



BOLLETTINO

Notification of Intention to Run for Central Council at the 2016 Convention

Application Process

1. Applications are available from the I.C.F. Office.
2. Candidates' completed applications must be received by the I.C.F. Office by August 1 in order to be eligible to run for Central Council.
3. A candidate who is not currently a Central Council Member must be a branch delegate to the Convention.

Other Pre-Convention Deadlines

1. If you wish to place a full-page ad in the convention souvenir book; the ad contract, your photo and a message must be sent to the I.C.F. Office by July 1.
2. Candidate entries to be included in the Bollettino, must be emailed to both the I.C.F. Office and the Bollettino Editor by August 1. Email admin@icf.org and icfeditor@gmail.com. Submissions should include a photo and an entry that does not exceed 300 words.

Campaign Rules

1. Only one poster (maximum size 24 X 36) may be displayed in the area designated by the Convention Director.
2. Campaign flyers and non-consumable campaign favors may only be given out on Friday evening during "Meet the Candidates." Food and beverage items may not be distributed during "Meet the Candidates."
3. As voted upon at the February 2016 Central Council Meeting, there will be no candidate hospitality rooms. This decision was made in order to follow the hotel's quiet time policy. If a district hosts a hospitality room at any time during the convention weekend, there shall be no candidate posters, flyers or other campaign paraphernalia available in the hospitality room.

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Stockton District Celebrates Bishop's Day



Past Grand President Leonard Rossi and Past Grand President Jim Jones, along with Karen Rossi made presentations with the Pachinger children to Bishop Stephen Blaire.

Robert Pachinger Branch 413

The 54th Annual Bishop's Burse was hosted by Branch 413, Angels Camp at St. Patrick's Church. Bishop Blaire presided at the 10:15 a.m. mass with Fr. Rolando Petronio, Deacon Fred and District Chaplain, Deacon Karl Welsbacher.

A banquet was held following mass which featured a prime rib dinner prepared by the members of Br. 413. Honored guests were Bishop Stephen E. Blaire, Fr. Roland Petronio, Fr. John Paul, Director of Seminarians and Deacon Formation of the Stockton Diocese Sr. Wanda Billion, ICF Grand President Leonard Zasoski, Jr. and his wife Betty, Past President Leonard Rossi and his wife Karen, Past President Jim Jones and his wife Janice, Central Council Member Lisa Crudo, Life Member Emeritus Marco Galeazzi and his wife Diane, Deacon Fred and his wife Maria, District Chaplain Deacon Karl Welsbacher, and Stockton District President Robert Pachinger and his wife Annette. Seth Bakke, cantor at St. Patrick's Church and sophomore at Bret Harte High School, entertained us with a beautiful vocal performance of Ave Maria. The members of St. Patrick's Youth Group served the dinner and assisted in clean up. Bishop Blaire



Danielle Pachinger presented the Spiritual Bouquet to Bishop Stephen Blaire.

was presented a Spiritual Bouquet of 5,825 masses, 6,151 communions, 850 rosaries, and 5,800 special intentions as well as monetary donations of \$4000 from the Stockton District, \$1500 from Central Council, \$2000 from Br. 139 Manteca, and \$1000 from Br. 395 Presentation.

Grand President's Monthly Message by Leonard Zasoski, Jr.

As we move into springtime, life around us takes on a new beginning. With this new beginning of life, we should use that same sense of energy to keep moving the Federation forward through membership and apostolate works.

I have always said that we are a very powerful organization in all that we do for our size. Just imagine how much more could be done if we add others to our family. Remember: Membership is a key to our future; please help to promote and strengthen membership in all branches.



Our Strategic Plan has enabled us to get a fresh look at how we operate from the Branch and District levels, all the way to the Central Council, our governing board. Some of what we have learned is that we must plan earlier for various activities and events to have better participation from the membership.

For your Branch and District Officers, you should start talking to potential new officers and to the current officer about moving up the ladder. By making contact now, you have more time to explain the position, the reason why you see the individual as a good fit, and then they will have the opportunity to pay more attention and ask questions to feel comfortable taking the office. The officer elections are still held in the fall and with that early connection, you will have a better chance of filling the position.

The ICF Convention in Fresno California will be here before we know it. Delegates and non-delegates benefit from attending the

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Central Council Meeting Minutes Saturday February 13, 2016 Colma, CA

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 am by Grand President Leonard Zasoski.

The opening prayer and Salute to Flag/ICF Pledge were said.

Roll Call of Officers and CC Members:
Excused: Andy Pappani, Franklyn Lopes, Jr., Bob Basuino, Steve Fuentes, Dante Galeazzi, Donna Raffanti.

CC Life Members Emeritus and Members Emeritus present: Carmen Kilcullen, Jerry Delfino, Pat Mages, Nettie Descalso – Del Nero.

Introductions: Grand President Leonard Zasoski welcomed guests from visiting branches.

CC Meeting Minutes: Minutes for October 17,

2015 were approved as corrected.

Communications

- None

Reports

Grand President – Leonard Zasoski, Jr.

- Leonard listed the 22 events he has attended since the October 2015 Central Council meeting and the eight events he will be attending February through April 2016.

- Grand President Leonard Zasoski thanked Andy Pappani for representing him at Oakland, Santa Rosa, Orange, San Diego, and Tucson, today. He thanked Vince Piro for representing him in San Bernardino. He thanked Bob Acquistapace for representing him in Eureka / Arcata.

Grand Treasurer – Deborah Rodondi

- Deborah reported that for 2015, we are in the black for income by \$4337.14. Deborah thanked everyone for working hard to decrease

expenses.

- It is too early to discuss 2016 budget, as we're only a month into the year.

Deputy Chairperson – Andy Pappani

- Vince Piro gave the report in Andy Pappani's absence

- Andy is working on new a Deputy Report to align with the guidelines of the Strategic Plan goals and is putting together information packets for deputies on leadership info.

- Two area deputies have been appointed for Contra Costa and deputies have been appointed for San Bernardino and Orange.

- Andy is still working on appointing Deputy's for Chicago, Fresno and San Gabriel Area

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BOLLETTINO

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Thank God For Teenagers!

Monsignor Daniel Cardelli
Spiritual Director ICF

Teenagers are wonderful people! We often think otherwise from what we hear in the media. However, there are millions of teens who do wonderful things which usually don't make the news. They have many great qualities. They are full of life, like a blossom on a flower just about coming into full bloom.

When was the last time you engaged a teenager in conversation? Happily, I find teenagers full of enthusiasm, generous in spirit, willing to take on many worthwhile projects. When they commit themselves to do something, they do it with full energy and spirited teamwork. They love a challenge.

Sometimes teenagers themselves can be a challenge; but if you look beneath the surface, most of them have big hearts. Every day, you can see teens involved in a variety of places and activities. They volunteer in libraries, school clubs, and nursing homes. They often participate in fund raising for charities. Around our neighborhoods, we see teenagers doing



informal volunteer work like babysitting and mowing an elderly neighbor's lawn. Especially these days, teens are aware of environmental causes. "Go Green." Teens help with cleaning up trails, neighborhoods, and beaches. Some volunteer to work in soup kitchens and homeless shelters, serving food or assisting staff with various tasks. They often volunteer to help in hospitals. Remember the wonderful Candy Strippers? Teens have even been known to help build houses in local communities through Habitat for Humanity.

Have you noticed who serves you at ICF banquets and dinners? It's our teenagers who work with a smile... or a lost look... but they



are still there aiming to please. They also participate in their parish ministries, sing in choirs, and work with children and the elderly. These are only some of the areas where teens shine. They contribute in limitless ways to making the world a better place. Yes, teenagers can be mysterious; they can be a challenge. But they are a blessing to us in so many ways.

Thank God for Teenagers!

Organizing a Membership Drive

Nina Malone

Life Member of the Central Council/
Membership Committee Chairperson

Spring has arrived and it's time to uncover the backyard barbeque and dust off the bocce ball set! With the celebration of Easter and arrival of Spring comes the time for all things fresh and new, including members for your branch. Start planning now so that your group will be well organized and prepared as the scheduled date arrives. Here are some easy guidelines to help you along:

1. Ask permission. Your pastor or parish administrator may already have a Ministry or Organization Fair scheduled for the year; gladly welcoming ICF participation. If not, find out which dates would work best with the parish facility schedule. Pick a weekend with the least conflicts.

2. Know the Rules. Your branch should be aware of any parish policies and procedures to be followed. For example, is it okay to set up tables in the vestibule, stuff flyers in the bulletins or make an announcement at the end of each weekend Mass using our two-minute short script? Knowing the rules ahead of time will maintain a healthy working relationship between your branch and the parish staff.

3. Get your members involved. There are plenty of jobs to go around, so delegate! The more people involved, the more excitement you will generate. Appoint a chairperson/committee to carry out the tasks listed below.

4. Develop a flyer/handout. It is a proven fact that a colored flyer will grab much more attention than a simple "blurb" in the church bulletin. If the parish allows, create a handout that simply explains the who's, what's, when's and where's of your branch. Remember to keep it simple yet informative; contact information, meeting times, location, membership eligibility, what is the ICF, etc. This is an effective tool for all of your branch events; put out these flyers at your dinners and

parish events too!

5. Coordinate with Parish Staff. If the parish allows for a bulletin insert, ask the office secretary how many flyers should be printed and when your branch members should be available to stuff the church bulletins. If you need extra help with this, consider asking the parish school or youth group if any of the children could use some extra community service hours. This is a great way to interconnect with other ministries within the parish. Make sure to print several extra copies for your Membership table.

6. Prepare an announcement. If the pastor will allow your branch to make a short announcement, use the two-minute script as a guideline. Appoint someone that is comfortable with talking in front of large crowds and has a clear speaking voice. If the pastor would prefer to do the announcement himself, supply information about the branch's accomplishments and where your team will be located for the membership drive after Mass.

7. Create an ICF Membership Board. Using the Membership Kit that is available on the ICF website, appoint a member to gather branch photos and the necessary supplies to create your ICF Membership Board. Make sure to highlight Bishop's Days, Corporate Communion Masses, Joint Installations, religious events, fundraisers, youth activities, picnics, etc.

8. Set-up for success. Coordinate with the parish to set up a table in a well-trafficked area; a place that most everyone will pass by after each Mass. If the area allows, make a banner or large sign that is colorful and easy to read; drawing attention to your table. The table itself should include your Membership Board, ICF brochures, handouts, Bollettinos, posters, memorabilia, balloons; even some hard candies or small giveaway items. Everyone loves to get something for free!

9. Sign them up. Create an information worksheet for perspective members that include their name, phone number, email address and mailing address. In turn, have something to give them; a business card, brochure or flyer. Invite them to be your guest at the next branch meeting; be sure to let them know the date, time and location. Be sure to check out our "Branch Visitor" and "New Member" packets at www.icf.org for more ideas and resources.

So before the "lazy days of summer" begin and everyone goes out of town on vacation, gather your branch members together and organize a Membership Drive. There is no risk and all reward, plus you will have fun in the process! If your branch is in need of any assistance from the Membership Committee, please contact Membership Chairperson Nina Malone at musicalnina61@gmail.com. Easter blessings and peace to all!

Membership Stats as of February 29, 2016: 9,810

Members as of July 1, 2015:

10,074 = overall loss of 264 members

New:	588
Reinstated:	12
Transfer in/out:	43
Deceased:	-156
Cancelled:	-394
Non-payment	314

High Five!

Top four districts and areas
with increased membership:
(excluding deceased members)

Santa Barbara	+81
Santa Clara Valley	+17
Stockton	+11
East Bay	+08

UPCOMING:

2016 Bishops' Days:

- Apr. 3 San Francisco (San Francisco, San Mateo & Marin)
- Jul. 31 Monterey (Central Coast)
- Oct. 16 San Jose (Santa Clara Valley)
- Nov. 6 Las Vegas
- Nov. 6 Los Angeles
- Nov. 6 San Diego
- Nov. 9 San Bernardino

Grand President

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convention. Please make every effort possible to have delegates, especially new delegates from your branch, be a part of the convention. They will return energized with new ideas and see all that we do as a Federation. Look for more information in the *Bollettino*, on our website: www.icf.org, and on Facebook.

Throughout the year we should be doing apostolate works in our branches, parish and community. This will help to keep our member close to their faith. For just as the son who was lost and returned to the joy of his father, so will our Father in Heaven rejoice with the return of those who have fallen away and have come back home due to our apostolate works. Just as with the founding of the ICF in 1924, we are charged to bring all who have fallen away home to their Catholic faith.

The ICF: I for Italian the Italian's give us the sense of Family; C for Catholic we are all called on to look for the Light of Christ in others and to make that light shine; F for Federation this means all are welcome -men, women, children, single, married, divorced, and all heritages. Those three letters join all of us together. You, the members, should be proud of all that you have done in the past and will continue to do in the future.

Leonard Zasoski, Jr.

Grand President

Jubilee Year of Mercy

Jim Jones
Life Member of the Central Council
Past Grand President
Apostolate/Charity Committee

5. Heal the sick.
6. Visit the imprisoned.
7. Bury the dead.

The Spiritual Works of Mercy are:

1. To counsel the doubtful.
2. Instruct the ignorant.
3. Admonish sinners.
4. Comfort the afflicted.
5. Forgive offenses.
6. Bear patiently those who do us ill.
7. Pray for the living and the dead.

As members of the Italian Catholic Federation, we accomplish many of these Works of Mercy in our branches. Perhaps we can do more! Do you have a program in your Church to feed and offer clothing to the homeless? Do you have a prayer committee? Do you reach out to your members and forgive offenses? Are you patient with annoying members? Do you listen to your members?

During this Jubilee Year of Mercy, these are some of the Works of Mercy that your branch can work on.

Pope Francis has declared that the Universal Catholic Church will observe a Jubilee Year of Mercy from December 8 2015, to November 20, 2016.

What is a Jubilee? A Jubilee is a special year of remission of sins and universal pardon. It is a holy year, filled with special celebrations and pilgrimages, strong calls for conversion and repentance, and the opportunity to experience God's grace through the sacraments, especially confession.

Spreading God's mercy is central to the mission of the Catholic Church. The Church calls on us to reach out to people that are broken in body and spirit.

We do this through the Corporal Works of Mercy and the Spiritual Works of Mercy.

The Corporal Works of Mercy are:

1. Feed the hungry.
2. Give drink to the thirsty.
3. Cloth the naked.
4. Welcome the stranger.

DONATION REMINDER

When writing a check out for any of our charities make the check out to Italian Catholic Federation or ICF and in the memo line put the name of the charity. DO NOT combine charities in one check, as they are all deposited into different accounts.

MARCH CALENDAR WINNERS

DAY	NAME	BR	CITY	WINS
3/1	Lou Boris	327	San Carlos, CA	\$30
3/2	Alice Marshall	14	Concord, CA	\$30
3/3	Victoria Rotunno	418	Villa Park, IL	\$30
3/4	Christina Rudie		Bakersfield, CA	\$30
3/5	Hilda Vaughn	327	San Carlos, CA	\$30
3/6	Edith Handley		San Francisco, CA	\$30
3/7	Randy & Debbie Giannone	39	Merced, CA	\$30
3/8	Johanna Tacci	435	Morgan Hill, CA	\$30
3/9	Joe Valerga		San Francisco, CA	\$30
3/10	Cicely Rude		San Francisco, CA	\$30
3/11	Emilio Rossi	25	Salinas, CA	\$30
3/12	James Jones	191	San Jose, CA	\$30
3/13	Weston Hurlbut		Pleasant Hill, CA	\$30
3/14	Jan Lorenzi		Merced, CA	\$30
3/15	Sandra H. Bush		Dixon, CA	\$30
3/16	Clara Lopez	39	Merced, CA	\$30
3/17	Gary & Michelle Fanucchi		Birmingham, AL	\$50
3/18	John O'Brien		San Mateo, CA	\$30
3/19	Henry J. Fleischmann	433	Tucson, AZ	\$50
3/20	Branch 281		Bakersfield, CA	\$30
3/21	Nancy Telliano	135	Reno, NV	\$30
3/22	Joan Perkins		Grover Beach, CA	\$30
3/23	Branch 127		Petaluma, CA	\$30
3/24	Lynnette Harrity	395	Stockton, CA	\$40
3/25	Therese Calgario	290	San Francisco, CA	\$50
3/26	Juliann Fontana	12	Napa, CA	\$50
3/27	Frank & Theresa Borge	28	Gilroy, CA	\$100
3/28	Marc Ghirarduzzi		Corte Madera, CA	\$30
3/29	Martin Watkins	343	Castro Valley, CA	\$30
3/30	Russ Goodman	10	Alameda, CA	\$30
3/31	Norm Mancebo		Merced, CA	\$30

ICF HISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

The Garfagnoli Family -- A True Family Affair!

David Botta and Carmen Kilcullen
Past Grand Presidents

In 1996, the Italian Catholic Federation initiated the Family of the Year Award. This award is given to an ICF family (can include grandparents, children, grandchildren etc.) that demonstrates Christian service in the parish and community and places high priority on participation and leadership in the Federation. The award is presented by the Grand President at the Sunday morning session of the annual convention. The first family to receive this award (in 1996) was the Garfagnoli Family of Branch 52 in Healdsburg, CA. Then Grand President George Bacigalupi presented the award.

This Italian-American family began their sojourn in America when Giuseppe and Miria Garfagnoli left their native Tuscany and made their way to California. Today, the family has grown to four generations living in Healdsburg and Santa Rosa.

Members of the family are still active in the Federation and have been involved in branch activities over the years. Giuseppe served as Branch President in 1997, 1988 and 1998. He and his family were known for organizing fund raisers, working behind the scenes on wonderful dinners and ready to serve wherever, whenever and however needed. He was also active on the Parish Council and served as Eucharistic Minister at the church. Daughter Linda Sherman served as branch president in 1986 and 1992-1995. She was also the president of the Santa Rosa District where, presently, she is the treasurer. Linda also served on the Central Council in 1996-97 and 2012-2014. Her husband, Glen, is a trustee for the district.

Linda's sister, Laura, served as branch president in 1996. The grandchildren, Jason, Emily and Sabrina often helped at dinners and events. A third daughter, Nancy Holt, was a branch officer until she moved to Oregon.

Where are they now?

