington: Ethics and Public Policy Center, 1992], pp. 72-74.)

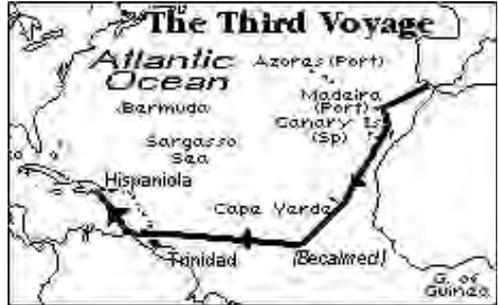
Bartholomew, whom he had met near Hispaniola's southernmost point, about 100 miles to the west. (Niña and India had already arrived at Isabela.) A rebellion is in progress led by Francisco Roldán, chief justice of the colony, who had allied himself with some of the Indians. The three of Columbus's caravels on the direct route had overshot their destination and ended up in the vicinity of Roldán, who was at large in the southwest part of the island (the area called Xaragua, a peninsula now part of Haiti, and had induced many from their crews to desert to him.

**1498 — October 18:** Columbus sends two vessels back to Spain with somewhat incoherent letters describing his discoveries in South America and ideas for a settlement there, and asking for the appointment of someone to administer justice. He also suggests that he could send all the slaves that could be sold (presumably captives from battles with hostile Indians), The letters apparently do not make a good impression on the rulers, who are losing confidence in him.

**1498 — October 20:** He makes a conciliatory overture to Roldán, resulting in an agreement on *November 16* on terms favorable to Roldán and his men. To fulfill a provision that he provide transportation back to Spain within a specified time for those rebels who wished to go, Columbus sacrifices his plan to send Bartholomew with *Niña* and *India* to Paria in South America to organize fishing and the taking of pearls. Instead, the ships are to be used for the rebels' home trip. But a storm and needed repairs delay things past the specified deadline and Roldán uses that

to win more concessions, which Columbus finally agrees to in September, 1499. One result of the settlement will be the beginnings of what later becomes the system of repartimientos or encomiendas — plantation lands, together with the Indians on them at the service of the grantee, which is agreed to by the caciques. Meanwhile, without approval by Columbus as viceroy (whose influence at home has greatly declined), three other expeditions are allowed to take off from Spain to explore parts of the New World (perhaps necessary to establish claims before other nations did so).

- 1498** — *Vasco da Gama discovers a sea route to India for Portugal and arrives at Malabar coast; Michelangelo sculpts the Pietà in Rome.*



- 1499** — *In Spain, one of Columbus' former captains on Hispaniola, Alonso de Ojeda (who had captured Caonabó), has obtained Columbus's chart of his explorations of South America and a license to go there, and he and Amerigo Vespucci leave Spain on a voyage of discovery, explore the northern coast of South America, and discover the mouth of the Amazon River, (Vespucci's account of the voyage, predated two years, omits mention of Ojeda, and results in the continent being named for him.)*
- 1499** — **September 5:** Ojeda arrives in Xaragua on Hispaniola, and without authority starts cutting logwood, which the crown had reserved for itself. Roldán agrees to capture Ojeda and his men for Columbus and send them to Santo Domingo, but they manage to get away, load up with slaves in the Bahamas and return to Spain.
- 1499** — **October:** Columbus sends two caravels back to Spain explaining his settlement with Roldán as forced by circumstances, and again asking that a wise administrator of justice be sent to help him govern. However, in the spring the rulers have already selected Francisco de Bobadilla, a distinguished and trusted aristocrat who has long served them, to go to Hispaniola as chief justice and also as royal commissioner to hear complaints. He is not well-disposed toward Columbus, apparently resenting him as an upstart foreigner (a wave of anti-Genoese sentiment is sweeping the court at the time), has been affected by the negative reports, and seems to regard his task as to rein in Columbus. It will be over a year after his selection that he finally sails for Hispaniola, in July, 1500.

- 1500** — *Pedro Alvarez Cabral discovers Brazil, claiming it for Portugal; Vicente Yanez Pinzón, former captain of Niña, lands on the Brazilian coast, and Vespucci and Ojeda return to Spain. 1500-1501: King Ferdinand fights Moorish revolts in Granada, declaring it a Christian kingdom in 1501.*
- 1500** — Another rebellion, by Adrián de Moxica, one of Roldán's lieutenants, is put down by Columbus with Roldán's help. To reinforce authority, Columbus has moved to a "get tough" policy, with executions of key rebels.
- 1500** — **August 23:** Bobadilla arrives at *Santo Domingo* while Columbus is away suppressing another rebellion, is upset to see two Spanish corpses hanging from the gallows, and learns of more executions scheduled the next day. He has a run-in with Columbus's brother Diego, who had been left in charge, arrests him, apparently engages in rabble-rousing, and impounds Columbus's house, money, papers, and possessions. When Columbus returns in September, he perhaps at first thinks that Bobadilla is another of those explorers he has not authorized, but then accepts his credentials and is shackled like Diego. Convinced in the eventual triumph of justice, he also persuades Bartholomew, still at large with a military force, to submit as well. (Columbus has more than once asked for a judicial administrator as an assistant or even a replacement for himself, and had expressed willingness to pay the cost. But he afterwards feels that the man he got is, in his negative view of the enterprise, the opposite of what is required.)
- 1500** — **October:** Bobadilla sends Columbus and his two brothers back to Spain. The Admiral is accused of injudicious governing of natives in Xaragua. When the ship captain, once underway, offers to remove his chains, Columbus insists on keeping them on, to be removed by direct orders of the rulers. They arrive in Cadiz by the end of the month. Soon freed by the sovereigns, Columbus goes to the Carthusian monastery in Seville where he draws maps of the new lands to the west, having an idea that they are a barrier in front of Asia. Studying reports of other explorations, he sees the possibility of a middle passage between the lands explored to the north and to the south.
- 1501** — At the monastery, he completes his "Book of Privileges" (outlining what is his due from the sovereigns) and works on preparing and dictating his "Book of Prophecies" (intended as a poetic statement of their and his divine vocation regarding the New World), a project that ends by *March 23* of the next year.
- 1501** — **September 13:** Nicolás de Ovando receives appointment to succeed Bobadilla as Hispaniola's governor, and departs on *February 13, 1502*.
- 1502** — **March 14:** The sovereigns authorize Columbus's fourth voyage, and he takes leave of Seville for Cadiz on *April 3*.
- 1502** — *Vasco da Gama founds a Portuguese colony at Cochin, India; Vespucci con-*



*cludes after his second voyage that America is a separate continent, not identical with India.*

#### FOURTH VOYAGE: CENTRAL AMERICAN DISCOVERIES AND MAROONING ON JAMAICA, 1502-1504

- 1502 — May 9:** Columbus, almost 51 years old, leaves from Cadiz, with 4 ships (*La Capitana*, *Vizcaína*, *Santiago*—also called *Bermuda*—and *Gallega*) and 140 men and boys. There were 56 of the latter, virtually all teen-agers, some as young as 13 or 14. Included in the company are Columbus's brother Bartholomew and son Fernando (Fernandez), who keeps a record of the voyage. (A quarter of those setting out will never return.) The expedition is financed by the sovereigns and is to focus on finding precious metals, stones and items of value, but no slaves, and to visit Santo Domingo only on the way home.
- 1502 — May 25:** They leave the Canary Islands.
- 1502 — June 15:** They arrive at Martinique and head northwest along the islands.
- 1502 — June 29:** Columbus arrives off Santo Domingo, hoping to replace one of his ships and take shelter from an impending hurricane, the signs of

which he has recognized. Governor Ovando, having succeeded Bobadilla, does not permit the ships to land, disregards Columbus's warning about the hurricane, and sends a fleet of 28 ships off the next day for Cadiz.

**1502 — June 30:** Forbidden the harbor, Columbus anchors offshore in a protected area and his ships ride out the storm without great damage. But the home-bound fleet runs directly into the storm. Nineteen ships go down with all hands, others with a few survivors, and four limp back to Santo Domingo. Over 500 men and a fortune in gold are lost. Only one ship goes on to reach Cadiz--the very one carrying Columbus's own revenues from the colony, sent by his agent. Among the drowned are fleet commander de Torres (formerly Columbus's second in command), Bobadilla, who had sent Columbus home in chains, Roldán, and many other rebels.

**1502 — July 14:** After repairs to his storm-damaged ships, Columbus leaves Hispaniola, heading for the mainland (Central America), farther west than anyone had gone before. Winds and currents force him toward the Cuban coast, whence he heads south by west toward his original intended destination.

**1502 — July 30:** He arrives at the island of Guanaja, off the north coast of present-day Honduras.

**1502 — August 14:** Ashore this Sunday they attend the first Mass known to have been celebrated on the continent, in an area he names La Costa de la Orejas.



'Columbus in Chains'

**1502 — August 17:** Columbus formally claims the mainland for the sovereigns.

**1502 — September 14:** After slow and torturous progress east along the forbidding coast against the prevailing wind under terrible stormy conditions, he rounds the cape he names Gracias a Dios ("Thanks be to God"), and turns south.

**1502 — October 5:** With several stops en route meeting and trading with Indians, they reach a large body of water first mistaken for the passage to Asia, but in fact the beautiful Chiriqui Lagoon, where they spend a week and a half. Columbus learns that an isthmus separates him from another ocean to the west, and apparently loses hope of finding a westward passage through the land mass, settling for finding gold to bring some success to his royal sponsors.

**1502 — October 20:** He arrives at the Guayga river, the beginning of a gold-bearing region called *Veragua* by the Indians.

**1502 — November 2:** Driven eastward by a storm, he arrives at a harbor he names Portobelo. Weather forces him to stay seven days before continuing east, and then being pushed part way back by winds to a place near Nombre de Dios, where he stays until November 23 to repair vessels and casks.

**1502 — November 26:**  
Heading east again he is again driven back and shelters in a small harbor he calls Retrete (“closet”) nine days in more miserable weather.



**1502 — December 5:** In the face of continuing bad weather and headwinds from the east, Columbus decides to go back west to learn the truth of what Indians had said about gold mines of *Veragua*. Winds now begin to whipsaw between east and west, with fierce thunderstorms and the ever-present danger of reefs.

decides to go back west to learn the truth of what Indians had said about gold mines of *Veragua*. Winds now begin to whipsaw between east and west, with fierce thunderstorms and the ever-present danger of reefs.

**1502 — December 20:** The ships are blown back into the same harbor they had been in eight days earlier. The new year finds Columbus anchored near the end of what will be America's answer to his long-sought passage — the Panama Canal. They stay until January 3, 1503, then head west again.

**1503 — January 6:** On the Feast of the Epiphany Columbus reaches a river he christens Belén (after Bethlehem) near *Veragua* and the reputed gold mines. They explore and trade.

**1503 — February 6:** He has decided to make a settlement in the area, leaving Bartholomew with most of the men and one ship, while he returns to Spain for reinforcements and supplies.

**1503 — February 24:** After further exploring and trading, Bartholomew starts to build the settlement on the Belén River, having found no better location, though this site is not a good one. Heavy flooding rains have ceased, but now sandbars at the mouth of the previously-flooded river trap the ships in the estuary. They also learn that the Indians, displeased at their settlement, plan to destroy it and kill them.

**1503 — March 30:** Bartholomew with 74 men goes to *Veragua*, and captures the cacique, who later escapes. Rains come, the ships can leave, and Columbus decides to leave immediately for Hispaniola with three ships. Seeing them gone, Indians attack the settlement. Bartholomew is wounded.

Columbus, off shore, is out of contact with the settlers, and Indians slaughter a ten-man party he sends to fetch fresh water. (On *April 6* he is left alone on his ship, all his men ashore, and sick and feverish in a terrible storm when he can do nothing for the ship and can get no help, has either a hallucination or mystical experience.) Ten days pass with no communication with the settlers on account of the weather, then all are evacuated after another weather delay of several more days. In the nearly three-month stay at Veragua, ship worms have done great damage. and Gallega is left in the estuary. The site does have gold, but environmental conditions make it impracticable even later to exploit the mines. In 1536 Columbus's grandson, D. Luis Colón, will be granted by Emperor Charles V 25 square leagues in the area along with the title *Duke of Veragua*, which will be passed on to his descendants to the present day, in exchange for renunciation of hereditary titles and privileges over all of the Spanish Indies.

