

# COLUMBUS DAY 2019



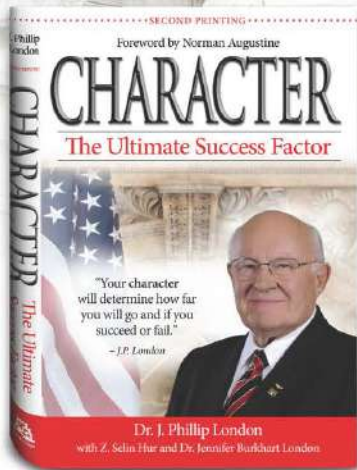
# *Celebrating* **VISION, EXCELLENCE, DISCOVERY**

**CACI honors the Great Discoverer**, whose bold endeavor changed the map to include the New World. We also celebrate the 107<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the magnificent National Columbus Memorial in Washington, D.C. As a global innovator providing expertise and technology in national security missions and government transformation, CACI appreciates the significance of this intrepid visionary.

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## **Dr. J. Phillip London**

Captain, USN (Ret.); Executive Chairman and  
Chairman of the Board, CACI International Inc  
USNA '59

**[www.jphilliplondon.com](http://www.jphilliplondon.com)**

*All royalties from the sale of this book benefit disabled veterans.*

THE NATION'S CAPITAL  
CELEBRATES  
*527 Years of Discovery*



HONORING THE GREAT DISCOVERER

*Christopher Columbus*

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2019  
THE COLUMBUS MEMORIAL  
COLUMBUS PLAZA - UNION STATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

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



WASHINGTON, DC  
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

# Proclamation



## COLUMBUS DAY

OCTOBER 14, 2019

**WHEREAS**, since 1970, Columbus Day is celebrated on the second Monday every October, and today marks the 527th Anniversary of Christopher Columbus' expedition to the West; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1492, Christopher Columbus began his journey from Spain, as an explorer and navigator with three ships: the Nina, the Pinta and the Santa Maria, which marked the beginning of exploration and colonization of North and South America; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1912, the Columbus Fountain was created as the center piece at Columbus Circle, located at Union Station, to recognize and honor the contributions and achievements of Christopher Columbus, and to welcome visitors to our city; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1934, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt issued the first Columbus Day proclamation; and

**WHEREAS**, this annual event is hosted by the National Christopher Columbus Association in coordination with the National Park Service at Columbus Circle which is also known as Columbus Plaza at Union Station, to celebrate Columbus Day in Washington, DC;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, THE MAYOR OF WASHINGTON, DC** do hereby proclaim October 14, 2019, in Washington, DC as "COLUMBUS DAY."



# CELEBRATING CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

## IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL

### THE SITE

In the years following the great 1892 quadricentennial (400<sup>th</sup> 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 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. 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 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, 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, the awarding of a national essay contest prize (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.

## **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. 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."

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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

**The Lido Club of Washington** for their very generous contribution.

Vice Supreme Master **Michael Thumm**, of the Calvert Province, Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus, for his support and making the National Columbus Day Celebration a Provincial event, **Steve Raschke**, Master, Virginia District; **Joseph Feakes**, Master, Archdiocese of Washington District and **Francis D. “Fritz” Leach**, Master of the Maryland District.

**Keith Amburzey** and the **Honor America Corps** for the appearance of the 27 historical official American flags.

**Mr. Ron McLendon II and Mr. Jeremy Kern**, 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, by **Vadya Dillon**, Marine Band Branch, Public Affairs, Pentagon.

**The National Park Service** for their support: **Marisa Richardson**, Permits Officer; **Patricia Trapp**, Acting Superintendent, National Mall and Memorial Parks; **Alonzo Carroll**, Maintenance for Special Events; and **Mike Littrest**, Communications.

**Sgt. Erich Koehler** 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 its generous support to the National Christopher Columbus Essay Contest.

**The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution**, **Denise Doring VanBuren**, President General, and **Laura McCrillis Kessler**, Historian General, and their respective staff; **Catherine Bue- Hepner**, National Chairman, American History Committee, and **Layla Voll Heimlich**, National Vice Chairman for the Christopher Columbus Essay Contest for their assistance, and co-sponsorship of the National Christopher Columbus Essay Contest, and for the vital support provided by DAR chapters throughout the United States.

**Duane J. Lomis** for archival videography.

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

**Archbishop Michael Curley Assembly #383** for holding a cleanup event at the Christopher Columbus Statue on September 28, 2019.



## 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 14, 2019  
COLUMBUS PLAZA — UNION STATION

MUSICAL PRELUDE 10:45 a.m.  
“The President’s Own” United States Marine Band

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, Joseph Arbie as Christopher Columbus

NATIONAL ANTHEMS Spain, Italy,  
United States of America

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Thomas Hogan  
*Past President, NCCA*

INVOCATION Barry C. Black  
*Chaplain, United States Senate*

RETIRING OF THE COLORS U.S. Armed Forces Color Guard

WELCOME Stephen Kehoe  
*Treasurer, NCCA*  
Jeff Jones  
*National Park Service Site Manager for  
Ford's Theatre National Historic Site*

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

Margaret Hartigan, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI:

"Comparing Ship Technology: The Ships Columbus Used Versus the Ships of Today"

*Contest sponsored jointly by:*

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY DAUGHTERS  
OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

— Denise Doring VanBuren, *President General*  
*Represented by Division Vice Chair (DC), Colleen Hogan*

THE NATIONAL ITALIAN AMERICAN FOUNDATION

— Hon. Anita Bevacqua-McBride, *Vice Chair of Culture Affairs*

## MUSICAL INTERLUDE

“America, the Beautiful”

*Samuel Augustus Ward, lyrics by Katherine Lee Bates*  
*arranged by MSgt Stephen Bulla (ret.), U.S. Marine Band*  
*MSgt Kevin Benneer, baritone*

## PRESENTATION OF MEMORIAL WREATHS

National Christopher Columbus Association  
National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior  
Embassy of Spain  
Embassy of Italy

National Italian American Foundation  
National Society Daughters of the American Revolution  
Supreme Council Knights of Columbus  
Lido Civic Club of Washington, DC

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 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 and Daughters of Italy in America  
George Washington Lodge, Order Sons and Daughters of Italy in America  
National Council for the Promotion of Italian Language and Culture in  
America  
National Society Daughters of the American Colonists  
National Society Children of the American Colonists  
District of Columbia Children of the American Colonists  
National Society Children of the American Revolution  
District of Columbia, 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(ret.), U.S. Marine Band*

*MGySgt. Sara Sheffield, baritone*

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*



## Call for Entries

### 2019 – 2020 Essay Contest



*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.

#### 2019-2020 TOPIC

**Christopher Columbus' first expedition set off in August of 1492. He and his men explored the Caribbean for 5 months after arriving there in October. Imagine you are a sailor who accompanied Christopher Columbus on this voyage and now have returned to Spain. Describe your impression of Christopher Columbus and perception of the purpose of the expedition. Talk about your experiences on the voyage, detailing the places and people that you encountered, and what you see as the significance of the discoveries made.**

One essay is selected as the national winner and the winner is invited to attend NSDAR's 127th 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 2020 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 12, 2020). The second-place national winner will receive \$500, and the third-place national winner will receive \$300.

#### FORM

Essay must be submitted in a typed format using black type in non-script 12 or 14 point font. Each essay must have a title page listing the following: Title of essay: **"A Sailor's Experiences as Part of Christopher Columbus' First Expedition to the America"** as well as the contestant's full name and address, telephone number (with area code) and/or e-mail address, school name and grade level, name of the sponsoring DAR chapter, and the number of words in essay. A bibliography of sources used in preparing the essay should be attached. Published, scholarly references are preferred. This contest is administered by the NSDAR.

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

Layla Voll Heimlich

National Vice Chairman, Christopher Columbus Essay Contest

American History Committee, NSDAR

4531 Rosedale Avenue; Bethesda, MD 20814-4754

Phone: (917) 270-4463 | Email: [Layla.Heimlich@gmail.com](mailto:Layla.Heimlich@gmail.com)

Office of the Historian General, NSDAR

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

Phone: (202) 879-3256 | Email: [historian@DAR.org](mailto:historian@DAR.org)



**Margaret Hartigan**

Grosse Pointe Woods, MI

## **Comparing Ship Technology: The Ships Columbus Used Versus the Ships of Today**

Christopher Columbus' first voyage to the Americas in 1492 took place on three major ships: the Nina, the Pinta, and the Santa Maria--the former two being small, quick, easily maneuvered ships called caravels and the latter being Columbus's larger lead flagship, called a carrack or nao. As one can assume, these three ships were far less advanced than the ships of today and possessed fewer navigational technologies, making the job of navigator on said ships, Christopher Columbus's, an extremely demanding role. However, it helped the late 15th-century explorer that the Nina, Pinta, and Santa Maria were some of the most highly advanced vessels of their time, created specifically for the various tasks of the expedition. Similarly, seafaring vessels designed for exploration today are equipped with the latest technology and are deliberately tailored for completing defined tasks.

