



NIABA News

Men and women sharing a common heritage in a chosen professional

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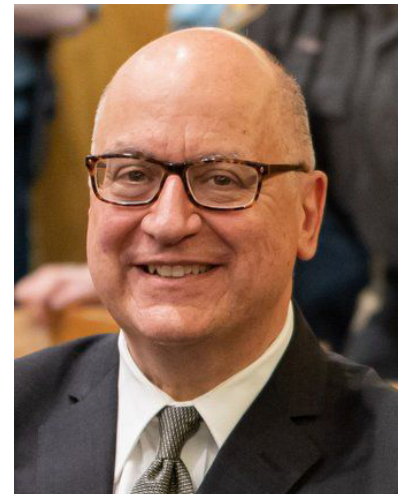
President's Message

Connecting Through NIABA

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to NIABA News! We share the celebration of significant relationship achievements of the last several months!

A virtual signing ceremony was held on February 4, 2022, during our live meeting of the board of directors in Phoenix, Arizona. We were joined, virtually, by our colleagues of the Australian Italian Lawyers Association. President Vincent Morfuni of Melbourne signed on behalf of that association the Memorandum of Cooperation with NIABA. (Cont. on page 5)



Upcoming Events



MAY 2022 BOARD MEETING: ST. LOUIS

The board of directors of the National Italian American Bar Association will meet in St. Louis, Missouri, on Friday, May 20 and Saturday, May 21, 2022.

We will be hosted by a large law firm and enjoy welcoming meeting space. Our team is arranging for the preferred hotel and dinner events.

Please arrange for travel with arrival on Thursday, May 19 in order to enjoy the welcoming dinner that evening. Departure flights should be planned for Sunday, May 22, 2022.

St. Louis is home to The Hill, a celebrated enclave of Italians, Italian Americans, and those enjoying the beautiful life there. The visit to this area will engage Italian heritage lawyers and the community. Be part of it!



NIABA CLE Program

Naples Italy

September 19 - 21, 2022

More information to come

Please check the NIABA website for current and updated information

(See page 8 for additional details)



CELEBRATING FORMAL RELATIONS WITH ITALIAN LAWYERS

Chicago, Illinois was the site of the virtual signing ceremony entered by the National Italian American Bar Association (NIABA) and the Unione CRINT Italiane (CRINT) on October 22, 2021. Hosted by NIABA Midwest VP Kenneth Jenaro, a partner of Holland & Knight, the assembled directors and officers of NIABA met virtually with colleagues in Italy.

The Unione CRINT Italiane is a network of the international committees of the bar associations of Italy. In that country, bar association membership is mandatory. Upon passing the requisite bar exams and qualifying to be admitted as an attorney, one, in Italy, must become a member of the official bar of his region. There are more than 150 bar associations in Italy, each including the entire membership of lawyers in the region.

Attorney Francesca Zanasi of Milan led the formation of the Unione CRINT Italiane. Working under the auspices of the Bar of Milan, Attorney Zanasi created a network of the international committees of each of the bar associations involved. At this time, more than fifty (50) of those Italian bar associations have entered the network. The extensive ratification process has been and is being conducted, now, by those associations.

NIABA was recognized as worthy partner for the CRINT in tying together the Italian heritage lawyers of the United States and Canada with their colleagues throughout Italy. During the virtual signing ceremony, Presidents and leadership of the Bars of Milan, Naples, Rome, and more attended. Representing the lay communities in the United States, the president of the Conference of Presidents of Major Italian American Organizations, Basil Russo, attended as did the presidents of the Sons of Italy, Robert A. Bianchi, and the National Italian American Foundation, Robert Allegrini. As Basil Russo stated, forcefully, NIABA is the preeminent association of Italian heritage lawyers and exactly the partner to forge exchange and relationship with the Italian lawyers represented through CRINT.

In September 15 – 16, 2022, a delegation of lawyers from NIABA will be hosted by the Unione CRINT Italiane in Milan. In addition to meetings with CRINT, the American delegation will be greeted at a gala dinner and appear before the Bar of Milan during its formal meeting of directors. This will be a rare opportunity to participate face to face. It will enhance and enliven the formal relationship now entered.

As a result of the Memorandum of Cooperation entered, formally, by the groups, each is working towards lawyer exchanges, law student exchanges, referral of matters among lawyers, joint seminars, both in person and virtual, mentorship, and realization of personal and professional relationships among members.

Instrumental in the participation of NIABA in this relationship were board member Marco De Fazi and NIABA member Giampaolo Girardi, each of Rome, Italy. The officers and directors of NIABA worked mightily to create the relationship. The association, now, is revamping many of its systems and protocols to anticipate and encourage the interchange which will grow among the Italian and Italian heritage lawyers of the associations.