Sadly, Giuseppe passed away in 2010, a great loss for the Federation. His widow, Miria, now 89 years young, is the "Grande Dame" of the branch, respected and admired by all for her graciousness and friendliness. Linda and her husband, Glen, are both Santa Rosa District officers. Their daughter, Emily, is married and has a son. Son Jason works in the area and is engaged to be married.

Laura has since married Dennis Jacques and they live in Santa Rosa. Laura's daughter, Sabrina also works in the Santa Rosa area.

Nancy Holt has returned to Healdsburg where she now works and lives with her mother.

As one can see, The Garfagnoli Family was truly representative of the meaning and intent of the Family of the Year Award and well deserving of this honor.

2015 Convention – The 2015 Family of the Year Award was presented to the Zanini Family of Branch 354 in Paso Robles, CA by Grand President Bob Basuino. David and Irma Zanini and their children, Melissa, Brooke, Hope and Austin form a very active nucleus for the branch. They are regarded as the life and soul of the branch, serving as officers, helping with dinners and fundraisers, helping at nursing homes, recruiting new members and assisting wherever needed.

As with the Garfagnoli Family, we witness the spirit and enthusiasm that these two families continually bring to the ICF.

Gaetano (Guy) Masciotra Passes Away

Members of the Italian Catholic Federation were saddened to hear of the recent death of Guy Masciotra. Many members may never have heard of him, but old-time ICFers remember him well. Guy worked tirelessly for the Federation for many years, traveling from California to Illinois starting branches. It is said that he alone was responsible for starting more than 100 new branches! Guy is a large part of our history and heritage.

Guy was born on January 13, 1922 in the Abruzzi region of Italy. He received his early schooling in Italy and later moved to British Columbia where he and his father started a fruit business. Moving to the San Fernando Valley, Guy again worked in the fruit and produce business delivering goods to the markets in the area.

Guy joined the ICF in 1952, becoming a member of Branch 101- Burbank. He held various branch and Los Angeles district offices and was elected a Central Council member in 1954. He was a Life Member Emeritus of the Central Council.

In 1962, Guy was appointed Assistant Field Director working alongside the ICF co-founder, Luigi Providenza. In this capacity, Guy began traveling everywhere, opening branches wherever possible. He built up good relationships with bishops and parish priests and had a special knack for motivating people to join the ICF. One did not say "no" to Guy! In 1969, he was appointed Field Director and Convention General Chairman. As Field

Director, he continued working with branches on expansion and, as Convention Director, he oversaw convention proceedings until he left the position in 1990. Luigi Providenza said of Guy, "I know more than many people, how much you have done for the ICF and only one Guy when it comes to the ICF." Those of us who know Guy, know how much he did for the Federation.

In 1942, Guy married Eva Carrafa, who has also been an extremely important part of his ICF life. They were married for 73 years! Guy and Eva have two daughters, Emily and Linda, five grandchildren, and 9 great-grandchildren.

In addition to his ICF work, Guy was busy with other projects. He helped spearhead the campaign to build the Mother Cabrini Senior Housing. He also worked on the campaign to build the Villa Scalabrini Retirement Center. He has also done much work for the Italian community at St. Peter's Church in Los Angeles.

In 1961, Guy received the Star of Solidarity from the Italian government, an award given to those who have worked in the Italian community for its betterment. In 2014, the Abbruzzesi and Molisani di California, awarded Guy "Il Distintivo D'Oro" (the Golden Pin), which comes from Italy and is given for meritorious service to an organization.

At the time of his passing, Guy was 92 years young and not in very good health. Our condolences are extended to his wife, Eva, and all his family. Rest in Peace, Guy!

Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations*

<u>IN MEMORY OF:</u>	<u>DONATED BY:</u>
Sister Diane Carroll	Carmen Kilcullen
Joan Bottino Foster	Jim Providenza and Terri Leinsteiner
Guy Masciotra	Jim and Janice Jones
Guy Masciotra	Mike and Marcie Rossi
Guy Masciotra	The Kilcullen Family
Guy Masciotra	Joan and Jerry Delfino
Lucille Lofreso	Officers/Members of Br. 308
Jean Almeida	Teri Hurlbut
Gaetano "Guy" Masciotra	Bob and Kathy Acquistapace
Guy Masciotra	Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Rossi
Guy Masciotra	Forrest and Prudence Price
Guy Masciotra	Jim and Barbara Raggio
Guy Masciotra	Nettie Descalso-Del Nero
Ann Calabretta	Officers/Members of Br. 342
Guy Masciotra	The Thomas Sarnicola Family

GET WELL WISHES:

Betty Castagnola	Officers/Members of Br. 290
Mary Rowe	Officers/Members of Br. 290
Doris Mulligan	Officers/Members of Br. 161
Mrs. Millie Franzoni	Officers/Members of Br. 290

THANK YOU FOR OUR INSTALLATION:

Grand President Leonard Zasoski, Jr.	Officers/Members of San Mateo District
Grand President Leonard Zasoski, Jr.	Officers/Members of Blessed Sacrament District

IN HONOR OF OUTGOING BR. 438 OFFICERS AND THANK YOU:

Natalie Malone	Officers/Members of Br. 438
Myrna Rizza	Officers/Members of Br. 438
Darrell Terry	Officers/Members of Br. 438

*Named after the co-founder of the I.C.F., the Sir Luigi and Lady Augusta Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund provides I.C.F. members a lasting way to memorialize and/or extend greetings to friends, relatives, and loved ones. Members' donations provide scholarships to seminarians studying for the priesthood in dioceses where the Italian Catholic Federation is located. A monthly Mass is offered for the intention of those listed.

Cooley's Anemia Donations

Donations received by March 10, 2016	Officers/Members of Br. 28
Branch 135	In memory of Bruna Goold
Branch 213	Louie and Pat Cordich
Branch 236 - Closing Donation	In memory of Bruna Goold
Branch 342	Rudy and Allison Iannucci
Branch 391	In memory of Ines Sabatella
Branch 423	Connie and Don Bohannon
Los Angeles Archdiocese District Salsa Dance	In memory of Ines Sabatella
John and Terry Giannetto	Bill and Toni Woo
Leonard and Betty Zasoski, Jr.	In memory of Ines Sabatella
In memory of Ines Sabatella	Ernie and Norma Anderson
Jerry and Joan Brascia	In memory of Ines Sabatella
In memory of Ines Sabatella	Art and Cristina Younger
John and Kris Kaiser	In memory of Ines Sabatella
In memory of Ines Sabatella	Phil and Jane Argento
Steve and Charlene Drobeck	In memory of Ines Sabatella
In memory of Ines Sabatella	Joe and Margie Dilsaver
Officers/Members of Br. 362	In memory of Ines Sabatella
In memory of Ines Sabatella	Frank and Crocetta Salomone
Duff Reiter, Gil Zeimer and Ellen Young	In memory of Ines Sabatella
In memory of Ines Sabatella	Amy Lane
Officers/Members of Br. 438	In memory of Ines Sabatella
In honor of Joe Fisher for your good heart and leadership	Charles P. Gullo, Jr.
Officers/Members of Br. 28	In memory of Vincent Cala
In memory of Mark Britzius	Officers/Members of Br. 438
	In honor of Benjamin Anthony Levine

Gifts of Love Donations

Donations Received By March 10, 2016	Officers/Members of Br. 438
Branch 213	In memory of Pidge Deeken - a loving, nurturing woman
Branch 236 - Closing Donation	Louie and Pat Cordich
The Greco Family Christmas Open House Fundraiser	In memory of Mark Britzius
Harold, Virginia and Steve Fuentes	Officers/Members of Br. 403
In memory of Guy Masciotra	In memory of Bea Garay
Donna Basilin	John and Donna Rossi
In memory of Carl Ceravino	In honor of the 90 th birthday of Bob Osorio
Officers/Members of Br. 290	
In memory of Betty Castagnola	

The Ways and Means Committee announces the Theme for the 2017 Fundraiser "Daily Raffle" as:

"Italian Catholic Federation Branch and District Heritages"

The Ways and Means Committee will be planning and designing the 2017 Calendar. Included in the calendar will be your pictures, biographies and anecdotes about your Branches and Districts

We invite you to participate in several ways: First, share special stories or anecdotes about the history and heritage of your branch, your members and your districts. Please send any pictures that you would like to share.

We also invite you to participate in the listing of not only birthdays (your own, your children, grandchildren, parish priests and chaplains, or even friends) but also anniversaries (weddings, Branch founding, Priest's ordinations, etc.) You may include your branch and district events as well.

The price schedule will be as follows:

\$10.00 for one name/event; \$15.00 for 2 names/events; and \$20.00 for four names/events.

Other numbers will be a combination of prices; for example, 5 names/events will be \$30.00 (\$20.00 + \$10.00), but keep in mind that 8 names/events would be \$40.00.

The deadline for the names and payments will be May 1, 2016

Please mail your information with a check payable to the I.C.F. to:

Italian Catholic Federation
8393 Capwell Dr., Suite 110
Oakland, CA 94621

The Committee thanks you for your continued support!

Chairperson: Lisa Crudo

Members: Franklyn Lopes Jr., and Leonard Rossi, O.L.J.

For questions, please call the I.C.F. office at (510) 633-9058 or Lisa Crudo (510) 861-983

IRS AND STATE OF CALIFORNIA FRANCHISE TAX BOARD

As you are aware, the IRS and Franchise Tax Board for the State of California require annual tax returns to be filed by our Districts and Branches.

It is important to remember that all Districts and Branches now have two numbers - a Federal Tax ID Number for any forms filed with the IRS and a State Tax ID Number for any forms filed with the State

The IRS limit for the tax year ending 2015 is the following:

Branches or Districts with Gross Receipts of more than \$50,000.00 will be required to file IRS Form 990 EZ or 990.

Branches or Districts with Gross Receipts of \$50,000.00 or less will be required to electronically file IRS Form 990-N which is an e-Postcard.

The State limit for the tax year ending 2015 is the following:

Branches or Districts in California with Gross Receipts of more than \$50,000.00 will be required to file State Form 199.

Branches or Districts in California with Gross Receipts of \$50,000.00 or less will be required to electronically file State Form 199-N which is an e-Postcard.

THIS IS IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND MUST BE STRICTLY FOLLOWED

Both Forms must be filed no later than May 15, 2016. The IRS and State strictly adhere to this date, so please take this process seriously.

Any District or Branch who does not file for 3 consecutive years will lose its tax exempt status with the IRS and the State. If you lose your tax exempt status you will have to file paperwork and pay a fine in order to regain your tax exempt status.

Included in the Financial Secretaries' packet are materials that the District and Branch Financial Secretaries will need to help them with this process. District and Branch Presidents - please work with your Financial Secretary to go over the information when it is received and see that the appropriate forms are filed by the due date.

Please make sure all District or Branch finances are in order and that Bank Statements are reconciled through December 31, 2015. Remember that the Gross Receipts are total amounts received without subtracting any costs or expenses. These amounts include, but are not limited to, Membership and Hospitalization Dues, Dinners, Fundraisers, Raffle Tickets, Income from Convention Raffle Tickets and Calendar Sales, Interest from all Bank Accounts, Monetary Donations, etc.

If you have any questions, or need help filing, please call the I.C.F. Office at 1-888-423-1924.

*Thank You,
Deborah Rodondi, Grand Treasurer*

2016 1st Year Scholarship Program

Materials on the 1st Year Scholarship Program were sent to high schools after Thanksgiving and have now been sent to the Districts and Branches in the January mailing.

The Deadline for Donations and Applications is March 15, 2016. Please discuss participating in the program at your meetings by making a donation of a full scholarship of \$400.00, if possible, or a partial donation of any amount. Partial Donations do help to make other scholarships possible when that money is grouped together. Individual Donations are welcomed as well. Please encourage your children, grandchildren or anyone you know who is eligible to apply. These are the eligibility requirements for students:

A High School Senior, a total cumulative GPA (3 ½ years) of at least 3.2 and meets all of the

requirements in either #1 or #2: 1) Are Roman Catholic and of Italian Descent and live within the Roman Catholic Dioceses of Arizona, California, Illinois and Nevada, only where Branches of the Federation are established. or 2) Are Roman Catholic but need not be of Italian Descent or live where Branches of the Federation are established if either Roman Catholic parent, guardian or grandparent is a member of the "Italian Catholic Federation" - membership of a Roman Catholic parent, guardian or grandparent is mandatory for #2. Please visit or call your local high schools where you would like to see applicants come from and make sure that they are promoting our scholarship program and have applications available.

If you have any questions or applications are needed, please call the I.C.F. office toll-free at 1-888-423-1924.

La Celebrazione di Gioventu -- The Celebration of Youth

*Submitted by Roselynn Jarrett
Central Council Life Member*

Color the ICF Emblem.



F = Faith

P = Patria (Fatherland)

I = Italy

A = America

In Loving Memory

Report Date: 03/09/2016

BRUNO E PERA	Branch 007	JOSEPH STINE	Branch281
ILDE BRUNI	Branch 021	CONCETTA FRATTARELLI	Branch326
JOHN ORLANDO	Branch 021	HANAKO NELSON	Branch343
BRUNA I GOOLD	Branch 028	LAWRENCE S THOMPSON	Branch352
ANITA GIANNONE	Branch 031	DOLORES NUNES	Branch390
ANTHONY W PRICOLO	Branch 031	LAURA B GARAY	Branch403
ORIN L BUCKMAN	Branch 036	CATHERINE R LUCIO	Branch403
THERESA A TERRIO	Branch 073	ADA MOCELIN	Branch403
ANTHONY VECCHIO	Branch 108	JESSICA C KLINE	Branch416
AMY A AINSWORTH	Branch 281	LORETTA J HALBOTH	Branch425
		BARBARA BEVELACQUE	Branch428
		WILLIAM H JANTON	Branch433

Benvenuti Membri Nuovi

Report Date: 03/09/2016

REV ANGELO ROVAI	Branch 007	WILLIAM (BILL) CROWLEY	Branch227
MICHAEL ALUFFI	Branch 021	LUIS DIAZ	Branch229
MARIE PERA	Branch 026	MARIA SCIPIONE	Branch229
ANGELA L GAMINO	Branch 032	ALYSSE C TURNER	Branch230
BEVERLY A MAGANA	Branch 032	REV ALBINO VECINA	Branch230
JEFF CANEPA	Branch 036	BRENDA L IANIRO	Branch285
ATHENA CRISTOFALO	Branch 036	TERRY GARRITY	Branch291
BENICIO CRISTOFALO	Branch 036	ANDREW S ZASOSKI	Branch291
CARINA E CRISTOFALO	Branch 036	EDWARD HOFFKNECHT	Branch308
COSIMA CRISTOFALO	Branch 036	RITA HOFFKNECHT	Branch308
NICCOLO CRISTOFALO	Branch 036	ELIZABETH A ALEXANDER	Branch332
MARIE L HACK	Branch 036	ELIJAH HOHN	Branch343
ELIZABETH J PITTMAN	Branch 036	DON L SMITH	Branch351
MARY LARocca	Branch 050	MARY A SMITH	Branch351
ABBY BARIBEAU	Branch 052	LYNNE A LAZZARESCHI	Branch352
JOE D BARIBEAU	Branch 052	KATHY MALLEGGNI	Branch352
KIM K BARIBEAU	Branch 052	CAROL A SPILLER	Branch352
SONIA BARIBEAU	Branch 052	FRANK V SPILLER	Branch352
DIANE BERTOLI	Branch 052	PENNY BAISLEY	Branch374
ITZEL CLOW	Branch 052	ALICE L BALDECCHI	Branch380
TODD R CLOW	Branch 052	NICHOLAS D BALDECCHI	Branch380
VERONICA CLOW	Branch 052	NATALE PELLEGRINO	Branch380
DAN H GUSTAFSON	Branch 052	FRANK SHAW	Branch380
NED L LABBE	Branch 052	RACHEL SHAW	Branch380
KATE M MACMURRAY	Branch 052	ANNETTE ALVAREZ-ORMONDE	Branch390
CHRIS M O'NEEL	Branch 052	ANITA T COLANGELO	Branch390
DENNIS C O'NEEL	Branch 052	KELLI L SORDELLO	Branch390
ERNIE E RALSTON	Branch 052	ROBERT J SORDELLO	Branch390
LINDA A ROCHESTER	Branch 052	ELIZABETH A BRODERSEN	Branch391
BERTHA VIEYRA	Branch 052	MATTHEW L BRODERSEN	Branch391
PHYLLIS J WELTER	Branch 052	TERESA L BRODERSEN	Branch391
ERIC BRAVO	Branch 067	JOE BERTOLLI	Branch392
AL C RESTIVO	Branch 067	CARL J CORRAO	Branch425
CARMELO SABATELLA	Branch 067	FRANK CORRAO	Branch425
THERESA SHAW	Branch 067	KAREN T CORRAO	Branch425
NICOLINA MURILLO VIENI	Branch 111	NINA M CORRAO	Branch425
LYNDA BOONE	Branch 135	CATHERINE CIPOLLA-ELLIS	Branch435
REGINA DUNBAR	Branch 135	ANGELA ESTRELA	Branch435
TONY MARTIN	Branch 135	JOSEPHINE BAX	Branch439
RALPH RAMACCIOTTI	Branch 135	DANIELA CONFORTI	Branch439
BEN SCHAFF	Branch 135	LUCA CONFORTI	Branch439
RICHARD DESROSIERS	Branch 191	CRISTINA DE FILIPPIS	Branch439
RACHEL HOYT	Branch 191	JACK DE FILIPPIS	Branch439
FRANK RANDO	Branch 191	GABRIELLA DEMMA	Branch439
JAMES R FARRINGTON	Branch 214	GIULIA DEMMA	Branch439
YVONNE J FARRINGTON	Branch 214	ANTONIO NIGRO	Branch439
LORETTA MASNADA	Branch 214	AVA NIGRO	Branch439
RON MASNADA	Branch 214	ISLA NIGRO	Branch439
CAROLYN M JONES	Branch 218	SOFIA NIGRO	Branch439
NATALIA RICCHIAZZI	Branch 218	VIVIANA NIGRO	Branch439
MONICA CROWLEY	Branch 227	JOHN VIANO	Branch442
		PAULA VIANO	Branch442

Word Search

C	R	U	P	B	P	I	Z	Z	A	E	W	N
A	O	T	A	M	O	T	Q	I	S	D	E	K
S	K	L	J	N	A	S	E	N	X	H	S	G
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Can You Find...