Columbus' ships were constructed with specific roles for the journey; the caravels (smaller ships) were built for exploration--they could navigate better, were faster, and were more efficient than the Santa Maria, which was created mostly for cargo and space for additional materials to be brought to and from the land they explored. This specialization of ships could easily be compared to the remotely operated vehicles (ROVs) of today. For example, in 1967 the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) constructed the Exploration Vessel Nautilus which contains two ROVs onboard, the Hercules and the Argus. Like the Nina and the Pinta, these smaller structures are designed to be quicker and more easily navigable than their larger counterparts. However unlike the Nina and the Pinta, these ROVs do not have a crew onboard and they are far smaller than Columbus's caravels



were, with the ROVs being 11 feet and 23 feet and the Nina and Pinta each being approximately 75 feet. In Columbus's situation, having access to the technology of remotely operated vehicles likely would have enabled him to more thoroughly explore the area he was discovering and more efficiently navigate the Atlantic.

During his journey, Columbus used a technique called Dead Reckoning to navigate to the Americas. The process of dead reckoning uses tools such as a compass to find the ship's speed and direction, and then mark these quantities on a map to discover where the ship is going. This process, while effective for many explorers and sailors of the time, is now archaic and outdated. If Columbus had had access to the ships of today, he would have discovered that global positioning systems are common and effective tools for safely navigating. Modern-day GPS and navigational technologies would have allowed Columbus to know not only his direction and speed but also his location and destination. With access to GPS, Christopher Columbus likely would have been able to more accurately and safely locate his direction, and arrive at his desired destination far more quickly.

The primary purpose of the 1492 voyage of Christopher Columbus, his 90-person crew, and his three ships was not to discover the Americas, but to explore a new route to known lands. Today, because technology is able to help us identify the most efficient routes and major land masses have been thoroughly studied, the mission of exploratory ships and vessels are now more often for underwater exploration and research. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the vast majority of the world's oceans have not been discovered or mapped out, just like how in the late 15th century, much of the land on Earth had not been mapped out. Instead of caravels and carracks, present-day exploratory voyages take place on human-operated submarines like the Alvin, capable of exploring areas nearly three miles below the ocean's surface. Like the Nina, Pinta, and Santa Maria, this vessel also requires a large crew to maintain, guide, and control it and is used primarily for exploration as opposed to recreation or biological research.

The size of ships has also drastically changed since Columbus went on his expedition to the Caribbean. The Santa Maria was a carrack, or nao, and measured roughly 117 feet long, while the Pinta and Nina were caravels and about 75 feet long. 910 When one compares these ships to the exploration ship Nautilus, which is 211 feet long, it is clear that the Santa Maria, Pinta, and Nina were much smaller and more compact. As they were smaller, Columbus's

ships could, therefore, hold much less cargo than the average exploration vessel of the modern day (it is worth acknowledging, however, that they also likely required fewer materials than the larger ships of today). Hence, not only has the quantity of fuel and technology required by ships increased immensely with the progress of society, but the physical size of these vessels has as well.

While there are countless ways in which the ships of modern day can be argued to be superior to Columbus's ships, the Nina, Pinta, and Santa Maria were still among the most advanced ships of the 15th century. According to the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, they were "designed and engineered to be sturdier than any other ships of the day" and used a sailing structural technique called lateen rigging, in which a specific type of sail was connected to a pole which made the ship's direction more constant and easier to guide. This made the vessels highly sophisticated for their time and therefore more beneficial to providing Columbus with a successful journey. Today's ships often require a vast amount of fuel, oil, and other materials to travel. According to research from the University of Colorado Boulder, a large cruise ship uses more than 80,000 gallons of gasoline per day on average, an enormous quantity. While Columbus's ships were much smaller and therefore did not require quite so much fuel, this shows the incredible amount of resources required to use a modern ship, as opposed to the Nina, Pinta, or Santa Maria, which require only wind power. As Columbus's ships relied solely on renewable, free resources, his ships were more environmentally friendly, cost-efficient, and more widely functional in terms of fuel use, making them extremely practical for his long, arduous expeditions.

Like almost every other field of scientific or social discovery, ship technology and sailing strategies have all changed much since Columbus's time. The specialization of vessels, methods of navigation, areas of exploration, ways of movement, and size have all evolved dramatically in the past half millennium and very likely will continue to evolve throughout the coming half. It is clear that even though the Nina, Pinta, and Santa Maria were some of the greatest vessels of their time, the technology of the ships of today far outperform the ships of the 15th century. The purpose of the construction and implementation of these vessels, however, remains largely the same: to perform tasks that are highly specialized for the types of exploratory expeditions they are commissioned for.

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# 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 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 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."

# Become a member of the NCCA

The Association seeks to honor not only the memory of Columbus and his historic achievements in linking the Old World and the New, but also the higher values that motivated and sustained him in his efforts and his trials. Those virtues - faith in God, the courage of his convictions, dedication to purpose, perseverance in effort, professional excellence, and boldness in facing the unknown - are vitally important and worthy of emulation in every era.

The Association invites individuals and organizations who identify with our purposes to join with us by filling out the application below and sending it to the address given. You may also fill out a membership application on our website, at **[www.christophercolumbus.org](http://www.christophercolumbus.org)**. Members receive a gold-plated membership pin, a membership certificate suitable for framing, an invitation to the annual meeting with the right to vote, minutes, and their names are listed in the program published for the annual celebration. National Patrons will be listed in the annual program book and will be sent a copy of the program book on request.

## Annual dues (please check the appropriate box):

- ☐ Organizational Member      **\$75.00**  
*(business, professional, nonprofit, patriotic or fraternal)*
- ☐ Individual Member      **\$25.00**

**Please print your name exactly as you wish it to appear on the certificate:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Mail your completed application with payment to:

**National Christopher Columbus Association**  
*Attn: Steven J. Upton, Secretary*  
5034 Wisconsin Ave. NW  
Washington, D.C. 20015-4125

*The NCCA is a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and is qualified to receive tax deductible contributions, bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under IRS Code Sections 170, 2055, 2106, or 2522*



## BIOGRAPHIES

**Margaret Hartigan** is a senior at University Liggett School in Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan. She is a competitive Irish dancer with Ardán Academy and has competed at local, national, and international levels. Margaret is also an avid runner and is captain of both the cross country and track teams at Liggett. She loves writing and language, which is why her favorite subjects include English, Spanish, and history. Margaret is incredibly honored to be chosen as the first place winner of the 2019 Christopher Columbus Essay Contest and cannot wait for the ceremony!

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**Barry C. Black**, was elected the 62nd Chaplain of the United States Senate on June 27, 2003. Prior to coming to Capitol Hill, Chaplain Black served in the U.S. Navy for over twenty-seven years, ending his distinguished career as the Chief of Navy Chaplains. As Rear Admiral, his personal decorations included the Navy Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal (two medals), Meritorious Service Medals (two awards), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals (two awards), and numerous unit awards, campaign, and service medals.

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**James P McCusker**, President of the NCCA, was born in Uniontown, Pennsylvania; joined the Navy after High School and became a Hospital Corpsman, serving on both ships and at Naval hospitals. He is a graduate of Benjamin Franklin University in Washington, DC with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration and a Master's Degree in Contract Law and Program Management from George Washington University. During his career in the Federal Government, he served in the Pentagon Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Acquisition. He is an active member of the Knights of Columbus, ultimately having served as State Deputy for Virginia and then Membership and Programs Consultant for the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus.

In addition to serving as President and member of the Board of Directors of the National Christopher Columbus Association he also serves on the Board of Directors of Medical Missionaries, supporting the medical needs of the poor.

## **Dr. Edward M Sullivan (1931 - 2019)**

Dr. Edward Malcom Sullivan left us on Jan. 4, 2019. A true renaissance man and gentleman, Ed was a founding member, officer, and board member of the Washington Columbus Celebration Association that became the National Christopher Columbus Association. He was still an active and contributing member of the organization even after moving to Florida in 2014. Ed was the author of the feature article in the 2018 Columbus Day Ceremony Program Book.



He was born in July of 1931 in Pensacola, FL, in the old Sacred Heart Hospital to Bernard and Elizabeth Sullivan. Ed attended the original Sacred Heart Church and School in Pensacola; then on to Pensacola Catholic High, graduating in 1948. He completed undergraduate work at SpringHill College in Mobile, AL and graduate work at Florida State University in Tallahassee, FL, earning bachelor's and master's degrees. He then entered Naval Officer's Candidate School earning a commission and served as a Civil Engineering Corps Officer from 1955-1958.