- 1503 — April 15:** Columbus heads east again to Portobelo, where *Vizcaína* is also abandoned because of worm damage. He continues east beyond Retrete to what is probably the present Punta des Mosquitos.
- 1503 — May 1:** Flagship La Capitana and Bermuda, the only ships left and both needing continual pumping due to worm holes, head north for Hispaniola, but on May 13 arrive well to the west, at islands off the south coast of Cuba. (Sick and exhausted, Columbus had been persuaded to turn north before he had intended.)
- 1503 — June 23:** The leaking ships have limped to Jamaica and two days later are permanently beached at Santa Gloria. Columbus had been there ten years earlier, and experienced hostile relations with the Indians, so restricts his men to living aboard the beached ships, as at sea. He barter for food and canoes from the Indians.
- 1503 — July:** Since there is no hope of any ships visiting the place, two loyal ship captains, Diego Mendéz, and Bartolomeo Fieschi of Genoa, take an expedition of two canoes with Indian paddlers to the east end of Jamaica and then across the treacherous hundred-mile passage to Hispaniola. After arriving they must still go 350 miles to get to Santo Domingo, which they reach in *September*. But Ovando the governor has no interest in sending help. He forces Mendéz to wait for the next fleet from Spain to charter a rescue vessel.
- 1503 —** *In Spain, Ferdinand and Isabella issue a decree granting liberty to Indians; in Italy, Leonardo da Vinci paints the Mona Lisa.*
- 1504 — January 2:** After months with no news from the party sent for help, 48 men, under the leadership of Francisco de Porras, have decided to revolt. They take ten canoes, are joined by others who don't want to be left be-

hind, and head east, leaving Columbus and a handful of loyal men at Santa Gloria. They rob the Indians along the way and set out to cross the strait to Hispaniola, but after only a few miles turn back due to overloaded canoes, headwinds, and their own inexperience. They throw everything but their weapons overboard, including Indian paddlers, of whom 18 perish. Two more unsuccessful attempts convince them to return to Santa Gloria.

- 1504 — February 28-29:** Meanwhile, anticipating that the Indians had become hostile and want to kill the Spaniards, Columbus invites them to a palaver, and cows them into submission by using his foreknowledge of a lunar eclipse to convince them that he has power to intercede with God to control such things and keep terrible evils from befalling them.
- 1504 — End of March:** a small caraval finally sent by Ovando (after about six months' delay!) arrives to learn what has happened to Columbus, but with orders to bring no one home. However, it does carry a welcome letter from Mendéz saying he is chartering a rescue vessel.
- 1504 — May 19:** The rebels return to Santa Gloria and, choosing to fight, are defeated in a battle with Bartholomew and Columbus's fifty men. The ring-leader, Porras, is shackled, but the others pardoned and allowed to remain ashore under a leader Columbus selected.
- 1504 — June:** The rescue ship promised by Mendéz arrives and on June 18 Columbus and his 100 men leave for Santo Domingo, where he is now well treated by Ovando who, however, releases Porras.
- 1504 — September 12:** Columbus leaves the New World for the last time.
- 1504 — November 7:** The Admiral arrives at San Lúcar in Spain, in bad health, must be carried ashore, and moves to Seville.

#### LAST DAYS

- 1504 — November:** Ignored by the crown, Columbus initiates a series of insistent letters to son Diego at court, pressing his claims. Though sick, he lives comfortably and financially secure, with attendants and servants in a rented house.
- 1504 — November 26:** Queen Isabella dies. Ferdinand serves as regent of Castile for her successor, the insane daughter Juana, in the Netherlands with her husband, Prince Philip.
- 1504 — December:** The sick Columbus sends brother Bartholomew and son Ferdinand to court at Segovia to join son Diego there in pressing his claims.
- 1505 — May:** Columbus goes north to the court at Segovia by mule.
- 1505 — Early summer:** Columbus is granted an audience with King Ferdinand.

- 1505** — **August 25:** He writes codicil to his will and attests will before a notary at Segovia; series of petitions to King Ferdinand.
- 1505** — **Late October:** Columbus follows the court to Salamanca; declines to negotiate about his titles.
- 1506** — **April:** Columbus follows the court to Valladolid, and sends Bartholomew with letter to demand justice of Queen Juana, who arrives in Spain at Coruña on April 28.
- 1506** — **May 19:** Columbus signs his last will and testament.
- 1506** — **May 20:** Columbus dies in Valladolid, and is buried at the Franciscan Monastery there.
- 1507** — *Martin Waldseemuller proposes the New World be called “America” after Amerigo Vespucci.*
- 1509** — Columbus’s remains are moved to Carthusian monastery outside of Seville.
- 1514** — His brother Bartholomew dies and is buried at the Carthusian monastery.
- 1515** — His remaining brother, Diego, a priest, dies, and is also buried there.
- 1526** — Columbus’s older son, Diego, dies and is buried at the Carthusian monastery.
- 1537** — Remains of Columbus and Diego are transferred to Hispaniola and interred in the Cathedral at Santo Domingo.
- 1539** — Columbus’s other son, Fernando, dies and is buried in Seville Cathedral.
- 1795** — When Spanish withdraw from eastern Hispaniola (present-day Dominican Republic) and cede western Hispaniola (present-day Haiti) to the French, remains at Santo Domingo are hastily removed and taken to Havana.
- 1877** — Box discovered in Santo Domingo cathedral describing contents as remains of Columbus gives rise to theory that the remains of son Diego, not Christopher, had been sent to Havana.
- 1899** — After Spanish-American war and Cuban independence, remains in Havana, thought to be Columbus and his son Diego, are taken back to Seville to be interred in the cathedral there.
- 1960** — Contents of tomb at Santo Domingo are examined and found to contain incomplete remains of two different persons.
- 1992** — Remains in Santo Domingo cathedral are transferred to the huge new Columbus Lighthouse, the *Faro a Colón* in Santo Domingo.
- 2003** — Remains of Fernando and purported remains of Columbus exhumed at the Seville Cathedral, as are those of the Admiral’s brother Diego, all to be

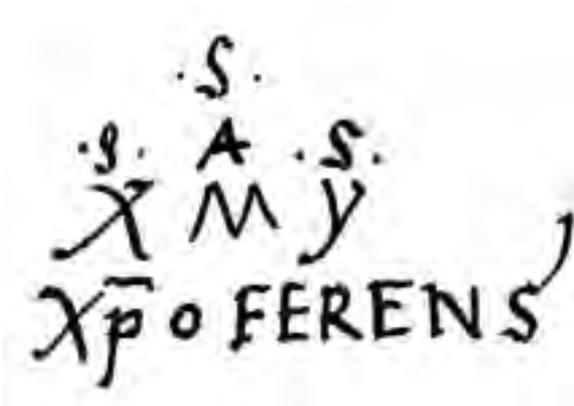
taken temporarily to Granada for DNA and other tests. (Columbus's casket found to contain remains of a single person, but only about 15% of his skeleton.)

**2005-2006** — Results of tests are published. Researchers are convinced that Seville contains part of Columbus's bones and admit the possibility that Santo Domingo may also have part of them. Santo Domingo refuses to allow any tests.

EMS

+ + +

The original of John Vanderlyn's picture of the "Landing of Columbus at the Island of Guanahani, West Indies, October 12, 1492," reproduced at the beginning of this chronology, hangs in the Rotunda of the U.S. Capitol. The statue of "Columbus in Chains" was given to Pope Pius XI on his golden jubilee, later bequeathed to Supreme Secretary of the Knights of Columbus (1939-1964) Joseph F. Lamb and is now in the Knights of Columbus Headquarters Museum in New Haven, Connecticut. (Photo by John Pelverts.)



COLUMBUS' SIGNATURE:  
*Christoferens* — "Christbearer"

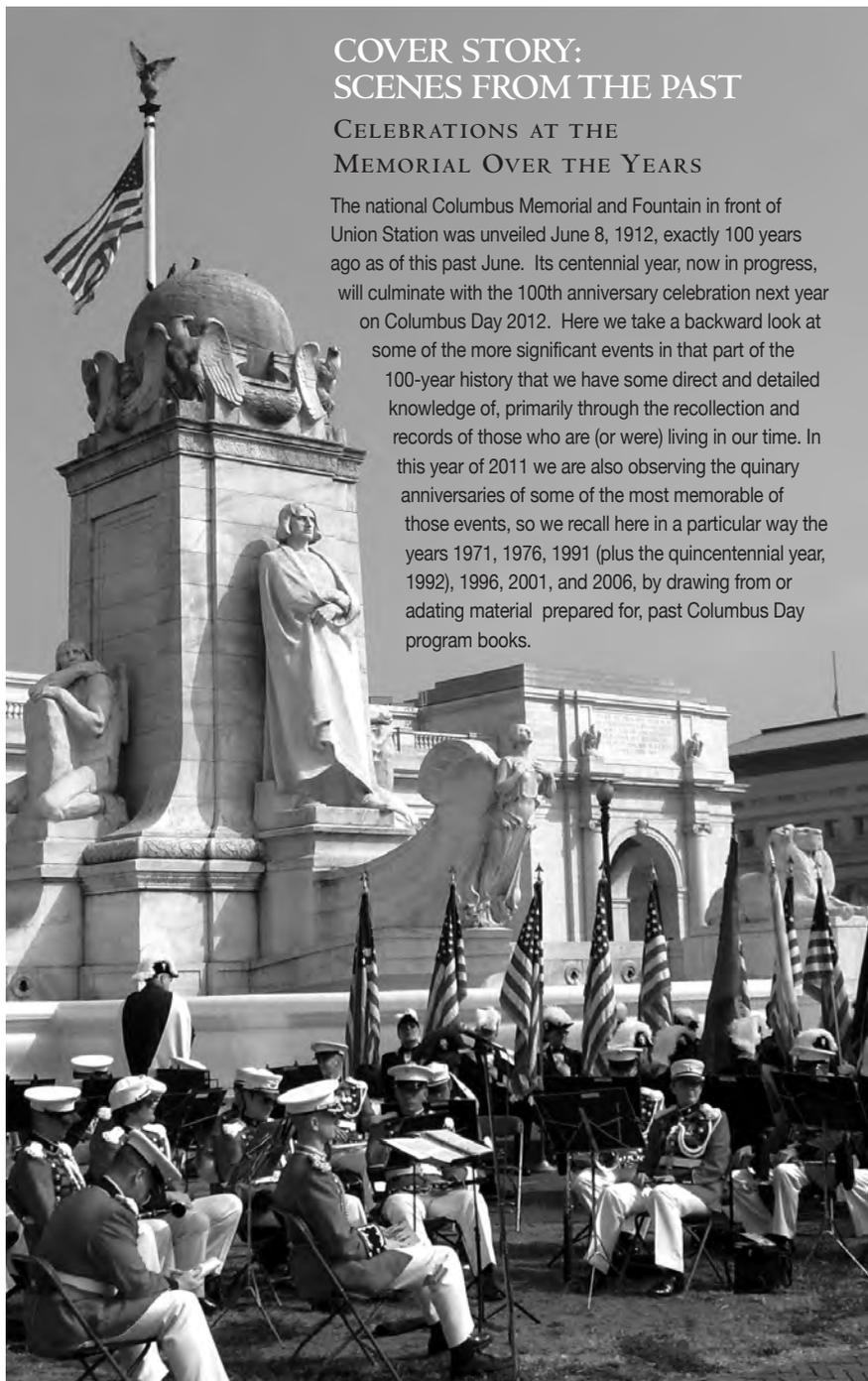
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Facing page: Statue group and fountain (1912; artist: Lorado Z. Taft [statue] & Daniel Burnham [fountain]), in front of Union Station, the site of our celebration. The 15-foot-high Georgia marble statue is flanked by an Indian and a European man. Union Station and the three flagpoles honoring the *Niña*, *Pinta*, and *Santa María* form a magnificent backdrop, as shown below, with Memorial and Fountain on the right of the picture.

## COVER STORY: SCENES FROM THE PAST

### CELEBRATIONS AT THE MEMORIAL OVER THE YEARS

The national Columbus Memorial and Fountain in front of Union Station was unveiled June 8, 1912, exactly 100 years ago as of this past June. Its centennial year, now in progress, will culminate with the 100th anniversary celebration next year on Columbus Day 2012. Here we take a backward look at some of the more significant events in that part of the 100-year history that we have some direct and detailed knowledge of, primarily through the recollection and records of those who are (or were) living in our time. In this year of 2011 we are also observing the quinary anniversaries of some of the most memorable of those events, so we recall here in a particular way the years 1971, 1976, 1991 (plus the quinquennial year, 1992), 1996, 2001, and 2006, by drawing from or adapting material prepared for, past Columbus Day program books.



## 1971 – Forty Years Ago: First Federal Holiday

**T**he year 1971 was the first year that **Columbus Day** was observed as a federal holiday, and also moved permanently to the second Monday in October in accordance with the “Monday Holiday Law,” signed by President Lyndon Johnson in 1968. (The three-year delay was to allow time for calendar makers and others to prepare for the change.)

The legislation had resulted from efforts by the National Columbus Day Committee, formed several years earlier to promote that goal. Though celebrations so far as is known had been held annually at the national Columbus Memorial and Fountain, the 1971 observance, billed as “The First National Christopher Columbus Day Celebration,” was an especially elaborate three-day affair, with the National Columbus Day Committee as the prime mover. It featured both a religious and a civic ceremony on Sunday rather than Monday; with an evening concert at Constitution Hall, a parade on Monday (the new holiday), and a gala concert at the Kennedy Center as well as a “Salute to Columbus” Victory Ball at the Washington Hilton. (More details, and the story of how Columbus Day became a federal holiday, are contained in the article on “Columbus day as a Federal Holiday,” on pp 63-67.)