- | | | | |
|--------|---------|---------------|---------|
| Italy | Pasta | Coliseum | Rome |
| Naples | Cheese | Minestrone | Pizza |
| Tomato | Gondola | Tower of Pisa | Noodles |

Family Recipes

By Deborah Rodondi

CC Grand Treasurer

Hope everyone had a delicious St. Patrick's Day, St. Joseph's table and Easter! Three such diverse events: a traditional American/Irish meal; what is often a potluck, with a chance to taste a lot of different recipes; and a religious holiday, steeped in family/heritage tradition.

This month I promised a recipe that was requested by an ICF member. Hope this helps. We all have our favorite rice torte recipes. In researching them I realize they can be very plain, with just a few eggs to a lot more, and tasty additions. One of my brothers' had a favorite that we always had to make for him, here it is:

Torte di Riso

1 1/3 cup rice
4 cup boiling water
1 tsp. salt
2 Tbls. oil
1 chicken bouillon cube

Bring the 4 cups of water to a boil. Add rice, salt, oil and bouillon cube; cook for 15 minutes. Let cool.

Chop the following ingredients very fine and add to the rice:

3 Tbls. Onion
3 Tbls. Parsley
pinch of oregano and thyme
2 cloves of garlic or 1 tsp. garlic salt

Next add the following ingredients to the rice mixture, and stir well:

3/4 cup Parmesan cheese, minus 3 Tbls. For use later
3 eggs, slightly beaten
2 Tbls. Oil
1/4 cup milk

Oil bottom and sides of 9x13 inch baking dish. Dust with bread crumbs. Pour in rice mixture. Beat one egg slightly with 2 Tbls. Oil and pour on top of rice. Sprinkle with the 3 Tbls. Parmesan cheese that was put aside earlier. Bake in 375 degree oven for 30-40 minutes. Serve warm or cold.

NOTE: If desired you may make a pie crust instead of using bread crumbs. I have not tried it with the pie crust.

Rice Torte Rodondi Style

1 cup rice
2 1/2 cups water
1 tsp. salt
1 chicken bouillon cube
Bring water to boil. Add rice, salt and bouillon, cover and reduce heat to low. Simmer until rice is tender about 20 minutes. Set aside and let cool.

In a large bowl:
7 eggs, slightly beaten
1/2 cup milk (I used evaporated milk)
1 1/4 cups Parmesan cheese, grated
1/4 cup Parmesan cheese for top of Torte
2-3 Tbls. parsley
1-2 cloves garlic, minced
1/4 tsp. dry ground oregano, or 1 tsp. fresh
1 bunch green onions (about 6), chopped
salt and pepper
Add cooked rice. Stir to combine.

Brush an 11x8 inch baking dish with butter or olive oil. Pour mixture into baking dish and smooth with spatula. Sprinkle 1/4 cup Parmesan cheese over top. Bake in 350 degree oven for 40-45 minutes, or until mixture is cooked through and set and lightly browned on top.

ALTERNATES:

- 1) Instead of green onions use a medium yellow or white onion, sautéed until cooked but not browned.
- 2) 2 medium zucchini, shredded.
- 3) 1 cup chopped swiss chard, sautéed in olive oil with garlic
- 4) 2 Tbls. Fresh chopped basil
- 5) Use your imagination!

NOTE: Freezes well.

In researching I combined many recipes from my cookbooks and came up with this one, and of course I used a Branch event as my tasting ground. It went over very well.

Hoping you might like to share some of your specialties or the family recipes that have been handed down with the members of the ICF. Send them to me at drodondi@comcast.net or mail to the ICF office include a story if any. If you have questions send them also, I may not be able to answer them but we can put them out there for our readers and maybe find what you are looking for.

Boun Appetito!

Heritage

Did You Know?

Louise Vento
Heritage Committee



When I was four years old my parents purchased a five acre ranch in Los Gatos, Ca. I grew up in the Almaden Area of Los Gatos. I came across a book called "History of Los Gatos," and since I grew up on a ranch in Los Gatos I decided to research Los Gatos. I found out our ranch was part of Rinconada de Los Gatos, which means "The corner of the Cats." The town of Los Gatos was incorporated in 1887, it was a quaint town with a population of 1,645 people. It was the stopping place for wagons traveling the treacherous trail from Santa Cruz to San Jose, Ca. Forbes Mill was the center of industry for the town. People were attracted to the mild climate and the beauty of the area.

Did you know Los Gatos once had a perfume factory that produced Rose Water? They planted the famous Castilian Rose from Spain and each petal had to be hand picked by children. The cost making perfume was too costly, and after 10 years they gave up on making Los Gatos the perfume capital of the world.

Did you know Los Gatos was known for its cannery? In 1882 the Los Gatos Canning Co. was located on North Santa Cruz Ave. They not only canned fruit but also had a large drying shed for dried fruit. Most of the fruit was shipped to the East Coast. Hunts purchased the plant in 1935 and closed it in 1955 because the cost of running a seasonal plant was too costly. The closing of the cannery ended an era of history in Los Gatos.

John Bean who Bean Ave. is named after, developed the Bean Spray Pump to spray the fruit trees in the Valley. Later, his son-in-law, D.C. Crummey, started a plant on Julian Street in San Jose, Ca., to make cookers for the canneries. It was at that site that FMC (Food Machinery Corporation) was developed. My husband Russ and his father both worked for FMC.

Today, Los Gatos is still a quaint city and still a stopping place for people traveling on Highway 17 to Santa Cruz, Ca.



Italian Catholic Federation Sixteenth Annual

GOLF TOURNAMENT



DATE:

FRIDAY, JULY 22, 2016

COURSE:

**Laguna Seca Golf Course
10520 York Road, Monterey, CA 93940**

FORMAT:

Four Person Scramble

START:

Breakfast: 7:00 A.M. / Shotgun tee off: 8:45 A.M.

BANQUET

2:00 -

**San Carlos Church Hall
500 Church Street, Monterey, CA 93940
No-host Cocktails**

3:00 -

Sumptuous Four Course Dinner

RAFFLE:

There will be a raffle with stupendous prizes!

PRICE:

Golfers: \$165 (includes hot buffet breakfast, 18 holes of golf with cart and banquet.) After July 15th, the price per golfer is \$180. Banquet only: \$45.

RESERVATION DEADLINE: JULY 15, 2016

If an individual brings in 3 foursomes, that individual golfs for free!

SIGN UP:

Name _____	Handicap _____

Banquet only



Make check for total amount (\$165 per player plus \$45 per banquet guest), payable to the I.C.F. Golf Tournament, and send to the address below before the July 15th deadline.

Remember: \$180 per player after July 15th.

The Central Council and Tournament Committee are very excited about this event and hope to see all of you (golfers and non-golfers) there!



ICF, 1303 Capitol Drive, # 110, Oakland, CA 94621 - 908-423-1824 - FAX: (510) 833-9758 - Web Site: icf.org - E-mail: info@icf.org

ICF Is Going Green!

If you prefer to read the Bollettino online and like the idea of saving a tree while helping the ICF save on printing costs, please send an email to newsonline@icf.org to sign up. Please include your full name, branch number and email address.

Live to Give

Why Give Blood?

Important Facts About the Dire Need for Blood

By The Live to Give Committee

- One person every 2 seconds in the U.S. will have an accident, a heart or kidney transplant, a major surgery, cancer treatments, or suffer from an injury and will need blood.
- An automobile accident victim may use 50 units of red blood cells.
- An organ transplant recipient may use 60 units of red blood cells, 6 units of platelets and 50 units of plasma.
- A person with Cooley's Anemia/Thalassemia requires a lifetime of blood transfusions.
- A cancer patient may use 8 units of platelets per week.
- A bone marrow transplant recipient may use 20 units of red blood cells and 120 units of platelets.
- A person undergoing heart surgery may use 6 units of red cells and 6 units of platelets.
- 95% of the community will need to receive a blood product in their lifetime, but only 5% of the population actually donates blood?(2-4% in the San Francisco Bay Area).

BOOK REVIEW

Vince Piro
Grand 2nd
Vice President

Images of America: San Diego's Little Italy

By Kimberly M. Quinney, Thomas J. Cesarini, and The Italian Historical Society of San Diego

Acadia Publishing, 2007.
127 pages.

Italians began arriving in San Diego in the late 1800s and early 1900s, many coming from San Francisco after the 1906 earthquake. They gathered together north of the city's downtown in an area that became known as "Little Italy." Images of America: San Diego's Little Italy records the life of this Italian-American neighborhood through the use of pictures and a brief narrative.



Chapter One, entitled "Getting Settled: The Italian Colony Takes Shape" focuses on immigration and assimilation. There are photographs of immigrants on ships arriving to the city, passports, citizenship papers, marriage certificates, and more. These pictures capture these Italian Americans in the early stages of their settlement in America. One picture that typifies the era shows Tony Balistreri and other immigrants aboard the Andrea Dora in 1955. It is full of smiling faces on a sunny day and illustrates the optimism of the new immigrants. Another picture is of three generations of the Carneglia and Marline families in 1917 as they gather on San Diego's waterfront. Strolling the waterfront was a favorite pastime for the Italian-American families and friends.

Chapter Two focuses on Our Lady of Rosary Church, the home of ICF Branch 230, which is located in the heart of San Diego's Little Italy. The church, founded in 1925, is a central part of Italian-American life in the neighborhood, a center for spiritual, cultural, and social life. Many photographs in this section illustrate the beautiful mural that adorns this traditional church while others show the many societies that were

formed at the parish by the new immigrants. There are also photographs of the famous and decorative processions that took place within the parish community.

Chapter Three is concentrated on the importance of family in San Diego. It is full of wonderful pictures of fathers and sons, mothers and daughters, and entire families spanning several generations. Several pictures of the Ghio family illustrate the importance of the family meal. There is a picture of a Ghio dinner table during the holidays filled with family and one of a family picnic table at Balboa Park.

Chapter Four focuses on fishing, a mainstay of the Italian-American community in San Diego. Fishing was the foundation of the community's economy from its inception until around the 1940s. Many Italian-Americans fished for sardines and tuna, canned them, sold them, and cooked them in their restaurants. This chapter includes many pictures of Italian-American fishermen and cannery workers. It also shows several ships, the Conte Bianco, the Mary Barbara, and the

Venetian, the first two built by the National Steel and Ship Building Company. Other pictures show family-owned ships, such as the St. George, owned by the Balistreri family.

Chapter Five is about the pastimes and social structures of San Diego's Little Italy. It pictures schools, local businesses, and parks that were central to the lives of Italian-Americans. Washington School was an important part of many Italian-American lives as it taught the young children English and other subjects important to success in the United States. Many photographs feature Italian-Americans who proudly served in the United States Armed Forces while other show pictures around family life. One photograph was taken of the first parish picnic at Our Lady of the Rosary in 1927. It is a special panoramic that illustrates the unity and closeness of the San Diego Italian-American community.

Whether you are from San Diego or some other part of the United States, this slim volume will offer you insight into life as an Italian-American, illustrating the importance especially of family and church in community life. It will also be an inspiration to many seeking lessons from an earlier time in our history.

CC Candidates

continued from page 1

4. No campaigning may take place during convention sessions, activities or in the delegate registration area.
5. No campaign literature should be posted in the public areas or on the ICF Facebook page.
6. Registration workers should not wear campaign items.
7. Candidates should notify campaign helpers of these rules.
8. Campaign speeches will be held during the Saturday session and shall not exceed 2 minutes.

Other Information

1. Candidates for Central Council will be announced in descending order in even years and ascending order in odd years.
2. 10 candidates will be elected to the Central Council, unless an unforeseen event takes place that will reduce the election to 9 Central Council Members.
3. Candidates should wear proper business attire at all functions; no campaign T-shirts, pins, etc.
4. For additional information, or for clarification, please contact the I.C.F. Convention Director.

ATTENTION CLASS:
ICF CENTRAL COUNCIL
PROUDLY PRESENTS
LATE NITE CATECHISM,
THE RAUCOUS, ROLLICKING
INTERNATIONAL HIT COMEDY
COMING TO HOLY NAME UNIVERSITY
REGENT'S THEATRE, OAKLAND!

Catechism classes are never as much fun - or as hilarious - as when they are led by Sister in the international hit comedy *Late Nite Catechism* by Vicki Quade and Maripat Donovan.

Late Nite Catechism is an uproarious piece of theater that takes audience members back - sometimes nostalgically, sometimes fearfully - to the children they once were. The irrepressible Sister teaches an adult catechism class to a roomful of "students" (the audience). Over the course of the play, Sister goes from benevolent instructor, rewarding the "students" for correct answers with glow-in-the-dark rosaries and laminated saint cards, to authoritative drill sergeant. These abrupt mood swings are bound to strike a resonant chord with everyone who survived the ups and downs of going to school, with an omniscient authoritarian at the helm.



Late Nite Catechism will be presented at Holy Names University Regents Theatre 3500 Mountain Blvd., Oakland, CA. Performance is SATURDAY, APRIL 16TH 7:00 PM
wine and cheese reception beginning at 5:30 PM
Tickets are \$40.00 Mezzanine and \$50.00 for Orchestra and Box seats, discounts available for groups of 10 or more and are available by calling brown paper tickets at 1-800-838-3006 ex 1, or on-line at <http://ICFLNC.brownpapertickets.com>

Things to Ponder

"April is the cruelest month, breeding lilacs out of the dead land, mixing memory and desire, stirring dull roots with spring rain."

T.S. Eliot



CC Member Teresa Helfand presented Branch 195 President Mike Sawadski with a beautiful banner in celebration of the branch's 50th anniversary.

Chicago

Calumet City

St. Victor, Br. 195

With much fanfare, St. Victor, Branch 195 in Calumet City, Illinois celebrated their 50th Anniversary at Glenwood Oaks Restaurant. The celebration was hosted by Branch President Mike Sawadski. Special guest, Teresa Helfand from Chicago Central Council presented Mike Sawadski with a beautiful banner commemorating their 50 years, to be proudly displayed with the branch banner. After an excellent meal the special meeting was concluded with a cash drawing for a lucky member.

River Forest

St. Vincent Ferrer, Br. 358

My o my - how time does fly. Seems like we just got through Christmas and now we've gone through Lent and Easter, Hope everyone enjoyed the Easter holiday. Our branch hosted a Mimosa Sunday and was delighted to gain a new member for the ICF - Judy DeSantis. Welcome to our group!! We also had a very successful St. Joseph's Day Table. Looking forward to the installation of all officers and planning on a small event to celebrate the Jubilee Year of Mercy. Birthday wishes this month to Carmen Rodriguez. Have a happy! Prayers needed for our sick members John Corcoran, Frank Cairo, Santina Litturi, Gene Gillette, Marlow (husband of Kay).

"New Beginnings"

It's only the beginning now, a pathway yet unknown; at times the sound of other steps, sometimes we walk alone.

The best beginnings of our lives may sometimes end in sorrow; but even on our darkest days the sun will shine tomorrow. So we must do our very best whatever life may bring; and look beyond the winter chill to smell the breath of spring.

Into each life will always come a time to start anew; a new beginning for each heart as fresh as morning dew. Although the cares of life are great and hands are bowed so low; the storms of life will leave behind the wonder of a rainbow.



Left to right, Olga Jacobs, Mike Renzi and MaryKay Atchison.



Officers from branch 27 enjoying the luncheon at the District Installation of Officers.

The years will never take away our chance to start anew; it's only the beginning now so dreams can still come true!

Ciao,

Leonora

Itasca

St. Peter the Apostle, Br. 418

Exciting news! Ground breaking ceremony for the new St. Peter the Apostle Church will take place on Sunday, June 5th, 2016. Bishop Conlon will be present for the 11:15 a.m. mass, followed by the festivities.

Our branch is honored to be a service organization of St. Peter's for the last 21 years. Please mark your calendars for this event. Members of the Chicago district and member branches are invited to attend.

Saturday, April 30, 2016, a fund raising event for St. Peter's will take place at the Eaglewood Golf club and resort in Itasca. All members please try to attend. St. Peter's needs our support! Please contact: Rita Bratta for additional information. (630) 936-2652, or email rbratta@msn.com.

Many events are in the planning stages for this year. Schedules will be mailed out shortly.

Thank you....

Rita

Fresno

Madera

Santissimo Crocifisso, Br. 27

The February 9th dinner meeting was a Valentine's Day themed event with hearts and candy at every table. A delicious dinner of Marge Avellar's famous homemade chicken soup, salad, and bread was enjoyed by all who attended. Thanks to the chairmen Jerry and Angie Kelzer, and the committee: Marge Avellar, Elsie Bottorff, Leila Meadows, Betty Scalise, Rita Dolio. Eight members attended the "Woman's Conference at St. Joachim Church Holy Spouses Hall on February 20th. The speaker was



Long time ICF member Olga Jacobs and family prepare Antipasto for a Branch 33, Bakersfield monthly dinner.

Christine Watkins, an author and radio personality. She gave an inspirational talk on "Returning to the Faith" and the "Intercession of Mary". On February 21st 9 Officers attended the District Installation of Officers in Merced. There was a beautiful mass at St. Patrick's Church and delicious lunch afterward. Branch 39 did a wonderful job hosting the event, thanks for all your hard work! Members are getting ready for the annual combined YMI/ICF corned beef and cabbage dinner on March 17th. Please continue to pray for our ill and injured members.

Ciao,

Kerin Cavallero

Bakersfield

San Luigi, Br. 33

Branch 33 opened the New Year with traditional Italian fare. The dinner highlight was the Antipasto prepared by Olga Jacobs and the Renzi family. The recipe was originally shared, many years ago, by family members in San Francisco. Many members commented that the Antipasto brought back warm memories of long past holiday family dinners.

Sister Elaine Benedicta Elgart of the Eleventh Hour Sisters was the guest speaker. This Order is open to older women, 45 to 55 who are single, widowed, or divorced and seeking a new life direction. Sister Elaine ministered for seven years to the 700 (men and women) inmates of Mesa Prison in Tijuana, Mexico. She now ministers to local prisons through St. Francis Parish.

In Mexico, families are expected to supply needs to their incarcerated members, but are often unable to do so due to poverty. The Order collects underwear, soap, toilet paper, candy and food supplements for distribution to inmates as needed. They also supply some reading materials in Spanish, and in some cases assist those wishing to learn English.. Branch



Members of Branch 39 cooked and served meatless soup at St. Patrick's Parish during Lent.



