

Columbus Day

2015



Celebrating

VISION,

EXCELLENCE,

DISCOVERY



This
**Columbus
Day**

CACI honors the Great Discoverer, whose bold endeavor changed the map to include the New World. We also celebrate the 103rd anniversary of the magnificent Columbus Statue in Washington, DC. As a global innovator of solutions to advance national security and transform government, CACI appreciates the significance of this intrepid visionary.

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CELEBRATES

522 Years of Discovery



HONORING THE GREAT DISCOVERER

Christopher Columbus

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2015
THE COLUMBUS MEMORIAL
COLUMBUS PLAZA - UNION STATION
WASHINGTON, D.C.

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

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 in the District of Columbia to establish a monument in the nation's capital to the great discoverer. At their urging, Congress passed a law mandating a memorial, appropriating \$100,000 to cover 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 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 gave us what you see today: a monument of Georgia marble, a semi-circular fountain 66 feet by 44 feet, 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 me-

dallion 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. His work 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. The Columbus Fountain and Taft's Columbus statue were influenced in part by Frederick MacMonnies' fountain at the World's Columbian Exhibition.

Dedication of the new memorial took place on Saturday, June 8, 1912 in the presence of President Taft and was accompanied by an elaborate three-day celebration organized by the Knights of Columbus that brought a reported 47,000 Knights and their families and others to the capital—115,000 in all. The photo on our title page shows the monument in its gleaming whiteness immediately after the flags that had veiled it were parted by an electric signal from the Italian ambassador. The unveiling ceremonies were followed by a mammoth 3-mile-long parade, viewed by 300,000 people according to newspaper accounts.

TODAY'S CEREMONY

Throughout the years fraternal, civic and cultural organizations provided leadership for an annual Columbus Day ceremony at the site. 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 Christopher Columbus Association (NCCA), established in 1989 to plan the celebration in the Quincentenary and subsequent years. It brings in many attendees from other parts of the country each year.

Appearances of the U.S. Military Honor Guard, the Marine Band, and the Knights of Columbus Color Corps add to the pageantry.

Reading of the annual presidential and mayoral proclamations, remarks by members of the diplomatic corps 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 constitute the program, which is open to the public free of charge. This booklet has been prepared and is provided by the National Christopher Columbus Association, which expresses appreciation to the National Park Service for its collaboration in sponsoring this event.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The National Christopher Columbus Association expresses its gratitude to the following for their timely efforts, both physical and financial, for the success of this celebration:

The Lido Club of Washington for their very generous contribution.

Vice Supreme Master **Wayne Freet**, 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; **Tom Trudeau**, Master, Virginia District; and **John Winfrey**, Master, Archdiocese of Washington District.

Francis S. Connors and the **Honor America Corps** for the appearance of the 27 historical official American flags.

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: **Robbin Owen**, Permits Officer; **Ned Wallace**, National Mall and Memorial Parks; **Matthew R. Newman**, Maintenance for Special Events; and **Toni Braxton**, Communications.

Sgt. Mike Johnson and **Officers of the U.S. Park Police**.

D.C. College Councils of the Knights of Columbus, 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.

The National Italian American Foundation for their generous support of the National Christopher Columbus Essay Contest.

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, **Lynn Forney Young**, President General, and **Bana Weems Caskey**, Historian General, and their respective staff; **Laura Kessler**, National Chairman, American History Committee, and **Violet Ann Kraft**, National Vice Chairman for the Christopher Columbus Essay Contest for their assistance, and cosponsorship of the National Christopher Columbus Essay Contest, and for the vital support provided by DAR chapters throughout the United States.

The Knights of Columbus Office of Communications in New Haven, for the printing of this book, and for providing photographic services, and **Duane J. Lomis** for archival videography.

Nancy DeSanti, for granting us permission to print the excerpt from her late father's book, *Columbus and the New World*, as our featured article in this year's booklet.

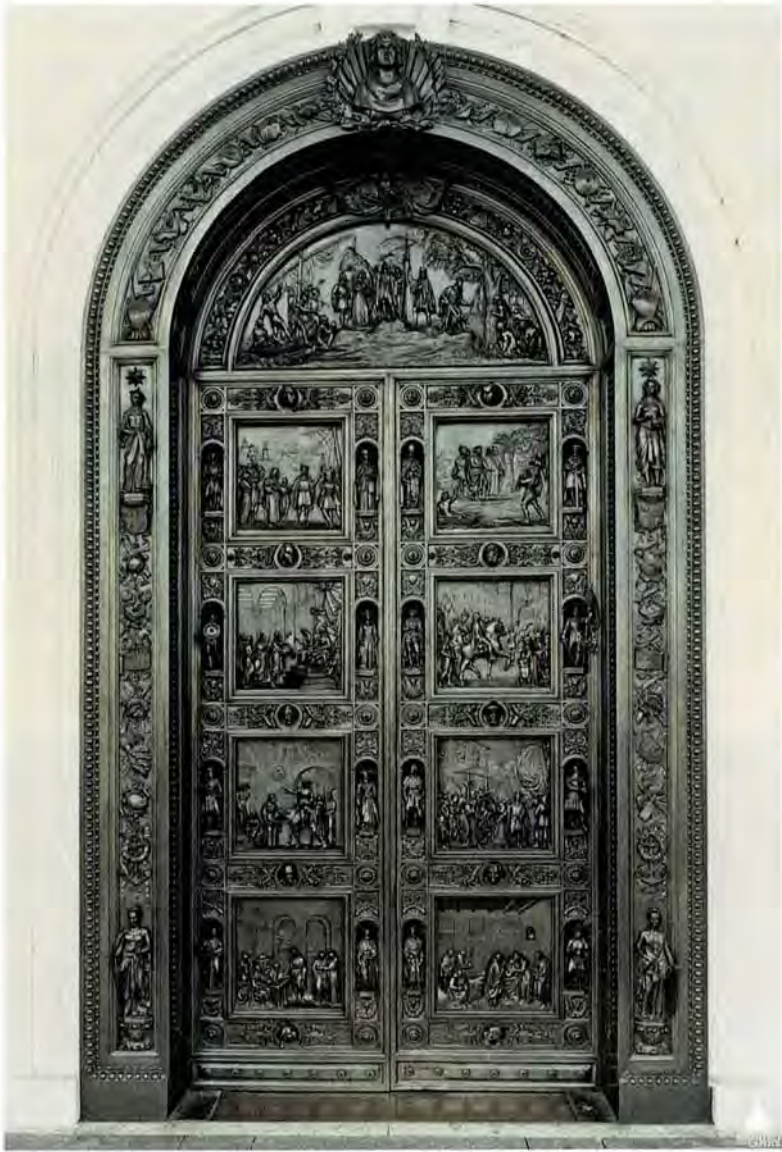
Fr. Ezio Marchetto and **Holy Rosary Church**, where a special Mass is held the day before Columbus Day each year.

This year's program cover art



This is a closeup photo of the sculpture at the top of the U.S. Capitol's Columbus Doors. The doors are nearly 17 feet high and weigh 20,000 pounds. The door was created by the American sculptor Randolph Rogers, and was originally installed in 1863.

This portion of the door depicts the Landing of Columbus in the New World, and shows Columbus claiming the island now known as San Salvador for Spain in 1492. A full view of the Columbus Doors appears on the next page.



American sculptor Randolph Rogers (1825-1892), who had studied sculpture in Italy, traveled to Rome to work on models for the Columbus Doors. Below the depiction of the arrival of Columbus in America at the top are eight panels, four on each door, depicting scenes in the life of Columbus. The sculpture of the great explorer's life begins at the bottom of the left door, with "Columbus Before the Council of Salamanca," and concludes on the lower right panel with the "Death of Columbus" in 1506. The doors are located at the main entrance to the Capitol building on the east front of the Capitol.