The descriptive title “National Christopher Columbus Day Celebration” would continue in use for a number of years. The “Second National Christopher Columbus Day Celebration” the next year, 1972, featured addresses by Secretary of Transportation John Volpe, Supreme Knight John McDevitt of the Knights of Columbus, and Italian Ambassador Egidio Ortona, with a dinner and gala celebration in the evening. The next year, the wreath-laying ceremonies for the “Third National Christopher Columbus Day Celebration” again featured Volpe, now Ambassador to Italy, with music by the Army Band, and a black tie dinner in the evening at the Sheraton Park Hotel.

In the years 1972-1975, the ceremonies were sponsored by Amerito, an umbrella organization of American-Italian groups, along with the Knights of Columbus and the National Park Service. Music was provided by the Holy Rosary band in the last two of these years.

## 1976 — Thirty-five years ago: The Bicentennial Year

In 1976, the American Italian Bicentennial Commission took over the role

handled by Amerito, alongside the other two sponsors. The 1976 festivities started with a dinner-dance on Sunday evening, but the focus of the celebration moved to the Monday holiday itself, under the sponsorship of the American Italian Bicentennial Commission, Inc., and the Knights of Columbus.

A special Mass at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception was celebrated by Archbishop--later Cardinal--Joseph Bernardin of Chicago (and president of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops) and a number of out-of-town bishops of Italian descent. (His family name was originally Bernardino.)



President Ford in 1976

The special civic ceremony which followed at the Columbus Memorial included a welcome by D.C. Mayor Walter E. Washington, remarks by Hon. Blair Lee, Lieutenant Governor of Maryland, an address by Hon. Pete V. Domenici, United States Senator from New Mexico, an address by President Gerald R. Ford (who laid a wreath), closing remarks by Rev. Timothy S. Healy, S.J., President of Georgetown University, and Col. Charles Gabriele's "Christopher Columbus March" by the Navy band under the baton of the Secretary of the Navy, Hon. J. William Middendorf II. A "Festival of the Arts" featuring Italian music was also held.

Chairman for the 1976 celebration was a young lawyer who later became a priest and pastor of historic St. Patrick's Church, the oldest Catholic parish in D.C.--Msgr. Peter Vaghi, who gave the invocation at last year's Columbus Day celebration. Co-chairman for the Knights of Columbus was Daniel Quagliarello.

The title, "National Christopher Columbus Day Celebration" would continue to be used in the latter half of the 1970s. In 1978, Amerito resumed its collaborative sponsorship with the Knights of Columbus and the National Park Service. In 1979, Virgil C. Dechant, relatively new in his position as Supreme Knight of the K. of Cs, gave an address.

By the mid-1980s, Amerito had receded into the background with sponsorship of the celebration primarily left to the Knights of Columbus in collaboration with the Park Service, although with support from Italian and Spanish organizations. The general pattern that had evolved included: posting

of the Colors; the national anthems of the US, Italy, and Spain; invocation; a welcome; introduction of guests (usually with brief remarks by them); reading of Columbus Day proclamations from the President and the Mayor of Washington; some kind of entertainment interlude with music and/or dancing; addresses; and presentation of wreaths, escorted by the Fourth Degree Color Corps of the Knights of Columbus. The religious and civil celebrations were on Sundays to 1980, when the civic event moved to the Monday holiday. In 1989 the Knights of Columbus, joined by several OSIA lodges and private individuals interested in Columbus, established the Washington Columbus Celebration Association to sponsor the event in subsequent years, with a particular view to the forthcoming Quincentenary.



### 1991 — Twenty years ago: Opening the Quincentenary Celebration

The celebration at the monument in 1991 was the largest one in living memory. In keeping with the national Christopher Columbus Quincentenary Jubilee Commission's plan for the national and local observance to take place from October 1991 through October 1993, the Knights of Columbus opened their international Order-wide celebration of the Quincentenary in the 1991 ceremonies at Washington's national Columbus Memorial. Details of the program were developed by the head office of the Knights, but the Monday ceremonies remained officially under the sponsorship of the National Park Service and the Washington Columbus Celebration Association.

A special roofed stage was erected east of the location of the present stage and seats, and facing to the west, and seats provided for a much larger-than-average crowd. The Supreme officers of the K. of C. and its governing Board of Directors were present, as well as National Park Service officials and embassy and government representatives. Supreme Knight Virgil C. Dechant served as Master of Ceremonies. There were remarks by Frank Donatelli, Chairman of the national Christopher Columbus Quincentenary Jubilee Commission, and the Columbus Day address was delivered by Acting Attorney General of the U.S. William P. Barr. Music was furnished by the DeMatha High School Band and Wind Ensemble. A special feature of the event was the reading of essays by winners from D.C., Maryland, and Virginia of a K of C-sponsored Columbus essay contest, a prelude to a national contest culminating at the Order's national convention in New York in 1992, the Quincentenary Year.



Wreath layers and Color Corps members line up in front of the stage.

The 22 wreath presenters included the Embassies of Spain, Italy, and The Bahamas; the National Park Service, the Office of the Mayor; the Washington Columbus Celebration Association; five K. of C. groups and ten Italian-American groups (including seven OSIA lodges).

Following the ceremony, there was a large and elaborate reception in the Columbus Club of Union Station hosted by the Supreme Office of the Knights.

In 1991 other organizations also began their quincentenary observance. The National Park Service initiated a nationwide series of events, ending with a three-day program in Columbus Plaza in front of Union Station on Columbus Day weekend the following year. Other months-long Quincentenary events

included the exhibit “Circa 1492” at the National Gallery of Art (October 12, 1991-January 12, 1992), and the “Seeds of Change” exhibit at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History (October 27, 1991-April 1, 1992). In keeping with the political correctness of the time, both exhibits studiously avoided any focus on Columbus. The replicas of the Niña, Pinta, and Santa



K. of C. Color Corps Members at the Special 1991 Mass at the National Shrine.

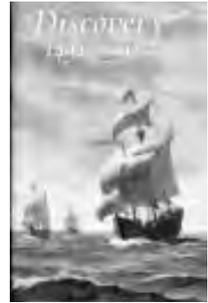
Maria, after crossing the Atlantic, visited Baltimore and Annapolis the following Spring, sailing into Baltimore’s Inner Harbor on May 29, 1992 for an 11-day visit, and then going to Annapolis on June 8 for a shorter visit.

Several events preceded the 1992 ceremonies. First, the National Park Service had their three-day program at Columbus Plaza celebrating diversity, followed by the monument ceremonies. Secondly, following the Sunday Columbus Day Mass at Holy Rosary Church, a specially-commissioned statue of a youthful Columbus was presented to the parish by the Lido Civic Club. It stands in the parish courtyard, and each year since has been the site of a brief ceremony following the annual Columbus Day Mass on the Sunday preceding the Monday holiday.

Thirdly, At 10 a.m. on Monday there was a special program in the Columbus Club of Union Station, sponsored by the local chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Sons of the American Revolution, and Children of the American Revolution. It included a greeting by the First Counselor of the Embassy of Italy, commemorative tributes by representatives of the three sponsoring societies, stamp cancellation and cachet directed by the U.S. Postal Service, greetings from the Washington Columbus Celebration Association, skits by the CAR, and several talks.

Then the Quincentenary ceremonies at the Columbus Memorial began in the afternoon, at 1:45 p.m. They included addresses by former U. S. Attorney for D.C. Joseph E. DiGenova and historian Christopher Kauffman, and a brief presentation by Louis Koerber, President of the National Flag

Foundation, observing the 100th anniversary of the Pledge of Allegiance. (The Pledge had originally been composed in connection with the 1892 Columbus Quadricentennial and incorporated by Congress into the Flag Code of the U.S. in the Pledge's fiftieth anniversary year, 1942. It was modified in 1954 to include the words "under God," largely through the efforts of the Knights of Columbus.) Music was supplied by the Filarmonica Sestrese Genoa Concert (founded in 1845), on tour from Italy, under the direction of Gianluca Silvano, with Colonel Charles Gabriele serving as guest conductor. An entertaining visual break in the program was Renaissance dancing by the Nachtanz dance group, which participated in several celebrations both before and after 1992.



1992 Program Book Cover

The 1993 and 1994 ceremonies generally followed the pattern of the preceding year, though in the morning and without the other associated events other than the Sunday religious celebration. An addition to the 1994 program, to be included in subsequent years, was the posting of the colors at the beginning of the ceremony by the Color Guard from the Military District of Washington.



The Nachtanz Renaissance dance group performed at the Columbus Day celebrations several times in the 1980s and early 1990s.

In 1995, the Association's new president, Dr. David R. Curfman, elected in 1994 to succeed the retiring founder, John C. Moore, initiated some changes in the ceremonies and indeed in the organization itself. A number of patriotic societies with a focus on Revolutionary and pre-Revolutionary people and events were invited to participate, and the organization, originally founded by fraternal societies, added a few of the trappings of such organizations. The streamlined 1995 ceremonies included a reading by the winner of a national essay contest on Columbus sponsored by Order Sons of Italy in America. The Navy's Sea Chanters furnished the music. Thirty-four wreaths were presented (17 from the usual organizations, 15 from patriotic societies and two from Hispanic organizations, all of the latter new to the celebration). John Moore was recognized with presentation of a special "Founding Chairman Emeritus Medal."

### 1996 — Initiation of Essay Contest

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) and the National Italian American Foundation (NIAF) in 1996 announced the initiation and joint sponsorship of an annual national Columbus essay contest open to students of all racial and ethnic groups in Grades 9 and 10, with the winning essay to be read by the student each year at the Washington celebration. In addition to the Columbus Day Address (by OAS Historian Dr. James Patrick Kiernan), there was a youth speaker this year sponsored by NIAF. McNamara High School Symphonic Band provided the music,

Highlight of the 1997 program the following year was the presentation by Mrs. Charles Keil Kemper, President General of the D.A.R. and Dr. A. Kenneth Ciongoli, President of NIAF, of the award to the first essay contest winner Crissia Ahnna Reay of Wonder Lake, Illinois, who read her essay comparing the importance of the voyages of Christopher Columbus and Amerigo Vespucci.

In the following years, the chief focus of the Columbus Day ceremonies was the reading of the winning essay, the only other remarks being by the diplomats and a welcome by the Park Service. The presidential and mayoral proclamations were, of course, read every year. A special event in 1998 was presentation of a "Distinguished Member" medal to Gustave S. Weber of the Knights of Columbus, who had served as editor, writer, and composition and

production manager of the program booklet since its beginning (and would continue doing so for several more years; he passed away this past year). The Marine Band, which had played at the 1912 unveiling of the Memorial and was celebrating its own bicentennial in 1968, provided the music, as it has in nearly every year since. (Excepting 2000, when the Navy Band played.)

With membership now including many from other states, two-thirds of the wreath layers from out of state, a national essay contest sponsored by two other national organizations, and support by other national organizations, the Association was renamed “The National Columbus Celebration Association” in 1999.

### 2001 — Reviewing Columbus’ Last Expedition

The basic pattern of the celebrations continued unchanged through the early years of the new millennium. In 2001 a series of annual articles was initiated in the program book, recalling in some detail just what Columbus was doing exactly 500 years ago each year (writing the “Book of Prophecies,” preparing for and engaging in his disastrous, yet fascinating final expedition—the Fourth Voyage—and his declining years in Spain and death in 1506).



“The death of Columbus as depicted by Francisco Ortega in a painting in the Prado in Madrid. His brother Diego and two sons, Diego and Fernando, were present (note the kneeling mourners, bent close over his body, one with his head almost resting on Columbus’s). Also present were the two heroes of the Jamaica rescue, Diego Mendéz and Bartholomew Fieschi, plus some loyal domestics, and Franciscans from the nearby friary, who cared for him.”

### 2006 — Anniversary Year of Columbus’ Death

The anniversary year of his death also saw a colorful and impressive addition to the ceremonies in the procession and posting of the 27 successive official flags that have flown over the U.S., carried by the “Honor America Corps” of Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus. This has been a distinctive part of the celebration every year since.

—Edward M. Sullivan

# FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY

## COLUMBUS DAY AS A FEDERAL HOLIDAY

*Columbus Day was first observed as a federal holiday forty years ago. The event was termed the "First National Columbus Day Celebration." The story was told in the following article, reproduced with modifications from our 1996 program book, which looked back a quarter of a century.*

Twenty-five years ago this year [1996] Columbus Day was first celebrated as a federal "public holiday." Technically, there is no such thing as a "national holiday" in the U.S., since each state establishes its own. However, the Federal Government establishes holidays for its jurisdictions and employees, and the states usually follow its lead.

The Columbus Day story goes back many years. The first known celebration of Columbus Day in the U.S. took place just sixteen years after America declared independence. On October 12, 1792, the New York Society of Tammany, known also as the Columbian Order, celebrated the third centenary of Columbus' first landfall in the New World with a dinner and elaborate ceremonies. Probably the first memorial to Columbus in the U.S. was the temporary monument at its headquarters. The first permanent monument to him in the U.S.—indeed, in the world—was erected in 1810 in Baltimore by one of Lafayette's former officers who settled there.