Members of Branch 39 cooked and served meatless soup at St. Patrick's Parish during Lent.

members approved Mike Brancato's motion to bring six-packs of Ensure to the next meeting for donation to the Mesa Project.

In other business, Tami Renzi and Rita Antongiovanni agreed to co-chair Hospitality; Shane Bryan volunteered to chair the March St. Joseph's Dinner; Janice Rimmer agreed to be the "Sunshine" chairman and Robert Lencioni volunteered to chair the Apostolic Committee.

As per custom, the meeting closed with one or two humorous reflections given by Bobby Lencioni.

Roberta Cerri Teglia

Merced

St. Cecilia, Br. 39

Buona Pasqua! We hope you had a blessed and happy Easter holiday. Each day of our Triduum during Lent was well attended: a Sunday mass followed by St. Joseph's Table; a mass at our March meeting celebrated by Fr. Andrew Colnaghi; and Stations of the Cross after our church Soup Night. Thank you to Millicent Piro for organizing our branch Triduum once again. Chefs Maryellen Mazzei, Dominic Giampietro and Loretta Symes prepared a most delicious corned beef and cabbage feast at our branch meeting in honor of St. Patrick.

As usual, our chairlady, Robyn Piro, did a fantastic job at making our March 23, Chicken Cacciatore and Polenta dinner at the Italo Lodge a huge success. A big thank you also to all the members who sold tickets, prepared the meal, helped in the kitchen, served, and otherwise volunteered their time for our once-a-year fundraiser.

April 3 we will serve coffee and donuts after the 7AM and 9AM masses at the Parish Hall.

At our Wednesday, April 13, meeting at the Italo Lodge, join us first at 5PM for an hour of card playing followed at 6PM with a dinner of meat loaf, potatoes, green salad, wine and dessert. We will nominate our convention delegates and vote at our May meeting.



Members of Branch 39 enjoying the Lenten Soup Nite.

May 6-8 is our bi-annual Biscotti and cookie sale. We appreciate all of our members who bake, donate ingredients, sell and buy our homemade treats. May 7 is the popular Fresno District Bocce Tournament in Fresno.

Many of our members committed to giving their oral history to the Merced County Historical Society in preparation for the March 2017 museum exhibit showcasing the Italian immigration and contribution to Merced County. Committee members Lillian Dal Porto, Josephine Giampaoli, Sandy Del Real, Frank Muratore, Anne Marie Bandoni and Stephanie Lucich have accomplished a lot this month towards the goals.

Remember our shut in and sick members with cards, visits and prayers.

Cari Salute,

Stephanie Lucich

Sanger

Sant' Antonio, Br. 70

Feb 9th we had our annual Polenta dinner. We thank Sue Merlo for the great sauce with meatballs and all the members who brought the wonderful side dishes.

President Kay Lopez welcomed Fred and Jerry DeRenzo. Fred is our deputy and gave a report on the Fresno ICF Convention.

Feb 21, President Kay Lopez, Bob Merlo, Josie Lopez, Orsolina Casella, Tencia Rubio, and Silvana Campagna, attended the installation of officers in Merced. After the installation we were proud to have President Leonard Zazaki give a very informative speech on the accomplishments of the ICF. After installations, we enjoyed a wonderful dinner. God bless the cooks Robin Piro and her crew. In our March meeting we will recite the Holy Rosary in memory of our dearly departed.

Thank you Kay and Josie for decorating the tables so nicely at each of our meetings.

St., Mary's Church is celebrating St. Patrick's Day with our delicious annual fundraiser dinner of Spaghetti and BBQ chicken, on March 13. We will be having a corned beef and cabbage dinner prepared by Teresa Rodger on our monthly meeting on March 20,

God Bless and Ciao,

Orsolina Casella

Bakersfield

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Br. 281

A belated Happy Easter to all ICF members! He is risen!

March was a busy month for our branch, and we wouldn't have had it any other way. On March 10th we celebrated the 43rd anniversary of Branch 281. Big thanks to Grand President Leonard Zasoski and District President Allen Watts for lending their culinary skills with the steak dinner!

On March 20, our branch held its annual Palm Sunday Pasta Dinner. We had a great turnout, and it was truly evident how much the parishioners value our contributions to O.L.P.H. A sincere "thank you" to all who helped cook, serve, and clean up! We would not have had such a successful event without you.

With Easter season now in full swing, it is time to fully appreciate the saving of our souls through Jesus' love-filled sacrifice and his miraculous Resurrection. We know that blissful eternal life awaits us, but how can we add more value to our lives today? Perhaps you might want to lend a helping hand to someone in need, spend more time with your children and grandchildren, and grow in your Catholic faith through camaraderie with other passionate individuals—participating fully in the ICF can add these values to your life. If you want to get more involved, just contact our president, Crystal Watts, at (661) 706-2474.

The upcoming months are fun-filled for our branch! The April meeting will take place on the 14th—and it's Bring-A-Friend month! Non-member friends who are brought to the meeting will receive a special offer to join the ICF and will all be entered in a raffle for some friendly prizes! Another reason not to miss the meeting is because we will be discussing BOCCE! Branch 281's Annual Bocce Tournament will be held on May 7. This is one of the most fun fundraisers our branch conducts, and it would be wonderful for each member to participate and put a team (or two) together. Let's make it the best one yet!

Baci e abbracci,

Kristen Watts

Los Angeles

Archdiocese District

District Council

As president of the District I'm very happy to welcome our newest branch, Br. 444, St. John Fisher, Rancho Palo Verdes, to the Los Angeles Archdiocese District and to the ICF Family. The Celebration and Opening will be Sunday, May 22, 2016, beginning with the 12:30 Mass followed by Installation and lunch. The cost of the luncheon is \$15. This is the second new branch opened in the past 7 months, with both in the Los Angeles Archdiocese District. Br. 443, St. Gianna, in Simi Valley was the first. Thank you, Anne, Richard and Lou, for all your hard work to make Br. 444 a reality. I also want to thank members of the District Branches who also helped with getting Br. 444 started. Your knowledge, experience and meeting with potential members were invaluable. This is an exciting time, for all in ICF, to see new branches beginning. From what I understand there are more on the horizon of the ICF! Additional information regarding Br. 444's celebration is located elsewhere in this issue of the Bollettino

The formation of new branches is always exciting;



Member of LA Branch 108 at a Lunch Meeting at San Antonio Winery.



however, we must continue to support our established branches, some who may be in need of re-vitalization. The Los Angeles Archdiocese District is no different than other districts; we too, have branches struggling. So it is time to reach out to these branches and assist them, so they can celebrate.

Our first District meeting of 2016 was held on February 27, in Gardena. After the business meeting, we adjourned for an informal mini 'workshop' on Membership Drives. Thank you to all who made this interactive workshop a place of idea exchanging, support and understanding of each branch's needs. Your participation was a 100%!

The next District General Meeting will be Saturday, May 21, 2016, 9am to 11:30am in Thousand Oaks, CA, at Br. 380, St. Paschal Baylon. Contact Pat at 805, 428-4623; pat.lou.mages@gmail.com. All are welcome.

Blessings,

Pat Mages

Los Angeles

St. Peter, Br. 67

May you have a Blessed, Healthy and Happy Easter with your families and friends.

Branch 67 continues to work with Saint Peter's Church and the Casa Italiana reaching out to all ICF Members, the Italian Community and those who are interested in continuing an ICF presence at this beautiful Italian National Church. Interested members are asked to call 626 372-7812 for membership in or a position on the Branch 67 Board.

Each of the four ICF LAADC Regions will host a Communion Sunday on the following dates in the Casa Italiana basement and all ICF Branch Members and Parishioners are invited to attend; please RSVP to 626 372-7812:

- May 22, 2016 - ICF LAADC Communion Sunday Mass 11:00 am (Church) and Lunch 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm in Casa Italiana Basement (host Los Angeles Region).

- August 28, 2016 - ICF LAADC Communion Sunday Mass 11:00 (Church) and Lunch 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm in Casa Italiana Basement (host Santa Barbara/Ventura Region).

- November 28, 2016 - ICF LAADC Communion Sunday Mass 11:00 am (Church) and Lunch 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm in Casa Italiana Basement (host San Fernando Region).

Please spread the word to friends, families and members that the Italian Catholic Federation Branch 67 and Padre Pio Society will attend the 11:00 am (Italian) mass and host a Brunch at the Casa Italiana lunch room on the fourth Sunday of each Month this year. Please call 626 372-7812 to RSVP.

Please let me know how you can help us keep the future alive for the next generations at Branch 67 in Los Angeles. We are asking for your ideas, prayers and support.

Your help is greatly appreciated.

Carmelo Sabatella AIA

President Branch 67

Italian Catholic Federation

T. 626 372-7812

E. cas1810@aol.com



Member of LA Branch 108 at a Lunch Meeting at San Antonio Winery.



Branch 115 Dinner preparation for the St. John Joseph of the Cross Feast. (L-R) Isidoro Amalfitano, Anthony Amalfitano, Ciro Lauro, Frank Colonna, Branch Chaplain Fr. Cassian Di Rocco, Frank Amalfitano, and Branch President Neal Di Leva.



Branch 108 celebrates St. Joseph's Day.



Branch 115 President Neal Di Leva and wife Anna 1st V.P. enjoying the side trip to Lake Havasu London Bridge during the branch 3 day trip to Laughlin, Nevada.



Branch 115 Los Angeles District Delegates enjoying lunch after attending the District meeting at St. Anthony of Padua Church in Gardena. (L-R) Giovanna Gioiello, Anna Di Leva and Neal Di Leva.

South Pasadena

Holy Family, Br. 108

Branch 108 wishes all ICF members a happy and healthy Easter Holiday Season with your family and friends.

Thank you members for making the Annual Saint Joseph Table Event at Holy Family Church on March 12th and 13th a success and to Past Branch President Michele Silveri for preparing the pasta and eggplant Parmigiane dinners. Thankyou also to members of ICF who staffed the event along with members from several of the Church Ministries including the HF Bookstore, Giving Bank, 50 plus club, Dad's Club, along with Parishioners. Congratulations to the many Raffle Winners for their participation and support including members Phil and Jane Argento who won Filippo Lippi's "Madonna of the Rocks" one-of-a-kind replica made of hand-hammered Saterni Silver.

Members enjoyed their annual Branch 108 Lunch Meeting at San Antonio Winery on March 6th in the Fermentation Room.

Thank you Members, families and friends for your support of ICF and its related events. Prayers go out to the families who passed away earlier this year and to all Members who have gone to their eternal reward including Ines Sabatella, Maria Vidrio and Anthony del Vecchio who recently passed away and to sick members, family and friends for a speedy recovery.

May God bless and keep you healthy "œper cento anni!"

Carmelo Sabatella, Past President

ICF Branch 108 Email: cas1810@aol.com

Montebello

St. Benedict, Br. 111

Ciao a Tutti. A warm hello to everyone. Our April General Meeting will be on Thursday, April 14, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at the St. Augustine House, 200 N. 12th Street, (corner of Cleveland Ave.) in Montebello. Join us for a St. Joseph Table "Thank You" pre-meeting dinner dinner as a thank you to all volunteered, donated, and sponsored the St. Joseph Table! After the meeting, we will have cake to celebrate the Birthdays of the following members who have birthdays this month: Dante Terramani, Peter Revilla, Henry Herrera, Frances Canzonieri, Rosemarie Melendrez, and Nancy Dolci. Congratulations and Happy Birthday to everyone!! Buon Compleanno a tutti!!

The monies we raised at the St. Joseph Table will allow us to support our parish, offer scholarships to graduating St. Benedict School students, support our clergy and seminarians with contributions to St. John's Seminary in Camarillo, allow us to award college scholarships to graduating local high school students, donate to Cooley's Anemia,



Celebrating birthdays at Branch 111.

and other worthwhile ICF charities.

Please mark you calendars and make plans to attend the 9:00 a.m. mass at St. Benedict Church on Sunday, May 1, 2016 - the mass will be dedicated to all the deceased and living members of the Italian Catholic Federation, Branch 111. Come and join us for this special mass!

We pray for our sick members and those in need; keep them in our thoughts and prayers. Finally, I leave you with the following quote of the month by Albert Clarke: "In our daily lives, we must see that it is not happiness that makes us grateful, but gratefulness that makes us happy".

God Bless!

Frank Salomone

San Pedro

St. John Joseph of the Cross, Br. 115

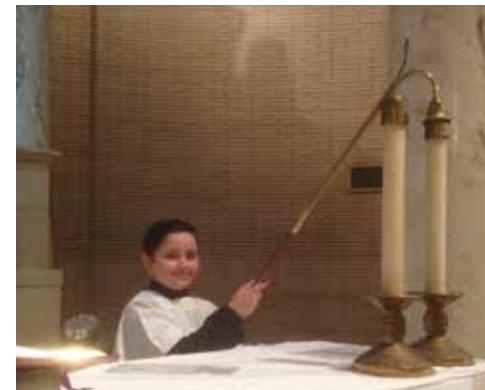
Our swordfish dinner on March 5 was a huge success. Our branch is so fortunate to have so many talented chef's and volunteers. Thanks to all who helped and worked all day to produce the delicious meal and make this a very successful event. Profit from the dinner will be donated to Mary Star Church and to the Elementary and High School.

Once again our branch came together and hosted the Lenten meal on March 11. Thank you to our cooks who prepared the poor man's meal. We all ate like kings!

After all this work we need a day to play! We are taking a day trip to Harrah's casino in San Diego on April 14. \$23.00 for non members \$20.00 for members Please call Pauline for reservations 310 832 0563

Our next monthly meeting will held on Thursday April 21 at 7:30pm. Hope to see you there Bring a Friend!

Please join us at the noon mass on April 17 as we dedicate the new mosaic of the Madonna Dell ' Arco donated by Joseph Scotti. Luncheon will follow in the auditorium. Tickets are \$20.00 for



Isidoro Amalfitano altar server at St. John Joseph of the Cross mass on March 5.

adults and \$10.00 for children. Please call Neal for tickets 310 433-1044.

We want to wish all our member s and friends Bon Voyage as they depart on the coastal cruise. Many thanks to Maria Chapparo for organizing the cruise.

Please pray for our deceased members, for those who are sick and for those in need.

Anita Gioiello Trujillo

Treasurer

Gardena

St. Anthony, Br. 237

Our branch was very pleased to host the Los Angeles Arch-Diocese ICF meeting last February. It was informative as Pres. Pat Mages and her husband Lou presented a workshop on how to conduct a successful membership drive. Many good ideas and materials were shared. Thanks Pat & Lou.

Also in February, our newest addition to the branch was born, J. J. Roa the forth child of Micheal and John Roa. Congrats to all.

Next on our agenda is our annual trip to Laughlin, details will follow shortly, stay tuned.

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Spiritual Director- Monsignor Daniel Cardelli

- Monsignor Cardelli is looking forward to this Year of Mercy. We all know what mercy is. At Mass, we ask God to have mercy on us. We also realize that we should extend that mercy to others. We have many ways of performing corporal and spiritual works of mercy. When somebody offends us, why are we unwilling to forgive tiny offenses? The ICF has plenty of opportunities to do works of mercy, this year. We ask our Lord to help us to be merciful to each other.

Committee Reports

Apostolate & Charity – Leonard Rossi

- The committee met and discussed about adding some articles in the Bollettino – one about increasing the Seminary Donations and another about the Year of Mercy.

- Cooley's Anemia – Laurice Levine has moved her treatments from Oakland Children's Hospital to Los Angeles Children's Hospital. The Grand President will have a site visit of the facilities with Laurice and her new doctors on March 9.

- Grand President Leonard Zasoski said to remember that 100% of the donations go to the programs.

Awards – Dante Galeazzi

- Grand President Leonard Zasoski said the award packets have been sent out. He encouraged everyone to look in your districts and branches for people who are deserving of the awards.

By-Laws & Rituals – David Botta

- By-law Books: David Botta said there are three areas that are incorrect – the mission statement, introduction and new members. Charlene will call the printer to re-print the books and "revised" will be added to the cover. The new books will be sent to the branches.

Convention Director's – Roselynn Jarrett

- The message to delegates and members is "Let's Go to Fresno." We can't have a great convention without having people attending. All the collateral is being updated to give the Convention a new look.

- Roselynn Jarrett discussed the 2015 budget, which shows a profit. However, we only have the profit because of the raffle tickets. Registration is increasing by \$25 this year.

- The Doubletree will have an online link for us to make reservations. Amtrak is an economical alternative to get to Fresno. The hotel is less than a mile from Amtrak station.

Convention Agenda:

- Thursday night dinner will be a Night at the Races. The Fresno District is hosting this event.

- Friday: The theme is Called to be Merciful. We will have a Divine Mercy Rosary after the Morning Mass. Each Central Council Committee will have a table for display. To help encourage dialogue, there will be a one-hour time for the committee chair people to be at the table to meet the delegates and discuss topics related to their committee. There will be an Italian Sing-Along before the Friday evening opening. Leonard Rossi will have his accordion. Meet the Candidates will be in the atrium.

- Saturday: Mass will be first thing Saturday morning followed by the workshops. There will be four workshops per session:

Spiritual, Function of the Districts with an emphasis on the Deputies, Strategic Plan, Open Forum, History of the ICF, FUNraisers.

- Jody Balestrieri will be the mistress of ceremonies for the Saturday Night Banquet.

- Sunday: Grand President's Award will be awarded on Sunday instead of Friday evening. Cookies from the Fresno District will be distributed at the General Session. Sunday night's dinner/dance will be ICF Prom.

- Monday: There will be an attendance drawing to encourage delegates to stay through Monday morning's Installation.

- Hospitality Rooms: There is a concern about noise, since the hotel has a quiet time of 9:30pm. The hotel is an atrium and the front desk can see the rooms. In addition the suites are tiny. Roselynn Jarrett asked the candidates - what do we want to do this year? Denise Antonowicz said this year we should forego the hospitality rooms and distribute our giveaways at the Meet the Candidates. We can have a longer Meet the Candidates. Pat Mages said to let the delegates know to eat before, as many delegates save eating until the hospitality rooms. Denise Antonowicz made a motion that we have no hospitality rooms that are connected to candidate elections. Second: Vince Piro. Motion passed.

