



VOL. 10 NO. 2 JULY 2014

# IL CAVALIERE

OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF THE ITALIAN LEGIONS OF MERIT

## ASILM HOLDS ELEGANT RECEPTION IN HONOR OF THE ITALIAN DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR CORPS



*(L to R): Deputy Consul Dino Sorrentino; ASILM President, Cav. di Gran Croce Dr. Lucio Caputo; Deputy Permanent Representative, Amb. Inigo Lambertini; Consul General, Min. Natalia Quintavalle; Deputy Consul Lucia Pasqualini; Permanent Representative, Amb. Sebastiano Cardi; and Vice Consul General Roberto Frangione at the Italian Diplomatic and Consular Corps Reception on June 24th.*

On Tuesday, June 24, 2014, the American Society of the Italian Legions of Merit held its annual reception in honor of the Italian Diplomatic and Consular Corps at the Columbus Citizens Foundation Townhouse. The event has a long tradition of ASILM honoring Italian diplomats and consuls, acknowledging and embracing the strong, friendly relationship between them and the Society.

This year, many Society members, ranking officials of the Mission to the United Nations in New York, and officials from various consular and special offices throughout the United States were brought together in an elegant and historically-rich setting.

Among the distinguished officials who attended the reception were: the Consul General of Italy, Minister Natalia Quintavalle; the Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations, Ambassador Sebastiano Cardi; the Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Ambassador Inigo Lambertini; the New York Fire Department Commissioner and ASILM member, Cav. Daniel Nigro; Military and Police Advisor at the United Nations, Vice Adm. Alessandro Picchio; Former U.S. Congressman, Cav. di Gran Croce, Hon. Frank Guarini; Senior

*(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)*

## 49TH ASILM GALA SET FOR FEBRUARY 19, 2015

The 49th Annual Gala Dinner Dance & Awards Ceremony of the American Society of the Italian Legions of Merit is confirmed for Thursday, February 19, 2015. It will once again be held in one of the most elegant five-star hotels in New York City, The Pierre, in the Grand Ballroom.

In addition to this prestigious venue, the Gala will feature outstanding Italian food and wine and an awards ceremony, all of which will serve to showcase Italian excellence and to provide an unforgettable evening for ASILM members.

As with the 2014 Gala, all proceeds from this special event will be used solely to further the ASILM Education Fund.

The fund was recently established by the Society for undergraduate college students who wish to pursue a degree

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## WANT TO SUBMIT YOUR NEWS?

For members who wish to submit their recent honors or activities to be included in the next issue of Il Cavaliere, please do not hesitate to e-mail [president.asilm@yahoo.com](mailto:president.asilm@yahoo.com). This information will also be placed in the "Member News" page of the website of the Society: [www.asilm.org](http://www.asilm.org), unless otherwise specified.



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AMERICAN SOCIETY OF THE  
ITALIAN LEGIONS OF MERIT

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*(L to R): Ms. Alessandra Rotondi, Comm. Sirio Maccioni and Ms. Maria Von Nicolai arrive at the Columbus Townhouse.*



*(L to R): Mr. Federico Rampini, Mrs. Stefania Rampini, Dr. Lucia Pasqualini and Cav. Josephine Maietta gather together in the Oak Room.*



*(L to R): Mr. Antonino Ciappina, Min. Natalia Quintavalle and Mrs. Antonino Ciappina.*



*(L to R): Mrs. Loyse Paradiso, Comm. George Pavia, Esq., and Mrs. Antonia Pavia socializing and drinking cocktails.*



*(L to R): Ms. Kimberly Fry, Mr. Frank Desiderio, Esq., and Dr. Lucio Caputo.*



*Comm. Dr. Claudio Cifoni accompanied by his daughter.*



*ITALIAN DIPLOMATIC & CONSULAR CORPS RECEPTION (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)*

Rabbi of Park East Synagogue and recipient of the Presidential Citizens Medal, Rabbi Arthur Schneier; Vice Consul General Roberto Frangione; and Deputy Consuls Lucia Pasqualini and Dino Sorrentino.

Cav. di Gran Croce, Dr. Lucio Caputo, President of ASILM, welcomed and thanked all of the members of the Italian Diplomatic and Consular Corps, VIPs, and ASILM members and their guests during his opening remarks.

Dr. Caputo also recognized the board members in attendance (Cav. di Gran Croce, Hon. Dominic Massaro; Comm. George Pavia; Gr. Uff. RoseMarie Gallina-Santangelo; Comm. Sal Salibello; Comm. Stefano Acunto; Cav. Vivian Cardia; Uff. Hon. Eugene Nardelli; and Cav. Berardo Paradiso) before saying: "And, of course, a very warm thank you to all the members, friends and supporters of the American Society of Italian Legions of Merit who are with us today for their vision, great support and commitment."

Ambassador Sebastiano Cardi addressed the audience as well, expressing his appreciation for the Society and the significant role the organization and its members play in substantially building relations between Italy and the United States.