Over eighty years later, in connection with the four hundredth anniversary in 1892, President Benjamin Harrison issued a proclamation urging citizen participation in commemorative services, and the organization of programs by schools. There were many local observances, but the centerpiece of the national celebration was the Columbian exposition in Chicago, which opened belatedly in 1893. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was written in honor of Columbus Day on the 400th anniversary. The first U.S. commemorative coins and stamps were also issued in connection with the event.

In 1905, the governor of Colorado issued a Columbus Day proclamation and in 1909 signed legislation passed without opposition making Columbus Day a state holiday. Before the year was out, ten states, mainly the larger ones, had followed suit, and within a decade two-thirds of the states, in all parts of the country, had done so.

## The National Columbus Memorial in Washington

Simultaneously with the movement to make Columbus Day state holidays was the drive to erect a national monument in the nation's capital, in both of which the Knights of Columbus played a very active role. (There were already monuments to Columbus in other cities in addition to Baltimore, such as Philadelphia, Boston, and Columbus, Ohio.) The latter drive bore fruit when in 1907 Congress authorized the memorial, which was erected at the gateway to Washington in a plaza in front of the New Union Station, and unveiled on June 8, 1912.

Twenty-five years after the Colorado legislature acted to make Columbus Day a state holiday, Congress moved to give it national prominence. Although it was not the first presidential Columbus Day proclamation, Franklin Roosevelt's 1934 proclamation was the first of such annual actions by the president in compliance with a joint resolution of the Senate and House passed on April 30 of that year. By it Congress authorized and requested the president to "issue a proclamation designating October 12 of each year as Columbus Day" and calling for displaying the flag on all government buildings and inviting the people to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies.

It is believed that each year since the erection of the monument at Union Station in 1912, there had been such appropriate ceremonies at that location. Certainly, there were such ceremonies in 1934, as attested by the records of the Lido Club.

On October 12, 1963 following the civic ceremony in Columbus Plaza, 150 persons of Italian descent were invited to a Rose Garden party and White House reception. From this group was born the movement to make Columbus Day a federally-recognized holiday. A National Columbus Day Committee was formed. It sponsored the 1966 celebration, when Senator John Pastore was principal speaker and music was provided by the Marine Band.

The official Senate Report No. 1293 of June 21, 1968 noted that "A large number of proposals to establish Columbus Day as a national holiday were...introduced in past sessions of Congress," and public hearings were held by appropriate subcommittees of the Senate in August, 1964, and of the House in October, 1967. S.108, making Columbus Day a legal holiday, was favorably acted on by the Senate on August 15, 1964. H.R.15951 made refinements to the Monday observance of Federal holidays, and Public Law 90-363 was later

passed by the House on April 4, 1968 and by the Senate on June 21 of that year. This was the “Monday Holiday Law,” which, among other things, added Columbus Day to the list of federal “public holidays,” to be observed on the second Monday of each October). The effective date of the new law was January 1, 1971.

“In recommending the observance of Columbus Day,” the report said, “it is the committee’s judgment that such a holiday would be, as has been suggested by Representative Rodino, ‘an annual reaffirmation by the American people of their faith in the future, a declaration of willingness to face with confidence the imponderables of unknown tomorrow.’ It is also the committee’s judgment that the observance of Columbus Day is an appropriate means of recognizing the United States as a ‘nation of immigrants’—as we were described by the late President Kennedy. By commemorating the voyage of Columbus to the New World, we would be honoring the courage and determination which enabled generation after generation of immigrants from every nation to broaden their horizons in search of new hopes and a renewed affirmation of freedom.”

### The “First National Columbus Day Celebration”

There was a Columbus Day ceremony at the White House in 1970, and in 1971 when Columbus Day was first observed as a federal holiday and transferred to a Monday, there was a three-day weekend celebration in Washington, billed as “The First National Columbus Day Celebration.” It was under the auspices of the National Columbus Day Committee, headed by Mariano A. Lucca of Buffalo, who had been a forceful proponent of the national holiday.

Festivities commenced with a reception Saturday evening, at the then-Statler Hilton, for governors and members of Congress. On Sunday there was an outdoor Mass and wreath-laying ceremony at noon at the Columbus monument, and a special Columbus Day concert in the evening at Constitution Hall, featuring the Navy Band and singers Frankie Lane and Maggie MacDonald. On Monday, the new public holiday itself, there was a mid-day parade on Constitution avenue, complete with floats depicting Columbus’s landing; a gala concert at the Kennedy Center under the honorary patronage of Mrs. Richard M. Nixon; and a “Salute to Columbus” Victory

Ball at the Washington Hilton.

Two thousand souvenir medallions depicting Columbus' landing on the obverse, and Queen Isabella on the reverse side, with suitable inscriptions, were minted and made available to participants of the celebration. The *Washington Post* reported with a journalistic chuckle that the American Airlines shipping costs coincidentally came to exactly \$14.92!

Columbus Day today is celebrated throughout the U.S. Jane M. Hatch, in "The American Book of Days" (New York, 1978) gave some glimpses of the status of the holiday in the late 1970s. In Wisconsin it was called Landing Day, and in North Dakota and Indiana, Discovery Day; in Florida it was celebrated in conjunction with Farmers' Day, and in Alabama, with Fraternal Day. New York City annually featured a great parade and a Columbus Day dinner. Boston's tradition included a special anniversary Mass, wreath-laying at Columbus' statue in Louisburg Square, and a four-mile parade. Asbury Park, New Jersey had an annual pageant of the landing. Los Angeles would fly the Italian flag over city hall, raised by an Italian movie star; San Francisco would hold pageants, a waterfront cavalcade showing events from Columbus' life, a street fair, ceremonies at the Columbus statue on Telegraph Hill, a banquet, and a ball. Columbus, Ohio--to which Genoa presented a 20-foot-high statue of Columbus in 1954--had an annual four-day celebration, complete with parade, entertainments, and fireworks.

(This was before the revisionist view of Columbus's exploits and their consequences came to the fore at the time of the Quincentenary.)

Columbus Day is also currently celebrated in many other countries, most commonly on October 12, the actual anniversary of his first landfall. That day is called Day of the Race in Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, and Paraguay; America's Discovery Day in Honduras; *Día de la Hispanidad* in Panama; and Hispanity Day or Day of Spanish Consciousness in Spain.

Discovery Day is another popular name, but places using that title often observe a different date more appropriate to their own discovery or sighting. The following observe Discovery Day: The Bahama Islands (October 12), Cayman Islands (May 17), Haiti (December 5), Puerto Rico (October 12, also commemorating sighting of Puerto Rico on November 19, 1493), and St. Vincent (January 22, when Columbus sighted St. Vincent in 1498).

— Edward M. Sullivan

# First Prize Essay, NIAF-NSDAR Essay Contest, 2010-2011

## LESSONS FROM CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS'S LIFE

*By Taylor Barnhart*  
*Ozark High School – 11th Grade*  
*Ozark, MO 65721*  
*Isaac Garrison DAR Chapter*



The sky was pale with morning sunshine as the three little ships made their way across the water. Slowly, steadily, they began their journey across the vast, rocking, fathomless sea. The day was August 3, 1492. Christopher Columbus and the crews aboard the *Pinta*, *Niña*, and the *Santa Maria* had begun a journey that would change the course of the global society forever. Today, we remember Christopher Columbus as a great explorer. Unfortunately, as time goes by, we slowly lose sight of the stress of wisdom and life-lessons offered from such a man. The world spins madly around us; each day, subtle changes take place which will one day define our very existence. We cannot know the future. If, however, we take a moment to pause, to delve into the past, we will see that Christopher Columbus teaches us many things. Three among them are the importance of vision and drive, the benefits of education, and the necessity for constant faith.

Firstly: as a young man, Christopher Columbus possessed an uncommon work ethic. He worked at his father's business and at odd jobs, and was a part of several trading voyages in the Mediterranean, as well as the Aegean, seas. He devised a plan to cross the Atlantic in order to reach Asia more quickly and safely. He challenged common conceptions of the size of the Earth. He pushed the boundaries, tested the limits, determinedly plotting his grand journey all the while. Through everything he did, everything he worked for, he possessed certain strength, a certain drive, a forceful desire to work hard and make things happen. It was this drive that allowed him to take risks, initiate

journeys, and explore new ideas. He wasn't afraid to use his mind and his abilities in order to further the collective knowledge of the world. Today, work ethic is almost more important than it was in the time of Columbus. One cannot function in the work world without work ethic, drive, vision.<sup>1</sup> Evolution in business, trends, and society as a whole is inevitable. If we are not able to look ahead, to contribute to this evolution, we will fall short of our global standard, and we will be left behind.

Secondly: just as he had a thirst for adventure, Columbus also understood the value of education. A man of his trade could not likely be completely uneducated. However, unlike some other explorers, Columbus earnestly desired to glean everything he could from what the world had to offer. He spoke Latin and Portuguese, he studied history, geography, astronomy, the works of Ptolemy, and travels of Marco Polo.<sup>2</sup> He voices his belief in the power of education and determination in

*Through everything  
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this quote: "I am not solicitious to examine particularly everything here, which indeed could not be done in fifty years, because my desire is to make all possible discoveries, and return to your Highnesses, if it please our Lord, in April."<sup>3</sup> He was not a scholar, he did not have tutors, he was self-motivated, self-educated. He was not a man to accept something at face value. He observed, questioned, studied, and *discovered*. He did not rest until he had found the truth, found the answer. This was, perhaps, the thing which earned him his title, Admiral of the Ocean Sea. Throughout history, it is clear that education is invaluable to the successful human being. Whether one plans to pursue gardening or rocket science, education is the heart and lifeblood of the global body. Teenagers and young children especially must not be allowed to forget the necessity of learning; we are the future leaders of the world. We must look beyond this moment and into the future, when we will be holding offices and making decisions. Without knowledge, without the pursuit of truth through research, what sort of leaders will we make?

Thirdly: the concept of faith has long been debated, questioned, and studied

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by all mankind. It is something bred into us, some inescapable part of the human soul. The identity of each individual on Earth is founded on faith, beliefs, and values. Everyone believes in something. For Christopher Columbus, that something was Jesus Christ. All his life, Columbus's faith in God was a permanent fixture, a constant force. Though Roman Catholicism was common in those days, Christopher Columbus really used his faith. He had a genuine interest in the Bible and in Biblical philosophies.<sup>4</sup> He devoted an entire book (The Book of Prophecies) to the subject of the power of religion and divine providence. When he made his grand adventure across the Atlantic, he did so in the belief that it was God's ultimate design

for him to sail the world for the sake of spreading Christianity.<sup>5</sup> His faith was his stronghold; through the doubt he must have faced in taking on the challenge of such a journey; through the hideous storms that shook the sails and sent men plunging into the ravenous sea; through all the highs and lows of being a sailor and explorer, it was Columbus's unwavering faith that allowed him to persevere as he did, and to bring a new world into the spotlight for people everywhere. These days, it seems faith can be a difficult thing to come by. So much pain, sickness, and suffering exist in the world; so many are hungry for hope and opportunity. We must consider our mentality. When the day is clear and the wind is good, we are content to sail slowly absent-mindedly forward. We take for granted all that we know and possess, seeking only to gain as much as possible in the shortest amount of time. However, when the winds change and the skies grow dark, when the sea grows angry and tosses us to and fro, what is our reaction? We give up. What storms Columbus must have faced out there in those strange waters. What trials he must have endured, leading a crew into the wide unknown. What if he had given up?

What if he had turned the ships around and retreated back into the safe and familiar? Where would we be? Christopher Columbus did not give up; pure, consistent faith led him to reach his goal and change the world forever.

In conclusion: Christopher Columbus was not a genius; he was not a deity or a savior. He was a man; a great, determined, inspirational, intelligent man, with a vision that stretched from Europe to the Americas. He succeeded in bringing together two worlds that had long been apart, and set the pace for centuries to come. From him, we can learn about vision, education, and the everlasting power of genuine faith. Though the world is wide and the future uncertain we must not lose sight of the importance of these lessons. There will be sun-filled days and crushing storms. There will be periods of prosperity and times of sorrow. Whatever the weather, whatever the time, we must not forget; we must not take for granted. We must have faith in tomorrow, faith in the human spirit, faith in the light that inevitably follows the darkness.

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# NIAF

*The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution  
along with the  
National Italian American Foundation*

are pleased to announce co-sponsorship in an essay contest featuring Christopher Columbus open to all students in grades 9 through 12.

### 2011 – 2012 TOPIC

*Christopher Columbus: In his own time, in history, and today. Describe Christopher Columbus as he was understood in three different time periods: What did 15th-century people think about his accomplishments? How did 19th century historians view him? How did Columbus, who had primitive ships and no computers or modern navigation equipment, affect our lives today?*

One essay is selected as the national winner and the winner is invited to attend NSDAR's 121st Continental Congress to be recognized. Second and third place winners are also selected. Judging at the national level is conducted by the National Italian American Foundation. The national winner will receive \$1,200 from the NIAF in addition to paid lodging and transportation to Washington, D.C. in October 2012 for the winner and one parent or guardian. The national winner must read the prize-winning essay at the Columbus Memorial, Washington, DC on Columbus Day (October 8, 2012).