In Memory of Daral Mazzarella

Daral Mazzarella, a former NIABA director, unexpectedly passed away on November 20, 2021, while working on a strenuous landscaping project on the home he lovingly built from the ground up with his best friend, brother and law practice partner, Mark Mazzarella.

Over the years, as an original member of IABA San Diego (IABASD), I always looked forward to seeing Daral at our quarterly NIABA board meetings, and at IABASD events during his leadership, and bar events in San Diego area in general, including the 2017 swearing in ceremony of Summer Stephan, the dynamic San Diego District Attorney who, along with Daral, Fausta Albi and others, gave NIABA a warm welcome during its January 2018 conference. I remember his warmth, charisma, sense of humor, intellectual curiosity and passion for Italian-American culture and family.

Academically, Daral started out with undergraduate degrees in biology and chemistry, added a master's degree in education and ultimately, earned a law degree magna cum laude from the University of San Diego Law School, where he was heavily involved as a student on both law review and moot court.

Over a 35-year litigation career alongside his brother, Mark Mazzarella, and paralegal niece, Eve Mazzarella, Daral always advocated for the underdog plaintiff, whether the circumstances involved business litigation, construction litigation on behalf of consumers or plaintiff's professional liability matter. A Renaissance man with degrees from an impressive array of fields, Daral was also a licensed general contractor since 1977 – few of us can say that we designed and built our own homes as he did! Impressively, Daral had many multi-million-dollar verdicts, including a notable medical contractor billing negligence matter with a \$6.4 million recovery for his clients, and a qui tam case of compromised quality assurance that settled for over \$50 million.

Of course, these successes did not go unnoticed in the legal community, where Mazzarella & Mazzarella LLP is known for its motto, "We're not big law, we're better!" His diligent preparation, creative problem-solving skills and unique career background propelled Daral towards 11 straight years of San Diego "Super Lawyer" designation, "The San Diego Bar Journal" "Best of the Bar," "San Diego Magazine" "Top Lawyers," and a standing Martindale-Hubbell AV Preeminent rating.

Fausta Albi of Larrabee, Albi & Coker, LLP, succeeded Daral as the 2nd president of the Italian American Bar Association San Diego, and shared these wonderful memories: "Daral had the vision of establishing an Italian American bar association in San Diego, which he founded in 2016. His goal for the organization was to have a collegial professional association, fostering a spirit of friendship through social and professional connections among legal professionals, while promoting the Italian culture. Daral strove never to take anything too seriously; to have fun in the process – I think his approach was "there is no reason why professional activities couldn't be fun," and I think the activities sponsored by IABASD did achieve that goal. In true Italian tradition, professional connections became good friends who shared good times, good food, and of course, good wine too."

Damian Capozzola also reflected on his relationship with Daral: "During my time as NIABA West Region Vice-President I greatly enjoyed working with Daral to help establish the San Diego Italian American Bar Association. He was a diligent and committed advocate for the cause and always had a smile to share with everyone. He will be missed!"

In late January, a celebration of life was held for Daral at the family home. Jeffrey Phair, Daral's law school classmate and friend since childhood, recalled how Daral wasn't the largest athlete, but always used his intellect to outmaneuver others in wrestling, as an offensive lineman in football, and as class valedictorian. Ultimately, Daral persuaded Mr. Phair to pursue his legal education, and assisted him with pursuing scholarships along the way that completely changed his life, as Daral had positively influenced many others.

Daral's paralegal, Eve Mazzarella provided some fun insights into his family life and early years: "Daral never wasted a moment of life - he worked hard and played hard. He was a family man and a great father with four amazing children. While his professional accolades and achievements were significant, he was always humble. Before becoming an attorney, Daral was a high school science teacher and worked summers as a licensed contractor. He went to law school at night balancing work and family. Daral loved working with his hands. The home he and his family lived in was built almost entirely by himself on nights and weekends and he recently completed a large wood-working workshop where he loved to tinker and create. He loved riding dirt bikes in the desert, fishing, and all things outdoors. His best friends were his brothers, one of which was his law partner – Mark."

One of the most impressive aspects of Daral's career is the dedication to family both in the workplace and at home. Daral is survived by his lovely wife Pamela, and their 4 children, Kellen, Jillian, Dylan and Jordan, as well as brothers Dayle, Mark and Scott Mazzarella. Mark Mazzarella, Daral's law firm partner, sums Daral up the best: "What really distinguished Daral was that he was one of the few lawyers who truly had balance. He had the ability to be not only a great lawyer, but to be a family man and a good friend."

Author: Lydia Liberio



Daral Mazarella



Daral & Pamela Mazarella - 2018 NIABA Event



The Mazarella Brothers

NEW AUSTRALIAN PARTNERS

The National Italian American Bar Association (NIABA) entered into a formal Memorandum of Cooperation with the Australian Italian Lawyers Association (AILA) on Friday, February 4, 2022. In the course of the week-end meeting of the board of directors, at the offices of Snell & Wilmer in Phoenix, Arizona, a virtual signing ceremony was held.