After the presentations, the reception featured a performance by the gifted soprano Krista Adams Santilli, who thrilled the audience with her beautiful voice. With the accompaniment of pianist Djordje Kevan Nestic, Mrs. Santilli sang songs from some well-known Italian film classics, including "Ecstasy of Gold" from "The Good, the Bad and the Ugly," "Se" from "Cinema Paradiso," "A Time for Us" from "Romeo and Juliet," and "Parla Più Piano" from "The Godfather."

At the conclusion of the musical performance, guests mingled into the evening sampling fine wines, cocktails and a variety of hors d'oeuvres, as well as espresso, compliments of Illy Caffè.



*(L to R): FDNY Commissioner, Cav. Daniel Nigro, Mrs. Luisa Caputo and Min. Natalia Quintavalle meet and mingle at the event.*



*Amb. Inigo Lambertini (left) poses with Cav. di Gran Croce, Hon. Frank Guarini at the reception.*



*Mr. Stefano Santilli and Mrs. Krista Adams Santilli, the musical performer for the evening.*



*(L to R): Cav. Claudio Sica, Dr. Lucio Caputo, Cav. Alex Chiaro and Cav. Luigi Santoro reunite at the ASILM reception.*



*Vice Adm. Alessandro Picchio of the United Nations and Mrs. Luisa Mantegazza Picchio.*



*(L to R): Mrs. Lisa Salibello, Comm. Salvatore Salibello, Mr. Frank Desiderio, Esq., and Cav. Vivian Cardia in the Oak Room of the Columbus Townhouse.*



*(L to R): Cav. di Gran Croce, Hon. Dominic Massaro, Gr. Uff. RoseMarie Gallina-Santangelo and Cav. Richard Torrenzano at the Italian Diplomatic and Consular Corps Reception.*



*(L to R): Cav. Hon. Vincent Tese, Uff. Hon. Eugene Nardelli and Dr. Dino Sorrentino share a laugh.*



*Cav. Josephine Maietta enjoys the complimentary Illy Caffè espresso provided by the famous Italian brand.*



*(Above left and right): Mrs. Krista Adams Santilli performing four classic songs at the ASILM reception.*



*At left: Many ASILM members, Italian diplomats from the United Nations, members of the consular corps and other distinguished guests attended the elegant reception on June 24, 2014, at the Columbus Townhouse. The event serves to honor the significant relationship between ASILM and the Italian officials of the diplomatic and consular corps.*



*(L to R): Comm. Prof. Carlo Sclafani, Mrs. Carlo Sclafani and Cav. Lucrezia Gioia stand together at this special event.*



*(L to R): Cav. di Gran Croce, Hon. Frank Guarini in a discussion with fellow guests.*



*Clockwise:*

*ASILM members and supporters, as well as members of the Diplomatic and Consular Corps, come together in the Oak Room during the Italian Diplomatic and Consular Corps reception.*

*Lieutenant Commander Kyle Barker of the U.S. Navy and Mrs. Nicoletta Barker arrive at the Townhouse to join in the celebration.*

*Dr. Lucio Caputo at the podium welcomes distinguished members of the Diplomatic and Consular Corps and ASILM members. In his remarks, the ASILM president thanks ASILM board members in attendance, as well as the diplomats, consuls and members of the Society gathered there that evening.*

*Amb. Sebastiano Cardi addresses the guests. The Ambassador recognized the Society in his speech and emphasized the important role it and its members continue to play.*





*(L to R): Cav. Ann Merlino, Ph.D., Cav. Joan Marchi-Migliori and Comm. Salvatore Salibello pose together in the Oak Room.*



*Guests mingle over cocktails and hors d'oeuvres throughout the evening at the Columbus Townhouse.*



*(L to R): Amb. Sebastiano Cardì, Min. Natalia Quintavalle and Dr. Lucio Caputo.*



*Cav. di Gran Croce, Hon. Dominic Massaro and Cav. Giuliana Ridolfo-Cardilla.*



*(L to R): Dr. Dino Sorrentino, Cav. Vivian Cardia and Cav. Berardo Paradiso.*

**More pictures of the reception in honor of the Italian Diplomatic & Consular Corps can be viewed and downloaded on the Society's website: [www.asilm.org/photo-gallery/](http://www.asilm.org/photo-gallery/)**





## 49TH ASILM GALA (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

in Italian language studies. The scholarship will be granted on the basis of achievement, character, motivation and financial need, and will be subject to renewal throughout the recipient's undergraduate college career.

All payments to the Gala are tax-deductible.

The black-tie event is organized each year to celebrate the members of the Society with an evening of music and dancing, socializing and exceptional dining. This next edition of the Gala promises to be the most exciting one yet.

To further showcase Italian excellence and the dining experience, members will once again be treated to some of the finest wines Italy has to offer. Last year, the guests sampled an impressive assortment of wines donated by top Italian producers (all of whom attended the event).

Another special feature of the Gala will be the awards ceremony, which will take place at the conclusion of dinner. The ceremony gives recognition to those Italians and Americans who have strived toward improving the lives of the public by making enormous contributions in diverse fields, including art, medicine, business, politics and jurisprudence. Because of their contributions, their names are recognized nationally and possibly abroad. These individuals are presented with the highest award of the Society, the Grand Award of Merit.