The second place national winner will receive \$500, and the third place national winner will receive \$300.

### FORM

Essay must be typed, or prepared on a computer or word processor, using black type in a non-script font no smaller than 12 point or larger than 14 point. Each essay must have a title page listing the following: Title or topic of essay: "*Christopher Columbus: In his own time, in history, and today,*" Contestant's full name and address, Contestant's telephone number (with area code) and/or e-mail address, Name of contestant's school and grade level, Name of sponsoring DAR chapter, and Number of words in essay. Any essay without a title page will be disqualified. This contest will be administered by the NSDAR.

**For further information about this contest contact:**

Vicky T. Zuverink, National Vice Chairman,  
Christopher Columbus Essay Contest, American History Committee, NSDAR  
3834 Dogwood Road; Floyds Knobs, IN 47119-9359  
Phone: (812) 923-9244 E-Mail: [hzuveri@bellsouth.net](mailto:hzuveri@bellsouth.net)

Office of the Historian General, NSDAR  
1776 D Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006-5303  
Phone: (202) 879-3256

Do you  
have a  
**Revolutionary**  
Patriot in  
your family tree?



Consider membership in the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR), a volunteer women's service organization that honors and preserves the legacy of our Patriot ancestors. More than 200 years ago, American Patriots fought and sacrificed for the freedoms we enjoy today. As a member of the DAR, you can continue this legacy by actively promoting patriotism, preserving American history and securing America's future through better education for children.



**Preserving the  
American Spirit**  
[www.dar.org](http://www.dar.org)  
(202) 879-3224

**Who is eligible for membership?**

Any woman 18 years or older, regardless of race, religion, or ethnic background, who can prove lineal descent from a Patriot of the American Revolution is eligible for membership. DAR volunteers are willing to provide guidance and assistance with your first step into the world of genealogy.

**How is Patriot defined?**

DAR recognizes Patriots not only as soldiers, but as anyone who contributed to the cause of American freedom. To find out if your ancestor is recognized by the DAR as a Revolutionary Patriot, a request form is available online at [www.dar.org](http://www.dar.org) by clicking on "Membership."

**How many members does the National Society have?**

DAR has 165,000 members in nearly 3,000 chapters worldwide, including chapters in 12 foreign countries. Since its founding in 1890, DAR has admitted more than 800,000 members.

**How can I find out more?**

Go to [www.dar.org](http://www.dar.org) and click on "Membership." There you'll find helpful instructions, advice on finding your lineage and a Prospective Member Information Request Form. Or call (202) 879-3224 for more information on joining the work of this vital, service-minded organization.

# CIVIC CEREMONY

Sponsored by

NATIONAL COLUMBUS CELEBRATION ASSOCIATION

in cooperation with the  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
NATIONAL MALL & MEMORIAL PARKS

Monday, October 10, 2011  
COLUMBUS PLAZA — UNION STATION

**MUSIC PRELUDE** .....10:45 a.m.  
“The President’s Own” United States Marine Band  
Major Jason K. Fettig, conducting

**POSTING OF THE COLORS** .....11:00 a.m.  
U.S. Marine Corps Color Guard — Military District of Washington  
Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree Color Corps — Calvert Province  
Districts of Washington Archdiocese, Maryland and Virginia

**PROCESSION OF WREATH PRESENTERS** .....  
Led by the Columbus Expeditionary Banner  
Raymond Moore portraying Christopher Columbus

**NATIONAL ANTHEMS:**.....United States of America, Italy, Spain,  
The Commonwealth of The Bahamas

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**.....Patrick Korten, *Vice President, Knights of Columbus*

**INVOCATION:**.....Rear Admiral Barry C. Black, Ph.D., ChC, USN-Ret.  
*Chaplain, United States. Senate*

**RETIRING OF THE COLORS:** .....U.S. Marine Corps Color Guard

**WELCOME:** .....Col. Thomas J. Hogan, USA-Ret., *NCCA President*  
Steve Whitesell, *Regional Director, National Park Service, National Capital Region*

**REMARKS:** .....Ambassadors of Diplomatic Corps

**READING OF PROCLAMATIONS:** .....  
From the President of the United States of America  
From the Mayor of the District of Columbia

**INTRODUCTION: National Youth Columbus Essay Contest Winner** .....  
Miss Taylor Barnhart, Ozark, Missouri:  
“Lessons From Christopher Columbus’ Life”  
*Contest sponsored jointly by:*

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION —  
Merry Ann T. Wright, *President General*  
THE NATIONAL ITALIAN AMERICAN FOUNDATION —  
Ann Drefs Kasputis, *Director of Education and Culture*

**MUSIC INTERLUDE:** .....“America, the Beautiful”  
 Samuel Augustus Ward, lyrics by Katherine Lee Bates,  
 arranged by Thomas Knox, U.S. Marine Band  
 GySgt Kevin Benneer, baritone

**PRESENTATION OF MEMORIAL WREATHS** .....



- National Park Service,  
U.S. Department of the Interior
- National Columbus Celebration Association
- Embassy of Italy
- Embassy of Spain
- Embassy of The Commonwealth of The Bahamas
- Organization of American States
- The National Italian American Foundation
- The Lido Civic Club of Washington
- Supreme Council, Knights of Columbus
- District of Columbia State Council, K of C
- Maryland State Council, K of C
- Virginia State Council, K of C
- Washington Council No. 224, K of C
- Roma Lodge, Order Sons of Italy in America
- George Washington Lodge,  
Order Sons of Italy in America
- The U.S. Mexico Chamber of Commerce
- The Jamestowne Society
- District of Columbia Society  
of Mayflower Descendants
- National Society of the  
Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims,  
District of Columbia Branch
- National Society Daughters of the American  
Colonists
- National Society Sons of the American Colonists
- National Society Daughters  
of the American Revolution
- District of Columbia State Society, D.A.R.
- Maryland State Society, D.A.R.
- Virginia State Society, D.A.R.

- District of Columbia Society Sons of the American Revolution
- National Society Children of the American Revolution
- Archdiocese of Washington Catholic Committee on Scouting
- National Council for the Promotion of Italian Language in American Schools
- Central Español of Washington

CLOSING HYMN (AUDIENCE) ..... “God Bless America”

Irving Berlin

Arranged by Thomas Knox, U.S. Marine Band

Revised by MSgt Stephen Bulla, U.S. Marine Band

IRVING BERLIN

God Bless America  
 Land that I love  
 Stand beside her  
 And guide her  
 Through the night with a light  
 From above  
 From the mountains  
 To the prairies  
 To the oceans  
 White with foam  
 God Bless America  
 My home sweet home.  
 Irving Berlin

GOD BLESS AMERICA

Land that I love,

Stand beside her, and guide her

Through the night with the light from above

From the mountains, to the prairies,

To the oceans, white with foam,

GOD BLESS AMERICA

My home sweet home.

DISMISSAL.....

MUSIC POSTLUDE..... “Stars and Stripes Forever”

John Phillip Sousa

The United States Marine Band

“The President’s Own”

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

THE NATIONAL COLUMBUS CELEBRATION ASSOCIATION expresses its gratitude to the following for their timely efforts, both physical and financial, for the success of this celebration:

- THE LIDO CIVIC CLUB OF WASHINGTON for their very generous contribution.
- Vice Supreme Master RICHIE HEAD, PSD, of the Calvert Province, Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus, for his support and making the National Columbus Day Celebration a Provincial event, thus attracting Fourth Degree Knights from five states; ISAIAS (“CY”) ALBA, PSD, Master, Virginia District; and CHARLES H. SMALLWOOD, Master, Archdiocese of Washington District.
- FRANCIS S. CONNORS and the HONOR AMERICA CORPS for the appearance of the 27 historical official American flags.
- MR. RON McLENDON II, Chief, Community Relations, Director of Public Affairs, U. S. Army Military District of Washington, for participation by the Marines Color Guard, and planning arrangements for the appearance of the U.S. Marine Band, “The President’s Own,” by Maj. DENNIS R. BURIAN, (RET.), Marine Band Branch Head - Public Affairs, Pentagon.
- THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE for preparing the site and for their support: MARISA RICHARDSON, Permits Officer; NED WALLACE, National Mall and Memorial Parks; MATTHEW R. NEWMAN, Maintenance for Special Events; TONI BRAXTON, Communications; and SGT CHRISTOPHER CUNNINGHAM and OFFICERS OF THE U.S. PARK POLICE.
- KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF THE DC COLLEGE COUNCILS, especially Catholic University of America Council 9542, for serving as ushers at the ceremony.
- THE NATIONAL ITALIAN AMERICAN FOUNDATION for their generous support of the National Christopher Columbus Essay Contest.
- MERRY ANN WRIGHT, President General, and ANN ARNOLD HUNTER, Historian General, and their respective staff; JANEAL N. SHANNON, National Chairman, American History Committee, and VICKY T. ZUVERINK, National Vice Chairman for the Christopher Columbus Essay Contest, for their assistance.
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- DUANE J. LOMIS for archival videography.
- TOURMOBILE, CARLA BELL, Assistant Sales Director, for their generosity in providing local transportation for the winner of the Columbus Essay Contest and her family.
- EDWARD M. SULLIVAN, for preparation of the chronology and articles in the annual program books as well as composition and coordination of the printing and
- PETER D. GERVAIS and LAWRENCE SOSNICH for handling the advertising.

## BIOGRAPHIES

COL. THOMAS J. HOGAN, U.S. Army (Ret.) was born in Cleveland, Ohio and earned a BA degree (pre-law) from Kent State University in Kent, Ohio. He served over 26 years in the Army, with infantry and military intelligence duties in Washington, DC, Berlin, Germany (two 3-year tours), Vietnam and Japan. Col Hogan was a senior scientist at Science Applications International Corp. for over 10 years, developing intelligence, command and control systems. He is a licensed Real Estate Broker in Virginia for residential and commercial properties. Col. Hogan has held numerous positions in the Knights of Columbus, serving as Virginia State Deputy in 1996-97. He has been on the NCCA Board of Directors since 1998, served as Vice President and then as Acting President in 2006-2007, and was elected President in 2007.

MAJOR JASON K. FETTIG of Manchester, N.H., joined “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band in 1997 as a clarinetist. He was appointed Assistant Director and commissioned a first lieutenant in July 2002. He was promoted to captain in August 2003 and became the band’s Executive Officer the following year. In August 2007, he was promoted to his present rank.

Soon after Major Fettig joined the “The President’s Own,” he became a frequently featured soloist with both the band and the chamber orchestra throughout the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area. He has served as a conductor and coordinator for the fall and winter Chamber Music Series, and was nominated for his current position in 2001. On August 1, 2001, he conducted his first concert with the Marine Band.

Major Fettig, a 1993 graduate of Manchester Central High School, holds two bachelor’s degrees from the University of Massachusetts in Amherst: clarinet performance (1997) and music education with an emphasis in conducting

(1998). In 2005, he earned a master's degree in orchestral conducting at the University of Maryland in College Park, where he served as assistant conductor for two productions of the Maryland Opera Studio in 2004-2005. He has studied clarinet with Michael Sussman, Alan Meyer, and David Martins, and his principal conducting teachers are Malcolm W. Rowell, Mark Russell Smith, and James Ross. Additionally, Major Fettig has participated in workshops with several renowned conductors including Osmo Vanska and Otto Werner Mueller and has attended the Conductors Guild Workshop led by Marin Alsop and Gustav Meier during the Cabrillo Festival of contemporary music in Santa Cruz, Calif.

Prior to joining "The President's Own," Major Fettig was principal clarinet and soloist with the American Wind Symphony Orchestra in Pittsburgh, Pa. In addition to his duties with "The President's Own," Major Fettig won first prize in the International Clarinet Association's Young Artist Competition in 2000, and represented the band on several occasions as a guest conductor, soloist, and clinician at both the high school and college level. In 2004, he conducted the New Hampshire All-State Festival, and he has appeared as guest conductor at both of his college alma maters, leading the top wind ensembles in concert at the University of Massachusetts in 2003 and at the University of Maryland in 2007. Major Fettig currently resides in Silver Spring, Md., with his wife, Lydia, and children, Nicholas, Daniel, and Elise.

TAYLOR BARNHART is a senior at Ozark High School in Ozark, Missouri. She has also lived in Kansas, Oregon, and California. She enjoys reading, creative writing, travel, theater, and spending time with her friends and family. She has always loved being told stories and telling them herself. She has written several other winning works for local writing competitions, and has played lead roles in several drama class productions and musicals at her school. She hopes to one day visit Europe and Asia, and to write creatively as a career. She credits her faith in God and His enduring guidance to her with much that she has accomplished, and hopes to carry that faith for the rest of her life.