- Nettie Descalso Del Nero said a good convention needs a good opening evening. Roselynn Jarrett said the committee is working on the opening. Denise Antonowicz and Allen Watts will be the co-chair people for Friday night.

- Mike Rossi asked about fining process. Grand President Leonard Zasoski said the Executive Committee is working on this.

- Roselynn Jarrett showed the new tote bags we're giving out instead of the folders at the convention.

- The committee is not presenting a new convention site for 2020. Starting in 2017, the committee will present convention sites three years out.

Expansion – Anne Interrante

- Anne Interrante displayed the pop-up banner the committee had made for Expansion to take to sign-up weekends, etc.

- Anne Interrante discussed the seven steps for opening a new branch. 1. Initial Contact with Pastor, 2. Sign-up Weekend, 3. Information Meeting, 4. Organization Meeting, 5. Welcome Meeting, 6. Branch Inauguration, 7. Ongoing Support.

- The sign-up weekend at St. John Fisher, Rancho Palos Verdes was successful with 103 people signing up. The Associate Pastor was an Adopt A Seminarian from San Pedro Br. 115. He helped with the "in" to talk to the pastor.

- St. Joseph, Upland – had initial meeting with pastor. They want to go forward with sign-up weekend.

- Church of the Transfiguration, San Jose, the sign up weekend is on March 5 – 6. Mike Rossi is handling.

- St. Luke, Stockton, some of the members of Br. 395 came to the expansion team. The members want to re-open the branch that used to be at St. Luke's. The committee is letting the members take the lead and arranging the sign-up weekend.

- Our Lady of the Pillar, Half Moon Bay. The Associate Pastor is the District Chaplain of the San Mateo District. They are starting the conversation. Mike Rossi will

follow up.

- St. Mel, Woodland Hills, taking a look at reopening. Anne Interrante spoke with the parish administrator. The parish council needs to give the okay for new organizations.

- Our Lady of Grace, Encino. Another Adopt A Seminarian is at this parish.

- St. Rita, Tulare. The committee is waiting for a response from the local contact in the area. The pastor is open to the idea of the branch. Vince Piro volunteered himself and Grand President Leonard Zasoski to help with the sign-up.

- Adopt A Seminarian is a good person to reach out to when they get to a church. These Priests have knowledge of the ICF. Anne Interrante encourages branches to adopt a seminarian. Mike Rossi said we should look to see what seminarians are already priests and reach out and contact them.

Finance Committee – Deborah Rodondi

- The committee met yesterday, Friday. They met with UBS and discussed our accounts with them. We're well diversified so have weathered this recent downturn better than most people. UBS will make the Liotta Trust into its own trust. 5% of the total estate goes to Cooley's Anemia. It's invested and each year a check to Cooley's Anemia in the trust's name is given at the Convention.

- Deborah Rodondi encourages members to talk to their attorneys and add the ICF to their estate planning.

Gifts of Love – Steve Fuentes

- Pat Mages read the report. The committee met on February 6. The committee approved eight grants.

- Applications are being received from around the United States, however most are for college scholarships, which are not eligible.

Heritage – Denise Antonowicz

- The committee will help David Botta with his History of ICF workshop at the Convention and will have three pop-up banners for the display at the convention. The pop-ups will be past, present and future of the ICF.

- Parades: We will participate in the following parades in 2016: Santa Rosalia – Monterey (Sept. 11), San Francisco Columbus Day, Los Gatos Parade. Marie Antonowicz has volunteered to be the chicken, again, which is always popular.

- The committee suggested having an ICF booth at the San Gennaro Festival in Las Vegas. About 10,000 people attend this festival.

- Remember to send Denise Antonowicz the name of the heritage chairpersons for each branch.

Live to Give – Bob Basuino

- Jane Dianda gave the report.

- The committee put together a series of articles from Laurice Levine to be placed in the Bollettino.

- Mike Rossi asked if he wanted to organize a blood drive at his parish, does the committee have information on how to do this? Jane Dianda has the information and will send it to Mike Rossi and anyone else interested.

Membership – Nina Malone

- The committee sent out a letter in December asking for the name of each branch's membership chairperson. They have only received a few responses. The committee will follow up with personal phone calls.

- The February Membership Report had a lot of members on the books for non-payment, which reflects a total loss of 314 members. We are now below 10,000 members.

- Grand President Leonard Zasoski gave membership and task force a goal to put out a mandate that all branches are to have a membership drive by June 30. A letter will be sent to each branch, district and district deputy. The Committee will help branches with assistance. The Committee will ask branch deputies to make this a part of their presentations within the next months.

- A Membership How-to article will be sent to all branches and be published in the Bollettino.

- Mike Rossi said membership drives can be in adjoining parishes to attract members.

Public Relations – Lauren Kilcullen

- The emphasis of the Public Relations Committee, right now, is to have the Bollettino on-time at the beginning of each month. So far, every issue since November 2015 has been online prior to the end of the month and delivered by the 1st of each month to most locations.

- Michelle Feldman and Lauren Kilcullen also met to discuss content for the paper through July. Committee Chairpersons are encouraged to submit articles and photos for the Bollettino. If a flyer is sent in PDF format, please make sure the information is accurate and grammatically correct, as Michelle cannot edit PDFs.

- The committee reminds Central Council members to remind their districts to send in articles and pictures about district events such as Installations, Bishop's Days and significant branch and district anniversaries or other activities. These articles need to be e-mailed to Michelle and be in a word processing format or part of the e-mail message.

- The committee met this morning and discussed ways to decrease the financial deficit of the Bollettino. We will be meeting again and presenting our recommendation at the June meeting.

- We should have the new website design in the next few weeks. Lauren Kilcullen thanked Richard Interrante for spearheading the new website and being the liaison between the committee and Aaron Del Monte.

- David Botta said that members who are delinquent 9 – 12 months still receive the Bollettino until February of the following year. A notice will be placed in the June and July issues of the Bollettino that the Convention issue will be their last issue, if their dues are not paid. Charlene will also send a letter to the Financial Secretaries of the branch. Motion David Botta / Mike Cannady. Motion passed.

Scholarship – Franklyn Lopes

- Deborah Rodondi gave the report and said the 1st year scholarship judging will be April 20 at 10:00 AM. The deadline is March 15.

- Remind branches to give for the 2nd, 3rd and 4th year scholarships.

- Branches are more than welcome to increase the scholarship with an additional check when the awardees come to their meetings. Br. 198, Santa Rosa, did this last year.

Task Force – Vince Piro

- The Task Force Committee is helping Expansion and Membership committees. The

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second year of the strategic plan is an emphasis on expansion and membership.

- Adopt-a Seminarian is going to be a focus of the Task Force. The committee will develop a manual about how to do this. Part of our ICF Heritage to support priests and potential priests. Hopefully, the seminarians will remember that the ICF helped them when they become priests and go to a parish and then be receptive to us at their parish.

Ways and Means – Lisa Crudo

- Novelties – there are several hundred 90th Anniversary ornaments. They will be sold at the Fresno Convention. We also still have charms. The pins sold out, but they can be reordered. The committee wants to create a magnet instead of an ornament, this year.

- Daily Raffle Book (Calendar) – Submit stories and histories about your branch or district for the 2017 Calendar.

- Night for the Seminarians – Pat Mages is organizing the event and it will take place June 25 in Thousand Oaks. The price is \$40.00. There will also be dancing.

- Golf Tournament is Friday, July 22 at Laguna Seca Golf Course near Monterey. Tee-off is 8:45 AM. Leonard Rossi is chairperson. The event can accommodate up to 144 golfers. The banquet afterwards is in Monterey. If you don't golf, you can attend the banquet. \$165 is the price for golf, breakfast, prizes, and dinner.

- 2016 Cruise – 15 nights to Hawaii, round trip from San Francisco on the Grand Princess departing on October 29. If enough people book, the ICF gets a portion of the sales.

- Late Night Catechism – right now there are 30 tickets sold. There is a wine and cheese reception before the show. There is a discounted admission price for 10 or more people. Tell people about the show to get attendance, which is open to everyone, not just ICF members.

- Grand President Leonard Zasoski reminded everyone that without the ways and means, we'd be in a deeper deficit.

Unfinished Business

- None.

New Business

- Grand President Leonard Zasoski read a letter from James Friebel resigning from the Central Council and his membership in the ICF. David Botta talked about how this affects the CC election. We will not replace Jim Friebel this year as a Life Member and at the convention we will elect 10 Central Council members. After the Convention, the total number of Central Council members will be 20.

- Grand President Leonard Zasoski

discussed restructuring the dues as the branches have many different plans. Some branches are \$36.00, some are \$34.80, and some are other totals. The Finance Committee will be looking at this.

- Grand President Leonard Zasoski said the Executive Committee is looking at the convention fines and what to do to streamline the process. We want this year's convention to be positive. Deborah Rodondi said at this coming convention we will have a proposal about fining and the proposal would then take effect at the 2017 Convention.

- Nettie Descalzo-Del Nero suggested that we give Laurice Levine a gift for the baby. Motion: Deborah Rodondi / David Botta to give Laurice \$100 for the new baby. Motion passed.

- Motion: Jane Dianda / Denise Antonowicz to donate \$150 to Holy Angels for the use of the hall. Motion passed.

- Grand President Leonard Zasoski said, in the future, the February Central Council meeting will most likely be moved to the last weekend in February to get away from the 3-day weekend and Valentine's Day.

- Br. 195 Calumet City thanked us for recognizing their 50th Anniversary.

Action on Communications

- None.

Good of the Order

- Grand President Leonard Zasoski thanked Holy Angels for hosting us.

- Grand President Leonard Zasoski announced that the guests can speak under the Good of the Order.

- Lou Mages said that Ines Sabatella of the Los Angeles District passed away and her funeral is today. (Carmelo Sabatella and Theresa Sabatella Shaw's mother.)

- Carmen Kilcullen and David Botta commented on Life Member Emeritus Guy Masciotra's passing. Guy Masciotra thanked them for their article in the Bollettino when it came out in November 2015.

- Marie Antonowicz thanked everyone for coming to their open house. The open house made \$1,000 which was donated to the scholarship fund. They charge \$5.00 per person.

- Marcie Rossi enjoyed the meeting, today. She heard energy from the Central Council and what we're trying to accomplish.

Closing Prayer: Led by Msgr. Cardelli

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm by Grand President Leonard Zasoski, Jr.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren Kilcullen

Grand Secretary



John Roa is installed as the first youth officer of Branch 237. St. Anthony of Padua - Gardena congrats John!

Also on our agenda is the selection of scholarships. Our committee will be busy the next few weeks. Our branch supports two elementary schools and provides several scholarships. This is the result of the dedication of our small but mighty members. Thanks to all of you!!!

Rejoice in the the Glory of the Resurrection!!!!

New life! New hope! New Birth!

Wishing you joy this Easter Season. Buona Pasqua!

Cordially,

Connie Bohannon

President and proud Nonna

Diamond Bar

St. Raymond, Br. 362

Thank you to everyone who donated food items for the St. Joseph table at St. Raymond's. It was a great success and to see everyone come together as a church community to celebrate and honor the feast day of St. Joseph was very nice to be apart of and see. We had lots of food, drinks, and fun. We hope that there are many times like this again and thank you to everyone who supported our branch and God Bless.

La Cañada Flintridge

St. Bede the Venerable, Br. 374

A record number of parishioners and guests emptied the traditional annual St. Joseph Table at St. Bede the Venerable Roman Catholic Church this past Sunday. A table laden with "goodies" was sold after the Saturday Vigil and regular Sunday masses were sold totally out.

The table contained donated pasta dishes, tomato sauces, home-baked cakes, biscotti, and other goods baked or cooked by members of the parish and donated by local La Canada and nearby stores. At the end of the Sunday 11AM Mass, the table was laid bare except for the decorations. Remarkd Branch President Mark Mannarelli, "we were pleasantly surprised at the enthusiasm of parishioners and guests for our traditional fund raising event where proceeds will all go to support the charities we support here in the parish and throughout the country; it was overwhelming to think about how people came out to support the work of our branch of the Italian Catholic Federation. We really appreciate their support for a great cause"

Attendance at the 11:00 Mass was significantly better than in years past, reported Branch Orator Al Restivo. "An old fashioned Italian style procession was led by Raul Aceveda, a native of Cuba, carrying the ICF banner. followed by newest members Jenny and Andrew Meli and their young children Norah 3, and Sebastian 5, who rolled down a table bearing flowers and a statue of St. Joseph preceding members of the 50 member parish organization, and Father Albert Bahhuth, the celebrant of the Mass. Father Albert is the Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles who is in residence at St. Bede. Members if the Choir led by Dr. Tony Lupica provided accompaniment for the Mass.

The St. Joseph Table is an annual event in many Los Angeles parishes that have branches of the Italian Catholic Federation. The tradition of the table began in Sicily where each year people gathered at a special church service dedicated to St. Joseph, the foster father of Jesus, and patron Saint of Italy, to donate food for the poor. Today the organization provides for the poor and others in need by donating proceeds from the event.

The St. Bede branch, like others in southern California is made up of people from many races and nationalities. The only prerequisite for membership is that the person is a Catholic or the spouse of a Catholic. Currently ICF supports charities such as research for a cure for Cooley's Anemia, a disease that kills children from Mediterranean countries, the Middle East, and Asia. The research is currently based at Children's Hospital, Los Angeles. It was previously based at Children's Hospital in Oakland. Additionally, the St. Bede branch provides scholarships and other parish charities. In the past it has also contributed to Wounded Warriors and other charities.

Information for membership can be obtained by calling (818) 952-1969. The branch is seeking to encourage young parents to join, along with their children to help in work focused on young people.

Monsignor Antonio Cacciapuoti, pastor of St. Bede Parish and Archdiocesan director of the Italian Catholic Federation Los Angeles Archdiocese District, provides a blessing for the food on the St. Joseph Table prior to it being offered for sale. Photo courtesy ICF Branch 374.

Some of the members of the St. Joseph Table committee of the ICF Branch 374 at St. Bede



Members of Branch 362 celebrated St. Joseph's Day with a beautiful table and wonderful food.

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SERVICE BEYOND EXPECTATION



Members of Branch 374 celebrating St. Joseph's Day and hosting a Membership Drive.



Parish members shown outside the Parish Center which held the St. Joseph Table are shown left to right, Diane Restivo, Emy Mannarelli, Fiore Marcucci Murphy, and Mary Wynton.

Photo courtesy of ICF Branch 374.

San Gabriel Valley Region

Diamond Bar

St. Denis, Br. 317

April 8- Dinner/ General Meeting

April 18 Board meeting

April 24 Arts & Crafts Fair

May 8 I.C.F. Donut Sunday. We shall enjoy a delicious dinner on April 8th celebrating our successful Holy Cannolis fundraiser. held on March 13.

We thank all who donated supplies, money and or their time On . March 13, the preparation, chaired by Laura Giello and Toni Werley and their committee and we thank Barbara for organization of supplies etc., and those who helped fill the shells and all related preparation . Gracie ! God Bless ! More details of the menu for the April dinner and host of Board Meeting in the April Newsletter. Congratulations to Laurice and Matt Levinson on the birth of their miracle baby Benjamin . We have been following the life story for a long time. As you know , the designated I.C.F. charity , Cooleys Anemia, has contributed to efforts to bless many with this affliction. Thank you I.C.F. members!! The Arts & Crafts Fair will be chaired by Michael Ramirez - Young Adults at St. Denis. His phone # is 909 861 7106 for messages. The I.C.F. Branch will have for sale once again croquette sandwiches, soda, water and sweets. Thank you all who will be donating our concession items etc.

God Bless each and everyone of Branch 317 for their dedication to I.C.F. Also welcome our new member Andrea Linn and Dian Lamon.

More details regarding our 40th Anniversary of St. Denis I.C.F. Br. 317 and Membership Drive in May and of course the April meeting.

Roxanne Perry

Temple City

St. Luke, Br. 326

Happy Easter to all of our members!

There will be a turnaround to San Manuel on Wednesday May 18th. The cost is \$20.00 per person. Contact Eleanor Cuneo for more information.

There will be no April meeting due to St. Luke's Fiesta.

Our next General Meeting will be held on May 28, 2016 at 3:30 p.m. Our meetings are now held on

the 4th Saturday of the month in the church library located in the rectory.

Please continue to keep all of our ill members in your prayers, especially: Josie Basile, Mary Lou Lemoine, Roberta Nangelo, Mary Jacobs, Eva Arrighi, Herminia Saez and Ann Primising. And, let's not forget to pray for our deceased members.

Happy May Birthday to: Dan Arrighi, Josie Basile, Sally Farinella, Marie Hadaway, Herminia Saez, and Mae Rosenkranz.

Happy Anniversary to: John and Rose Perfetto (64 years)

God stretches out His loving hand His blessings to bestow, and guides us in our daily lives because He loves us so. He fills our hearts with joy and peace, we're always in His care, He knows our every need and want and answers every prayer. He heals all pain and solves all ills which often come our way, His grace shines down upon us all to create a perfect day. (Dolores Karides)

God Bless,

Jo Anne Disney

Santa Barbara/Ventura Region

Simi Valley

St. Gianna, Br. 443

In lieu of our February meeting ICF sponsored a Bowling Day at Harleys Bowl on Saturday, February 20th from 11AM to 1PM.

Approximately 35 - 40 people (adults and children) attended. Most of them bowled and had a wonderful time. The few who did not, enjoyed cheering on their fellow bowlers.

Delicious cheese pizzas and assorted fountain drinks were served. Members, overwhelmingly, supplied sweet treats and snacks to munch.

After the festivities, ICF awarded each bowler a special trophy for their participation.

A big thank you to Rita Downey, our first vice-president, for preparing the trophies and for all her work planning the day.

Monterey

Santa Cruz

N.S. Del Socorso, Br. 21

Buona primavera, Tutti. Spring is here, and though it's a rainy one we need to remember that April showers bring blooming flowers in May. And, as you will see, the rains haven't dampened the spirit at Branch 21.

On March 20th the Branch held a delicious brunch for St. Joseph's Day. Chairperson Rebecca Rosser did a wonderful job honoring one of our favorite Saints. Proceeds from this event will benefit St. Francis Soup Kitchen and Holy Cross Food Pantry. Thank you, Rebecca, and all who helped to make this a relaxing afternoon.

