

***A few words from
Il Presidente***

A hearty “grazie” to all of those who attended and made our summer events so successful. Founders Night with Attorney General Jerry Brown turned out to be a tremendous evening, and we are happy to say that the IALA Hall of Fame plaque will soon find its permanent home in the Casa. We were fortunate to follow that event up with thought provoking speakers in Daniel Petrocelli and General John Jumper. We look forward to Marco Polo night – always one of the year’s highlights – on October 1 at the Empress Pavilion, and I encourage everyone to visit the revamped IALA website for more information about upcoming events.

See you at the Casa! Cent’ Anni!

--Anthony V. Salerno

Web Sites of Interest

IALA:
<http://www.iala.info>
National Italian American Bar Association:
<http://www.niaba.org>
National Italian American Foundation, Inc.:
<http://www.niaf.org>

**2008 Beijing Olympics
Noteworthy Italian Results**

SPORT	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE	TOTAL
Archery	0	1	0	1
Boxing	1	1	1	3
Canoe	0	1	1	2
Cycling	0	1	1	2
Fencing	2	0	5	7
Judo	1	0	0	1
Rowing	0	1	0	1
Sailing	0	1	1	2
Shooting	1	2	0	3
Swimming	1	1	0	2
Taekwondo	0	1	0	1
Track	1	0	1	2
Wrestling	1	0	0	1

Italy 9th in overall medal count with 28.
 USA #1 (110); China #2 (100); Russia #3 (72).

**ANNOUNCEMENT
CONCERNING
ENDORSEMENTS FOR
CANDIDATES FOR
JUDICIAL OFFICE**

IALA encourages its active members to apply for judicial appointment, and has a standing committee to consider endorsements on such applications. Those interested in more details concerning these issues should contact President Salerno directly.

**SCHOLARSHIP
INFORMATION AND
UPDATE:
OPPORTUNITY
KNOCKS FOR A
WORTHY LAW
STUDENT**

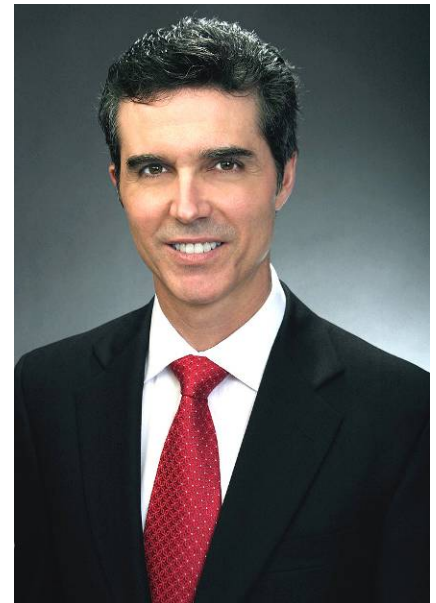
Applications for the 2008 IALA Scholarship are now being accepted. The award is \$2,500.00. All participants receive a free one year membership with IALA. Applications can be obtained on our website at www.iala.info or by contacting the Scholarship Committee Chairperson, Shel Capeloto, by phone at (626) 793-7788 or email at jcapeloto@capelotolaw.com.

Please note that completed applications must be received by September 30, 2008. The recipient will be honored at our December 2008 meeting with the California Supreme Court.

The scholarship will be awarded on academic achievement, potential contribution to the

Italian-American Community and financial need. All information received by the IALA will be verified to the extent possible, i.e., with the law school registrar. A transcript will be most valuable to the evaluation committee.

**IALA SPOTLIGHT:
HON. MICHAEL R.
DILIBERTO**



Michael R. Diliberto is a man of many talents and interests. He is an accomplished musician who has performed in the US and overseas, an attorney who formerly practiced law in various venues, including a stint in a large law firm in Sydney, Australia, and a world-traveler. Presently, he is an Administrative Law Judge for the Office of Administrative Hearings (Los Angeles office), and a prominent full-time mediator and arbitrator with ADR Services, Inc.

Michael grew up in Florida. His early love of music led him to play drums with members of the musical group “Miami Sound Machine,” and various jazz recording artists. A tour with a band that performed in Europe and the Middle East ignited his passion for travel. After the tour, Michael briefly deferred law school, to embark on an around the world backpack adventure. Some of his travel highlights from that trip include navigating a “prahu” (Malayan sailboat) in the Java sea in Bali, Indonesia, to chase whales; trekking to a height of 18,500 feet in the Himalayan mountain range in Nepal (with no porters or guide); riding a camel in the Thar Desert in Jaisalmer, India, near the Pakistan border (not recommended for comfort); and performing with a band in Shanghai, China in exchange for room and board. Recently, Michael hiked through part of the Amazon rainforest in South America, an experience he called “truly amazing.”

After passing the Florida Bar (followed by California and the District of Columbia), he began his law career working in a business litigation law firm founded by his father. With his music background and Spanish language skills, Michael carved out a specialty in entertainment law and intellectual property, with an emphasis on representing prominent Latin American recording artists. Michael handled their business affairs, as well as related federal court litigation dealing with copyright and trademark issues. It was during this time that he

was invited to work in a major law firm in Australia, handling client matters ranging from energy holdings to broadcast media.

After Australia, Michael moved to California. After years of working as a civil litigator, Michael resigned his partnership in a Los Angeles law firm to devote himself to full-time mediation. He and a partner formed their own ADR company. His settlement skills came to the attention of Lucie Barron, who recruited him to join her company, ADR Services, Inc., where he mediates approximately 150 cases per year. He settles a variety of matters, with an emphasis on employment, real estate, insurance, business, intellectual property and serious injury cases.

His tenacity and cross-cultural negotiating skills are evident in a recent multi-million dollar commercial real estate mediation. The mediation involved three cultures, with different negotiating styles, namely, a Persian buyer, a Chinese seller, and a Filipino broker. The mediation began on a Friday morning at 9:30 a.m., and settled, with a signed agreement and new escrow instructions, Saturday morning at 5:00 a.m. Michael said that “those negotiations almost fell apart several times, but part of my job is to keep the deal in play. It took a lot of effort to keep the parties at the table for 19.50 hours straight, and to settle.”

When he is not mediating, he serves under contract with the

State of California as an Administrative Law Judge, presiding over hearings for the Department of Insurance, Department of Real Estate, Caltrans, and other agencies. He also serves as a Hearing Examiner for the Los Angeles Police Commission, and the cities of Santa Monica and Long Beach.

Michael served as President of the Italian American Lawyers Association for year 2007, where he initiated the “First Annual Hall of Fame Night,” attended by more than 300 people, and he was interviewed on behalf of the Italian American Lawyers Association on the “Insider Exclusive” TV show. During his term, he revamped the IALA website and also reached out to the various local bar associations, which were included as co-sponsors for our monthly dinner meetings. He remains a sitting member of the IALA Board. Says Treasurer Stephen Mesi, “Michael has a unique style and forward vision that made serving in his administration an honor. He's always willing to foster goodwill for the society by flying the IALA banner at other events.”

We salute the fine work Michael has done for the Italian American Lawyers Association and our community, and we anticipate more great accomplishments from him.

The IALA Board also seeks nominations for other IALA members whose accomplishments – professional or personal, current or lifetime – merit acknowledgement in the Bollettino

*Spotlight. Please send
submissions to
dcapozzola@ebglaw.com.*

Upcoming Meetings

October 1, 2008:

*Marco Polo Night
(at Empress Pavilion)*

October 23, 2008:

True Crime Night

November 19, 2008:

Wine Tasting

December 2, 2008:

Supreme Court Night

**For further information
go to the IALA website:**

www.iala.info