After serving his country, Ed enrolled in Northwestern University, earning a PhD in Applied Management Research and Science. Following this Dr. Ed moved to Washington, D.C. working for the Society of the Divine Word from 1964-1972, then moving to the Center for Applied Research of the Apostolate (CARA), at The Catholic University of America where he worked from 1972 — 1985. While in DC, he served the Knights of Columbus as a Grand Knight, Faithful Navigator, District Deputy, and State Deputy for the District of Columbia. He was responsible for the establishment of Knights of Columbus College Councils at The Catholic University of America, Georgetown University, and George Washington University. Further, his work thru the pontifical organization, John Paul II Institute on the Family, was well known throughout the Washington, DC metro area. Ed was also an ardent member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians.

Dr. Sullivan did extensive research and was an expert historian on the life and voyages of Christopher Columbus. The same could be said for his knowledge of World, National, and religious history as well. He was an avid reader and writer. His contributions to the NCCA and especially the Columbus Day Ceremony are immeasurable and difficult to replace.

## **Peter Davio (1942 - 2019)**

Vice President of the National Christopher Columbus Association, Peter was an integral member of the Board of Directors and an avid supporter of our mission. He was directly responsible for much of the operation of the organization including the author of our current by-laws and our transition from being focused just on the Columbus Day ceremony to a nationally recognized organization supporting Columbus Day and the accomplishments of Christopher Columbus. In 2018, he took over the ceremony Master of Ceremonies responsibilities. Whenever there was a job that needed to be done, Peter is the one who was called on.



Peter was born in Detroit Michigan. He was a US Navy Veteran, serving as a Missile Technician on the USS Henry Clay (SSBN 625). Following his honorable discharge from the Navy, he worked as a Configuration and Data Management Specialist for Northrop Grumman, and then with Booz, Allen & Hamilton as a Program Manager for 31 years before retiring in 2008.

Pete was very active in the Knights of Columbus, serving for nearly 40 years in key several key positions both locally and on the state level; and, ultimately as the Maryland State Deputy in 2010 - 2012. In retirement, Pete was busy serving as Vice President of the National Christopher Columbus Association, performing with the church choir, restoring juke boxes, and spending time with friends and family.

Surviving is his beloved wife of 53 years, Francine, son and daughter-in-law Dennis and Courtney, son and daughter-in-law Paul and Amy, son Michael. Peter passed away on September 6, 2019 following complications from cardiac arrest.

# Featured Article

## In Search of Columbus

*Revisionist writings in the last several decades have done much to change in a negative way the traditional popular view of Columbus, leading to relatively widespread anti-Columbus views and actions at the time of the 1992 Quincentenary--and to attacks which continue and grow in the present iconoclastic era. Here we look at several books of recent years and how they treat Columbus, pro or contra . (What follows below has been adapted, with some additions, from articles in our 2012 program book celebrating the centennial of the dedication of the Columbus Memorial in Washington, DC.)*

### 1. Sources: Early Writings about Columbus

#### *Problems of Interpretation*

As will be seen shortly, some of the criticisms of writings on Columbus claim they exhibit undue trust in the veracity of the writers of source documents (including Columbus himself)--or suffer from misreading of texts, or ignorance of the original language of the texts, or of the background culture, or of the motivations of the authors.

Some of these problems are well-discussed in the 1997 volume, Miles H. Davidson's "Columbus Then and Now: A Life Reexamined" (Norman and London, University of Oklahoma Press 1997). Described as "an independent scholar living in the Dominican Republic", Davidson draws on original sources contained or reproduced in the Miles H. Davidson Library of Dominican History, which he founded (whose holdings are listed in an annotated catalog published by him under the title "A Columbus Handbook 1997").

His book introduction explains that "The present critique results from my discomfort with many of the Columbus biographies published over the last two decades of the twentieth century. It is restricted to works published in the United States because this group appears to form a genre in itself. As will be noted elsewhere, many of these works are not without merit, but they are, without exception, faulty historiographically. Many of their misconstructions and even errors are shared ones, hence forming a genre. These standard modern works include studies by Samuel Eliot Morison, John Noble Wilford, William and Carla Rahn Phillips, Felipe Fernández-Armesto, Kirkpatrick Sale, and Robert H. Fuson." (Some of these books will be discussed below.)

His introduction further provides (on pp xi-xix) a useful description and explanation of some of the major problems involved in relying on materials from another age, another culture, and another language, by people whose motivations may not be entirely trustworthy.

## ***Major early sources***

Before proceeding to consider some of these recent books, as background it is useful to look first at some of the key source documents, the interpretation of which often gives rise to the problems Davidson describes.

These source documents can be grouped into three categories:

- (1) Accounts by Columbus himself,
- (2) Letters and documents by other participants in his expeditions, and
- (3) Early accounts by others.

(Though of earlier origin, some of these were not published until the 19<sup>th</sup> or even the 20<sup>th</sup> century.)

### **1. Accounts by Columbus himself:**

- His second (and illegitimate) son Ferdinand (Hernando) says that his father kept a journal for each of his voyages. The journal of the first is lost, but Ferdinand used it in writing the biography of his father, and Bartolomé de Las Casas had access to it and made an abstract (the closest thing to the original) with many direct quotations for use in writing his “History of the Indies,” and also a less detailed abstract (also still available) of the now lost journal of the third voyage. The journal of the second voyage is almost entirely lost, and there is no knowledge of one for the fourth voyage.
- Columbus also wrote letter reports to the sovereigns, including one while returning from the first voyage (aboard ship January 16–March 15, 1493) sent to court treasurer Louis de Santángel, his supporter; one on the third voyage (October 18, 1498); and the *Lettera Rarrissima* (July 7, 1503) carried back from Jamaica by the Mendez party seeking help for the marooned expedition of the fourth voyage. He wrote another letter on the third voyage (October, 1500, while returning in chains) to Doña Juana de Torres, a confidante of the queen.
- A sixteenth century collection of nine of his letters, including some—previously unknown—to the Spanish rulers came to light only in 1985, and a transcription of them was made available in 1989 under the title “El libro copiador de Cristobol Colón.”
- Between his ignominious return in chains in 1500 and his departure on the fourth voyage in 1502 he wrote his “Book of Privileges” (defending his claims to titles and monies, since his records had been seized in Hispaniola) and his “Book of Prophecies” (composed as a poetic attempt to explain to the sovereigns their--and his--divine vocation regarding the New World, as will be discussed later).
- His thinking is also shown in marginal notes (postils) in his books, made over many years.



## **2. Letters and documents by other participants in his expeditions:**

Foremost is the biography of his father by Ferdinand (Fernando, Hernando, 1488- 1539), based on the journals, as well as on conversations with his father, his father's letters, and his own experiences on the fourth voyage. Written in his own later life, it was published posthumously in an Italian translation in 1571. The Spanish original is lost.

Other documents include:

- A letter by Columbus's friend Michele de Cuneo (May 29, 1493) and one by the fleet physician, Dr. Diego Alvarez Chanca, both dealing with the second voyage, Dr. Chanca's ending with the founding of Isabela.
- Letters by Guillermo Coma of Aragon, who was on that voyage, writing about it to his friend Nicolo Syllacio, who translated the letters into Latin for publication in late 1494 or early 1495.
- Recollections by Diego Mendez de Segura, a loyal supporter and friend of Columbus who played a crucial role at several points on the fourth voyage, and included extensive descriptions of some key events of that expedition in his will, executed on June 6, 1536 in Valladolid.
- Testimony given in the suit by Columbus's heirs against the crown, given by some participants of the first voyage supporting the allegation that the credit for its results was due to Pinzón rather than Columbus.

## **3. Early accounts by others:**

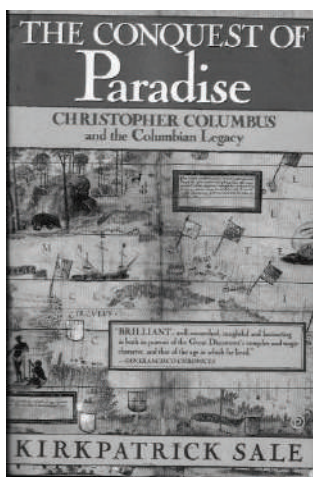
- Luis de la Cerda, the duke of Medina Celi (who had earlier befriended Columbus) wrote a report to the Archbishop of Toledo on March 19, 1493, four days after Columbus returned from his first voyage.
- Hannibal Januarius, a merchant in Barcelona where the sovereigns were then holding court, wrote on April 9, 1493 to his brother in Milan.
- Italian cleric and diplomat at Barcelona (where Columbus arrived in mid-April and stayed for five or six weeks), Peter Martyr d'Anghiera (1457-1526), interviewed Columbus whenever he could, and wrote a series of letters to various parties, starting on May 14, 1493, later collected in eight volumes (called "Decades"), the first of which was published in 1501.
- Andrés Bernáldez, a friend of Columbus, wrote a history covering the beginning of the reign of Ferdinand and Isabella to 1513, providing much detail on the second voyage (from Dr. Chanca and other participants, including Columbus, he said). He provided less information on the first, and sketchier accounts of the third and fourth voyages.