On May 3rd, our Branch will have an initiation of all new members so please come to share congratulations and enjoy good food and fun company. Festivities will begin at 5pm at Holy Cross Hall.

Because of Easter Celebration, we did not serve coffee and donuts on March 27th. However, we will be back on April 24th. Stop by and have a cup of coffee and introduce yourself to possible new members. After all, there's no better fun than chatting with someone with a donut in your hand.

Sadly, we are very sorry to share the news of the passing of two ICF members. They are Dr. Don Slebir and Irene Medina. Both were well-loved ICF members. Don was always ready to help in the kitchen with events whenever possible. Irene was an ICF member for 44 years and had recently celebrated her 100th birthday. We send good thoughts and prayers to both families. We also

want to send get well wishes to Bob Zoccoli and Virginia Bertoli. We miss you.

In closing, a quote by Lailah Akita: "Lord, I thank you for answering my prayers at the right time." I'm thinking He must know the right time better than we do.

May God continue to bless us all.

Patty Morelli

Secretary Branch 21

Salinas

Nostra Signora Del Sasso, Br. 25

Several of our members once again supported the Lenten Fish Dinners at Madonna Del Sasso by helping prepare and cook the food and we thank them for their efforts. It appeared to be a successful event and the proceeds will be split between Madonna Del Sasso and Sacred Heart churches.

The District will celebrate it's 50th Anniversary on July 31st in conjunction with our District Meeting and Picnic to be held at the same time. Bishop Garcia has indicated he will attend, and we may have a choir as well. Plan to attend if you can.

Our branch funded the expense of providing a basket for the St. Patrick's Day Dance at Sacred Heart. Linda Hoffman purchased the items and once again constructed the basket which will be auctioned off to support scholarships. Thank you Linda.

Our branch provided \$400 to Sacred Heart School for tuition assistance. We also donated \$800 to Central Council to support the scholarship fund.

The date for our annual Polenta Luncheon has not yet been set, but will be in November. Look for the date in the next issue.

Ciao,

Roy

Monterey

Santa Rosalia, Br. 36

By the time you read this our Lenten dinners will be over. It was a great six weeks, saw all of our regulars and many new ones. All of our volunteers were and are amazing, our kitchen crew is unbelievable, they put out delicious food every week, the waitresses and waiters, the student helpers, dinner ticket sales, cake sales, 50/50 raffle sales, bar crew, and the ones who scrape all the dishes getting them ready for the dish washers, everything runs perfectly and all of those volunteers still smile when the night is finished.

March 13 we had St. Joseph Celebration, Co-Chairpersons Mary Manuguerra and Beatrice Bonanno do a beautiful job. Mass was at 2:00 PM with a visit from St. Joseph, after mass everyone went to the Parish Hall for a dinner prepared by Eddie Leonard and crew, homemade breads, pignolo and cambiata, then dancing to the Anthony Lane Band. What a great way to celebrate St. Joseph and be with your friends.

April 7 - Our 85th Anniversary/Initiation Dinner - Free to all of our paid-up members and new members being initiated. So, if your dues are not paid yet be sure to get your payment in.

May 5 - Our annual dinner for Contributions and Scholarships to be given.

Deepest sympathy to Paula Buckman on the death of her husband, Orin. Orin was Santa for our Childrens' Christmas Party for a couple of years and he had his very own beard.

Life is not the way it's supposed to be. It's the way it is.

The way we cope with it is what makes the difference.

Falling down is a part of life, getting back up is living.

Life is too short to be anything but happy.

Peace be with you,

Betty Sollecito

Castroville

Santa Caterina de Siena, Br. 51

I hope you all had a Blessed and Happy Easter.

Our Branch Fundraiser was a big success and all the hard work by the members was greatly appreciated. You all deserve a giant pat on the back. The kitchen crew was fantastic as always. Hoo.ray!!

The next project is the District Meeting on April 16th at 11:00 a.m. in the La Scuola building. By now all the branches in the District should have received the information either by flyer or e-mail. Hope to see you there.

Recently, members Pat Stefani and Marie Tonus attended a service for Edith "Scrivi" Scrivani. Edith passed away on February 16th at the young age of 99. Edith was the President of Branch #51 in Castroville for 10 years. She became our President during a most difficult time when our Branch was planning to close. But with the help of Branches in Santa Cruz, Watsonville and Capitola, Edith kept it going. She held many leadership positions in the I.C.F. for over 35 years. Edith or Scrivi, as she was known to many, was a tireless worker for both the I.C.F. and in her devotion to the church. One of her favorite sayings was, "If you want to cheer someone up, give 'em a monkey!!" God bless you Edith and thank you.

Please keep in your prayers Carl Armento and Alice Soliven and all those who need God's healing love.

Peace be with you always.

Ciao,

Leonora Barlow

Capitola

St. Joseph, Br. 227

It was another successful year for our Lenten Fish Fry dinners. Not only does the credit go to our leaders Ellen Pauly, Heidi Ambiel, and Rick

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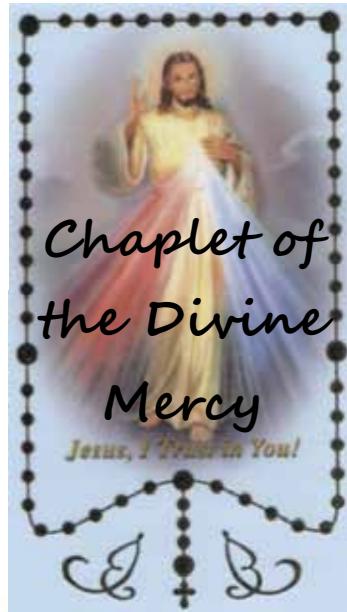
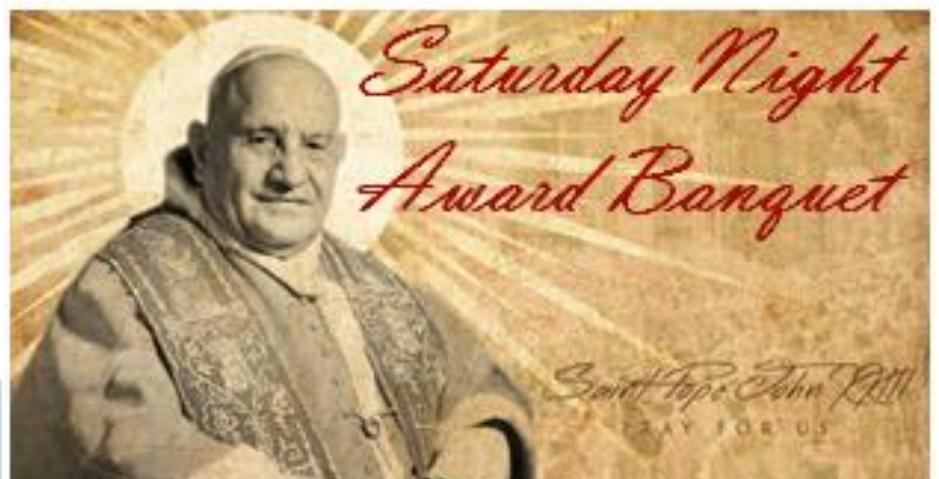
Italian Catholic Federation

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CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS



ICF Prom Night - Sunday





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 Central Council & St. Paschal Baylon Dr. 380
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Una Notte per i Seminaristi

Saturday, June 25, 2016

St. Paschal Baylon

155 E. Janss Rd., Thousand Oaks, CA

5:00 pm - No Host Cocktails & Antipasti

6:00 pm - Dinner Served



Menu

Salad & Pasta

Tri-Tip

Potatoes & Green Beans

Rolls, Dessert



Cost:

Adults - \$40.00

12 & Under - \$15.00

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Send reservation form and check made to ICF CC to
 the ICF Office, 8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110, Oakland, CA 94621
 No later than June 17, 2016

Name _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip _____ Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

I wish to be seated with: _____



(Above) Branch 291's Lenten Fish Fries were a huge success this season! Pictured here are some of our hard-working, committed members. L-R Norma Castellino, Fr. "Mario" (Fr. Alphonse), Joanna Van Blaricom, Billy Reynolds and Zach Castellino (front).

(Below) Branch 291's coleslaw crew works very hard every Friday morning to make the "best coleslaw in town" for Branch 291's Fish Fries!



and Jane Kotila, but the dinners would not be a success without the cooks, bartenders, kitchen prep workers, ticket takers, busers, servers, dessert ladies, set-up and clean-up crews. You know who you are. Thanks also to those who responded overwhelmingly to our request for lemons.

Welcome to new members Bill and Monica Crowley, Ken and Nancy Olson, Linda Schulman, and Robert, Christy, Nicholas, Robert Jr. and Matthew Marani.

Initiation of all members who joined in 2014 and 2015 will take place at our April meeting. On April 7 our branch hosted a meet and greet at Franklyn Lopes' floral studio for those new members. It helped newcomers get to know board members and learn about all that ICF does.

Mike and Liz Rios have again agreed to take charge of serving coffee and donuts after mass when it is ICF's turn to do so. At the March event, along with refreshments, we distributed information about ICF.

Get well wishes and prayers go to Tom McNamara, who recently underwent an emergency appendectomy, and Peter Manina, who is recuperating from heart surgery.

Thanks to Linda Calciano and her crew for preparing her special lasagna for our March meeting.

We hope everyone had a blessed and happy Easter.

In closing, we give thanks to our Lord, who responded to our prayers for rain. How great it is to see green hills, green lawns, flowing rivers, and flowers blooming. As Father Wayne often says, God is good.

Deanna Musler, Secretary

Arroyo Grande St. Patrick, Br. 291

We survived our Lenten Fish Frys! Every week we were blessed with huge attendance by our community and served over 600 meals at most of our 5 dinners. Our hard-working crew—from the morning prep workers all the way to the clean-up crew at the end of the evening—is like a well-oiled machine and did a great job each week to make our ICF Lenten Fish Frys one of the most popular events in our parish and local community! Thank you to all the members of Branch 291 who put in so much time and effort to make this event so successful!

Our Branch will be celebrating our St. Joseph's Table at the April 24 General Meeting (since we did not have a March meeting due to it falling on Easter.) Members are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items to fill our St. Joseph's Table,



You can never have too many cooks in the kitchen when it comes to Br. 291's famous Lenten Fish Fries! Here are some of the many dedicated members who work non-stop in a hot kitchen to serve-up about 600 dinners per night for the customers!

and all the food collected will be donated to the St. Patrick's Church Outreach Program.

Please continue to keep our entire ICF Family in your prayers, especially the following members who may be experiencing illness, pain or heartache at this time: Barbara Badasci, Dianne Clees, Homer Clees, Stevie Hall, Pat Osuch, Gayle Quain, Lorraine Spargo, Helen Summerfield, Sonia Wagner and Jens Wagner.

Ciao!

Keely Sanchez

Recording Secretary

Paso Robles

St. Rose of Lima, Br. 354

Busy times for our little branch. The February meeting was easy for our members w/no food preparation. We were able to purchase fish tacos sold by the St. Rose School students, and we provided desserts. President David introduced new members David and Linda Strom, who are no strangers to our club members. Both have been considerably helpful with all of our pasta dinners in the past, and they are well loved by us.

Jackie Biato has volunteered to make Easter favors for the patients at the Vineyard Nursing Home. Thank you. We send birthday wishes to members Missy Ellsworth, Sally Paletta, Karen Kudija, Ester Lombardi and Carolyn Brescia. Please continue your prayers for Tony Salvia and Muffy Banks.

Something new was suggested by member Michael Frederico. Why not hold one of our monthly meetings with a luncheon at the San Antonio Winery? Great idea! Date to be considered.

Our parish hall was transformed into a Spring array of green covered tables with Easter bouquets by Yvonne Maddalena and Mary Ferry for the semi-annual pasta dinner March 5. Despite the rain, it was highly successful. Thank you parishioners, friends and families for attending. Also our gratitude to members, the volunteers who helped in the kitchen and on the floor, and to Sisters Rebecca and Juanita. Special thanks to Father Roberto, our biggest ticket seller. In addition, we appreciate assistance from the beautiful students at St. Rose School and Paso Robles High School who performed with diligence and courtesy in serving our guests. Proceeds from this event will go to scholarship awards for eighth grade and high school students.

We have one more opportunity before Easter to go down to Arroyo Grande for their great Lenten fish fry. They have had a very successful fundraiser. Good job Deputy Pete Gallagher and wife Abby!

After we "Spring Forward" on March 13th, may all of you have a Happy Easter celebration with families and friends.

Theresa Sollazzo

Correspondence Secretary

Orange

Irvine

St. Thomas More, Br. 423

The installation of our branch officers was held at St. Norbert Parish in Orange. Thank you to all those who so graciously are giving their time to hold office this year.

Boxes to collect soda can pull tabs were distributed at the monthly meeting. The collection will benefit the Ronald McDonald House Charity.

The Bishop's Luncheon with Bishop Kevin Vann will be held on Feb. 20th. Members are encouraged to attend if possible.

More details from our membership drive and the annual St. Joseph Table in next month's edition.

Ciao!

Miranda

Oakland

East Bay

District Council

Hopefully all had a Blessed and Happy Easter. Can't believe that Lent has come and gone so quickly.

A big Thank You to all who helped make Bishop's Day a success. We could not have asked for more than what each branch did to pull it off. It takes "a village". It is really nice to watch the seminarians grow through the years and come so much closer to their ordination.

A bit of interesting news, the East Bay District is approaching its 80th Birthday this year. Any ideas for ways to celebrate this occasion? If so, please contact Lisa Crudo.

It may sound a bit early for this, but we are in need of a new venue for our district picnic usually held in Sept. We are sad to report that the DeNurra who have hosted us for many years are no longer able to do so.

And I promise that this is the last time that I will remind you that it is time to buy your tickets for Late Night Catechism on April 16th beginning with a wine and cheese reception at 5:30 P.M. Hope to see many of you there. Don't make Sister come looking for you!

Alameda**Nostra Signora Delle Gracie, Br. 10**

We are in the process of organizing our 90th Anniversary Dinner, which is scheduled for Saturday evening, May 21 in Monsignor O' Brien Hall in Alameda. The gala event will start with social hour at 6:00 p.m., which will be followed by dinner at 7:00. We will decide on menu and price at our April board meeting and will announce the further information in the May Bollettino. Chairperson is Jeanette Zugnoni, (510) 523-8005, jeanette@zugnoni.net.

We hope that by the day of the dinner we will have determined the exact date of the founding of Saint Philip Neri Parish, which served as our sponsoring parish from 1926 until 2008. Saint Philip Neri was combined with Saint Albert the Great Parish of Alameda. Saint Philip Neri/Saint Albert the Great Parish has sponsored Branch 10 for the eight years since the merger. With the assistance of the informaton technology department of the San Francisco Public Library, we have learned that the parish was formed from Saint Joseph Parish of Alameda in the first five months of 1925. We have also become aware that the cornerstone for the first church was laid on August 20, 1928, and that a deaf couple was married in the church on January 2, 1929.

As the time when this article was submitted to the Bollettino, we were planning for our final two Friday Fish Fry's of Lent, our Irish Social on the Saturday before Saint Patrick's Day and our Saint Joseph's Day Table on Saturday, March 19, the feast of Saint Joseph. Several of our members have purchased their tickets for the production of Late Nite Catechism on Saturday evening, April 16, at Holy Names University in Oakland. The local showing of the play is sponsored by the Oakland District Council.

At our March meeting we voted to give \$500.00 scholarships to each of four students from the Catholic elementary schools of Alameda who will be entering a Catholic high school in August 2016. We will also contribute to college scholarships which will be presented by the District Council to students who are graduating from Catholic high schools in the Oakland-Alameda area or whose families are active in Saint Philip Neri/Saint Albert the Great Parish.

We are planning on an initiation of new members at our May 5 board meeting. As we last conducted a formal welcome in 2012, a large number of members, including an officer and a committee chairperson, qualify as "new."

We are hoping that celebrants from other branches and their relatives and friends can join us for the May 21 anniversary dinner. Remember to watch for additional details in the May Bollettino.

John Zugnoni

Publicity

Oakland**Santa Rita, Br. 40**

We welcome Spring in all of it's beauty. Rev William Mason OMI, has accepted the position of Chaplain of Branch 40. Father Bill is also the Pastor of Sacred Heart Church. we are very fortunate to have him be part of our Branch. As a reminder, all members are invited to come to the monthly meetings. We would like to also welcome two new members; Alan Pricco and Antonio Muscardin.

Upcoming:

April 4: Monthly meeting 7PM.

April 10: Polenta Dinner

April 21: Branch 215 Fremont. Salad luncheon and Bingo

May 2: Monthly meeting 7PM

June 9: East Bat District presents "Day at the Races" Golden Gate Fileds. For more information you can contact Mary Ann Francis, 510-655-4971.

Happy Birthday to Rita Avery, Vanna Cesarello, Irene Crosetti, Rita Marie Dykes and June Ratto. God Bless You.

Please remember in your prayers the sick and convalescing of our Branch.

Thought: "What lies behind us and what lies before us are tinny matters compared to lies within us." Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Ciao,

M.A. Francis and L Francis

Fremont**St. Francis of Assisi, Br. 215**

Our Membership & Apostolic Charity committee met to discuss fund raising activities for Our Lady of Guadalupe and Corpus Christi Youth Groups. Several ideas were discussed to help jump start youth groups fund raising but no formal plans have been made at this time.

A our February meeting we approved a \$400 contribution to Central Council for the 1st year scholarship. We also approved a \$250 donation to Corpus Christi for their fund raising for the Confirmation Youth Retreat in Los Angeles and \$200 to Bishop Barber's Seminarian Burse.

A reminder to all that our bingo salad luncheon will be held on April 21st. Call one of our co-chairs: Joan Lampe (510) 657-9487 or Fran La Torre (510) 887-1509 for tickets.

Get your reservations early for this year's 'ICF Day at the Races' on April 10th at Golden Gate Fields. Contact Fran La Torre for reservations by May 23rd. Tickets are \$40/pp.