CIVIC CEREMONY
Sponsored by
NATIONAL CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS ASSOCIATION
in cooperation with the
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL MALL & MEMORIAL PARKS
Monday, October 12, 2015
COLUMBUS PLAZA — UNION STATION

- MUSICAL PRELUDE 10:45 a.m.
“The President’s Own” United States Marine Band
1st Lt. Ryan J. Nowlin, conducting
- POSTING OF THE COLORS 11:00 a.m.
U.S. Armed Forces Color Guard, *Military District of Washington*
Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree Color Corps
—*Calvert Province Districts of Washington Archdiocese, Maryland and Virginia*
Columbus Expeditionary Banner, Raymond Moore as Christopher Columbus
- NATIONAL ANTHEMS United States of America, Italy, Spain
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Patrick E. Kelly
Vice President, Knights of Columbus
- INVOCATION Rev. Ezio Marchetto, C.S.
Pastor, Holy Rosary Catholic Church
- RETIRING OF THE COLORS U.S. Armed Forces Color Guard
- WELCOME James P. McCusker
President, National Christopher Columbus Association
Rebecca Karcher
National Park Service, National Capital Region
- REMARKS Francesco Isgro, Esq.
President, Lido Civic Club of Washington, D.C.

REMARKS

Members 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

Claud Boyd, Aiken, South Carolina:

“Joining Christopher Columbus on his voyage to the New World”

Contest sponsored jointly by:

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY DAUGHTERS

OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

— Lynn Forney Young, President General

represented by Barbara Carpenter, Recording Secretary General

THE NATIONAL ITALIAN AMERICAN FOUNDATION

— Gabriella Mileti, Grants and Scholarship Manager

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

“America, the Beautiful”

Samuel Augustus Ward, lyrics by Katherine Lee Bates

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

GySgt Sara Del’Orno, Mezzo-Soprano

PRESENTATION OF MEMORIAL WREATHS

National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior

National Columbus Celebration Association

Embassy of Italy

Embassy of Spain

Centro Español de Washington, DC

Organization of American States

National Society Daughters of the American Revolution

Supreme Council Knights of Columbus

National Italian American Foundation

Lido Civic Club of Washington, DC

District of Columbia State Council, Knights of Columbus
Maryland State Council, Knights of Columbus
Virginia State Council, Knights of Columbus
Washington Council #224, Knights of Columbus
Roma Lodge, Order Sons of Italy in America
George Washington Lodge, Order Sons of Italy in America
National Council for the Promotion of Italian Language in America
District of Columbia State Society, Daughters
of the American Revolution
Maryland State Society, Daughters of the American Revolution
Virginia State Society, Daughters of the American Revolution
District of Columbia Society of Mayflower Descendants
District of Columbia Branch, Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims
National Society Daughters of the American Colonists
National Society Children of the American Colonists
National Society Children of the American Revolution
DC Society Children of the American Revolution
Archdiocese of Washington Catholic Committee on Scouting

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

GySgt Sara Del’Orno, Mezzo-Soprano

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.

MUSICAL POSTLUDE

“The Stars and Stripes Forever”

John Philip Sousa

A Summary of the Marine Band's History

For more than two centuries, the United States Marine Band has been part of the events that have shaped our nation. As “The President’s Own,” its omnipresent role has made it an important thread in the fabric of American life.

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

President John Adams invited the Marine Band to make its White House debut on New Year’s Day, 1801, in the then-unfinished Executive Mansion. It is believed in March of 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 and is credited with 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. These performances range from a solo harpist or chamber orchestra, to a dance band or full concert band, making versatility an important requirement for band members. Additionally, the band participates in more than 500 public and official performances annually, including concerts and ceremonies throughout the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area. Each fall, the band travels through a region of the United States during its concert tour, a century-old tradition initiated by John Philip Sousa, the band’s legendary 17th Director.

As Director from 1880-92, 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.”

In its third century, the Marine Band continues a tradition of excellence that earned it the title, “The President’s Own.” Whether in White House performances, public concerts, or national tours, the music of the Marine Band is the music of America.

Proclamation



COLUMBUS DAY

OCTOBER 12, 2015

WHEREAS, Christopher Columbus was an explorer and navigator who set out on a journey from Spain in 1492 with three ships, Nina, Pinta and Santa Maria, which resulted in the European discovery of the New World; and

WHEREAS, the Columbus Memorial Statue and Fountain erected on Columbus Plaza in 1912 to recognize and honor the contributions and achievements of Christopher Columbus, and to this day welcomes visitors into our city; and

WHEREAS, in 1934, Congress authorized and requested President Franklin Delano Roosevelt to issue an annual Columbus Day proclamation, and in 1968 Columbus Day was declared a public holiday commencing in 1971; and

WHEREAS, today as we commemorate the 523rd Anniversary of Columbus' expedition to the West, which is being celebrated at Columbus Plaza in front of Union Station, and is hosted by the National Christopher Columbus Association and the National Park Service;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, THE MAYOR OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, do hereby proclaim October 12, 2015, in Washington, DC, as "COLUMBUS DAY."



BIOGRAPHIES

CLAUD BOYD is currently a freshman at the University of South Carolina Honors in Columbia and is pursuing a Bachelors degree in Mechanical Engineering and plans to continue at USC and earn a Masters in Aerospace Engineering. Boyd is a young man who makes his decisions with the goals of maintaining his integrity, demonstrating excellence, and honoring God.

He has many interests and has participated in many extra-curricular activities ranging from Piano to Boxing during his home education. He also was a part of many clubs and organizations such as 4-H in elementary school and Civil Air Patrol from 2012 to 2015. In the Civil Air Patrol Jacob earned a rocketry badge, traveled to a National Cadet Special Activity, competed in CyberPatriot, flew a glider and a Cessna 172 aircraft, and eventually earned the rank of C/2d Lt. In Middle School and High School, Jacob participated in Science Olympiad where he won a combined total of eighteen awards at the regional and state levels. In addition to these activities, Jacob also worked as a lifeguard from October 2013 to July 2015 at the Augusta Aquatics Center in Augusta, GA.

His primary hobby is history, and most of his free time is spent doing something history-related, whether it's reading historical warfare games or googling Executive Orders of Franklin Roosevelt. He is currently enjoying the continuation of his academic career at the University of South Carolina where he is pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering, but likes to come home every now and then to visit family, friends and pets.

He feels very blessed and honored to be here with you today, and would like to thank his parents and Shirley Coleman, Larry Morris, Tracy Walsh, Wendy Hoyle, and Denise Merchant. He would also like to thank Cynthia George for informing Jacob about this essay contest.

JAMES P. "J.P." MCCUSKER, the President of the National Christopher Columbus Association, was born and raised in Uniontown, Pennsylvania and is the fourth Son of Maude and John McCusker. He joined the Navy after graduating from St. John's High School and became a Hospital Corpsman. He served on the USS Abbott and at Naval hospitals in Philadelphia and Portsmouth, VA.

J.P. is a 1972 graduate of Benjamin Franklin University in Washington, DC with a Degree in Business Administration. He received a Masters in Contract Law and Program Management from George Washington University.

J.P. retired from the Federal Government after serving 32 years as a Civil Servant. During the last 19 years of his career, he served in the Pentagon Office of the Assistant Secretary for Acquisition.