- Gonzalo Fernández de Oviedo of Madrid (1478 -1557), a former court page, was educated in the classics and arts, went to America in 1514, and wrote a General and Natural History of the Indies published in 1535.
- Apart from Columbus's son Fernando, the most important biographer was Bartolomé de las Casas (1475- or 1484-1566; birth date uncertain), who was ordained about 1507, joined the Dominicans in 1523, was consecrated bishop of Chiapa, Mexico, 1544, and was in Spain promoting the cause of the Indians, 1547-49. He began his history of the Indies in 1527 in Hispaniola, working on it until 1534, then set it aside for active ministry until retiring his bishopric in 1550. Though planning to cover the entire period 1492 to 1550, he was able to bring it up only to 1520. It was not published until the 1870s.

## 2. Relatively Recent Books on Columbus

In the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, a number of important documents (including items listed above) dating from the time of Columbus were published for the first time, or made available in English for the first time, along with a much greater number of later and secondary documents. There was also a good deal of new writing about Columbus and his times. According to a 1986 bibliography, between 1880 and 1985 alone 3,271 articles and books were published on the subject, of which 800 could be considered scholarly.

In the words of one commentator: "The most important effect of the new material and the new scholarship of this century has been to demythify Columbus the Discoverer and resuscitate Colón the Man, providing for the first time a much more complex, and more interesting, three-dimensional figure, including foibles, figments, and failures" (Kirkpatrick Sale, "The Conquest of Paradise: Christopher Columbus and the Columbian Legacy," New York, Alfred A. Knopf, 1990, p. 355).



But many also now came to view Western (i.e., European) civilization, so dominant for centuries, as an evil influence that had unjustly invaded, exploited, and despoiled the innocent world of the Americas, led, moreover, by a greedy, cruel, mendacious, grasping, self-seeking adventurer who brought enslavement and genocide to native populations, and environmental disaster to a paradise where the innocent inhabitants had generally lived in an almost preternatural harmony with nature and with each other. The former hero Christopher Columbus was now accused of causing and therefore personifying all of the evils. Western

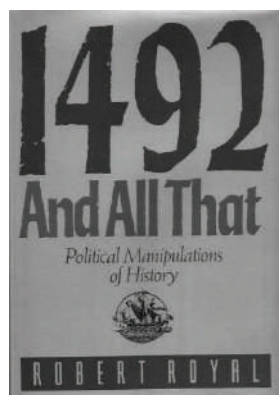
Civilization and Columbus personally were not to be praised as before, but condemned! His voyage of “discovery” was something to atone for rather than celebrate.

And its coming 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary was a golden opportunity to score public points. As 1992 approached, a slew of writings expressed such views, with educational materials propagating through schools. And with effect: the 1992 celebration was muted, downplaying Columbus or Colón the man—to use the Spanish name by which he is known—in exhibits and publications, and emphasizing other aspects of 1492, such as the “encounter” between two worlds (the word “Discovery” was proscribed, and is still ridiculously challenged today), and the “Columbian exchange” of plants and animals (and germs) between the two worlds.

And, of course, the developed sense of victimhood expressed itself in various in-your-face protests, such as disruption of the celebration and defacing of the Washington memorial in 1991. The fascinating book, “Sinking Columbus; Contested History, Cultural Politics, and Mythmaking during the Quincentenary” by Stephen J. Summerhill and John Alexander Williams (who headed the Christopher Columbus Jubilee Commission from 1986 to 1988) and published by the University of Florida Press in 2000, reports on how the Quincentenary was observed around the world. A descriptive review can be found at <https://networks.h-et.org/node/23910/reviews/54381/kicza-summerhill-and-williams-sinking-columbus-contested-history>

Probably the most influential and certainly best-known anti-Columbus work was the one referred to above, the well-written, heavily-researched and annotated book, “The Conquest of Paradise,” by the environmental activist and writer Kirkpatrick Sale, which reached a wide audience as a main selection of the Book-of-the-Month-Club. It does contain much interesting and useful information and was well received according to the laudatory blurbs reproduced on its preliminary pages, but the opinion was not unanimous. For example, Robert Royal, then Vice President of the Center for Ethics and Public Policy in Washington, D.C., in his “1492 and All That: Political Manipulations of History,” (Washington: Ethics and Public Policy Center, 1992) on p. 22 passes a harsh judgment, not itself free from hyperbole:

His account of 1492 and after is a relentless venting of bile. Sale is vivid, learned, obsessed, sneering, contemptuous, skeptical of anything that reflects well on Columbus or European culture and ultimately credulous about every evil



attributed or attributable to Columbus, by himself or others. In addition he presents with renewed contemporary credulity the old myth of noble savages and ignoble Europeans.

Royal's slim volume, just over 200 pages, goes against the grain of the time, countering point by point, in detail and in a rather convincing way, the issues raised by Sale and others as the Quincentenary approached. Included in Royal's discussion are the general myths that had currency but little or no basis in fact and false ideas about Columbus himself, about the role of churchmen and the Church, about the evilness of Western culture, and about the innocent paradise that awaited and was despoiled by the Spaniards. (A much abbreviated expression of his ideas on the subject is his booklet "Columbus on Trial: 1492 v. 1992," originally published by Young America's Foundation in 1992, and republished by it since.

### ***Columbus (or Colón) the Man***

It is however, Columbus the man himself who concerns us here, and we leave it to Royal to address the other matters as he capably does. The "demythification" of Columbus which Sale praised in the new scholarship has in turn, Sale says (on p.356),

...led to the realization that much of what Colón had said about himself, and what he presumably told his son Fernando and his admirer Las Casas [his principal biographers], was simply not true, and much else was highly dubious or quite unprovable. Thus scholars of this century have inevitably come to be concerned with a reexamination not only of the Colón version of events...but of the character and personality of the man himself, with a frankness and a skepticism that were not deemed suitable before."

The new areas of inquiry have been many, some frivolous even, but among the most important have been: Colón's religiosity, whether genuine or contrived to please the Sovereigns, and the importance in his enterprise of messianic zeal and mysticism rather than the lure of gold or love of adventure; the extent to which Colón is to be seen as a 'medieval' as opposed to a 'Renaissance' man and whether his ideas of geography and colonial governance, among others, are to be regarded as modern inventions or archaic survivals, the amount and kind of Colón's pre-Discovery reading and learning, the scholarly influences that made up the Grand Scheme, and the languages he may have known and been literate in; the character and skill of his navigation and the degree to which his successes were due to fixation and good fortune and his failures (to go west, for example, when he could have) to myopia and ill fortune; and his physical health, the cause and nature of his illness, and particularly the extent to which this might have affected his perceptions and judgments, his very sanity, on later voyages.

### ***So—it is all up for grabs!***

In considering these questions it is helpful to distinguish between (1) Columbus's motivations, (2) his intentions, (3) his actions and (4) their

consequences, both immediate and long-term. Much of the anti-Columbus criticism is based on the last two, especially the last. As Sale put it elsewhere, “In the final analysis, it is not so important whether Columbus was a good man. What matters is that he brought over a culture centered on its own superiority. The failings of the man were and remain the failures of the culture.” (As quoted by Royal, p. 57.)

We can readily agree with Royal’s response that “It certainly does matter, if only for the sake of historical justice, that we try to discern the mix of good and evil in Columbus per se. Furthermore, no one can simply be identified with a whole culture. Every individual both draws on and opposes elements in his surroundings. .... Columbus, like the rest of us, was not simply good or bad. As a great human spirit, both his virtues and faults appear larger and more vivid than they do in most people. And his historical influence reflects the dimensions of what he was.”

To state what should be obvious, one can be blamed only for his *intentions* and his *actions that result from them*--but not for all the unforeseen and unwilling *consequences*.

To set the stage for what follows, it may be helpful to suggest a few things about making inferences:

- **Intentions** can be inferred, rightly or wrongly, by reasoning *backward from actions* or *forward from motivations*. (Making an inference is of course a chancy and error-prone thing; it means to make a judgment, which may prove to be a wrong one, among competing probable explanations.)
- **Motivations** can be inferred, rightly or wrongly, by reasoning *backward from intentions*, or perhaps *indirectly from actions*. But the latter is a tenuous two-step process involving an inference about intentions and then from that a second inference about motivation—with twice the risk of error.
- **Motivations**, on the other hand, are influenced by and can be inferred from one’s *milieu*—both present and past—and one’s *personal history*.

Moving away from the focus on *consequences* (which characterizes much of the critique of Columbus), and keeping our focus on Columbus the man, below we look at three sets of books, most relatively recent, that focus respectively, on (1) the events and actions of Columbus’s life; (2) his milieu and his intentions, and (3) his milieu and his motivations.