Our first ever Bocce event at Our Lady of Guadalupe School's ball field for our monthly Bocce games was a rousing success. Our thanks to Deacon Mike for allowing us use of their field. Kudos to Jack Navarra for obtaining the bocce ball sets and building the portable scoring systems. Thanks to all who helped lay out the courts in



Branch 285's new Members at coffee get together; L to R, Joanne Norman, Shirley Koenig, & Nancy Navarini.

such quick fashion. We accommodated 16 players (4 teams) and played two games each. Sadly, this writer was on the losing end of two games. Our intent is to play on the third Sunday of each month, weather permitting. We collect \$3.00 per game (2 games for \$5.00). Please contact Jack Navarra, (510) 656-0258 for the next play date and to make reservations.

Our Heritage member, Vilma Romo, has brought to our attention an interesting book: "La Bella Lingua" by Dianne Hales, published by Broadway Books (ISBN 978-0-7679-2770-3).

Happy Birthday to all branch members with birthdays this month and congratulations to all those celebrating wedding anniversaries.

We offer our prayers for those who are ill and to the safety of our first responders, military and their families.

Ken Chiatello

Livermore**St. Filomena, Br. 285**

Wow! What a Bingo Bash we had. The place was packed with super generous guests. While many won prizes, everyone finished the evening remarking about what an enjoyable time they had. All thanks to Phyl Buonsante's hard work and her husband Joe's danceable tunes and special treat as Frank Sinatra reincarnated. So good I swear there was swooning going on. And of course, Phyl didn't do it alone and she gratefully thanked the help she had to put on such an extravaganza. Every event needs a Phyl and willing workers. We are blessed to have those willing take on the responsibility for these events and equally blessed to have so many willing workers.

Events like our Bingo Bash and interesting speakers at our meetings provide a not to be wasted opportunity to attract new members. So, we've started an outreach program to introduce potential new members to our branch. Anyone who has mentioned they might be interested in ICF is invited to a coffee to informally meet with other perspective members and some of the current members. We provide them with a packet consisting of tri-fold about our own Branch 285, a listing of events and upcoming meetings, and a roster of our members. It's a small gathering that provides an opportunity to answer questions and share the family atmosphere that is key to the ICF experience. Every new member revitalizes our organization by providing new ideas and injecting new energy. And they get a new family of friends who work for the good of others. A win-win experience for everyone.

Ciao, a presto

Chuck (my wife's Italian) Meier

Castro Valley**Our Lady of Grace, Br. 343**

Hi all, here's hoping that you had a wonderful and blessed Easter, and are enjoying spring.

Thanks to all who came to Bishop's Day, your support is greatly appreciated. It seems like we know some of the seminarians and are looking forward to their ordination as much as they are. Soon we will be able to say Father... Speaking of priests, we now have our own chaplain, Fr. Paul, recently confirmed by Monsignor Cardelli.

Now is the time to start planning for our anniversary dinner dance on April 23rd. Get out those dancing shoes and gather some friends to have a fun time. In addition to dinner and dancing we will also have many baskets to raffle off.

One last plug for Late Night Catechism on 4/16 at Holy Names University, Regent's Theatre, Oakland. Remember there is a wine and cheese reception prior to the performance. Sister is out there keeping an eye on you.

May April showers bring May flowers,

Pat Grasso

Branch Secretary

Contra Costa**District Council**

At our last Contra Costa District Meeting we discussed the Night of Recollection and the District Communion Breakfast. The members were asked to bring their suggestions to our next meeting about other events.

The president, Gene Simonetti, felt that it is time for us to form a committee to review our Bylaws. This committee will include Gene Simonetti, Donna Hoffmann, Deanna Carone and Joann Thilgen. Anyone interested in joining the committee is asked to contact Gene Simonetti.

Although we have so many commitments it would be nice if we could all make an effort to participate in the events of other branches in the District.

Gods summons touches our hearts in the ICF and invites us into a mutual relationship. We offer our lives as a continuous "I do" in response to Gods love.

See you at the April 28 District Meeting at 7:30 P.M. in St. Isidores in Danville.

Peace to all,

Joann

Martinez**San Martino, Br. 13**

There is still time to join Branch 13 at our next function, the Branch 13 annual Family Spaghetti and Meatball dinner prepared by our Top Chef, Tom Cook, on Saturday, April 16. If you have never been to our friendly, joyful, Saint Catherine of Siena church in Martinez you are in for a treat. The dinner will be after the 4:30 PM mass. Please join us at this first fundraiser of the year in the Parish Hall. Contact 925-229-2665 for more details and to secure your tickets.

The story of St. Catherine of Siena parish began in 1853, when Dominican fathers began taking the ferry to Martinez from Benicia, then the state capital. They celebrated Mass in Brown's store, one of the first buildings constructed in Martinez. Soon the congregation built an adobe church, then a small wooden building that blew over a few years later in a gale. In 1868, a steepled wood frame church went up on St. Catherine's current site at Estudillo and Mellus streets.

The 1868 building was replaced in 1940 by the current stucco church with a turreted bell tower that still stands. The existing 1890 bell and some stained-glass windows were transplanted from the 19th century building. Some of the stained-glass windows bear the names of early Italian families who helped build the church.

St. Catherine of Siena cemetery, dating back to the early 1860's, is perched on a steep hillside off Carquinez Scenic Drive overlooking the Carquinez Strait. There is a chain-link fence that separates the rear of the property from Rankin Park. Many of the early Italian fishers and their families are buried here. A few years ago the cemetery received an

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upgraded entrance path thanks to an Eagle Scout project by our current ICF Branch 13 Orator, Paul Pio Cook.

Ciao from Martinez

Crockett

San Carlo, Br. 14

As usual, our St. Joseph's Table was wonderful. Thanks to Joe Macaluso for leading us in song, to Carl Heller and Bonnie Leal for representing Joseph and Mary, to Franca Ponti and Fr. Leo for beautifying St. Joseph's Table, and to Fr. Leo for blessing us with holy water. Bonnie was very saintly, but we still missed Pauline Cardoza this year. The blue cape and gown are ready for you next year, Pauline.

Get well wishes to Pauline Cardoza, Inez Chapdelain, John Giuntoli, Bea Leal, David Orsi, Rich Pastori and Lois Ramos. We are sending each of you a virtual bouquet of spring flowers.

Thank you, once again, to Jim and Kathleen Thomas and their faithful crew for their 40th successful Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner. And we are sending each of you on a virtual trip to Ireland!

April 12th is the meeting where we elect delegates for the Convention. Give some thought to attending as a delegate, and if you are interested, let your feelings be known to someone who will nominate



Branch 14 Crockett celebration of St Joseph's Table . Father Leo, Carl Heller, Bonnie Leal and Joseph Macaluso. Great Job!



(Left and Above) Branch 13 Chaplains, Deacons Dave Holland and Albert Dizon came out to lend a hand to member Tom Cook with service of hospitality to the parishioners of St. Catherine of Siena Church in Martinez.

you. It is a wonderful experience that will give you an all-encompassing view of ICF.

The April 15 Pedro Night has been cancelled; seems many of our usual Pedro players have another commitment. But the August 5 A's Italian Night is certainly on the calendar, so see Donna if you would like to attend this fun activity. They will be playing the Chicago Cubs.

The April dinner is free and includes sandwiches and all the trimmings. Mass is at 5:30, dinner at 6:30, and the meeting is at 7:30. Dinner is the time to be social; visiting, laughing, and lively conversation with friends is certainly encouraged. Please remain for the meeting, which seldom lasts an hour, and please be respectful of the speakers so others can hear what is being said. I know it is difficult being quiet, but I also know we are cognizant of the importance of being courteous.

As we enter into this beautiful spring season, may you appreciate the wonders of God's world, and may His blessings renew you in faith, heart and soul.

Ciao,

Diane Bottini Thomas

Pittsburg

San Domenico, Br.72

Many of our members attended the Bishops day Mass and dinner at Our Lady of Grace Church in Castro Valley on March 13. It was hosted by the East Bay district this year and was a very nice event. The Bishop was presented with a seminary burse and a spiritual plant which listed numbers

of masses and other spiritual offerings. We thank those who made this day very special.

On March 20 our branch had our meeting and celebration of St. Joseph and St. Patrick's day. We did a novena to St. Joseph and we had lots of green St. Patrick's day decorations. It was a fun celebration. It is a branch 72 tradition which has gone on for many years.

Upcoming:

Sunday April 10- Branch meeting and lunch at 2: PM. We normally go to New Mecca but have had requests to go elsewhere this time. Watch for your newsletter with the details of the location.

Thurs. April 28- District meeting at 7:30 PM in the main conference room at St. Isidores in Danville.

We do not have a meeting in May.

Looking forward

Save the date---We will have a bus trip on Saturday Sept. 10 from Pittsburg to the Santa Rosalia festival in Monterey. We will list all the information as time gets closer. You wont want to miss this fun filled event.

If you know of any sick members in our branch please let us know. We will send a card.

Wishing our members a happy Spring!

Sempre Avanti,

Patty Jarrett

Richmond

St. Raymond, Br. 154

Happy St. Patrick's Day! The March meeting opened with a delicious meal of Corned Beef and Cabbage and Carole Jobe's scrumptious Irish Soda bread.

Thank you Walter Costa, Toni Reeder, Carole Jobe, Fred and Diana De Simoni and all who helped serve, set up tables and cleaned up. Your help is appreciated!

Bishop's Day was held on March 13, 2016 honoring, Most Reverend Michael C. Barber of the Oakland Diocese. Several members from our group attended mass followed by a Ravioli dinner. The event was held at our Lady of Grace Church in Castro Valley. Bishop's Day was hosted by the East Bay and Contra Costa Districts.

Mark your calendar for the next Polenta Dinner, on April 09, 2016 at St. Jerome's Parish Hall, Adults \$22.00, Children \$6.00. This is usually a sold out event so get your reservations in early. Make your reservation with Dee 510-236-0689. The sooner the better!

Next meeting is April 11th. Election of delegates to convention will be held. This meeting is also our branch anniversary, and a time for honoring our past presidents. Risotto and Salad,(\$8.00) will be served. Reserve with Terri Ventin, 510-524-6093. Champagne and dessert to follow the meeting!

April 04th is our next trip to Cache Creek. Reserve with Joe Meneghelli 510-234-2208.

If you haven't paid your dues by now, you are seriously delinquent and in jeopardy of losing your membership. Don't let that happen! We need you! Make your check payable to the ICF and give it to Lori Framsted.

Lorraine Acuña

Concord

Todos Santos, Br. 214

Includes: St. Agnes, St. Bonaventure, St. Francis of Assisi and Queen of All Saints parishes.

Our branch had a new idea this year: \$100 scholarship for High School will be given to two students who completed an Essay contest titled: Family Heritage & how it reflects into their life today. We also had a very successful "Warm Coat drive", for the Homeless Shelter and also the Monument Crisis Center, organized by Members



Outgoing Branch 432 President, Geno Simonetti, who now becomes the new Contra Costa District President, received gifts and thanks for his years of service from incoming Co-President, Jack Bagar.

Marian Armstrong & Teri DeiLoreto. We have more new members joining and will be installed soon.

Prayers for our elderly and sick members.

Happy Easter.

Christina Artale,correspondence secty.

Brentwood

Immaculate Heart of Mary, Br. 432

Ciao all,

"Movin on up" as the song goes, is true for our outgoing President, Gene Simonetti (better known as Geno). Starting January 1st, 2016, he will be the new President of the Contra Costa District. Congratulations Geno!

Geno was a founding member of Branch 432. In 2003 he was there when the Branch's first meeting was called to order at the old Church in downtown Brentwood. Over the ensuing years (13) Gino was Branch President for 7 of them, most recently 2014 and 2015. During the years he did not serve as President, his continued presence, whether as another officer on the board or as a guiding member, he continued to shape, both, the personality and the goals of the Branch. Gino has left a large footprint which will be difficult to fill.

In coming Co-President, Jack Bagar, presented Gino with a commemorative plaque and a desk clock (see photo) along with the heartfelt thanks for his tireless effort and service over the years.

The IHM/Knights of Columbus Lenten Fish Fry served meals every Friday night throughout Lent. The Branch's 2nd Vice-President and who is currently Grand Knight for the IHM Council of the Knights and soon to be leader of the free world, Frank Silva, thanked all of the ICF members who worked in concert with the Knights to help make the Fish Fry the success that it was.

Play ball! It's that time of year and again the ICF is sponsoring an Oakland A's "Night at the Old Ball Game." The night is August 5, tickets are \$30 each. More information to follow or you can contact Co-Presidents Frank Stagnitto or Jack Bagar.

Finally, as a reminder, the annual raffle tickets went on sale in March. The cost is \$20 per book.

The Secret to getting ahead is getting started.

la vita è buona

Pleasant Hill

Christ the King, Br. 442

The rain coming down was relentless but that could not stop Branch 442 from coming together for a Saint Joseph's Day prayer service. Joan's



(Above) Initiation of a new member at Branch 442.

(Below) Branch 442 celebrated St. Joseph's Day.



eyes widened as she approach the Saint Joseph's Table orchestrated by Ann; "Ann, the table looks incredible!"

Ann blushed slightly; "awh, well the Branch chipped in with all the wonderful food..."

And boy did they, warm pastas, cool deviled eggs, and sweet desserts all adorned with citrus fruits, flowers and a bowl of fava beans. The centerpiece was a fresh baked loaf of bread in the form of the cross and a painting of the father of the day, Saint Joseph. Father Paulson led the Branch in a lovely prayer service and joined us for a bite to eat before our Branch Meeting.

The Branch meeting was led by our 2016 President, Matt. Matt had a full agenda discussing our role providing dinner to a homeless group later in March (the 29th), the schedule for working in the ICF garden, early planning for the new "Classic Car Show" event and our popular Bocce Meeting planned for June 5th. Carol spoke up; "Don't forget the Tea is coming up on April 9th and the location has changed! Be sure to note the new location is: St Andrews Presbyterian Church, 1601 Mary Drive in Pleasant Hill."

Everyone was volunteering to get involved in these important events! It was such prayerful and fun afternoon I think most members didn't even notice the rain!

Scenes of ICF brought to you by:

Pam M. Nuti

Past President Branch 442, 2013-15

Sacramento

Sacramento

St. Mary, Br. 45

Our Branch is growing!! Welcome new members: Bill & Sandy Boruff, Janet and Desmond Dumonchelle, The Mazza Family (Dr. Daniel, Robin, Dante & Siena), and Elaine Myers. We look forward to getting to know you and having you participate in branch activities.

Our first meeting and dinner for 2016 was held on Sunday, March 13th with Chicken and Polenta on the menu. Many new faces at the event and several joined the branch. Our next event will be Bingo Night with our Chicken and Polenta Dinner on Sunday, May 15th in Giovanni Hall. A branch meeting will be held at 3:30 p.m. and Bingo at 4:30 p.m. Dinner follows at 6:00 p.m. with Salad, Roll, ½ Chicken, Polenta, Sauce, Dessert. Cost is \$14 for members and \$17 for non-members. Each person receives one complimentary Bingo Card. Additional cards available for purchase. For

reservations and information, contact me before May 6th at 916-508-1199.

Our sincere condolences to the families of two members who passed away:

MATTEO GENNA, on January 10th at age 90. Matteo joined our Branch after moving here from the Bay Area. He had been an ICF member for 32 years. I always enjoyed talking with him and his family members at our dinners and he was very generous in bringing a prize donation for our raffles. May he Rest in Peace.

MARY JO LEE, our Orator, unexpectedly on February 27th at age 76. Mary Jo had been a member of our Branch for 6 years and always made our prayers during our meetings meaningful. She was also our Bollettino and Church Bulletin article writer and Chairwoman of our Apostolate/Charity Committee. She had a flair for writing and created all of our event flyers.

We are sorry for her sudden passing. May she Rest in Peace.

Birthday wishes to members for April: Sandy Boruff, Janet Dumonchelle, Annji Ebert, Frank Perri, and Kay Pesce.

Ciao,

Janine

Roseville

San Vito, Br. 73

There is little that is new with Branch 73 this month. Remember our upcoming polenta/chicken dinner the evening of April 16th. The no-host bar opens at 5:30 pm and the first course (salad and roll) will be served about 6:30. Members are asked to bring a gift for the raffle. Dinner tickets may be obtained from: Giuseppina Novi (783-3816), RoseMarie Presti (791-1726), or Arlene Roe (782-3073) and may be ordered through April 8.

Happy Birthday and much good luck to all the members of Branch 73 who are celebrating birthdays in the month of April.

Robert Delpippo

Auburn

St. Joseph, Br. 342

On April 3rd, our branch will be hosting Hospitality Sunday at St. Teresa's Church after the 8 and 10:30 a.m. masses. By now, you should have been contacted by our call committee regarding a donation of a baked good for this event. We hope as many members as possible will be able to attend one of these masses and help spread the word about our wonderful group (and maybe gain a few new members).

We once again are selling convention raffle tickets for \$20.00 a book. Our branch gets to keep \$10 per book. Please help us with these fundraiser by purchasing tickets. Please contact MaryAnn for more info (916-759-8466). Thank you.

Our board has been working hard on scheduling and planning events for 2016. Please watch your e-mail and the Bollettino for events and how you can help out.

Please remember to contact our Sunshine Chair Aggie Adams at 530-889-9088 if you know of any ill members who are needing and card and some "sunshine" from our group.

Pam Andersen

Bollettino Contributor

Roseville

St. Clare, Br. 438

A big thank you to branch 342 Auburn who hosted the Installation of officers for the Blessed Sacrament District. All of you did a terrific job. Also big congratulations to our branch's 2016 officers. It is so good to see a lot of new officers. Thank you to all of the outgoing officers. Especially to Joe Fisher who was our past President.



Congratulations to the newly installed Branch 342 Board members, seen here at the February Installation.

We have so many various activities planned for this year. This will be a fun year. More insights will be coming in the future months.

On March 4 we served several different varieties of soup. And a selection of different breads to St. Clare parishioners. Following dinner everyone proceeded to attend the Stations of the Cross. Unfortunately do to illness in my family I could not attend.

Please say a special prayer for our President Susan Cohn and our Orator Renato Nicolai who is having surgery. Also remember in your prayers all our sick members and members who have illness in their families.

I hope everyone had a Happy Easter.

Your Reporter,

Yvonne Perry

San Bernardino

Redlands

Sacred Heart, Br. 217

Branch 217 hosted our installation mass and luncheon in late January. We were honored to host our Grand 1st Vice-President, Andrew Pappani, Grand 2nd Vice-President, Vince Piro and their spouses. We were also blessed to have Grand Trustee, Anne Interrante with us. Our mass was celebrated with Fr. Francis Goode. Bradley James, the 2015 recipient of the Pope Saint John XXIII Award, was also in attendance and shared in our celebration.