J.P. became a Knight of Columbus in 1972 and immediately became involved in the George Brent Council, 5332, Manassas, VA. During his tenure as Grand Knight, George Brent Council was awarded the Supreme Council's Community Activity Award. He is also a charter member of Bishop J. Louis Flaherty Assembly where he served as Faithful Navigator in 1980-81.

J.P. was elected State Advocate in 1997 and subsequently served as State Treasurer, State Secretary, and State Deputy. During his administration, Virginia achieved the Circle of Honor Award. After his term as State Deputy, J.P. was appointed District Master for the Virginia District and served for 5 years.

He recently retired as a Membership and Programs Consultant for the Supreme Council.

J.P. is a member of All Saints Parish where he serves as an Extraordinary Minister of the Holy Eucharist, Chief Usher and a member of Liturgy Committee.

He is a member of the Board of Directors of the National Christopher Columbus Association and serves as the President. He is also on the Board of Directors of Medical Missionaries, which supports the medical needs of the poorest of poor throughout the world.

J.P. has been married to the former Mary A. (Maggie) Gouker for 49 years.



Claud J. A. Boyd

*Homeschooled
Aiken, South Carolina*

Joining Christopher Columbus on His Voyage to the New World

To my friends and family in Galway, Ireland:

I am about to embark on an adventure whose origins come from fifteen years prior. If you will recall, in 1477, some of us came across a pair of bodies that had washed up on the shore in a strange-looking vessel. They were of a most odd appearance, as they did not look like Irish, English, Laplanders, Italians, Saracens, or any other group of men known to us. If you will remember, later that day I mentioned I noticed another man examining the bodies. I have met this man again. He is one called, in Spanish, Cristobal Colon, or in English, Christopher Columbus. I am here in Palos to embark on a journey with this man to find Cathay by traveling westward. He seemed convinced from these two books he keeps on his person, *Imago Mundiby Pierre d' Ailly* and *The Travels of Marco Polo*, the latter of which I have also read, that the man and woman who washed up on shore were subjects of the Great Khan, that is to say, residents of Cathay (*Quinn 284*). Based on this and the calculations he made from *Imago Mundi* and other such writings, he thinks he can sail around the world from Spain to the Far East (*Dodge 48-49*).

It is a risky adventure, and King John 11 of Portugal already rejected his offer on the advice of his court advisors (*Dodge 53*). The Spanish monarchs, on the other hand, have approved this voyage. Three ships have been outfitted for this journey, and Columbus has made special requests for the provisions. The food includes some high-quality sea biscuit, honey, rice, salted beef, and almonds. The fishing gear he ordered should help while away the boring hours (*The Mariners' Museum*). There appear to be about ninety men preparing to travel on three ships, about forty on the largest of the three, and the other fifty split between the other two vessels (*Fuson 223*). I shall be traveling on the largest vessel with the Captain-General, as that is the rank he has been given, on the largest ship. As I stated earlier, we are departing from Palos, therefore most of the crew are local Spaniards and I see dozens upon dozens of red woolen gorros donning their heads (*The Mariners' Museum*). I have been traveling under the name Guillermo Ires, and I am aware of only one other non-Spaniard on the boats besides Columbus and myself, an Englishman named Arthur (*Fuson 227*). The Spanish monarchs have issued pardons to anyone willing to undertake the voyage, and I have heard rumors that four men have taken up the offer. One was a man who was imprisoned, and the others are friends of his who broke him out of prison. I am unsure as to whether this is a testament to their willingness to behave lawlessly or their loyalty to their friend. I hope it is the latter, but I don't know whether to expect good or ill of them (*The Mariners' Museum*).

This Christopher Columbus seems obsessed with his goal, and I am somewhat worried that he will get us all killed. The confounded Genoese, along with the Spaniards, choose to use unreliable dead-reckoning instead of navigation with the stars. This foolish method of sailing will most assuredly lead us all to be ripped to pieces by a storm, swallowed whole by an enormous sea creature, or boiled alive by savages on a distant island. They don't even seem to care that their maps of the Mediterranean are erroneous. On their charts, the city of Venice is still three degrees off in its latitude (*Fuson 42*)! It will be miracle if any of us return safely with his negligent navigational techniques. Most of my duties will be that of a regular seaman, including cleaning the decks and rails, and adjusting and repairing the sails and ropes (*The Mariner's Museum*). As I know enough Spanish to receive and obey orders, I don't understand most of the songs the other sailors routinely sing. As such, I probably will be spending most of my free time fishing. An ampoletta is being brought aboard the ship now. This

is a little sandglass that is used by the cabin boys to call out the time every half-hour (*The Mariner's Museum*). Sometimes this gets annoying during the quiet hours. I don't envy them though, as I remember the job to be very boring.

If Columbus is correct, and we do make it to Cathay, what a wondrous sight it will be. Seeing the Great Khan, and his twelve thousand Keshican, his bodyguard, all robed in the finest matching suits, with costly jewels and pearls sown in would be magnificent (*Polo 46*). It would be thrilling to deer hunt with the Khan's trained eagles and his red, black, and white striped lions (*Polo 47*). The Spanish King and Queen have also given letters to Columbus addressed to the Great Khan, and he hopes to convert the natives of the land to the Christian faith (*Fuson 90*). In addition, the new route to the Orient will break the Turkish block on the spices and silk coming from the East. Then they might be too weak to pose a threat to Christian kingdoms.

All in all, this appears to be the beginning of a monumental expedition. As I stated before, Columbus is entirely committed to his cause, and we will either share in his triumph, or drown in the sea with him as fools. The Crown of Spain seems confident enough in him to pay for the voyage. I know not what will come of this, and this may be the last time you hear from me, so I bid you all farewell.

2 August 1492

Your friend,
William

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*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.

2015-2016 TOPIC:

Discuss the similarities and differences between Christopher Columbus' voyage to the new world and Charles Lindbergh's first solo flight across the Atlantic Ocean. What affect did the 400 years between their accomplishments have on what each man hoped to achieve, the challenges they faced, and the skills essential to their success?

One essay is selected as the national winner and the winner is invited to attend NSDAR's 125th 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 2016 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 10, 2016).

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 of essay: "*Columbus and Lindbergh: A Journey Across the Atlantic,*" 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:

Violet Ann Kraft, National Vice Chairman,

Christopher Columbus Essay Contest, American History Committee, NSDAR

3922 Shakespeare Way, Monrovia, MD 21770-9251

Phone: (301) 865-4488 E-Mail: raviscka@comcast.net

Office of the Historian General, NSDAR

1776 D Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006-5303

Phone: (202) 879-3256 E-Mail: historian@dar.org

THE NATIONAL CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS ASSOCIATION



Annual Columbus Day celebrations have been held at the Columbus Memorial and Fountain at Columbus Plaza in Washington, D.C. ever since it was unveiled in 1912.

In 1989, a permanent organization, the **Washington Columbus Celebration Association**, was formed in order to plan the observance of the forthcoming Quincentenary anniversary in 1992, and to put the annual ceremonies on a firmer footing with permanent sponsorship.

Ten years later, the name of the organization was changed to the **National Columbus Celebration Association**.

In August of 2013, a proposal to change the organization's name to the **National Christopher Columbus Association** was approved by a vote of the members at a special meeting, and the new name became effective in 2014. The change reflects a decision to broaden the organization's focus in the areas of education and scholarship, taking its involvement beyond the annual Columbus Day activities in the nation's capital.

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.

The Association invites individuals and organizations who identify with its purposes to become members, and an application may be found elsewhere in this booklet. The bylaws of the NCCA state that "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 him in his efforts and trials."