## ***Action-focused Books***

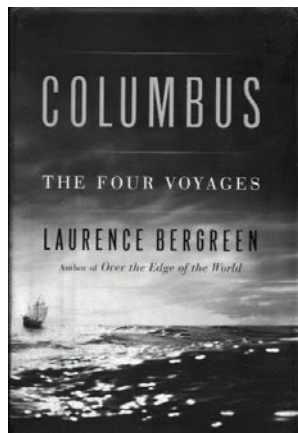
One recent book focused on the retelling of events is “Columbus: The Four Voyages,” by writer Laurence Bergreen (New York: Viking, 2011). However, Bergreen seems to miss no opportunity to refer to Columbus’s “greed.” On page 7, he summarizes accurately some of the modern criticisms, not saying whether or not he agrees with them, though the way he reports incidents later in the book does suggest agreement with some of them:

As an explorer, the Admiral of the Ocean Sea is widely seen as an opportunist who made his great discovery without ever acknowledging it for what it was, and proceeded to enslave the populace he found, encourage genocide, and pollute relations between peoples who were previously unknown to each other. He was even assumed to have carried syphilis back to Europe with him to torment Europe for centuries thereafter. He excused his behavior, and his legacy, by saying that he merely acted as God’s instrument, even as he beseeched his Sovereigns, Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain, to enrich his family.

He then gets more personal and psychological, but without making a big point of it there or elsewhere:

Obsessed with his God-given task of finding Asia, Columbus undertook four voyages within the span of a decade, each very different, each designed to demonstrate that he could sail to China within a matter of weeks and convert those he found there to Christianity. But as the voyages grew in complexity and sophistication, and as Columbus failed to reconcile his often violent experiences as a captain and provincial governor with the demands of his faith, he became progressively less rational and more extreme, until it seemed as if he lived more in his glorious illusions than in the grueling reality his voyages laid bare. If the first voyage illustrates the rewards of exploration, the subsequent three voyages illustrate the costs—political, moral, and economic.

All in all, however, Bergreen’s criticism is much milder than that of many around the time of the Quincentenary.

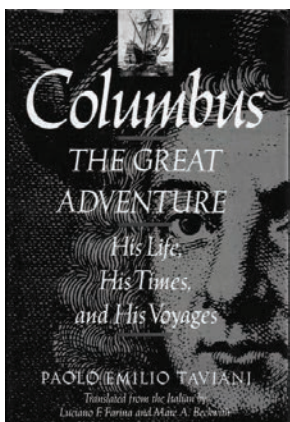


## ***Other Action-oriented Books***

An action focus follows the lead of Samuel Eliot Morison who authored the outstanding twentieth century Columbus biography in English, “Admiral of the Ocean Sea.” He said (on p. 3, vol. 1 of the 1962 Time, Inc. edition): “My main concern [in this book] is with the Columbus of action, the Discoverer.... I am content to leave his ‘psychology,’ his ‘motivation’ and all that to others.” Morison, a noted Harvard and Navy historian, and later a rear admiral himself,

was in fact a lifelong admirer of Columbus, calling him “my hero.” Widely praised, his biography is considered to have followed in the popularizing tradition of Washington Irving, but eschewing Irving’s additions to the Columbus story that lacked a factual foundation. Morison also did a shorter one-volume biography (“Christopher Columbus, Mariner,” New York: New American Library, 1956).

Both Irving and Morison have been spoken of as exemplars of the “romantic” tradition, as also was the Genoese Paolo Emilio Taviani, for many years a professor of economic history, and the leading 20<sup>th</sup> century Italian biographer of Columbus. He authored a two-volume biography and other books on the Admiral. There he focuses on the Admiral’s Genoese background and the events of his life, giving summary comments about his mentality and character at the end of his book (p.253-54):



On the level of scrupulous, rigorous historicity, Columbus was neither a saint or a shrewd politician. His misfortunes cannot be explained as simply bad luck, caused by the maliciousness of his enemies and the envy of those who could not abide a foreigner of modest origins being granted such privileges and high honors. He was neither inept nor inefficient, but he lacked the two essential gifts of a politician [which Taviani himself was]: the capacity to make firm decisions for the long run and a keen knowledge of human nature, indispensable for putting the right people in the right position.

In reality he bestrode the two ages [the Middle Ages and the Renaissance]: his theoretical approach to philosophy, theology, and even science was medieval, whereas his zeal

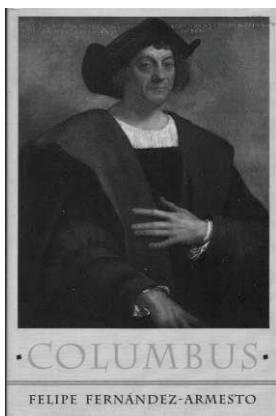
for scientific investigation, keen interest in nature, and capacity for accepting phenomena previously unobserved or unexplained were peculiar to the Renaissance. ...

Psychologically he was a modern man. Concrete and pragmatic to the point of being overmeticulous, he elaborated his projects only after he had acquired direct experience, and from it sprang the conception for his grand design. In short, he had a modern psychology but roots in the Middle Ages.

The same can be said about his spirituality. He was a Christian and Catholic in the modern sense yet influenced by medieval teachings. His faith was strong, sincere, and inexhaustible, pure at times and untainted by superstition and hypocrisy in the most demanding of circumstances. He was at times a fanatic or, as we would say today, a true believer. But his fanaticism never violated the eternal principles of the Christian and Catholic worldview.

### ***Focusing on the Mind of Columbus and his Milieu***

A focus opposite to that on events was adopted by Felipe Fernández-Armesto in his book “Columbus” (New York: Oxford University Press, 1991), published about the same time as Taviani’s, and described by Columbus



defender Royal (p.30 of “1492 and All That”) as “the most sober, penetrating, and least partisan of the crop of quincentenary books.” In his own preface Fernández-Armesto states (p. vii):

This book has been written in the belief that readers want unadorned facts about Columbus, as far as these can be elicited. I have tried to say nothing which cannot be verified—or in some cases reasonably inferred—from unimpeachable sources. Narratives of the sixteenth century have been excluded, except where they can be shown to reflect sources otherwise lost.... Even accounts written soon after Columbus’s death by privileged observers have been sparingly used, subject to corroboration. Columbus’s own

narratives, which can hardly be foregone, have been handled tentatively and scrutinized carefully for the promotional or exculpatory purposes that distorted almost every thought Columbus ever confided to paper. One result of my reliance on Columbus’s own writings, and of my skeptical treatment of them, is that much of this book is not so much about what happened to Columbus as about what was going on in his mind, which—surprisingly, perhaps—is easier to know.

The Columbus who emerges may not be much more objective than any other.... The Columbus I detect—the socially ambitious, socially awkward parvenu; the autodidact, intellectually aggressive but easily inhibited by fear of failure—is, I believe, consistent with the evidence; but it would no doubt be possible to reconstruct the image, from the same evidence, in other ways. Other students have imagined him essentially as a practical tarpaulin, or a ruthless materialist, or a mystic seer, or an embodiment of bourgeois capitalism; the springs of his motivation have been perceived in an evangelical impulse, or in some more generalized religious conviction, or in crusading zeal, or in scientific curiosity, or in esoteric or even ‘secret’ knowledge, or in greed. I find these versions unconvincing, but I have not written in order to advance my own view at their expense—only to satisfy readers who want to make their own choices from within the range of genuine possibilities.

He actively defies three traditions of Columbus historiography: (1) “the mystifying tradition, concerned to reveal allegedly cryptic truths which the evidence cannot disclose,” such as Columbus’s non-Genoese provenance based on forged documents, or secret foreknowledge before his discovery voyage, etc.; (2) the tradition that “treats paucity of evidence as a pretext for intuitive guesswork”; and (3) “subscribing to a legend of the explorer’s own making.”

As for the influence of the milieu, he further writes in his introduction (pp. x-xi):

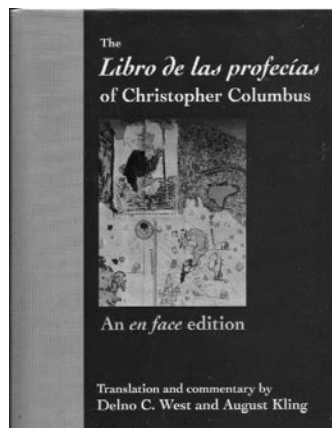


Columbus is seen best--understood, that is, most fully--in the contexts in which he belonged: the Genoese world of the late fifteenth century; the partly Genoese Lisbon and Andalusia to which he moved at a critical period of his career; the court of the Spanish monarchs, which was effectively his base of operations in the second half of his life; the mapping and exploration of the Atlantic in his day; the world of geographical speculation by which he was surrounded; and, in a remoter background, the slow shift of the centre of gravity of eastern civilization from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic, to which he made such an important contribution.