She has learned a lot from her two loving parents, and she is eternally thankful that they raised her on great music, great movies, long road trips, and ridiculous amounts of moral support. She has a 13-year-old brother, Jake, whom she loves with all her heart and then some. She loves eating Italian food, good coffee, and dark chocolate. She loves hugs better than handshakes, and she loves the rain. She hopes to continue pursuing all of her dreams and being surrounded by beautiful people for the rest of her life.

## “The President’s Own”

### UNITED STATES MARINE BAND

For over two centuries, “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band has been part of the events that have shaped our national heritage. On June 8, 1912, the Marine Band, with President William Howard Taft, participated in the unveiling of the Columbus Memorial Fountain, providing ceremonial music during the official ceremony. Like the monuments the Marine Band has helped dedicate, its continued presence in American life stands as a symbol of the traditions and ideals on which our country was founded.

Established by an act of Congress in 1798, the Marine Band is America’s oldest professional musical organization. Its primary mission is unique—to provide music for the President of the United States.

President John Adams invited the Marine Band to make its White House debut in the still-unfinished Executive Mansion on New Year’s Day, 1801. In March that year, the band performed for the inaugural of Thomas Jefferson and has performed for every Presidential inaugural since that time.

In Jefferson, the band found its most visionary advocate and friend. An accomplished musician himself, Jefferson recognized the unique relationship between the band and the Chief Executive by giving the Marine Band the title, “The President’s Own.”

Whether performing for South Lawn arrival ceremonies, State Dinners, or receptions, Marine Band musicians appear at the White House more than 200 times each year. Additionally, the band participates in more than 400 public and official performances annually, including concerts and ceremonies throughout the Washington, DC, metropolitan area. Each fall, the band travels through a region of the United States during its concert tour, a century-old tradition started by the band’s legendary 17th Director, John Phillip Sousa.

As Director from 1880 to 1892, Sousa brought “The President’s Own” to unprecedented levels of excellence and shaped the band into a world-famous musical organization. During his tenure, the band was one of the first musical ensembles to make sound recordings. Sousa also began to write the marches that earned him the title “The March King.”

“The President’s Own” continues to maintain Sousa’s standard of excellence. Marine Band musicians are selected at auditions much like those of major symphony orchestras. Auditionees perform behind a screen to ensure anonymity. The audition committee makes its selection based on musical graduates of our nation’s finest music schools, often holding advanced degrees in music. More than 90 percent serve with the Marine Band for 20 or more years.

As America’s oldest professional musical organization, the Marine Band’s omnipresent role in events of national importance has made it part of the fabric of American life. As President Ronald Reagan said, “Whether serenading Adams or Jefferson, accompanying Lincoln to Gettysburg, or performing here at the White House, the Marine Band has become a national institution and a national treasure.”



Marine Band at the 2006 celebration

## Historical U.S. Flags

### HONORING THE HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN FLAG

*This is the sixth year that the Columbus Day celebration has been enhanced by the inclusion of all 27 of the official historic American flags, carried by a special group of Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus known as the "Honor America Corps."*

The United States flag was adopted by the resolution of the Continental Congress on June 14, 1777, "That the flag of the thirteen united States be 13 stripes alternate red and white, that the union be 13 stars, white on a blue field representing a new constellation." The design originated with Francis Hopkinson, chairman of the Continental Navy Board of the Congress, and was apparently originally intended for naval use.

After Vermont achieved statehood on March 4, 1791 and Kentucky on June 1, 1792, Congress adopted and President Washington signed a law on January 13, 1794 providing that after May 1, 1795 "the flag of the United States be fifteen stripes, alternate red and white; and that the union be fifteen stars white in a blue field." That was the only time the official flag had more than 13 stripes.

By 1818 five more states had been admitted to the Union with no change in the flag law, and in that year a new law was adopted: "That from and after the fourth day of July next, the flag of the United States be thirteen horizontal stripes, alternate red and white, that the union be twenty stars, white, in a blue field....That on the admission of every state into the Union, one star be added to the union of the flag, and that such addition shall take effect on the fourth of July next succeeding such admission." This was the first time that the stripes were specified to be horizontal. While official flags followed that design, usually with the stars arranged in horizontal rows, unofficial flags varied greatly.

After the admission of New Mexico and Arizona in 1912 brought the number of states to 48, President Taft issued an executive order specifying the arrangement of the stars, as well as standard proportions, and sizes of official flags. The 48-star flag remained in use for more than forty-six years, including two world wars. The next flag, with 49 stars, was in use for only one year, from July 4, 1959 (after admission of Alaska on January 3) to July 4, 1960 (after admission of Hawaii on August 21, 1959), when our current 50-star flag was adopted—fifty years ago.

The next page lists the 27 historical flags and when they were adopted.

The Honor America Corps was established in 2003 to provide a cadre of Knights willing to visit area parochial schools and school districts of Central Virginia as well as participate in civic and fraternal events to offer a clearer understanding of the meaning of our flag. (While its core membership comes from the Rappahannock Fourth Degree Assembly, it is open to all Knights who are willing and able to participate in its activities.) Audiences have ranged in size from over 6,000 at a minor league baseball game to 8 at a National Cemetery ceremony. Additional information about the program can be found at [www.honoramericacorps.org/](http://www.honoramericacorps.org/).



Quotations are taken from William Rea Furlong and Byron McCandless, *So Proudly We Hail: The History of the United States Flag*, Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, DC 1981, pp. 98, 158, and 185; description of Taft's executive order is on p. 212.

### The 27 Official Flags of the United States

	State	Date Ratified or Admitted	Flag Design	Dates in Use	No. of Stars	No. of Stripes
1	Delaware	Dec. 7, 1787				
2	Pennsylvania	Dec. 12, 1787				
3	New Jersey	Dec. 18, 1787				
4	Georgia	Jan. 2, 1788				
5	Connecticut	Jan. 9, 1788				
6	Massachusetts	Feb. 6, 1788				
7	Maryland	April 28, 1788				
8	South Carolina	May 23, 1788				
9	New Hampshire	June 21, 1788				
10	Virginia	June 25, 1788				
11	New York	July 26, 1788				
12	North Carolina	Nov. 21, 1789				
13	Rhode Island	May 29, 1790				
14	Vermont	March 4, 1791				
15	Kentucky	June 1, 1792	1st	1777-1795	13	13
16	Tennessee	June 1, 1796				

17	Ohio	March 1, 1803				
18	Louisiana	April 30, 1812				
19	Indiana	Dec. 11, 1816	2nd	1795-1818	15	15
20	Mississippi	Dec.10, 1817	3rd	July 4, 1818	20	13
21	Illinois	Dec. 3, 1818	4th	July 4, 1819	21	13
22	Alabama	Dec. 14, 1819				
23	Maine	March 15, 1820	5th	July 4, 1820	23	13
24	Missouri	Aug. 10, 1821	6th	July 4, 1822	24	13
25	Arkansas	June 15, 1836	7th	July 4, 1836	25	13
26	Michigan	Jan.26, 1837	8th	July 4, 1837	26	13
27	Florida	March 3, 1845	9th	July 4, 1845	27	13
28	Texas	Dec.29, 1845	10th	July 4, 1846	28	13
29	Iowa	Dec. 28, 1846	11th	July 4, 1847	29	13
30	Wisconsin	May 29, 1848	12th	July 4, 1848	30	13
31	California	Sept. 9, 1850	13th	July 4, 1851	31	13
32	Minnesota	May 11, 1858	14th	July 4, 1858	32	13
33	Oregon	Feb. 14, 1859	15th	July 4, 1859	33	13
34	Kansas	Jan.29, 1861	16th	July 4, 1861	34	13
35	West Virginia	June 20, 1863	17th	July 4, 1863	35	13
36	Nevada	Oct.31, 1864	18th	July 4, 1865	36	13
37	Nebraska	March 1, 1867	19th	July 4, 1867	37	13
38	Colorado	Aug. 1, 1876	20th	July 4, 1877	38	13
39	North Dakota	Nov. 2, 1889				
40	South Dakota	Nov. 2, 1889				
41	Montana	Nov. 8, 1889				
42	Washington	Nov. 11, 1889				
43	Idaho	July 3, 1890	21st	July 4, 1890	43	13
44	Wyoming	July 10, 1890	22nd	July 4, 1891	44	13
45	Utah	Jan. 4, 1896	23rd	July 4, 1896	45	13
46	Oklahoma	Nov.16, 1907	24th	July 4, 1908	46	13
47	New Mexico	Jan. 6, 1912				
48	Arizona	Feb.14, 1912	25th	July 4, 1912	48	13
49	Alaska	Jan. 3, 1959	26th	July 4, 1959	49	13
50	Hawaii	Aug. 21 1959	27th	July 4, 1960	50	13

From Milo M. Qaife, Melvin J. Weig, and Roy F. Appleman, *The History of the United States Flag*, Harper and Row, New York, 1961

## NATIONAL COLUMBUS CELEBRATION ASSOCIATION

Ever since the dedication in 1912 of the magnificent Columbus Memorial and Fountain in Columbus Plaza in front of Union Station, the site has been a focal point for annual celebrations, mainly by Knights of Columbus and Italian-American organizations, to honor the great navigator and discoverer. In 1934 Congress authorized and requested the President to issue an annual Columbus Day proclamation, and in 1968 declared Columbus Day a federal holiday commencing in 1971, which was inaugurated with a three-day celebration termed the “First National Columbus Day Celebration.”

Under the leadership of the Knights and Italian-Americans, annual celebrations involving U.S. military organizations, the diplomatic corps—especially Italy, Spain, and The Bahamas—and the National Park Service culminated in 1989 in establishment of a permanent organization, the Washington Columbus Celebration Association, to plan proper observance of the forthcoming Quincentenary anniversary (1991-92) and put the annual celebrations on a firmer footing with permanent sponsorship. Involvement of many national organizations, many individual members from other parts of the country, and the integration of an annual national NIAF-DAR essay contest into the celebration led to the change of name ten years later to the National Columbus Celebration Association, consistent with what the celebration was called when the Federal Holiday was established two decades earlier.

According to its by laws, “The Association seeks to honor not only the memory of Columbus and his historic achievement in linking the Old World and the New, but also the higher values that motivated and sustained him in his efforts and trials. These virtues—his faith, the courage of his convictions, dedication to purpose, perseverance in effort, professional excellence, and boldness in facing the unknown—are as appropriate today as they were in his time.” The Association invites individuals and organizations who identify with these purposes to become members. (See application on last page of this booklet.)

The Association is governed by a board of directors elected to staggered three-year terms by the general membership at the annual membership meeting. Officers are chosen annually for one-year terms by the board. Current board members and officers are:

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Col. Thomas J. Hogan, USA Ret., *President*

James P. McCusker, *Vice President*

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Richard Higgins

Martha V. Hilton

Edward M. Sullivan

## NATIONAL COLUMBUS CELEBRATION ASSOCIATION ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERS

### GENERAL

National Italian-American Foundation	Holy Rosary Church (Italian Parish) Order Sons of Italy in America
National Society Daughters of the American Revolution	Roma Lodge No. 71, O.S.I.A. George Washington Lodge
Margaret Whetten Chapter of the District of Columbia, D.A.R.	No. 2038, O.S.I.A. Abruzzo and Molise
Lido Civic Club of Washington, D.C.	Heritage Society Bladensburg Rotary Club

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Supreme Council	Fr. Horace B. McKenna Council
District of Columbia State Council	No. 11024, MD
Maryland State Council	Cardinal Patrick O'Boyle Council
Virginia State Council	No. 11302, DC
Harry J. Canter Insurance Agency	Bishop McNamara Chapter of
Washington Council No. 224, DC	Grand Knights, MD
Potomac Council No. 433, DC	Washington Assembly No. 151, 4th
Fr. Francis J. Diamond Council	Degree, DC
No. 6292, VA	Fr. Andrew White Assembly No.
St. Mary of the Assumption	377, 4th Degree, MD
Council No. 9302, MD	

Father O'Keefe Assembly No. 1162, 4th Degree, VA  
Commodore Barry Assembly No. 1163, 4th Degree, VA  
Richmond Assembly No. 1165, 4th Degree, VA  
Fr. Walter F. Malloy Assembly No. 1894, 4th Degree, VA  
Msgr. McMahon Assembly No. 2205, 4th Degree, VA  
Cardinal Hickey Prince of the Church Assembly 2534, 4th Degree, DC

## HONORARY MEMBERS

### ORGANIZATIONS

Archdiocese of Washington      The United States Marine Band  
The United States Army Band      "The President's Own"  
"Pershing's Own"

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Blanche L. Curfman  
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Dorla Dean Elton Kemper, HPG-NSDAR  
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Marguerite C. Moore  
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Jose L. Restepo. LL.D., OAS  
Msgr. Roger C. Roensch,  
Director, Bishops Office for U.S. Visitors to the Vatican  
Ana Maria Snell, Ph.D., University of Maryland  
Mrs. Presley Merritt Wagoner, HPG-NSDAR  
Linda Tinker Watkins, HPG-NSDAR  
2011 One-Year Membership for Last Year's Essay Contest Winners:  
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Nathan North, 2nd Place Winner  
Gretel M. Skelton, 3rd Place Winner

### COMMERCIAL MEMBERS

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Bob Grill, General Contractor  
Insurance Consulting Group  
W. B. Maske Sheet Metal Works  
Forum Properties

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DISTINGUISHED OFFICER MEDAL, 1996:

Edward M. Sullivan, Ph.D., PSD, K of C

DISTINGUISHED MEMBER MEDAL, 1998:

Gustav S. Weber, PSD, K of C

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL, 1999:

Alfred M. Rotondaro, Ph.D.