THE NATIONAL CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS ASSOCIATION

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2013 One-Year Membership for Last Year's Essay Contest Winners:

Anita Ramaswamy, 1st Place Winner
Bryce Johnson, 2nd Place Winner
Mikaela Skaar, 3rd Place Winner

Special Recognitions

- FOUNDING CHAIRMAN EMERITUS, 1995
John C. Moore, PSD, K of C
- DISTINGUISHED OFFICER MEDAL, 1996:
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- DISTINGUISHED MEMBER MEDAL, 1999:
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- DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL, 1999:
Alfred M. Rotondaro, Ph.D.
- COUNSELOR EMERITUS MEDAL, 2005
Richard J. Higgins, Esq.

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Featured Article

Columbus and the New World

Hero of the Millennium

Louis Aldo DeSanti passed away on August 7, 2015 at the age of 96. He was a long-time member of the Italian-American community in Washington, and an active member of the Abruzzo and Molise Heritage Society (Abruzzo and Molise are two regions of Italy, located east of Rome along the Adriatic coast). DeSanti was born in the United States in 1919, but grew up in Italy because his family decided to move back there when he was a baby. After the rise of fascism and Mussolini, his father returned to America and sent for his sons, one by one, as he was able to save enough for their passage across the Atlantic. He arrived at Ellis Island in 1934, at the age of 15, with no money and speaking no English.

He quickly learned English, however, and graduated from public school at the top of his class. He went to Amherst College on a scholarship, and then earned a PhD in international affairs at Columbia University. For his thesis on U.S. relations with Mussolini, he was given access to the captured papers of Mussolini at the State Department in Washington. He wound up staying in D.C. with his young family, and went on to have a long and distinguished career at the CIA. He was a parishioner at Holy Rosary Catholic Church in Washington.

DeSanti was proud of his Italian heritage, and as the 500th anniversary of Columbus' discovery of America, he wrote a book—*Columbus and the New World*—about the great explorer which is excerpted in this year's Columbus Day booklet. The text which follows, "Born to Sail," is excerpted from Chapter Two of the book. We are grateful to his daughter, Nancy DeSanti, for granting us permission to print the excerpt from his book as our featured article in this year's booklet. We are also indebted to her for the biographical information that appears above.



*Louis DeSanti (bottom right)
in Italy at age 3*

Born to Sail

by Louis A. DeSanti

By his discovery of a new world in a single spectacular expedition, Columbus changed the world for all future generations. Incidentally, the term “New World” in reference to Columbus’ discoveries was coined in 1493 by an Italian named Peter Martire d’Anghiera. D’Anghiera (generally known as Peter Martyr) was born near Milan in 1457 and educated in Rome. There he acquired such a distinguished reputation for his learning that the Spanish ambassador to the Papal See arranged for a position for him at the Spanish court, eventually as a sort of resident intellectual; he was then only 30. D’Anghiera was in Barcelona when Columbus arrived there to a hero’s welcome in April 1493 to brief the Sovereigns on his first voyage. Later, d’Anghiera wrote a letter to Cardinal Sforza in Rome in

Columbus was born to sail, not to weave

November 1493, referring to “that famous Admiral Columbus, the discoverer of a New World (Novus Orbis).” D’Anghiera pumped Columbus and other shipmates for information, and in 1494 began to write, in Latin, the first history of discovery and conquest of the New World; the book was later translated into several other languages, including English in 1555.

Columbus the man, not the legend, was of humble origin with little schooling, though endowed with “great natural intelligence.” His father was a wool weaver and that was Columbus’ first trade until he left home at age 22 for a rendezvous with glory. Columbus was born to sail not to weave. He has been described by his contemporaries as a man of commanding personal appearance: tall, muscular, “well proportioned in form,” with blue eyes and a ruddy complexion. In addition to inheriting a good physique, Columbus inherited his parents’ Catholic faith. He was baptized Cristoforo Colombo in the church of Saint Stephen, in Genoa, in the fall of 1451. His parents, Domenico and Susanna Colombo and grandparents had likewise been baptized into the Catholic church. His paternal grandfather, Giovanni Colombo, was, like him, a weaver and born near Genoa.

It appears that Columbus belonged to one branch of the Colombo family tree whose roots have been traced to 940, when Emperor Otto II bestowed titles of nobility on three Colombo brothers living in three different northern Italian cities. After the death of Columbus' last direct male heir (his great-grandson, Diego Columbus in 1578) descendants of the three Colombo brothers came forward to lay claim to the great navigator, to establish inheritance rights. Their inheritance claims were disallowed by Spain's Council of the Indies on technical grounds. It appears that Columbus' own roots in Genoa can be traced back to the year 1311, to one Giacomo Colombo, wool carder.

The matter of Columbus' birthplace has also been extensively investigated since several Italian cities tried to claim the honor of having Columbus as a native son. Genoa, of course, won. The best proof was supplied by Columbus himself for he wrote on more than one occasion that he was born in Genoa. By remembering Genoa in his will, Columbus showed that his heart was linked, too, to his native city of Genoa. It is said that Columbus combined "a certain suavity and affability of manner, with great dignity." Historians tell us that the Renaissance bequeathed an imperishable legacy by stressing the dignity of man and his creativity. Columbus came to exemplify the Renaissance Man in both dignity and creativity.

In terms of basic personal attributes and qualities Columbus may be characterized as a good and decent man. He was very human. He fell in love, married and had a family; fell in love again as a widower and fathered a child out of wedlock. If he had a weakness it might have been for beautiful women. Arrogance, violent tempers, airs of superiority, grandiose notions of self-importance, often the hallmarks of men of genius and Hollywood stars were not at all his. Rather, he had a certain gentleness about him. He was a man of his word and trustful of the word of others. Patience he surely had. It was this quality that served him so well during the eight years of searching and waiting for someone to back his "crazy" project of the Indies. Stubborn, sometimes to the point of appearing arrogant, he was! How else could he have succeeded had he not been undaunted in the face of opposition and ridicule, confident of his grounds and of the soundness of his goal.

Also, far from violent tempers, Columbus displayed the calm that was his hallmark through all the weary months of suspense and waiting for rescue while marooned on an island (Jamaica) for over a year. Columbus enforced strict discipline on himself and crew, tempered by kindness and the realities of circumstances. Self-confident, somewhat reticent and no braggart, he was proud of being Genoese and later, of course, very proud of his achievements. Clearly his greatness as a human being was a composite of simple traits, qualities and virtues. That has been the case with a lot of historical figures, most notably George Washington. Unfortunately, no authentic portrait of Columbus exists, though fanciful ones abound; the same is true of Marco Polo.

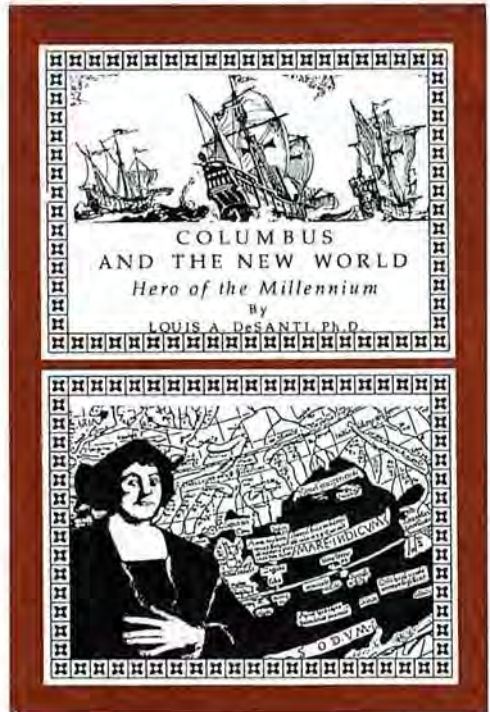
We may well ask how it was that this good but seemingly ordinary man, Columbus, was able to achieve a feat that brought to an end an era that began in remotest antiquity. The Roman philosopher and sage, Seneca, had written: "An age will come after many years when the ocean will loose the chains of things and a huge land lie revealed."