In regard to the “mapping and exploration of the Atlantic,” after reviewing toward the end of the book seven special major contributions Columbus made to maritime knowledge, he says admiringly (p. 191) that “Any of these would qualify an explorer for enduring fame; together they constitute an unequalled record of achievement.” He goes on with summary observations about the mind and character of Columbus (pp. 191-192):

Columbus was a self-avowed ignoramus who challenged the received wisdom of his day. His servility before old texts, combined with his paradoxical delight whenever he was able to correct them from experience, mark him at once as one of the last torchbearers of medieval cosmography, who carried their lights on the shoulders of their predecessors, and one of the first beacons of the Scientific Revolution, whose glow was kindled from within by their preference for experiment over authority. The same sort of paradox enlivened every aspect of his character. His attraction toward fantasy and wishful thinking was ill accommodated in that hard head, half-full already with a sense of trade and profit. In his dealings with the Crown and his concern for his posterity [elsewhere on p.179 he views “dynastic ambition” as “the motor of Columbus’s life”], his mysticism was tempered by a materialism only slightly less intense--like the rich gurus who are equally familiar nowadays in spiritual retreats and business circles. Though religion was a powerful influence in his life, its effects were strangely limited; his devotional bequests were few; his charity began and almost ended at home. The Indians he discovered he contemplated with evangelical zeal and treated with callous disregard. He was an inveterate practitioner of deception, a perennial victim of self-delusion, but he was rarely consciously mendacious. In dealing with subordinates, he was calculating and ingenuous by turns. He craved admirers, but could not keep friends. His anxiety for ennoblement, his self-confessed ambition for ‘status and wealth,’ did not prevent him from taking a certain pride in his modest origins and comparing the weaver-Admiral with the shepherd-King. He loved adventure, but could not bear adversity. Most paradoxically of all, beyond the islands and mainlands of the Ocean, Columbus explored involuntarily the marshlands between genius and insanity. Times of stress unhinged--sometimes, perhaps, actually deranged--him; in his last such sickness, he obsessively discarded his own most luminous ideas, and never revered them.

One cannot do him justice without making allowances for the weakness that incapacitated him for ill fortune. He was too fearful of failure to face adverse reality--perhaps because he had too much riding on success: not only his personal pride, but also the claims to the material rewards on which his hopes for himself and his heirs rested.



## ***Focusing on the Motivations of Columbus—and his Milieu***

Finally, two relatively recent books focus on religion as a—if not *the*—primary motivator for Columbus.

The first of was by Columbus himself, made available in English only in 1982. It was his “Book of Prophecies,” a counterpart to his better-known “Book of Privileges,” both written in the months during which he was cooling his heels waiting to see the sovereigns after his return in chains in 1501.

The “Book of Prophecies” was intended to be a long poem to the sovereigns focusing on God’s call to them and to him regarding the retaking of the Holy Land. An edition in the original languages (Latin and Spanish) with English translation on the facing pages was published in 1991 by the University of Florida Press (Delno C. West and August Kling, translators, “The Libro de la profecías of Christopher Columbus: An *en face* edition.”) There is an excellent introduction by the translators, tracing the influence of religion on Columbus’s motivations.

The second book, published in 2011, is the most appealing of the very recent ones: Carol Delaney’s “Columbus and the Quest for Jerusalem” (New York: Simon and Schuster Free Press, 2011). Delaney holds an MTS from Harvard Divinity School and a PhD in Cultural Anthropology from the University of Chicago, and focuses in particular on the historical context and the milieu in which Columbus grew up and lived, the motivating force of religion in his life, the millenarian mindset he exhibited, and the resulting passion he showed for the retaking of Jerusalem and for acquiring the resources to help bring that about. In the Introduction, she says (on p.xiii): “Judging Columbus from a present-day ethical standard is not only anachronistic, it reduces his intentions to their (unintended) effects; that is, it mistakes the consequences for the motivations. My purpose is not to exonerate Columbus, but to situate him in his cultural context and to shift some of our attention from the man to the religious ideas that motivated him and were widely shared by his contemporaries—ideas that have reemerged in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.” By the last, she means millenarianism.

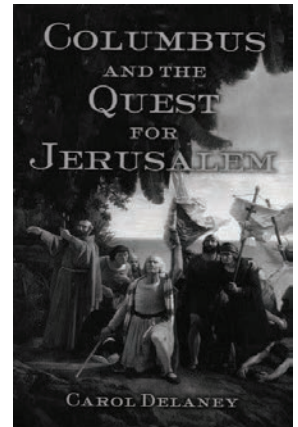
She goes on (pp. xiii-xvi): The Christian faith was not just a moral guide to life; it also incorporated a worldview—a view of the world in its widest (cosmological) context. ...*Mappae mundi* were not meant to accurately represent the physical world; instead they were a form of religious education—a topography of faith—pointing out places of religious-historical significance.... Jerusalem was center stage both spiritually and physically....It was the place where [Jesus] would return to usher in the Last Days as portrayed in the book of Revelation or Apocalypse,...the question, always, was ‘When will He come?’...Before the end, however,

several conditions were necessary to prepare for Christ's return: all peoples had to be evangelized and hopefully converted so they would be saved from eternal damnation; Jerusalem had to be in Christian hands in order that the Temple could be rebuilt, for that was to be Christ's throne as he sat in judgment. The apocalyptic scenario included a notion of an Antichrist, at that time identified with Muslims, who would try to seduce people from their faith, and a Last World Emperor, who would come forth to defeat the Antichrist, conquer Jerusalem, restore the Holy Sepulchre, and unite the whole world *unum ovile, unus pastor* (one fold, one pastor) as the Gospel of John (10:16) proclaimed....These ideas had been circulating long before Columbus was born; they were hardly original with him but they would greatly influence his plan to sail west to the 'Indies' (cover term for the East).

The quest for Jerusalem was Columbus's grand passion; it was the vision that sustained him through all the trials and tribulations he felt, like Job that he endured.

Like her fellow authors, Delaney traces the principal events of the voyages, but is also very good at providing for many of Columbus's actions, especially the controversial ones, the background cultural or environmental context with fresh details that help us better understand why he acted thus, and even in some cases be better able to reconcile them with his religious outlook where the two might seem in conflict. As to his intentions, she infers (p.237):

Columbus did not intend to supplant the native peoples with Europeans or steal their land; later, faced with rebellion, he capitulated to the settlers' demands, and Isabella eventually approved land grants to them. He surely did not intend to commit genocide, of which he has been accused. He wanted to enlist the khan and his people on his side not to destroy them. Nor was his intention to obtain slaves; there was no possibility of enslaving the people in the civilized, luxurious world of the Grand Khan. When he met the native people, he thought that they were attractive and intelligent and because they had no false *sectas*, that they could easily become Christian.... Later when he proposed sending some of the natives back to Spain as slaves, he distinguished between the friendly ones he knew and the warlike people called *canibales* or *Caribes* who were 'idolaters' said to eat human flesh. People who waged war against Christians or contravened the law of nature by such primitive, inhuman practices as cannibalism could be enslaved according to papal policy at the time. Thus, Columbus thought 'it could not be anything but well' to take them to Spain, where they would lose that habit and thereby save their souls, and he specifically requested that they be better treated than other slaves



### ***A Critical Review of two of the above books***

Fernández-Armesto, formerly at Oxford but later a professor at Notre Dame, whose book "Columbus" was discussed above, last September 17 (this was written in

2012) covered four new books in a Wall Street Journal review rather supercilious in tone. Two were those by Bergreen and Delaney discussed above.

All tend to take Columbus, who was notoriously mendacious, at his word, accepting his self-created legend.... All these authors assume the veracity and authenticity of sources of doubtful authorship and unreliable date. All miss important documents and, therefore, key events.

Both Ms. Delaney's "Columbus and the Quest for Jerusalem" and Mr. Bergreen's "Columbus: The Four Voyages" seem indifferent to coherent narrative or rational chronology. Ms. Delaney makes the Great Famine of 1315 strike "just as" trades inaugurated by the Infante Dom Henrique "were flourishing." In a chapter, so garbled as to be nonsensical, on a rebellion that started on Hispaniola in 1497, Mr. Bergreen kills off the same character (a troublemaker named Adrián de Mujica) by different methods at an interval of 10 pages and six months. At one point he even confuses Columbus with his brother. All the authors under review make many howlers, but in this respect, Mr. Bergreen is way ahead, managing a rate of one every nine or 10 pages.

Ms. Delaney's argument that Columbus was some kind of Christian crusader—if one can dignify her random assertions with that word—relies on the traditional chronology of Columbus's writings to suggest, among other things, the importance of his early references to Jerusalem. But she never realizes where the chronology is leading her wrong.

To some extent, scholars may have encouraged these amateurs' imprudence by publishing English translations of many of the sources. Translated sources attract errors just as translated scriptures foment heresies....

None of these writers has understood the historical context that makes the events of the 1490s intelligible.... Because they have not read crucial work in Spanish, Mr. Bergreen and Ms. Delaney misrepresent Columbus's motive—which was social ambition, inspired in part by his self-modeling on fictional heroes..... They also fail to grasp the importance of how private enterprise, rather than royal patronage, financed his voyages.