Honored at the 2014 Gala were: Dr. Silvia Formenti, Chair of the Department of Radiation Oncology at NYU Langone Medical Center and a leader in breast cancer research; Hon. Patricia de

Stacy Harrison, President and CEO of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting; and Cav. del Lavoro, Giovanni Rana, the most popular food manufacturer in Italy (Mr. Rana was also the force behind the unique pasta-themed dinner for that special evening).

The Grand Award of Merit was also presented to the talented musician Mr. Francesco Cafiso to underline the substantial contribution that Sicilian musicians have made to the evolution of jazz in the United States and around the world.

Previous recipients of ASILM honors were: President of the United States, Hon. George W. Bush; President of the Italian Republic, H.E. Giorgio Napolitano; Surgeon-in-Chief of New York Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center, Comm. Dr. Fabrizio Michelassi; famed Italian artist, Cav. di Gran Croce, Hon. Arnaldo Pomodoro; Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, Cav. di Gran Croce, Hon. Antonin Scalia; and former United States Ambassador to the Italian Republic, Gr. Uff. Hon. Ronald Spogli.

During the ceremony for the upcoming Gala, there will also be presentations of the distinguished Medal of Merit to a few select members.

Formal invitations will be mailed to ASILM members in early January 2015.

If members would like to make their reservations in advance, they are welcome to contact the Society for information. ■



(L to R): Dr. Pierluigi Bolla, Mrs. Jannie Romani, Mr. Francesco Rabellino, Dr. Paolo Andreoli, Dr. Maria Teresa Severini, Dr. Luca Rigotti, Mr. Francesco Cafiso, Dr. Alessandro Francois, Dr. Silvia Formenti M.D., Hon. Patricia de Stacy Harrison, Hon. Frank Guarini, Min. Natalia Quintavalle, Mayor Piero Fassino, Mrs. Laura Savini and Cav. del Lavoro Giovanni Rana at the 48th ASILM Gala on February 20, 2014.



## A FOND FAREWELL TO DR. LUCIA PASQUALINI DEPUTY CONSUL AT THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF ITALY IN NEW YORK



*ASILM bids a fond farewell to Dr. Lucia Pasqualini, the Deputy Consul at the Consulate General of Italy in New York. Dr. Pasqualini is leaving her current position, which she has served for the past four years, for a new post in Rome.*

*Dr. Pasqualini was presented with a special plaque from ASILM to honor the many important activities she has performed in her consular position.*

*ASILM would like to extend its best wishes to Dr. Pasqualini in all her future endeavors.*





## 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CENTER FOR MIGRATION STUDIES

ASILM is proud to have provided a financial contribution to the Center for Migration Studies (CMS) on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

For 50 years, CMS has served as an educational institute/think tank devoted to the study of international migration, to the promotion of understanding between immigrants and receiving communities, and to public policies that safeguard the dignity and rights of migrants, refugees and newcomers.

Long-time ASILM member Cav. Uff. Father Lydio F. Tomasi is a founding member of the Center for Migration Studies and directed the agency from 1968 to 2001. During his tenure at CMS, Father Tomasi was the founding editor of "Migration World Magazine," a bi-monthly review of current issues in migration policy. He was also editor of the annual volume, "In Defense of the Alien," the proceedings of an annual conference held on immigrants' rights and immigration policy.

CMS was established in 1964 and formally incorporated in 1969 by the Congregation of the Missionaries of St. Charles, Scalabrinians, an international community of Catholic priests, nuns and lay people dedicated to serving migrants and refugees. CMS is a member of the Scalabrini International Migration Network (SIMN), a global network of more than 270 entities that provide services to migrants, including shelters along migrant corridors and welcoming (integration) centers in receiving communities.

In celebration of its 50th Anniversary, CMS is hosting a yearlong

series of programs and events, culminating in a Golden Anniversary Gala on September 30, 2014 at Battery Gardens Restaurant in New York. For more information and possible participation, visit: [www.cmsny.org/50th/gala](http://www.cmsny.org/50th/gala). ■



CHECK OUT ASILM'S NEW AND IMPROVED WEB-SITE:

**WWW.ASILM.ORG**

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U.S. POSTAGE  
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**Save the Date...**

**Thursday,  
February 19,  
2015**

**49th ASILM GALA  
Dinner Dance &  
Awards Ceremony**

**Visit [www.asilm.org/events](http://www.asilm.org/events) for  
more information.**

*Cavalieri* who receive honors and other  
recognitions should send information and  
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Editor, Il Cavaliere, American Society of the  
Italian Legions of Merit,  
P.O. Box 789,  
New York, NY 10150

IL CAVALIERE  
AMERICAN SOCIETY  
OF THE ITALIAN LEGIONS OF MERIT



Il Cavaliere is an official publication of the American  
Society of the Italian Legions of Merit, a not-for-profit,  
tax-exempt organization legally incorporated in the  
State of New York.

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