The magnitude of the problems facing Columbus was vividly put by the American writer, Washington Irving, in his book on Columbus, published back in 1828. "As far as authenticated history extends, nothing was known of terra firma and the islands of the western hemisphere until their discovery by Columbus toward the close of the fifteenth century . . . no one ventured to spread sail, and seek that land enveloped in mystery and peril. . . . At the beginning of the fifteenth century a profound ignorance prevailed among the learned as to the western regions of the continent; its vast waters were regarded with awe and wonder, seeming to bound the world as with chaos, into which conjecture could not penetrate and enterprise feared to adventure." Irving reinforced his observation by quoting the eminent Arabian writer Xerif al Edrisi, "whose countrymen were the boldest navigators of the Middle Ages, and possessed what was then known of geography." Xerif had written that, "the ocean encircles the ultimate bounds of the inhabited earth, and all beyond it is unknown. No one has been able to verify anything concerning it, on account of its difficult and perilous navigation, its great obscurity, its profound depth and frequent tempests, through fear of its mighty fishes and its haughty winds." Centuries earlier,

the ancient Greeks' Pillars of Hercules on each side of the Strait of Gibraltar came to symbolize to sailors the dangers of venturing into the Atlantic, with the words of warning: Ne plus ultra (nothing more beyond).

The magnitude of the challenge facing Columbus to make Seneca's prophecy come true was certainly clear enough.

How, then, did Columbus' voyage of discovery come about? Let us begin at the beginning. Columbus was, first of all, favored by his place of birth, in September or October, 1451, in the Italian seaport city of Genoa, a city where "every street leads to the sea." Seafaring Genoa was an ideal place to be for an ambitious young man like Columbus "hankering for sea adventure." While in Genoa, Columbus' work as a weaver was interspersed with many coastal voyages, some to buy supplies for his father, Dominic, who had a wine and cheese shop on the side. He made voyages to Marseilles, North Africa and at least one voyage to far-off Chios, a Greek island then belonging to Genoa. By his own account Columbus went to sea at "a very tender age." In later years



Columbus wrote about "how the love of navigation inclined people to want to know the secrets of the world." Was the great "Enterprise of the Indies," as he came to call his proposed voyage of discovery, the fulfillment of a youthful dream? Where did he get the idea? When? Did it spring full-blown into his head in 1484 or was it many years in gestation? Something must have ignited Columbus' passion to explore the unknown. Unfortunately, we have no record of what it was, or just when he first conceived his grand enterprise. His son, Ferdinand, who wrote an excellent biography of his father shed some light on this, but not much. Genoa's tradition of great navigators might

have inspired Columbus. There were the Vivaldis, who in 1291 sought an ocean route to India by way of Africa; Malocello, one of the discoverers of the Canary Islands. And it was a Genoese together with a Venetian who, in the decade of Columbus' birth, discovered the Cape Verde Islands off West Africa while in the service of Prince Henry the Navigator. Also, Genoa had famous map making shops. Columbus, it appears, acquired some skills in making charts and maps before leaving Genoa. That, too, could have given him some ideas.

A major turning point for Columbus and for history occurred in 1476, when he was 24, with his accidental landing in Portugal. His ship, bound for Flanders and England, was sunk by French privateers off Portugal's Cape St. Vincent. Details are sketchy, but it appears Columbus was wounded in the sea battle, six miles out, but managed to swim to shore with an oar. Penniless, he went on to Lisbon where he was taken in and treated by Genoese compatriots residing there. His younger brother, Bartholomew, may have been there, too, but information is sketchy. Lisbon was then the principal European center of overseas exploration. A good place to be. While in Portugal Columbus shipped once on a voyage to Ireland and Iceland (1477); he also gained experience in ocean-going seamanship with voyages to Guinea and other points in West Africa. In between, Columbus supported himself in partnership with his brother Bartholomew by making and selling maps and charts. Portugal, fortunately, was the land of Prince Henry the Navigator and map making was a flourishing business. He kept alive!

Three years after he was swept into Portugal, Columbus married Felipa Perestrello, a lovely young lady of 25 from a patrician family. Her father, Bartholomew Perestrello, now deceased, was a distinguished navigator under Prince Henry the Navigator, and the son of a noble family from Piacenza, Italy, which had emigrated to Portugal in the previous century. For his services Bartholomew Perestrello had been rewarded with the governorship of Porto Santo Island in the Madeiras group. It was in Porto Santo that a son, Diego, was born to Felipa and Christopher in 1480. Little is known of the tragedy of young Felipa's death sometime between 1481 - 84 in Porto Santo, but her death was another turning point for Columbus toward his destiny. It led him back to Lisbon, where in 1484, he first unveiled his dazzling project

of sailing west to reach Asia, by presenting it to the King of Portugal.

How did Columbus manage to marry so well? Nothing that he may have said has come down to us. His younger son and biographer, Ferdinand, has explained simply that Columbus "behaved so honorably and was a man of handsome presence" that Dona Felipa "a lady of noble birth" developed such a friendship with him "that she became his wife." It is worth noting that Columbus met his wife when attending Holy Mass, as was his custom, at a chapel attached to the fashionable boarding school/convent of which Felipa was headmistress.

For a fuller understanding of what made Columbus tick as a discoverer, explorer and navigator a word is necessary about his religious dimension. It is closely tied to how it was that he got to discover America.

To begin with, according to his contemporaries, Columbus was a Catholic of great devotion, with a deep faith in God. According to his son Ferdinand, Columbus was so faithful in his religious duties of prayer and fasting that he might have been taken as a member of a religious order. Even 20th century revisionist historians, with a penchant for casting doubts on Columbus and his achievements, concede that Columbus was "deeply imbued with the religious spirit." One contemporary said of Columbus that he was a pious man who radiated the spirit of God. Religion permeated his thoughts and actions. His first act on landing that October 12, 1492 was to kneel on the ground to give thanks to God. He prefaced all his correspondence with: JESUS CUM MARIA SIT NOBIS IN VIA (May Jesus with Mary be with us on the way). On that fateful day of sailing, Friday, August 3, 1492, Columbus attended early morning Mass, received holy communion and then boarded the flagship, the Santa Maria. Soon he gave the command to set sail "In the name of Jesus." After his return from the first voyage, as part of his signature Columbus always used the letters "S.S.A.S." which are believed to stand for: SERVUS SUM ALTISSIMI SALVATORIS (I am the servant of the Most High Savior). For reasons known only to himself, Columbus never revealed the meaning of this signature, but given his deep faith and devout life, it is almost certain that this is the correct meaning. The full signature, with letters forming a pyramid, further revealed Columbus'

religious mind. The last line usually had his first name, split in Greek and Latin *Christo-Ferens*, meaning, *Christ Bearer*. Sometimes the last line read "The Admiral."

Columbus' strong Catholic religious faith was one side of the coin. The other side consisted of his becoming imbued with the idea that he was the chosen instrument of Providence to carry Christianity to the heathen world. If the fact that his name Cristoforo means Christ-bearer played any role we do not know. But Columbus did come to feel that his Enterprise of the Indies was the product of Divine Inspiration, and that he was, like David, a servant of God in carrying out His work. It appears that Columbus became convinced that he was commissioned by God to make the westward voyage to The Indies. If in his mind the voyage was decreed by Heaven, then surely rebuffs and opposition would be overcome, support would eventually be forthcoming, and success was assured.