COUNSELOR EMERITUS MEDAL, 2005:

Richard J. Higgins, Esq.

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Lloyce Ann West  
Ronald B. White, PSD, K of C  
William Grantham Wood  
Mark F. Woznak  
Andrew M. Zaso



## Welcome

BY NATIONAL MALL AND MEMORIAL PARKS  
Supervisory Park Ranger Rebecca Karcher  
October 11, 2010

GOOD MORNING. DISTINGUISHED GUESTS,  
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

I am Rebecca Karcher, Supervisory Park Ranger, for the National Mall & Memorial Parks. On behalf of the National Park Service, welcome to the Columbus Memorial Statue and Fountain. It is a pleasure to be here today on the occasion of our nation's Columbus Day celebration.

National Mall & Memorial Parks, is a unit of the National Park Service and is the caretaker of this beautiful site.

National Mall & Memorial Parks contains some of the oldest protected park lands in the National Park Service, and this magnificent statue and fountain is one of them.

These park lands provide- visitors with ample opportunities to commemorate presidential legacies, honor veterans of war; to celebrate freedom and equality; and to honor the courage and celebrate legacies as we are doing today.

Our national parks, and public lands belong to every American and will remain a treasured part of our nation's spirit for generations to come. All are part of a system of 392 special places set aside by the American people so that all people may experience our heritage.

The National Park Service also administers areas in the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico, which Columbus discovered during his second voyage of 1493. The Columbus Memorial Statue and Fountain was dedicated in 1912. It has been the focal point for celebrations since that time to honor this famous navigator and discoverer.

The National Park Service thanks The National Columbus Celebration Association and its President, Col. Thomas Hogan, for making this celebration possible.

We also acknowledge the Knights of Columbus for their longtime support of this program in keeping with the Columbus Day national holiday.

In commemoration of Christopher Columbus, Congress declared Columbus Day a federal holiday on the second Monday in October. Therefore, let us recognize Columbus' contributions of courage and spirit, his dedication to purpose, and his boldness in facing the unknown.

Thank you



Consulado General de España

## Remarks by the Hon. Alvaro de Sala,

CONSUL GENERAL OF SPAIN

COLUMBUS DAY — OCTOBER II, 2010

*Mr. President and Members of the National Columbus Celebration Association, Representatives of: The US Department of the Interior, The National Park Service, The National Mall and Memorial Parks, The US Armed Forces and Members of the US Marine Band, The Knights of Columbus, The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, The State Councils of the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia and of the diverse National Societies, Distinguished Colleagues of the Diplomatic Corps, Ladies and Gentlemen:*

It is for me a great honour to represent here today the Spanish Embassy in this celebration of Columbus Day. As Spanish Consul General, I would like to convey the appreciation of the near 10.000 Spanish people who live and work in the Capital's Region, who have made America their home and, as you, might be living today somewhere else had Christopher Columbus not landed in America 518 years ago. Representing them, I am honoured to be accompanied today by the Spanish Navy Commander Enrique Montesinos representing the glorious Spanish Navy who honours Christopher Columbus as one of its greatest members, by Mrs. Susana Martínez de Castro, Ms. Geraldine Beneitez, Mr. Bruno Sanchez-Andrade and Mr. Fernando Jiménez and Mrs. Jiménez from the Council of Spanish Residents in DC, the elected body representing the Spanish community in the area, and by Mrs. Irene Bascuñana, President of the Spanish Club of Washington, D.C., by Mrs. Lydia Aguirre, in charge of Cultural Affairs at the Spanish Club and a national of Uruguay, Mr. Guillermo Aguirre, Mrs. Pusa Canali, and Mr Javier Garcia, from Ameriwinds, a company that promotes Spanish-US friendship, Mr Javier Velázquez from the Spanish Restaurant "La Taberna del Alabardero," Ms. María Luisa Escudero and Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Gannon, from Society of Spain, and Mr. Alberto Avedeño. Director of the Spanish-speaking newspaper El Tiempo Latino.

As you all know, we Spaniards consider Christopher Columbus's discoveries as the trademark of our history. That's why October 12 is our National Day. The historic voyage of 1492 and the three that followed proved to Old Europe

that a “New World”, plenty of possibilities and future, was on the other shore of the Atlantic. Since then, Europe and America have been partners, shared a common Christian and cultural heritage, and pursued closer political and economic ties, as we consider ourselves part of the Western civilization group of nations. The United States, of course, emerged as a formidable country and today is the major partner of the European Union, a group of nations who, proud of their history and accomplishments, want also to show the world our modern society structure and values so much shared with you, our American friends.

This Atlantic partnership and friendship between the Americas and Europe comes no doubt from Columbus’s legacy. We Spaniards are proud we contributed to that and are happy to celebrate today with you, here in this city of Washington, the District of Columbia that incorporates his name, beautiful capital of the United States of America, and home of most of us.

The Spanish Embassy thanks very much the National Columbus Celebration Association for its work in promoting the legacy of Christopher Columbus. That’s why, as a recognition of it, His Majesty the King and the Spanish Government have granted, upon my request, the Cross of Officer of the Order of Isabel la Catolica to Colonel Thomas Hogan, the President of the Association. It is my honor and my pleasure to present it to him today. Colonel



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## Remarks by Miss Bridget McKay

SECOND SECRETARY AND VICE CONSUL

EMBASSY OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS

OCTOBER 11, 2010

*Representatives of the United States Department of The Interior*

*Representatives of the Governments of Italy and Spain*

*Fellow members of the Diplomatic Corps*

*Representatives of the Organization of American States*

*President of the National Columbus Celebration Association*

*Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen:*

Good morning. I count it a signal honour to bring you greetings on behalf of the Government and People of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, as I join you in celebrating Columbus Day.

Let me begin by sharing some words:

*“For beautiful it is.. .so green and fair, like all the land and everything else on these islands; I do not know where to go first, and my eyes never weary of seeing such marvelous vegetation, so different from our own. I never saw a lovelier sight”*

Thus wrote Christopher Columbus in his journals on October 12, 1492, having departed Europe, from the sumptuous court of Ferdinand and Isabella. He recorded in superlative detail his first impression of what was to become known as the New World, which he found in The Bahamas.

After 10 weeks at sea, Columbus made his first landfall in the New World at the tiny Bahamian island of Guanahani. Upon arrival, he met the indigenous people, and thus initiated the lengthy and continuing contact between the Old World and the New.

So profound was that meeting in 1492 that we are still celebrating its impact today. In fact, in 1926 The Bahamas proclaimed October 12 a national holiday in honour of a man who played such an important role in the making and shaping of Bahamian history.

That the arrival of Columbus in The Bahamas had a profound impact on the development of The Bahamas is beyond dispute. From the moment he arrived, Columbus’s presence reverberated throughout the nation, even to the point of his rechristening Guanahani. He named it San Salvador.

While in recent years, some have argued about whether the result of his impact was a net positive, one might nonetheless say that he was the first European tourist to The Bahamas, and thus inaugurated what has become our main economic engine.

And, I must add that while there is no denying that he had an impact on us, it is equally true to say that the islands of the Bahamas had a tremendous impact on the legendary Italian explorer. In that vein, let me here extend an invitation to you to continue the relationship inaugurated by Christopher Columbus. Come visit The Bahamas. Let us make you welcome now, as our ancestors and those who occupied the islands before us made Columbus and his successors welcome then.

On behalf of the Government and People of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, I thank you for the honour of addressing you today and wish you a Happy Columbus Day. Thank you.

## Remarks by Irene Klinger

DIRECTOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS  
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES  
OCTOBER 11, 2010

First of all, I would like to thank Thomas J. Hogan, President of the National Columbus Celebration Association, for his kind invitation to commemorate the discovery of the Americas by Christopher Columbus. This discovery was the Encounter of Two Worlds. This encounter was one of the first steps for what we know now as a globalized world. Today we are commemorating the spirit of adventure, entrepreneurship, and risk-taking of our ancestors, but we are also celebrating the fact that the world is almost fully-connected and that our individual actions here can influence the lives of others elsewhere and vice versa. With the perspective that time gives and projecting the Hemisphere to the future, this day is also a day to commit ourselves to achieve a hemisphere that gives voice to the rich plurality of its inhabitants including the indigenous peoples of the Americas.

Ladies and gentlemen, Christopher Columbus traveled to the shores of what are today no less than fourteen Member countries of the Organization of American States, which I represent in this event. His wooden ships visited Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, St. Kitts and Nevis, Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela. And, of course, the country of Colombia, in addition to the District of Columbia, both named after him.

The flags of each of these countries, as well as the other 20 members of the Organization of American States, hang in our 100 year-old historic headquarters in Washington, D.C., as a testament to diplomatic cooperation and to the Organization's aspiration to achieve democracy, justice, peace and prosperity in the Americas.

In these efforts we are inspired by the spirit of exploration and discovery of Columbus. He set out to discover a new world. It is now our responsibility to discover new possibilities for our hemisphere, to make our region a rich and multi-cultural space, a beacon of hope and freedom nurtured by complex and diverse ancestral traditions and new knowledge and creativity.

**Legislation and Proclamations:**  
COLUMBUS DAY AS A FEDERAL HOLIDAY  
1934 RESOLUTION REQUIRING ANNUAL  
COLUMBUS DAY PROCLAMATION

[CHAPTER 194.]

**JOINT RESOLUTION**

Requesting the President to proclaim October 12 as Columbus Day for the observance of the anniversary of the discovery of America.

April 30, 1934.  
[H. J. Res. 19.]  
[Pub. Nos., No. 21.]

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation designating October 12 of each year as Columbus Day and calling upon officials of the Government to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on said date and inviting the people of the United States to observe the day in schools and churches, or other suitable places, with appropriate ceremonies expressive of the public sentiment befitting the anniversary of the discovery of America.*

Columbus Day.  
President requested  
to issue proclamation  
designating.

Approved, April 30, 1934.

1968 Law Making Columbus Day A Federal Holiday

**HOLIDAYS—OBSERVANCES ON MONDAYS**

*For Legislative History of Act, see p. 2335*

**PUBLIC LAW 90-368; 82 STAT. 250**

[H. R. 19661]

An Act to provide for uniform annual observances of certain legal public holidays on Mondays, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That:*

(a) Section 6103(a) of title 5, United States Code,<sup>39</sup> is amended to read as follows:

**"§ 6103. Holidays**

"(a) The following are legal public holidays:

"New Year's Day, January 1.

"Washington's Birthday, the third Monday in February.

"Memorial Day, the last Monday in May.

"Independence Day, July 4.

"Labor Day, the first Monday in September.

"Columbus Day, the second Monday in October.

"Veterans Day, the fourth Monday in October.

"Thanksgiving Day, the fourth Thursday in November.

"Christmas Day, December 25."

(b) Any reference in a law of the United States (in effect on the effective date of the amendment made by subsection (a) of this section) to the observance of a legal public holiday on a day other than the day prescribed for the observance of such holiday by section 6103(a) of title 5, United States Code, as amended by subsection (a), shall on and after such effective date be considered a reference to the day for the observance of such holiday prescribed in such amended section 6103(a).

Sec. 2. The amendment made by subsection (a) of the first section of this Act shall take effect on January 1, 1971.

Approved June 28, 1968.

39. 52 U.S.C.A. § 2562(b).  
40. 5 U.S.C.A. § 6103(a).

SELECTED PARAGRAPHS FROM THE  
SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE STATEMENT:

The joint resolution of the Senate and House of the 73rd Congress, Second Session, approved on April 30, 1934 (shown above) requested the President to issue an annual Columbus Day proclamation. President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued the proclamation (to be shown below), as directed on September 30 of that year, and a presidential proclamation has been issued annually since then. Columbus Day was designated as October 12 and remained so until 1971, when it was first celebrated on the second Monday of October, and first celebrated as a legal federal holiday, in accordance with the "Monday Holiday Law," (also shown above) passed by Congress on June 28, 1968 to take effect in 1971.

Reproduced below are copies of relevant portions of the report of the Senate Judiciary Committee (paragraphs 1-5, and 14), chaired by Senator James Eastland.

VIVILLIE L. FREEMAN.

**HOLIDAYS—OBSERVANCES ON MONDAYS**

*P.L. 90-363, see page 391*

**House Report (Judiciary Committee) No. 1280,  
Apr. 4, 1968 [To accompany H.R. 15951]**

**Senate Report (Judiciary Committee) No. 1293,  
June 21, 1968 [To accompany H.R. 15951]**

**Cong. Record Vol. 114 (1968)**

**DATES OF CONSIDERATION AND PASSAGE**

**House May 9, 1968**

**Senate June 24, 1968**

**The Senate Report is set out.**

**SENATE REPORT NO. 1293**

**T**HE Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the bill (H.R. 15951) to provide for uniform annual observances of certain legal public holidays on Mondays, and for other purposes, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon, without amendment, and recommends that the bill do pass.