The officers and directors of NIABA shared the virtual ceremony with their counterparts of the Australian association.

The Patron of the Australian association, Honorable Gaetano “Tony” Pagone, wonderfully captured the history and events which led many Italians, beginning over 100 years ago, to move to the United States of America, Canada, and Australia. He considered the rapidity of the Italian immigrants in overcoming discrimination and obstacles to achieving successes in the law and every other field of endeavor in those countries.

Melbourne based Attorney Vincent Morfuni, President of the Australian association, executed the written agreement in concert with NIABA President Francis Donnarumma.

Greetings, during the ceremony, were extended by Robert Allegrini, President of the National Italian American Foundation (NIAF). In his remarks, that broad based Italian heritage organization recognized the leading role of NIABA in the law in this country.

Leadership of the associations will, now, bring together lawyers from each through seminars, lawyer exchanges, law student exchanges, mutual participation in each other’s associations, and as soon as conditions permit, live joint meetings among the memberships.

The relationship is the result of nearly two (2) years of efforts!



Cont from page 1

Honorable Gaetano “Tony” Pagone, the Patron of the Australian association made remarks heralding the formal relationship which was consummated during the ceremony.

Our directors and officers met virtually with the leadership of the Australian association. Robert Allegrini, President of National Italian American Foundation joined and gave remarks during the ceremony.

The relationship with our Australian colleagues followed the momentous Memorandum of Cooperation entered with the Unione CRINT Italiana during the official signing ceremony held during the meeting of our board of directors in Chicago on October 22, 2021. The vast network of Italian bar associations which are members of CRINT, lead by Attorney Francesca Zanasi of Milan, joined our board in the celebration.

The spirit of growth and the reality of international exchange among Italian heritage and Italian lawyers is becoming a reality. See the articles in this volume to enjoy the details and opportunities ahead.

A tangible start to any member of our association is to join us in Italy 2022. See the article detailing the seminar in Naples. The initial visit to Naples by our association will be preceded by meetings in Milan with our colleagues of Unione CRINT Italiana and the bar of Milan.

Much is happening and our association is moving forward into a bright future!

Fran Donnarumma
President
NIABA



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Find Us on Social Media

NIABA is on Facebook at www.facebook.com. Join us to share news, referrals, and discussions with other NIABA members all over the world.

We're also on YouTube at <http://bit.ly/2pubGxM>, where you can watch videos from our Rome CLE program.

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How to Contact Us

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Reaching Out to Law Students

NIABA membership is free for law students and first-year attorneys. If you know of groups or events that we should reach out to, please contact the NIABA niabagroup@gmail.com and we will provide brochures or other information to the organization you recommend.

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Writers Needed

The newsletter needs you! We're looking for articles that focus on the "overlap" of Italian culture or history and the law. If you have an experience or area of expertise that you'd like to share with our NIABA membership, contact Cindy Martin at niabagroup@gmail.com.

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Can We Refer You?

Is your profile up-to-date on the NIABA [website](http://www.niaba.com)? If not, you may be missing valuable referrals! Members of the public use the Lawyer Search function, and sometimes contact us directly, looking for an attorney. The more information in your profile, the more likely they will choose you. Don't miss valuable opportunities. Login and update your profile now.

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Member Logo Available

It's easy to show your NIABA affiliation on your firm's website or marketing materials. Contact the NIABA office at niabagroup@gmail.com and we will send you a file that is suitable for online or print use.

NIABA Brochures

An electronic version (PDF) of the NIABA membership brochure is available on our [website](http://www.niaba.com). We encourage you to share the brochure with anyone who might be interested in joining NIABA. For hard copies to distribute to your colleagues or group, please contact the NIABA [office](http://www.niaba.com).

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NOTES FROM THE NIABA OFFICE

Good times from our NIABA Members



IALA President Mariana Noli, President Elect Angela Zanin interviewing Ladies' Night - IALA Women Leaders Award honorees, Past Presidents Alice Salvo and Lydia Liberio



IALA President Mariana Noli receiving the January 2022 President's Award from IALA Treasurer Vito Costanzo, for her outstanding work leading IALA during 2021 - Installation Gala held at the California Yacht Club



IAL-OC President Anthony Modarelli and IALA President Mariana Noli presenting Past President Lydia Liberio with the IALA Women Leaders Award

NIABA ITALY SEMINAR

UPDATE RE NIABA 4TH BIENNIAL ITALY CLE IN BELLA NAPOLI

September 19-25, 2022

AIR TRAVEL Participants must make their own arrangements regarding air travel for the conference.

HOTEL The conference will be held at the Continental Hotel, reservations must be received by JULY 31, 2022. There is a limited block of rooms reserved. Telephone or email for reservations using the secret word NIABA 2022. book@royalcontinental.it.