This side of the religious coin may indeed explain why during the eight long years of promoting his Enterprise of the Indies, Columbus, a poor, unlearned foreigner, never despaired, never lost hope, never gave up. Expressions in his Journal and in his letters to the Sovereigns abound with statements showing that he thought the hand of God was at work in his project. Thus we have: "... by the grace of God I discovered the island of ..." or "... being in the service of Our Lord in the salvation of so many souls." Or, further, "... It pleased Our Lord to give me a favorable wind and fair weather ... I know you will be pleased at the great victory with which Our Lord has crowned my voyage," he began his letter announcing the success of the First Voyage.

Even though he had great faith in God and in his mission, Columbus still encountered numerous obstacles in securing backing for his first voyage. He spent eight long, discouraging years trying to get a government, any government, to back his Enterprise of the Indies. If he first approached his native city of Genoa and Venice, as some claim, there is no evidence. If Columbus did offer his Indies proposal to either of these two maritime republics he may have been motivated by a sense of patriotism. Columbus could not have foreseen that his western enterprise would not serve their

interests. They had a vested interest, rather, in their eastward trade routes to the East, not in a new westward route. Genoa and Venice were enjoying a near European monopoly of oriental trade, and profits were high. Their prosperity was the envy of nations. When the sea-overland routes to the East were superseded by all-water routes the merchants of Europe found the lowest prices for spices, silks, and other oriental goods in Lisbon, no longer in Italian cities. The discoveries of Columbus and of others were to contribute mightily to the decline of his beloved Genoa and of Venice, while leading to the rise and flowering of the Atlantic States. But that was yet to be revealed.

The discoveries of Columbus were to contribute mightily to the decline of his beloved Genoa and Venice

In 1484 Columbus applied for assistance to the Portuguese government, quite naturally, since he was living in Portugal. He presented an amazing proposal to the King for an expedition, at royal expense, sailing west to Asia, mentioning specifically reaching Japan (known as *Cipangu*) as a goal. After careful consideration, King John II turned down the proposal, on the recommendation of a commission of experts. Columbus and the king parted friends. At that time Portugal was preoccupied with navigation and discovery in West Africa and also with finding an eastern sea route to India around Africa. It was a feat accomplished by Vasco da Gama in 1497 - 98, as Columbus was on his third voyage to the New World for Spain.

The king caused the project to be expedited in view of Columbus' discoveries. Portugal, which had led the exploration race for over a century, didn't want Spain to get too far ahead now.

The next year, 1485, Columbus left Portugal for Spain). His aim was to try his luck with Queen Isabella. He was now a widower with a five-year old son, Diego, whom he took with him to Spain. He landed in the port of Palos, which was to be the starting point in 1492 of his voyage to *The Indies*.

Columbus walked with his little son to the nearby Franciscan monastery called La Rabida. There he left the boy temporarily with the hospitable friars.

Now he could concentrate on his Indies project. It is well to note that during nine adult years in Portugal Columbus prepared himself for the voyage of discovery in terms of both seamanship and salesmanship. To do so he had to become a self-taught educated man. He learned to read and write the Castillian language, which was the favorite language of the educated classes in Spain and Portugal. He also learned to read Latin. That was essential for Columbus in order to be able to read famous treatises on cosmography. For Columbus' ardent and persuasive expositions before kings and queen were based in his brain on the writings of erudite men like Dr. Toscanelli and Cardinal d' Ailly and, of course, on the traveler, Marco Polo. Had Columbus not learned Latin, his name, too, probably would not have gone beyond the tombstone of a local cemetery. In short, oblivion!

What was it that Columbus was trying to sell, now, to Queen Isabella? His grand design was, simply put, to find a western sea-route to *The Indies*, that is, sail west to reach Asia in the east. It was an idea whose time had not yet come ! His son Ferdinand has explained how and why Columbus coined the term *The Indies*. By that term Columbus meant to encompass "lands (that) were the unknown eastern part of India (which) had no name of their own." He seized on the term *The Indies* because of its name recognition, for according to Ferdinand, "he knew that all men had heard of the great fame and wealth of India." Thinking like a Madison Avenue man, Columbus thought by using that term in his project, "Enterprise of the Indies" it would be easier to sell. Thus the world has had to adjust to his terminology. For we have the *West Indies* in the Caribbean the *East Indies* in the Pacific, and we have the name "Indians" for the natives Columbus found in the New World. In the Indies Columbus expected to find gold, spices, pearls. He expected to discover some islands on the way. Instead he discovered America, entirely by accident—or by divine guidance—but discover her he did. It surely was a startling find!

On his Third Voyage Columbus thought he was upon the Garden of Eden, which was still being searched in various parts of the earth. But it

proved beyond the Age of Discovery to discover Paradise on Earth.

It is said that when we pack our bags for a big trip, we never know what's in store for us. The planned and unexpected come mixed in varying amounts. For Columbus, finding a New World while in search of the known world of Asia was only the biggest unexpected event of many. But Columbus was ever willing to accept the unexpected and he offered rational, reasonable explanations. He had a healthy outlook on life and on the world, not much burdened by superstitions. He also had a modern outlook which found no fundamental conflict between religion and science.

There was no suspicion in 1485 or in 1492 of an intervening continent (America) between Europe and Asia. Though in theory there was nothing fantastic about Columbus' proposal, no one had ever presented such an amazing plan before, ever. The reasons involved more than whether or not the earth was round. It was of course accepted in learned circles that the earth was round, though no one had demonstrated it yet. As for the mass of people, they still believed that the earth was flat, and that the sun, moon and stars revolved around it. The Greek astronomer, Aristarchus, in the 3rd century B.C. was the first to advance the idea that the earth was a spinning ball that rotated daily. But people thought he was crazy. No one believed him because his idea was contrary to what everybody could see with his own eyes. Nearly two thousand years later, after Columbus' voyage, Copernicus finally developed the theory that the round earth rotated *daily* on its axis as it revolved around the sun *yearly*.

Columbus, who believed the earth to be round, had been encouraged by the writings of a contemporary Florentine physician and renowned cosmographer, Dr. Paolo Toscanelli. Toscanelli had advocated the feasibility on theoretical grounds of a western sea route to Asia, whatever the precise shape of the earth. He had so advised the Portuguese government, in a letter dated June 25, 1474, though that advice had been rejected. When around 1481 Columbus first heard of Toscanelli's letter to Portugal's king, he excitedly wrote to Toscanelli asking for updated information. Toscanelli lived long enough to write an encouraging reply to his fellow-Italian in Portugal, and he attached a copy of his world map. Columbus carried this map with him

on his First Voyage, evidently inspired by it. Toscanelli died a few months after writing to Columbus, at the age of 85. Lucky for Columbus he lived so long!

There are brief historical references that Columbus received some assistance from Pope Innocent VIII. Interestingly, even the current official Vatican chart of Roman pontiffs, summarizing briefly the salient accomplishments of their reigns, states that Pope Innocent VIII “assisted Columbus in his undertaking to discover the western route to the Indies (America).” Unfortunately, the pope died July 25, 1492—just a few months before Columbus began his first voyage. To this day how Pope Innocent VIII assisted Columbus remains a mystery.