Ms. Delaney ...ignores the messianic traditions and longstanding Jerusalem obsessions of the Aragonese court—which would provide her with a better explanation than her own for Columbus's references to Jerusalem. ...Ms. Delaney is simply mistaken in her basic assumptions: The Middle Ages were no "age of faith" but were full of secular values as well as religious ones. There is no evidence that Columbus was particularly religious until—like so many people—he turned to God following the failure of his worldly ambitions.

(Arguably, his criticism of Delaney's comment about the Great Famine of 1315 may be based on a misreading of what the phrase "this trade and innovation" on p. 14 of her book refers to—whether to the content of the preceding paragraph alone, as he interprets it, or to the content of the several preceding paragraphs, which was probably the intended reference, though it could have been phrased less ambiguously.)

Of course, while one may take issue with some points as Fernández-Armesto does, that does not to this reader--not a trained historian--vitiate a complete work. For example, "social ambition and self-modeling inspired by fictional heroes" can exist side by side with religious passion, just as an age

full of secular as well as religious values can in fact be an “age of faith.” The fact that Columbus “turned to God following the failure of his worldly ambitions” does not mean that he was not religious before, for which Delno West in his introduction to the *Libro de profecías* has reportedly found evidence which presumably the reviewer has rejected.

As the reviewer said in the introduction to his own book quoted above, “...it would no doubt be possible to reconstruct the image [of Columbus], from the same evidence, in other ways” than he himself has done. Just so.

### 3. Columbus as Hero or Not?

While there has been some decline in anti-Columbus biographies of the kind that appeared around the time of the 1992 Quincentenary, the anti-Columbus propaganda of that time was very influential in helping to shape the public image of Columbus today, in a culture that celebrates victimhood and oppression, and which delights in tearing down past heroes, both literally and figuratively. Such heroes were honored not only for what they accomplished--that is, their actions and consequences of them--but for the admirable reasons for which they did them. It is usually for that combination of intention *and* action *and* consequences that we honor them.

The brief discussion several pages earlier about making inferences may be roughly summarized by the two chains in the box below. The “possible inference chain” reverses the direction of the “causal influence chain.”

**CAUSAL INFLUENCE CHAIN (goes from left to right):**

**Milieu > Personal History > Motivations > Intentions > Actions > Consequences**

**POSSIBLE INFERENCE CHAIN (goes from right to left):**

As noted earlier, some modern critics focus mainly on consequences of Columbus’s actions, and perhaps on the actions themselves (where the historical record allows them to be ascertained) and perhaps then, if interested at all, reason backwards to infer the intentions that are *assumed* to have led to those actions. One major pitfall in such reasoning is that it can ignore the essential truth, often overlooked, that *good actions can have bad consequences*--due to bad decisions, bad luck, or extraneous events. (For similar reasons bad actions can possibly have good consequences.)

So, one can ask: if some of Columbus’s actions had bad consequences, does that mean they resulted from bad intentions?

Questions of good or evil in a moral sense focus in particular on intentions, and to better understand those we must look further backwards in the causal influence chain to the milieu, one's personal history as shaped in part by it, and the motivations that these have contributed to, which helped frame the intentions.

One can argue that those whom society condemns are those with evil intentions expressed in evil actions, while we honor as heroes those with good intentions expressed in good actions that generally lead--or led--to good consequences (which is what attracts our attention to them in the first place). Hence the importance of examining the causal influences—milieu, personal history, and motivations—in attempting to better understand a person's intentions and form an honest judgment. That is the particular importance of such books as the last two described above—by Fernández-Armesto and by Delaney in informing moral judgments, though they draw different conclusions.

Columbus has been a hero for many years, precisely because his intentions, actions, and many of their consequences were found worthy of admiration, even though others turned out to be deplorable. *At the time of the 2012 centennial of the 1912 unveiling of the Columbus memorial in Washington, there were an astonishing 590 monuments to Columbus around the world!* A number were erected at the time of the 1992 Quincentenary, but at least 49 had been emplaced since 1992. (For an up-to-date report with photos of most of the monuments, see the fascinating Columbus monuments web site, [columbus.vanderkrogt.net](http://columbus.vanderkrogt.net), on which our report was based.)

People build monuments to whom and what they honor. Clearly, there are a great many people in this country and abroad who honor the name, memory, intentions, and positive accomplishments of the Discoverer, and the higher values that motivated and sustained him in his efforts and his trials.

But today his heroic stature is diminished because there has been a greater focus on some of the bad consequence of his actions (while downplaying or in some cases denying the good consequences). Many, it appears, have imputed evil intentions to him because of their own ignorance of the milieu in which he existed and its effects on his own personal history, motivations, and intentions. But with an increasingly better knowledge and understanding of those matters, we can hope that prejudices might be set aside in favor of the truth.

There will always be different interpretations of history and of the lives of notables. It is unfortunate in the case of Columbus, however, that those with a negative slant seem to have been better publicized than those with a more positive view. What those who honor his memory should fear is distortions based on ignorance of his milieu and motivations, forced interpretations, and political slants and pleading,

rather than sound scholarship, reasonable inferences and interpretations based on the historical truth—which we should never fear. But the results of such scholarship certainly need to be better publicized against the negative propaganda.

*--Edward M. Sullivan*

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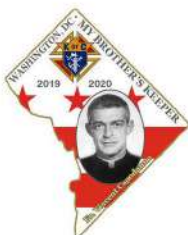
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**Associate Chaplain: Fr. Lou Faust**

**Associate Chaplain: Dn. Frank Bendel**

**Grand Knight: Christopher Dominic**

**Deputy Grand Knight: Jerome Faison**

**Chancellor: Jim Parker**

**Warden: Doug Pool**

**Financial Secretary: Leo McDonald, PGK**

**Recorder: Nate Gagnon**

**Treasurer: Warren Pfister, PGK**

**Advocate: Art Padama, PGK**

**Inside Guard: Kenneth Kinfield**

**Outside Guard: Bob Bokma, PGK**

**Lecturer: Frank Uyakonwu**

**3-Year Trustee: Dante Preciado, PGK**

**2-Year Trustee: Gustavo Tode, PGK**

**1-Year Trustee: Jim Novitzki, PGK**





# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SHRINE COUNCIL NO. 4944**

Established March 24, 1960

**WE CONGRATULATE AND PROUDLY SALUTE THE NATIONAL CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS ASSOCIATION**

**CHAPLAIN**  
**GRAND KNIGHT**  
**DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT**  
**CHANCELLOR**  
**FINANCIAL SECRETARY**  
**TREASURER**  
**RECORDER**  
**LECTURER**  
**ADVOCATE**  
**WARDEN**  
**INSIDE GUARD**  
**OUTSIDE GUARD**  
**TRUSTEE FOR ONE YEAR**  
**TRUSTEE FOR TWO YEARS**  
**TRUSTEE FOR THREE YEARS**

**FR. ANTHONY I. OKWUM**  
**ARTHUR H. ROBINSON**  
**TAJH A.J. PHIFER**  
**JOSEPH L. BOWSER**  
**THOMAS L. JONES**  
**ROBERT R. WOODLAND**  
**JAMES E. BRIGHTFUL**  
**HARDEN J. HILL**  
**JAMES CHIWA MWOMBELA**  
**EDWARD LYLES**  
**SIDIQUE M. RIVERS**  
**REGINALD A. TOBIAS**  
**BERNARD ALSTON, SR**  
**JASPER WOODY**  
**TBA**



## **WASHINGTON ASSEMBLY NO. 151** **OLDEST ASSEMBLY IN THEIR ARCHDIOCESE** **Established April 1, 1912**



**"The Visible Arm of the Knights of Columbus Is the Color Corps. . ."**

**WE PROUDLY SALUTE THE NEW UNIFORM OF THE PATRIOTIC DEGREE**



**JOIN US ON THE COMMEMORATION OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS DAY!**

**FAITHFUL FRIAR REV.**  
**FAITHFUL NAVIGATOR**  
**FAITHFUL CAPTAIN**  
**FAITHFUL ADMIRAL**  
**FAITHFUL COMPTROLLER**  
**FAITHFUL PURSER**  
**FAITHFUL SCRIBE**  
**FAITHFUL PILOT**  
**FAITHFUL INNER SENTINEL**  
**FAITHFUL OUTER SENTINEL**  
**FAITHFUL TRUSTEE (3 YEAR)**  
**FAITHFUL TRUSTEE (2 YEAR)**  
**FAITHFUL TRUSTEE (1 YEAR)**  
**COLOR CORPS COMMANDER**  
**VICE COMMANDER**

**BRIAN P. SANDERFOOT**  
**THOMAS L. JONES, PGK**  
**JAMES D. BENNETT, GK**  
**CHARLES M. COLEMAN, JR., PFN, PGK**  
**JAMES M. TOLIVER, PSD**  
**JAMES E. OXFORD, JR, PGK, PFN**  
**JAMES E. BRIGHTFUL**  
**BYRON A. WILSON**  
**CARLOS B. THOMAS**  
**LENSOR E. JONES**  
**ALEXANDER UNANKA, FDD, PGK**  
**DAVID I. MERRIWETHER, PFN, PGK**  
**WILLIAM C. SMITH, PGK**  
**JAMES E. OXFORD, JR., PGK, PFN**  
**VENANTIUS O. ONUNAKU, PGK PFN**