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of the proposed legislation is to provide for uniform annual observances of certain legal public holidays on Mondays, and to establish a legal public holiday in honor of Christopher Columbus, a holiday which would be observed on the second Monday in October.

## LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

### STATEMENT

Under present Federal law Washington's birthday is observed as a national holiday on February 22; Memorial Day on May 30; and Veterans' Day on November 11. Present Federal law does not provide, however, for the observance of Columbus Day as a legal public holiday, even though a day honoring Columbus has been established under the laws of 31 of the 50 States.

By calling for the observance of three of the present national holidays on Mondays and by creating an additional holiday to be observed on Monday, the proposed legislation would bring about substantial benefits to both the spiritual and economic life of the Nation. It would afford increased opportunities for families to be together, especially those families of which the various members are separated by great distances. It would enable our citizens to enjoy a wider range of recreational facilities since they would be afforded more time for travel.

In addition, by affording more time to our citizens for travel, the Monday holiday program would increase the opportunities for pilgrimages to the historical sites connected with our holidays, thereby increasing participation in the commemoration of historical events. At the same time, the program would also afford greater opportunity for leisure at home so that our citizens would be able to enjoy fuller participation in hobbies as well as educational and cultural activities. Finally, the Monday holiday program would stimulate greater industrial and commercial production by reducing employee absenteeism and enabling workweeks to be free from interruptions in the form of midweek holidays.

In recommending the observance of Columbus Day, it is the committee's judgment that such a holiday would be, as has been suggested by Representative Rohibo, "an annual reaffirmation by the American people of their faith in the future, a declaration of willingness to face with confidence the imponderables of unknown tomorrows." It is also the committee's judgment that the observance of Columbus Day is an appropriate means of recognizing the United States as a "nation of immigrants"—as we were described by the late President Kennedy. By commemorating the voyage of Columbus to the New World, we would be honoring the courage and determination which enabled generation after generation of immigrants from every nation to broaden their horizons in search of new hopes and a renewed affirmation of freedom.

1934: FIRST ANNUAL COLUMBUS DAY PROCLAMATION:

The following is the first of the annual Presidential proclamations of Columbus Day mandated by Congress in 1934.

**COLUMBUS DAY**

**BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS** Public Resolution 21 Seventy-third Congress, approved April 30, 1934, provides:

“That the President of the United States is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation designating October 12 of each year as Columbus Day and calling upon officials of the Government to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings. on said date and inviting the people of the United States to observe the day in schools and churches, or other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies expressive of the public sentiment befitting the anniversary of the discovery of America.”;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT**, President of the United States of America, under and by virtue of the authority vested in me by the aforesaid public resolution, do by this proclamation designate October 12 of each year as Columbus Day and do direct that on that day the flag of the United States be displayed on all Government buildings; and, further, I do invite the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies in schools and churches, or other suitable places.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

**DONE** at the City of Washington this 30th day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and thirty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and fifty-ninth.

[SEAL]

FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT

By the President:  
CORDELL HULL  
Secretary of State

## 1971 PROCLAMATION FOR THE FIRST FEDERAL HOLIDAY

The following is the first proclamation of Columbus Day in accordance with the "Monday holiday law" approved in 1968, and first effective in 1971:



### Columbus Day, 1971

*By the President of the United States of America*

#### A Proclamation

On Columbus Day, 1971, we honor once more the memory of the great captain whose historic voyages led to the migration of peoples to the New World and brought fresh promises of liberty and freedom to the Old.

In this present age of epic journeys in space, we can appreciate more than ever the great achievements of Christopher Columbus. An intrepid explorer, a supreme navigator, but above all a man of unshakable faith and courage, this son of Italy sailed in the service of the Spanish crown on a mission that forever broadened man's hopes and horizons.

We take pride in commemorating the vision and determination of Christopher Columbus, and carry forward his spirit of exploration as part of our national heritage.

In tribute to the achievements of Columbus, the Congress of the United States, by joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), as modified by the Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as Columbus Day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Monday, October 11, 1971, as Columbus Day; and I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day in schools, churches, and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies in honor of the great explorer.

I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in memory of Christopher Columbus.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, this 31st day of August, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-sixth.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Richard Nixon".

## In Memoriam - Gustav S. "Gus" Weber



Gus Weber served as editor, compositor, and production manager of this program book from its inception in the 1992 Quincentenary Year until 2005. He was awarded the Distinguished Member medal by the Association in 1998 and was an honorary member of the Board of Directors. Gus was a Past State Deputy of the Knights of Columbus, totally committed to its ideals and service goals, and involved in many facets of its work, most notably the interjurisdictional usher program at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, of which he was the mainstay.



THE DOWNTOWN COUNCIL

## Potomac Council 433 Knights of Columbus

- ◆ Home Council of Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson, Sr., PGK, FDD, PSD
- ◆ Home council of the Knight (Joe Burg, Advocate) who instigated the legislation to build the national Columbus Memorial and Fountain at Union Station in the 1900s
- ◆ serving men working or living or attending parishes in downtown D.C., or working on Capitol Hill
- ◆ serving St. Matthew's, St. Patrick's, St. Mary's, and Holy Rosary parishes
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This specially-commissioned statue  
of a youthful  
**Christopher Columbus**  
graces the courtyard  
of Holy Rosary Church

Washington, D.C., where a brief ceremony is held annually as part of the religious celebration of Columbus Day, following a special Mass in the church on the Sunday preceding the Monday holiday.

It was erected by parishioners under the spirited leadership of its pastor,

**Fr. Caesar Donanzan, C.S.,**  
and presented to the parish

**by the Lido Civic Club**

following the Quincentenary Mass  
on October 11, 1992.

*An inscription on a bronze plate on the supporting pedestal reads as follows:*

### **CHRISTOPHER COLOMBO**

This monument erected on the occasion of the 1992 Quincentennial Jubilee celebrating the discovery of America, pays tribute to Cristoforo Colombo and his searching companions. Their bold voyage led to an historic encounter between the European world and the Americas. A turning point in Western Civilization, this event paved the way for the spreading of the Gospel and the establishment of a society anchored on the principles of Christian love and holiness.

1492-1992



OPEN Letter:

The Lido Civic Club of Washington D.C. and its' members are pleased to continually support the Columbus Day Celebration and the National Columbus Celebration Association.

The organization, founded in 1929 to aid immigrants of Italian descent to assimilate into the American culture, has continued the tradition of helping the needy, whether through charitable contributions or college scholarships. During the past year, the Club has provided in excess of \$32,000.00 in college scholarships and has been a strong supporter of the Wounded Warriors programs at the Walter Reed Hospital.

How do we do this? We have an annual Past Presidents Night gala and an Italian - American Golf tournament that raises funds for these worthy causes. Last year during our 80th anniversary Past Presidents Night gala, we honored two men whose contribution to the America have lifted others lives and set a standard in their respective fields. We honored Joseph Bruno, a noted charter school developer and contributor to many causes benefitting young people in the Washington D.C. area, and honored Mario Andretti, famed race car driver and noted philanthropist. Attendees enjoyed meeting these men and learning about their lives. The black tie affair was held at the Embassy of Italy and had in attendance over 450 people.

If you would like to learn more about the Lido Civic Club of Washington, D.C., its' programs, or would like to join an organization that benefits the less fortunate while sharing your Italian heritage, contact us at [www.lidocivicclub.com](http://www.lidocivicclub.com) .

We would like to thank Thomas J. Hogan, President, NCCA and his staff for their efforts in keeping the legacy of Christopher Columbus alive and intact.

Lido Civic Club of Washington, DC • 1431 21<sup>st</sup>, NW, Suite 202, Washington, DC 20016



*In Honor of the*

*Great Discoverer*

*Christopher Columbus*

*from the*

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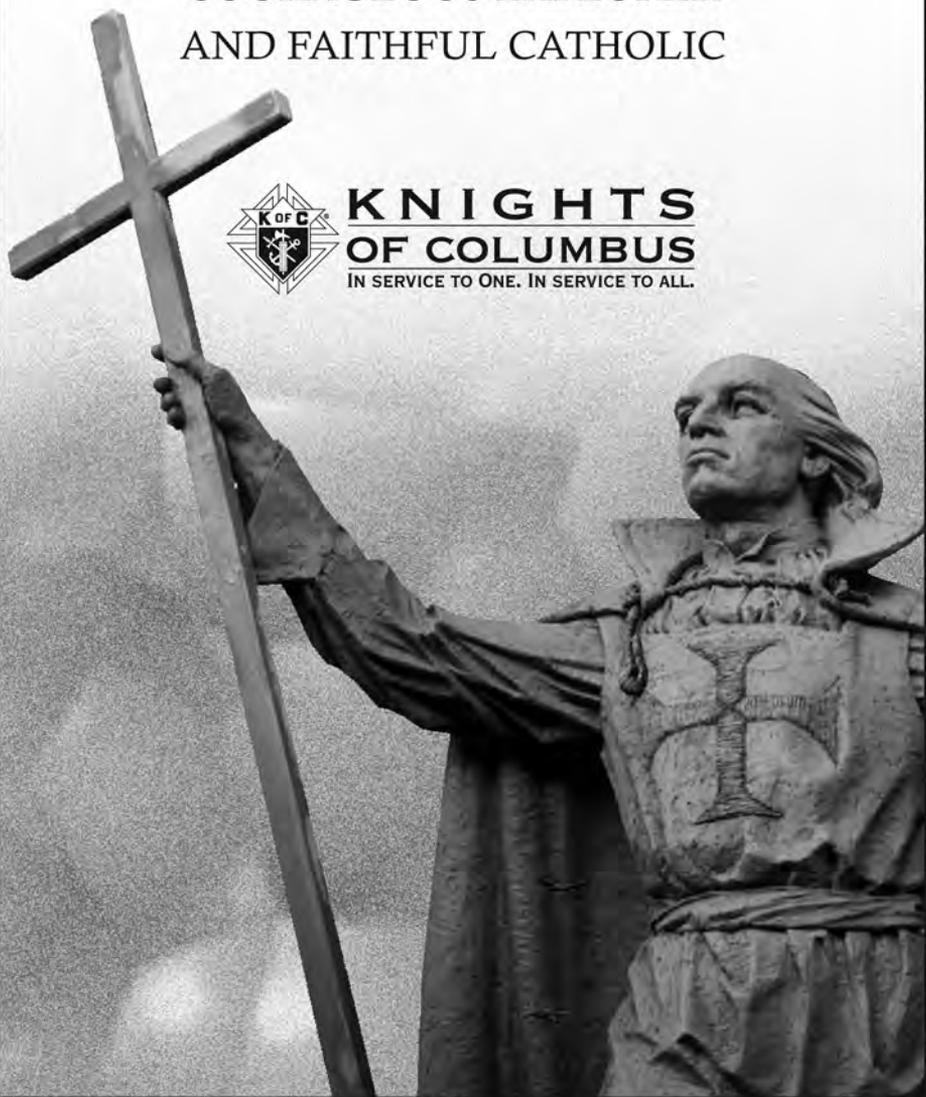
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JOINS IN HONORING THE MEMORY OF  
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COURAGEOUS EXPLORER  
AND FAITHFUL CATHOLIC



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IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.



**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA STATE COUNCIL**

*Knights of Columbus*

*Established in the Year of Our Lord 1899*



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***Home Jurisdiction of  
Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson***



**Maryland State Council  
Knights of Columbus**

**Best Wishes For A Successful  
Columbus Day Celebration**

**Rev. Donald Grzymiski, OFM Conv.  
State Chaplain**

**Peter Davio and Francine  
State Deputy**

**William Kuchmas, III and Donna  
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**Stephen Adamczyk and Kathleen  
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# Knights of Columbus

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Jason Augustine, Inner Sentinel	Erik Green, Outer Sentinel

Home Assembly of:

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Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson  
DC State Deputy Peter A. Gabauer, Jr.**

**PATRICK CARDINAL O'BOYLE COUNCIL 11302  
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*St. Martin de Porres Council #9386*

*Knights of Columbus  
District of Columbia*



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*Gentleman and Faithful Catholic  
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Steven J. Upton, NCCA Secretary  
20244 Tidewinds Way  
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# **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

**Father Francis J. Diamond Council # 6292**

**Fairfax, Virginia**



***The Knights of Father Diamond Council  
Offer Best Wishes for a Successful  
Columbus Day Ceremony***

***We ask that all Councils of the Order  
Consider Attending the 100th Anniversary  
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***Special thanks to National Park Service for their cooperation  
in the organizing and planning for this event***



We are all reflections of our heritage.



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more brightly than  
others.

NIAF salutes the National Columbus Celebration Association  
and The National Park Service  
Columbus Day Ceremony – October 10, 2011



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