Columbus, a man of humble birth and little schooling, had been encouraged by another medieval man of erudition. French Cardinal Pierre d’Ailly had written in 1410 a very influential treatise on geography named “Imago Mundi” (The Form of the World). It described the Western (Atlantic) Ocean as “traversable in a very few days if the wind be fair.” In his own copy of this book Columbus had made a thousand notations. D’Ailly served Columbus well by his view that the Atlantic Ocean was narrow, and thus the Indies near. Had Columbus known or come to believe that the Indies were over 10,000 miles away, there surely would have been no First Voyage. And who knows when America would have been discovered, how, and by whom? And with what consequences? Columbus’ miscalculation of the distance to India or *The Indies* must rank as the most fortunate miscalculation in history.

A related question may be asked here. Was it possible for the “unspoiled” Americas—separated, isolated from the rest of mankind for over 15,000 years—to escape discovery? No, not forever, or much longer. Given man’s quest for the unknown, his inventiveness, curiosity and daring, discovery was inevitable sooner or later. Columbus with his miscalculation of the distance to *The Indies* made it happen sooner.

The question has been asked why the Chinese did not discover America by sailing eastward across the Pacific Ocean in the early 15th century, shortly before Columbus was born. Emperor Yung-Lo (1359 -1424), something of

a Chinese version of Henry the Navigator, sent out naval expeditions into all the surrounding seas. China then led the world in navigation as well as in medicine, printing, engineering and, of course, in gunpowder. His great naval commander, Cheng-Ho, mounted seven huge expeditions in the years 1405 - 1433 that were the "vastest then seen on our planet," with crews numbering over 30,000. The ships were so large, some over 400 feet long, as to dwarf Columbus' flagship, 85 feet long.

But these far-ranging Chinese voyages all sailed west or south; they visited all the countries bordering on the China Sea and the Indian Ocean, including Aden on the Red Sea, Somaliland and Zanzibar in Africa. Had there then been a Suez Canal, connecting the Indian Ocean/Red Sea with the Mediterranean, China might well have discovered Europe before 1492. Then history would surely have taken a dramatically different turn. The vision of Chinese ships docked for commerce in Marco Polo's own city of Venice and Columbus' city of Genoa would be easy to conjure up.

In any case, these huge fleets on grand voyages were not aimed at discovering any new lands or conquering old ones. Rather, they were designed to show the Chinese flag and to display the splendor and the power of the new Ming Dynasty to lands and peoples already known. China, certain that it was the most civilized country on earth, was also certain that it had everything, and needed nothing from the rest of the world. So none of these or other expeditions ventured due East into the unknown, thus leaving it open for Columbus to discover the New World later in the century. Moreover, in a sudden policy reversal the Ming Emperors stopped these voyages. A new atmosphere of isolation and xenophobia set in, which in the following centuries were to turn China into a sleeping giant and one of the world's most exploited countries.

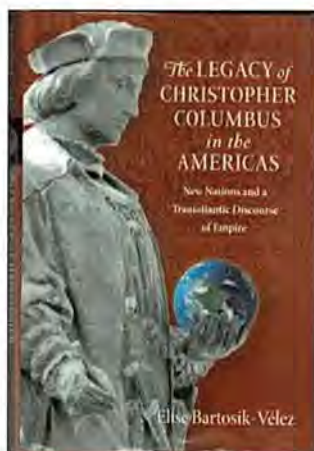
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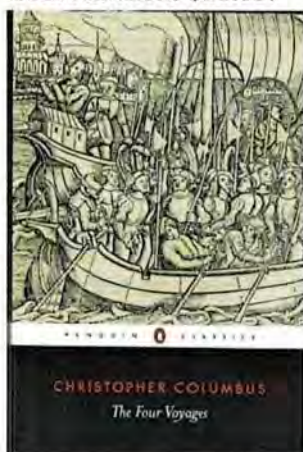
Columbus and the Quest for Jerusalem, by Carol Delaney. Five hundred years after he set sail, Columbus is still a controversial figure in history. Debates portray him either as the hero in the great drama of discovery or as an avaricious glory hunter and ruthless destroyer of indigenous cultures. In *Columbus and the Quest for Jerusalem*, Carol Delaney offers a radically new interpretation of the man and his mission, claiming that the true motivation for his voyages is still widely unknown. Available through the NCCA online bookstore from Amazon. \$13.10.

The Legacy of Christopher Columbus in the Americas: New Nations and a Transatlantic Discourse of Empire, by Elise Bartosik-Velez. Why is the capital of the United States named after Christopher Columbus, a Genoese explorer commissioned by Spain who never set foot here? Why did Spanish American nationalists in 1819 name a new independent republic "Colombia," after Columbus, the first representative of the empire from which they had recently broken free? These are some of the many questions explored in this book. Available through the NCCA online bookstore from Amazon. \$21.35.

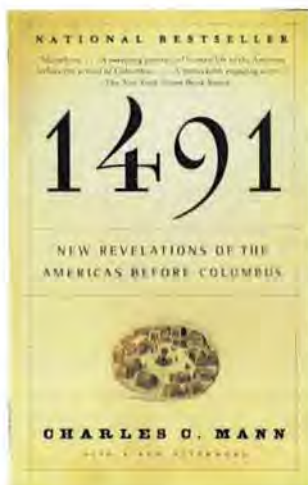


Christopher Columbus; The Four Voyages

J. M. Cohen has skilfully woven together Columbus's log-books and letters, the biography by his son Hernando, the official history by Oviedo, and the letters of the fleet physician and a loyal lieutenant. The result is a unique contemporary record of a great adventure as it unfolds. Part of the Penguin Classics series of books. Available through the NCCA online bookstore from Amazon. \$13.07.

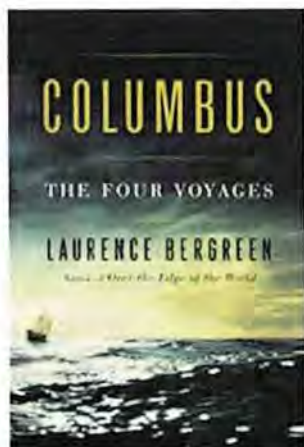


<http://www.columbuscelebration.com/book-store.html>



1491: New Revelations of the Americas Before Columbus, by Charles C. Mann. In this groundbreaking work of science, history, and archaeology, Charles C. Mann radically alters our understanding of the Americas before the arrival of Columbus in 1492. The pre-Columbian Indians were not sparsely settled in a pristine wilderness; rather, there were huge numbers of Indians who actively molded and influenced the land around them. The astonishing Aztec capital of Tenochtitlan had running water and immaculately clean streets, and was larger than any contemporary European city. Available through the NCCA online bookstore from Amazon. **\$12.84.**

A Short Account of the Destruction of the Indies, by Bartolomé de Las Casas. de Las Casas was the first and fiercest critic of Spanish colonialism in the New World. An early traveller to the Americas who sailed on one of Columbus's voyages, Las Casas was so horrified by the wholesale massacre he witnessed that he dedicated his life to protecting the Indian community. He wrote *A Short Account of the Destruction of the Indies* in 1542, which showed that the evangelizing vision of Columbus had descended under later conquistadors into genocide. Part of the Penguin Classics series of books. Available through the NCCA online bookstore from Amazon. **\$9.78.**



Columbus: The Four Voyages, by Laurence Bergreen. Christopher Columbus's 1492 voyage across the Atlantic Ocean in search of a trading route to China, and his unexpected landfall in the Americas, is a watershed event in world history. Yet Columbus made three more voyages within the span of only a decade, each designed to demonstrate that he could sail to China within a matter of weeks and convert those he found there to Christianity. Available through the NCCA online bookstore from Amazon. **\$15.37.**