CLE CONFERENCE Monday September 19 through Wednesday September 21, from 9 AM to 12 PM, two seminars each day on topics related to Italo-American interest. REGISTRATION \$300 must be paid by check prior to June 30th 2022, to reserve a spot. Checks are to be made payable to NIABA and mailed to Anthony Gianfrancesco, Esq, 214 Broadway, Providence, RI 02903. Speakers and topics will be announced soon.

TRIPS AND EVENTS Visits to Mayor's office, Naples Chief of Police Headquarters, meetings with Judges and Prosecutors, meetings with Naples Bar Association, United States General Consul, visits to museums and more. Other possibilities include trips to Pompei, Teatro San Carlo, Università degli Studi Federico II Falcolta' di Legge (local law school) which is the oldest law school in Europe, a party on a private boat.

Gala dinner possibly at the exclusive Rari Nantes on the bay of Naples on Wednesday evening with special guest, tenor Carlo De Antonis.

CAPRI Overnight trip to Capri which will include visit to mayor, tour to the Gardens of Augusto, island boat tour, dinner in the famous piazzetta, and after dinner at the most exclusive club "Amema e Core'. Arrangements for Capri are Hotel Regina Cristina. Contact reservations@reginacristina.it or call (39) 08183744 or fax (39) 0818370550.

MILAN IN ADDITION, NIABA has been invited to attend a conference with the Presidents of the various Italian bar associations in Milan prior to the Naples CLE program.

Wednesday, September 14th – 8pm. Formal dinner in Milan

Thursday, September 15th – 10am Meeting with UNION CRINT

1pm Lunch

4pm Participation with Milan Bar Association

Participants are free to attend some or all of the events. Each attendee absolutely must pay in advance through the NIABA.org site for any event that they intend on attending. The purchase of alcoholic beverages, including wine, will be the responsibility of each attendee at the dinners. The price per dinner will be inclusive of food, taxes, and gratuity.

We will continue to post updates periodically. If you are interested in attending either trip, or would like further information, please contact Anthony Gianfrancesco at anthony@gianfrancescolaw.com. This promises to be a truly once-in-a-lifetime event.

NIABA Board Meetings

Chicago 2021



Scottsdale 2022



Litchfield 2021





National Italian American Bar Association - Application for Membership

Duplication and redistribution of this document is encouraged.

You can also apply online at www.niaba.org

Name _____

Firm Name _____

Firm Address _____

City, State, Zip and Country _____

Office Phone _____ Fax _____

Cell Phone _____ E-mail _____

Web Site _____

Home Address _____

Home Phone _____

Law School, w/ graduation year _____

In which states and/or countries are you licensed to practice law? _____

Which languages (besides English) can you read and/or speak fluently? _____

Areas of Practice (please select no more than three)

- Administrative, Adoption, Antitrust, Appellate, Arbitration/Mediation, Banking, Bankruptcy/Reorganization, Business, Civil Rights, Class Actions, Commodities, Commercial Litigation, Construction, Corporate/Business, Criminal, Customs/International Trade, Defamation, Divorce, Educator, Employee Benefits, Environmental, Estate Planning, Family Law, Franchise, General Practice, Health Care, Immigration, In-House, Insurance, Intellectual Property, Investment Banking, Judge, Labor/Emp/Mgmt Relations, Litigation, Malpractice, Accountant, Attorney, Medical, Municipal, Patent & Trademark, Personal Injury (Plaintiff), Personal Injury (Defendant), Probate, Product Liability (Plaintiff), Product Liability (Defendant), Professional Disciplinary, Public Service, Real Estate, Real Estate Tax, Retired, Securities, Social Security, Tax, Torts, Traffic, Training/Consulting/Education, Wills and Trusts, Workers Comp (Plaintiff), Workers Comp (Defendant), Zoning/Planning, Other

Membership Level & Dues: Regular (\$50) Sponsor (\$100) Patron (\$250) Lifetime (\$1,000)

Judge (free) First year attorney (free) Law student (free)

How did you learn about NIABA? Local Association Web Site Referral Other

Would you like to make a contribution to the NIABA Scholarship Fund? \$100 or more \$50 \$25 Other

I certify that I am at least one of the following: a lawyer of Italian birth or extraction; a lawyer related by marriage to a person of Italian birth or extraction; a lawyer who is willing to support the purposes and objectives of NIABA. I further certify that I have been admitted to practice law and am in good standing in any country or jurisdiction; or have been granted and possess a law degree from a college of law in any jurisdiction and would qualify for admission to practice law; or am currently a law student in an accredited law school in any country or jurisdiction. All information I have provided is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Signature _____ Date _____

Please mail this form along with your membership dues and any other amounts listed above. Make checks payable to NIABA.

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