*"Alone we can do so little;  
together we can do so much."*

**Maryland Daughters of the American  
Revolution Join the  
National Christopher Columbus  
Association in Celebrating  
Christopher Columbus Day  
at Union Station**



*District of Columbia Daughters*

*Join in honoring the memory of  
Christopher Columbus*

*Marcia Castelli Guzauskas*

State Regent, DCDAR

*Martha O. Kilton*

President General's Representative to the NCCA



Sullivan Brothers  
Assembly #2861 Rockville,  
MD

"We stick together"  
Motto of the Five Sullivan Brothers



Best Wishes for a  
Great Columbus Day Celebration

Fr. Jim Boccabella

SK George Silvas II

SK Kevin Kittka

SK Roger Szabo

SK John Durbin, PFN

SK Ed Day

SK Jack Giacalone

Faithful Friar

Faithful Navigator

Faithful Captain

Faithful Pilot

Faithful Comptroller

Faithful Admiral

Color Corps Commander

# Patriotic Greetings

FROM FATHER JOHN T. DEWAN

ASSEMBLY #3047

FOR THE

2019 ANNUAL

## COLUMBUS DAY BALL



Faithful Navigator ~ Peter Beck

Faithful Friar ~ Fr. Gary Villanueva

Asst. to Faithful Friar ~ Deacon John Barnes

Faithful Captain ~ John Vary

Faithful Admiral ~ Michael McLeese

Faithful Pilot ~ Thomas Beran

Faithful Scribe ~ John Lao

Faithful Comptroller ~ Paul Bauer

Faithful Purser ~ Rey Robles

Faithful Inner Sentinel ~ Matthew DiRocco

Faithful Outer Sentinel ~ Roland Escalante, Jr.

Faithful Trustee 3rd Year ~ Clifford L. Woods, Jr.

Faithful Trustee 2nd Year ~ Jeff Koscho

Faithful Trustee 1st Year ~ Michael Maxey

"Our Father, Our Faith, Our Flag"

Joseph M. Feakes, Worthy Master ~ Archdiocese of Washington District



# Congratulations

To the  
**National Christopher  
Columbus Association**

On the  
107<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the magnificent Columbus  
Monument at Union Station, Washington, DC

SK Micheal W. Thumm and Lady Patti  
Vice Supreme Master, Calvert Province  
Fourth Degree, Knights of Columbus



**Fourth Degree, Knights of Columbus  
Cardinal Patrick A. O'Boyle Assembly 386  
Silver Spring, Maryland**



***"Doing Good Works for Our Lord and Country"***

Faithful Friar – Rev. Ryan Pineda  
Faithful Navigator – Thomas J. Kelly, FDD, PGK  
Faithful Comptroller – Russell R. Sutton, Jr., PGK, PFN  
Faithful Captain – Keith J. Green, PGK  
Faithful Pilot – Isidore G. Sobgo  
Faithful Admiral – Tom Devlin, III, PFN  
Faithful Purser – Jude O. Onwumele, PFN  
Faithful Scribe – Yen V. Le FDD, PGK, PFN  
Color Corps Commander – SK John A. Fox, FDD, PGK, PFN

Color Corps Vice Commander – SK Yen V. Le, FDD, PGK, PFN  
Color Corps Vice Commander – Keith J. Green, PGK  
Faithful Trustee (3 year) – Stephen P. Holowenzak, PhD/PE,  
PGK, PFN  
Faithful Trustee (2 year) – Marvin J. Schuttloffel, PFN  
Faithful Trustee (1 year) – Charles Hayes, FDD, PGK  
Faithful Inner Sentinel – Mark Borkoski  
Faithful Inner Sentinel – Charles P. Roe  
Faithful Outer Sentinel – Daniel J. Gargano, PGK  
Faithful Outer Sentinel – Francis J. Moran

**Columbus Day October 14, 2019**

# Congratulations

To the

***National Christopher  
Columbus Association***

On the

107<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the magnificent Columbus Statue at  
Union Station in Washington, DC

SK Joseph Feakes and his staff  
Archdiocese of Washington District  
Knights of Columbus





*The Officers and Members of  
Fr. Walter F. Malloy Assembly, #1894  
celebrate the Admiral of the Sea,  
Christopher Columbus*



# **st John Neumann Assembly #1763**

**Bowie, Maryland**

**Celebrates Columbus Day  
2019**

## This Year's Program Cover Art

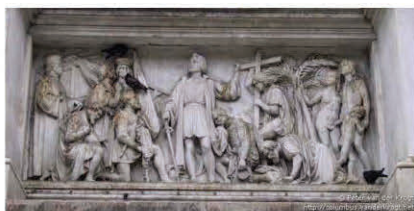


Located near the generally accepted birth place of Christopher Columbus in Genoa, on Piazza Acquaverde stands a tribute to The Admiral, created by the Italian sculpture Lorenzo Bartolini and dedicated in 1862.

The monument contains a statue of Columbus with long, flowing hair, dressed in a short Spanish tabard, and a large open cloak; his left hand rests on an anchor while his right is on the shoulder of a figure of America typified by a kneeling Indian maiden holding a cross in the right hand.

At each of the four corners of the base, stands a smaller square pedestal, on each of which is a seated statue, representing Piety, Science, Constancy and Prudence. Between these are four bass-reliefs: representing Columbus before the Council of Salamanca (on the front); Columbus erecting a cross on the first land discovered,

The reception of Columbus at Barcelona, by the Kings of Spain on his return from the first voyage; and



Columbus in chains, returning to Spain.



Inscriptions on the pedestal read:

On the front - CRISTOFORO COLOMBO LA PATRIA - "To Christopher Columbus, the Fatherland,"

On the right - MDCCCLXII DEDICATO IL MONUMENTO - "This Monument was dedicated in 1862."

On the left - MDCCCXLVI POSTE LE FONDAMENTA - "Foundation laid in 1846,"

On the back: - DIVINATO UN MONDO LO AVVINSE DI PERENNI BENEFIZI ALL' ANTICO - "Having divined a world, he found it for the perennial benefit of the old one;"





**National  
COPILAS**

The National Council for the Promotion of  
Italian Language in American Schools, Inc.

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

## ***Annual Columbus Day Ceremony In Washington, DC***

*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.
5. **TEACHER DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES** through collaboration with Italian American educational organizations such as American Association of Teachers of Italian (AATI), Italian American Committee on Education (IACE), The Calandra Italian American Institute, Italian Embassy Observatory and other organizations, colleges and universities in the United States and abroad to provide workshops in best practices in teaching Italian as a foreign language.
6. **EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS TO TEACHERS AND STUDENTS** for the study of Italian and assisting teachers to improve their teaching and language abilities.
7. **FUND RAISING ACTIVITIES/NATIONAL GALA.** National COPILAS holds an annual Gala in Washington, DC to honor educators and supporters of the Italian Language in order to raise funds to support implementation, development and sustainability of Italian language and culture programs in the United States.

***For More information about the National COPILAS or about becoming a member, please contact us at:***

***Dr. Daniel L. Stabile, President***

***595 ½ Third Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20001 (703) 599-6942***

**[www.national-copilas.org](http://www.national-copilas.org)**

***The National Council for the Promotion of the Italian Language in American Schools, Inc. is an IRC 501(c)(3) Public Charity.***

***All contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.***

**The Lido Civic Club of Washington, D.C.  
Is a Proud Supporter of the  
October 14, 2019  
National Columbus Day Celebration**

**Sponsored by the  
National Christopher Columbus Association**



**The Lido Civic Club of Washington, D.C.  
is Metropolitan Washington's Premiere Italian American  
Business and Professional Organization Serving the  
Italian-American Community since 1929.**

**President, Vincenzo Fragomeni**

**Vice President, Richard DiPippo**

**Secretary, Damian Gallina**

**Treasurer, Arthur J. Del Buono**

**Public Affairs, Philip F. Finelli, Jr.**

**Sergeant-at-Arms, John Dovi**

*[www.LidoClub.org](http://www.LidoClub.org)*



**Italian Americans have a proud history as contributors to our society from America's earliest days.**

**Christopher Columbus's accomplishments as an explorer are at the heart of the American dream. Against great odds, turbulent seas, limited technology, and popular misconceptions about the world he ventured out into, he discovered the Americas five centuries ago.**

**His courage, perseverance and vision are the same values that inspired our immigrant forbearers as they made their own perilous journeys to America, and we are proud to support the National Christopher Columbus Association.**



**The Amb. Peter F. Secchia Building  
1860 19th St. NW  
Washington, D.C. 20009  
NIAF.org**