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*on the 103rd anniversary of the magnificent
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*Georgetown University Council 6375, Catholic University Council 9542
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*Congratulations and success to the National Christopher Columbus
Association (NCCA) for a magnificent celebration on October 12, 2015 at the
Grand Statue of Christopher Columbus at the Union Station, Washington D.C.*

*The 2015 Officers and members of the Roma Lodge #71, OSIA join other
NCCA organizations in honoring the Great Discoverer, Christopher Columbus.*

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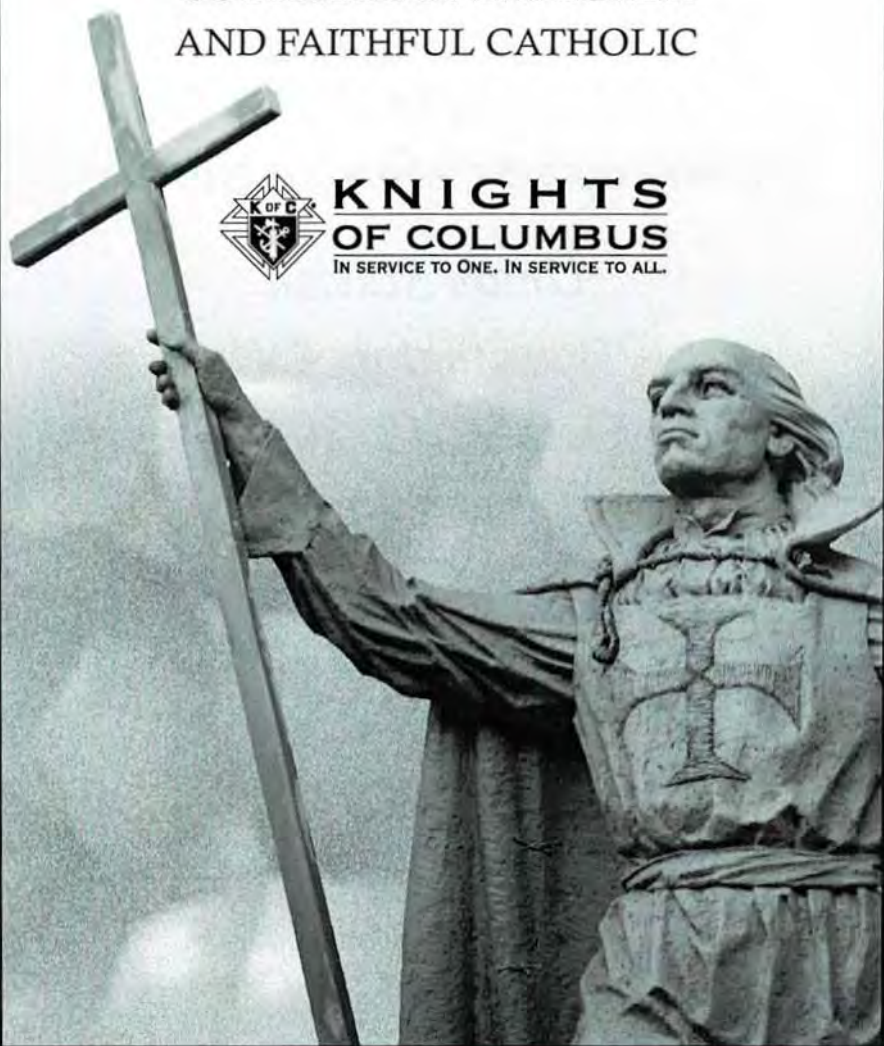


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Nina Baccanari
John Bromley
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*Virginia Daughters of the
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October 12, 2015*



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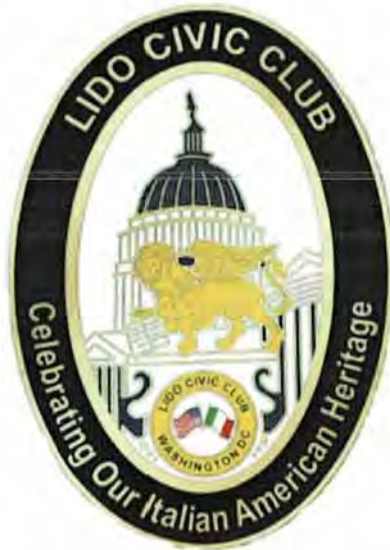
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ONE CHURCH

ONE ORDER

ONE STATE

UNITED IN SERVICE



**PATRICK CARDINAL O'BOYLE COUNCIL #11302
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**



O'Boyle Council offers best wishes to the National Columbus Celebration Association and prays that we all may imitate Columbus by bravely adventuring in life, dedicating our labor to God, courageously bringing the Gospel of Jesus Christ to people, and recognizing our own poverty so we repent our sins.

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Knights of Columbus

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**The District of Columbia State Council offers greetings and congratulations to
the National Christopher Columbus Association
on the occasion of the Annual Columbus Day Celebration**

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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS – FOURTH DEGREE
WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**



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THE NATIONAL CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS ASSOCIATION
ON THE OCCASION OF THE ANNUAL COLUMBUS DAY CELEBRATION**

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Faithful Pilot	SK Col. Jerome Driscoll, USMC-Ret.
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Faithful Purser	SK Hanchun "Rowland" Zhang, PGK
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Knights of Columbus

Father Diamond Council # 6292

Fairfax, Virginia



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

**Special Thanks to the National Park Service for their
Cooperation in Organizing and Planning for this Event**

Commodore John Barry Assembly

#1163

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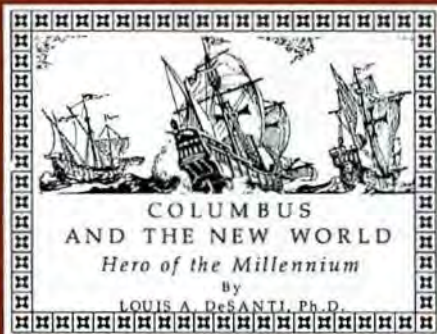
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*on the 103rd anniversary of the magnificent Columbus
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Knights of Columbus
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In memory of
Louis A. DeSanti

Author of
**Columbus and
the New World:
Hero of the Millennium**



**The Knights of Columbus of
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The National Christopher Columbus Association
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Joins the
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October 12, 2015

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The National Council for the Promotion of the Italian Language in American Schools, Inc. Salutes the National Columbus Day Association for sponsoring the

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The National COPILAS assists communities around the United States in introducing or broadening the study of Italian language and culture in their public and private schools, colleges and universities (K-16) in collaboration with universities in Italy and other countries. The National COPILAS provides:

1. **LEADERSHIP AND EXPERTISE** serving on cross organizational Italian language and culture groups and working in close liaison with the Italian Embassy, and all Italian Consulates in the United States and international committees pertaining to the implementation, development and sustainability of Italian language and culture in American schools.
2. **EDUCATIONAL and CULTURAL INSTITUTION ACTIVITIES** through our website, print media as well as face to face meetings with state, district, county and local school and community officials, our educational experts work to ascertain needs in order to promote the introduction of Italian language programs in school systems and assist in the implementation of those programs.
3. **DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES** in designing curricula at the appropriate levels; identify and assist in recommending teaching materials for classroom instruction and library resources and assist in identifying highly qualified suitable instructors to staff Italian language programs.
4. **ASSISTANCE WITH STRATEGY TO INCREASE ENROLLMENTS** through working with state departments of education, school district officials and individual schools throughout the United States.
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For More information about the National COPILAS or about becoming a member, please contact us at:

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