This March, we were delighted to celebrate the 98th birthday of Matt DiMaria. When asked, "Matt, to what do you attribute your longevity?" he responded, "I chase women! I never catch them, but I love the chase. If I caught them, I wouldn't know what to do with 'em!" Matt and his wife, Barbara, have been members of Branch 217 since its formation in the mid-1970's.

We will have our semi-annual sausage sandwich sale during weekend masses on April 16 and 17. We continue with our Donare la Pasta program in which collect donations of packages of dried pasta and jars/cans of pasta sauce and deliver to local charities that use them to feed the hungry children in Redlands.

San Diego

San Diego

Our Lady of the Rosary, Br. 230

After a most successful Lenten fish fry, Branch 230 is now planning for its annual Pancake Breakfast to be held on Sunday, April 10, 2016 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the parish hall. With no formal general meeting in April, the branch will hold its Corporate Communion at the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, April 17.

A thank you to Fr. Joe Tabigue, pastor of Our Lady of Rosary Church, for allowing the ICF officers to give a presentation about the ICF after the Masses on Sunday, April 3. This is the first step in the branch's plan of launching its membership drive. Addition plans to increase membership are weekly articles in the parish bulletin and a hospitality committee to greet parishioners after the Sunday Masses.

May the Risen Christ fill you with every grace and blessing during this Easter Season and always.

God bless,

Maria Tollefson

San Diego

St. Theresa, Br. 261

Much of the following is excerpted from our Prudence Price's monthly newsletter...

February has been a busy month. Our meatball and sausage sale was a huge success on Super Bowl Sunday. We literally sold out. We had many compliments about our meatballs. A great big thank you to all who helped both on Saturday and Sunday. A thank you to Vic Tallarida Sr., Tim Tallarida, Forrest Price, Tony Anthony and Don Chmiel for shopping and preparing the sauce etc. Tim prepared 30 gallons of sauce...We had a number of volunteers to help roll meatballs on Saturday. The old adage about "many hands make the work go faster" certainly applied.

We had 17 people at the San Diego District installation. We we had the greatest turnout of all the branches. Andy Pappani and his wife Siria, Ann Interrante from Thousand Oaks, Lou and Pat Majes, and Vincent Piro were the installing officers from the Central Council.

Our next meeting is scheduled for March 6. . We will present our check (\$1500) from the December sales to Father Michael... Father has asked that the check be designated to replace the broken tiles outside the front of the church.

SAVE THE DATES: Our next meatball sausage sale will be on April 16 and 17. We will not have a general meeting in April. The meeting after April will be May 3.

We will be hosting Bishop's day this year. It has

been set for November 6, 2016. Father Pedro Rivera will be representing the Bishop and will concelebrate the 11:00am. Mass. More information will be sent to you as we near the date.

Vic Tallarida – Br 261 San Diego

San Francisco

San Francisco

Maria S. S. Immacolata, Br. 1

Dear Members,

Please note these upcoming events:

April 24 -- Branch Mass, I.C.C. 10:30am

May 4 -- Mother/ Father Spuntino, 6:30pm, Cost \$15.00. Chairperson Vic Arnaudo, (650) 755-1369. Please bring a raffle prize.

Happy Easter to all!

Ciao,

Toni Morsello



Members of Branch 365 celebrate St. Joseph's day.

San Francisco

Sts. Peter and Paul, Br. 38

As you may remember, Branch 38 had decided to make January our "Ski Month," and we were going to start our new ICF 2016 year meeting on Feb. 20... well it didn't happen and NOT because a member broke a leg skiing! I was the one who ended up in the hospital. For this reason: No February Bollettino article and no Meeting! I am happy to report I am doing fine after a minor heart attack and an ulcerated toe. I am now seeing five doctors, and they are doing a great job at making me like new or...maybe not quite!

During the month of February, Cosmo, our treasurer, sent out our 2016 dues notices. The response was very good, but there are a few members who haven't sent in their dues yet. The dues need to be paid by March 15. I would like the members who cannot attend our meetings to know: Every member in our branch is important to us and you're included in our monthly prayers. So, please don't think you have been forgotten...you never will be!

At our March 12 meeting we have some catching up to do! Especially, on the subject of our Scholarship donation which is due by March 15. If any of our members has a child or grandchild or knows of a high school graduate who needs financial help for college 1st year tuition please, ask me for an entry form.

Since there is nothing to report about our February meeting, I want to continue and finish thanking a few more of our last years' officers who helped our branch so much:

(1) Maria Gloria - How can I thank you enough for being our branch 38 Heritage Chairlady? You remind us of our wonderful Italian ancestry, the beauty of the country of our forefathers, and the presence and accomplishments of the Italians living in America. You are also so generous and considerate giving our members a little surprise

each month...we're spoiled, but it's so much FUN! Grazie mille!

(2) Rose Mangini – You did an awesome job as chairlady selling the ICF calendars. We usually average selling 12 a year. You managed to sell 31! You even did an outstanding job with the convention Raffle Tickets...you are quite a saleslady! Grazie for your help!

(3) Eva Belloni – I know you were an officer for a short while last year. You felt uncomfortable being one because of health issues. We're so glad you attend our meetings. You are so sweet and nice and always have a nice complement to offer. Thanks

(4) Fr. Al Mengon – Last, but never least, thank you for being our Chaplin. You are exactly what we need... patient, helpful, and most importantly, encouraging. We look forward to your presence at all our meetings. Please, keep our members in your prayers.

We pray for our sick and homebound, especially Arleen Calegari, our dear past president, who recently got out of the hospital. She had neck surgery and rehab for 3 weeks. We hope you get well soon and will be able to attend one of our future meetings...take care!

* Our Branch #38 members hope everyone had a Buona Pasqua!

* An important Birthday coming up in April - 4/20/1916 to 4/20/2016 (Guess Who?)

* April Meeting...Date to be discussed at March meeting (expect a phone call)!

Ciao,

Mara Amato

San Francisco

Santa Stefano, Br. 50

Our last business/dinner meeting was held on March 2nd. with our Pres. George Bacigalupi

presiding.

After reading the minutes of our last meeting, Diana reported that our past President Liana Figone is still slowly recovering in Marin County. Diana brought a card for us all to sign our best wishes for a full recovery to Liana. She welcomed our new member Marie La Rocca.

After our treasurer Annette Farrell brought us up to date with the financial report, Diana reminded us of the upcoming celebration for the S.F. Archbishop Day on April 3rd. There will be Mass at Saints Peter and Paul Church at 11:45 a.m., to be followed by Lunch at the San Francisco Italian Athletic Club. Please call our President George for Menu and price. She reminded us of our past donations made for this celebration, and it was moved and seconded to donate \$300.00 for Archbishop Day.

Our Branch will be hosting Coffee and Donuts after the 8 o'clock Mass on March 6th. Many thanks to Giuliano and Luciana Tuccori, Mimi Ysturiz Doherty, and all the dedicated workers for graciously hosting this event. After our meeting, we all sat down to a wonderful dinner of Corned Beef and Cabbage ! Eleanor Pieretti, who usually handles our monthly raffle, was unable to attend because of illness, but our wonderful Pastor, Ken Westray volunteered. He thanked us first of all for all that we do, and then he proceeded calling the numbers and presenting the prizes to the lucky winners.

We look forward to meeting in April and then we will be taking the summer off.

Ciao,

Anstell Ricossa

San Francisco

St. Elizabeth, Br. 258

Our sincere sympathy to Francis and her family on the death of Steve on Feb.19th. Steve, you will be missed. May God keep you in the Palm of His

hands.

Please note correction of date of our Champagne Bingo. The date is April 24th. The price is \$25.00 and includes a free Bingo packet. The menu is chicken, salad and dessert. Spend the day with us for a good time. Call Mary Perata @ 415-239-5936 or Florence Mangion @ 415-468-1764.

Sorry Anita Ferroggiaro's birthday was omitted in our last Bollettino-- Feb. 25th. Birthdays: March 4th-Nancy Mazza; March 5th, Linda Gould; March 15th-Roberta Romani. Happy Birthday, and Happiness and good health always. April 11th Rose Moisant. April 20th Isola Diodati April 21st

Maria Sirato, April 23rd Barbara Bottarini.

Buona Pasquale to all our members and their families.

A speedy recovery to Frederica and Ron. Both fell at home.

Our sympathies to the De Martini family. Linda's Mother-in- Law passed away. May the Blessed Mother keep you in Her care.

Please remember all our ill and deceased members in your prayers.

Please remember these dates:

April 4th: Officers Meeting

April 24th: Mass and Champagne Bingo

April 25th: Meeting

Ciao

Eva Perata, President

San Francisco

St. Cecilia, Br. 365

At last night's meeting our branch celebrated the feast of St. Joseph with a potluck meal. Everyone had a wonderful time. We had three guests, Millie Corsiglio, Barbara Chionsini and John Mendieta. It was a pleasure to have them and we hope they will return. Always the gentleman, Italo Zarich entertained us with his accordion playing.

Our condolences go out to the family of our member Bob Valdez who lost his battle with cancer and passed on February 4th.

Our condolences also to Regina Irwin who lost her sister on April 3rd. Rose reached the age of 100. She was a grand lady. May the Lord grant her everlasting peace.

Please continue to keep Isabel and Leo Juarez in your thoughts and prayers. They are both ill. May God bless them and make them well.

Our next meeting will be on April 13th. Regular meeting.

May 11th, 6:30 meeting followed by spuntino with food provided by the branch. This is in celebration of Mothers/Fathers day.

On Sunday, May 15th, our branch will co-host the 9:30 Family Mass with the members of The Legion of Mary. Please volunteer to help.

God Bless,

Ann Basuino

San Mateo

District Council

Greetings! Welcome to our new District Chaplain Father Joseph Previtali. The Strategic Plan Workshop and semi-annual District Mass held at Holy Angels Parish, Colma on February 28 was well attended. Hopefully everyone came away with new knowledge of the District's future plans and a greater feeling of spiritual enrichment and fulfillment. I'm sorry to have missed this special day, but was ill for most of February with a cold virus.

Mark your Calendars:

Sunday, April 3, San Francisco Archdiocese 55th Annual Archbishop's Day. Hosted by the San Francisco District. Mass 11:45 a.m. Saints Peter and Paul Church, 666 Filbert Street, San Francisco.

Valente Marini Perata
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Luncheon following mass at San Francisco Italian Athletic Club Entree Choice: Salmon or Beef tri-tip. Price \$55. Reservation deadline March 24 to Debbie Major #415-474-6925.

Note: the San Mateo District will be hiring a bus to take members to the event for a charge of \$15 per person. Send your reservation to Barbara Firpo, 1518 Bay Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303. Make check payable to San Mateo District.

Thursday, April 28, 2016 next District Meeting at 7:30 p.m. Our Lady of Angels, Burlingame, hosted by Branch 403 (St. Dunstons, Millbrae).

Hope you had a Happy Easter!

Remember Father Frank Murray and our ill members in your prayers.

Peace and Love,

Anne O'Brien

South San Francisco

Sacro Cuore, Br. 7

For our March Dinner/Business meeting, we all enjoyed a Ham dinner thanks to Head Chef Tony Parenti and his crew. Our March Fundraiser was a Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner. We would like to thank Jim Eli, Tony Parenti and Bill Ruggeri and all for a great event.

Our April 6th Dinner/Business meeting will be "Pasta Alla Bonanno". Our thanks to head Chef Sam Bonanno and, of course, thanks to all our helpers too!

We appreciate all who so generously donate every month for our raffle prizes. You help make us great and any organization is only as good as its members. So please try to attend often and stay connected. Remember, "United we stand and divided we fall"!

We are pleased to announce we have a new chaplain, Father Angelo Rovai. Please help us give him a warm welcome to Branch 7.

May 4th will be our last Business/Dinner meeting (Enchilada) as we take a break for the months of June and July. Our first meeting after the break will be August 3rd.

We would like to extend our belated sympathy and prayers to the Bruno Pera family. RIP Bruno.

So, until next time, a little chuckle to ponder ... "Being this is tax season, did you ever notice when you put the two words 'THE' and 'IRS' together it spells 'THEIRS'."

Sempre Avanti

Laurie Masetti

San Mateo

St. Matthew, Br. 163

Greetings! I promised to report on last month's Pot Luck Dinner and Semi-annual Mass. Since I was ill for 3 weeks in February with a bad cold virus and couldn't attend these events I will report what I was told by other members. All who attended enjoyed the Pot Luck. The food was all delicious. The Semi-annual Mass was very spirit filled. Sorry I missed these events.

Mark your calendars:

Sunday, April 3, 2016 – San Francisco Archdiocese 55th annual Archbishop's Day. Hosted by the San Francisco District. Mass at 11:45 am at Saints Peter and Paul Church, 666 Filbert St., San Francisco. Luncheon to follow at San Francisco Italian Athletic Club. Entree Choices: Salmon or Beef Tri-tip. Cost \$55.00 per person. Send check to Harold Fuentes, 2414 DeKoven Ave., Belmont, CA 94002. The District will have a bus to take members to event for a charge of \$15 per person. Call Virginia at 591-3545 for info.

We still need men volunteers for Mothers Day Celebration to serve champagne and dessert.

We lost two of our members recently: Margaret Perrion and Rosalind Bortolin. Keep them and their families in your prayers.

Peace and God Bless!

Anne O'Brien

Burlingame

Our Lady of Angels, Br. 173

This month starts off one of our busiest seasons with our St. Joseph feast potluck dinner on March 10th chaired by our President Dorene Campanile.

We will also be having a Pedro Tournament on March 19th. Helpers are needed as a big crowd is expected! Lunch will be served.

Archbishop's Day celebration will be Sunday, April 3rd at St. Peter & Paul Church, 666 Filbert St. San Francisco. Mass at 11:45 AM and following Mass luncheon will be served at the San Francisco Italian Athletic Club around 1:30 PM. For our branch the cost will be \$45.00 as our branch is absorbing \$10.00 off the original price of \$55.00. Choice of Beef Tri-Tip or salmon. Deadline is March 29 as signups will be conducted at our March meeting.

As members of the San Mateo District, we welcome our new District Chaplain, Father Joseph Previtali.

Our branch is still in need of healing prayers for Gino Bava, Dave Mayer, Mary Ann Camacho's son and my nephew, Jeff Tucker, Dorene and John Campanile's son-in-law, Keith Aguilar and Jean Watterson's daughter Jeanine.

We can't forget on March 17th St. Patrick's Day. We need the luck of the Irish in our Italian club!

God Bless,

Rosalind C. Emery

South San Francisco

St. Augustine, Br. 213

Many thanks to our chef, Bob Eserini, who made the delicious enchiladas (from his Grandmother's recipe) for our March 8 dinner meeting. And, of course, thanks to his helpers, Linda Marcelli (rice & beans) and to Linda Benedetti (wonderful salad). Dessert was provided by our Deputy, Dorene Campanile. Great job everybody! We all enjoyed it!

The annual Bishop's Day hosted by S.F. District was a delightful event. The Mass was beautiful, as usual, and luncheon at the S.F. Italian Athletic Club was excellent. We all enjoyed a wonderful day in San Francisco.

Sunshine: We haven't seen Steve Crisafi at a meeting for almost four months! Steve is a dedicated member who calls everyone when they are sick. So, how about giving him a call to let him know he is missed? 754-0144. Also, our member Faith Hill has had a rough time, in the hospital for ten days. Faith is home now, so give her a call or send her a card. I'm sure she would love to hear from you.

Don't forget other members who we miss: Fran & Chuck Baumann, 355-3205 and the Cannons, John & Fran, 685-1936.

Condolences: To Jackie Smith & family in the loss of her mother, Hilda Silvia. There will be a Mass at St. Augustine Church on Sunday, April 17, 2016 at 5:30 PM in Silva's honor. All are invited!

We look forward to seeing you all at our April 12 dinner meeting, to be hosted by Jackie Smith.

Roberta

San Carlos

St. Charles, Br. 327

Thank you to Carmel Dufault and Virginia Malaspina for the delicious February meeting dinner of lasagna, garlic bread and all the fixings.

And thank you to President Tom for slicing all the carrots!

The semi-annual Mass was held at Holy Angels Church in Colma on February 28. The Mass was followed by a delicious luncheon held in their hall. It was a very pleasant afternoon.



(Left) On March 8, Branch 332 celebrated Il Giorno delle Donne, International Women's Day.

(Above) During Lent, Branch 332 initiated an outreach program by sponsoring a food drive to help restock the food pantry of Our Lady of Loretto Church.

Our branch hosted our annual Corned Beef and Cabbage Anniversary Dinner on March 5. The meal was prepared by the St. Charles Mens' Club who did a modern spin on the traditional, boiled Corned Beef and Cabbage. We raffled 20 baskets and even had a little dancing around the tables. We had 128 in attendance and a good time was had by all. Happy 39th Anniversary to Branch #327!

The San Francisco Archdiocese Archbishop's Day is being hosted by the SF District with Mass Sunday, April 3, 11:45am at Sts. Peter and Paul Church, followed by lunch at the SF Italian Athletic Club. Cost is \$55.00 per person. San Mateo District will be hiring a bus to take members to the event. The cost for the bus is \$15.00 per person. Please let President Tom Malaspina know if you are interested in attending.

2016 Raffle Tickets have been mailed out. The book of tickets is \$20; our branch keeps \$10. of each book sold. Please return your sold tickets to: Marie DeRosa, 856 Bauer Drive, San Carlos, 94070.

And to end on a very nice note...at the San Mateo District Council Meeting in February it was voted that a 1st year ICF scholarship would be given by the District in memory of Gayton DeRosa.

Ciao,

Virginia Malaspina

Millbrae

St. Dunstan, Br. 403

On March 15, we celebrated St. Joseph Day with a pot luck dinner provided by our members.

The table decorations were beautiful with the statue of St. Joseph surrounded by a display of fresh flowers. The potluck dishes were delicious and there was plenty of leftovers which we gave to the San Bruno Catholic Worker Hospitality House for the homeless.

April 3 we celebrated Bishop's Day with a Mass at Sts. Peter & Paul, followed by lunch at the San Francisco Italian Athletic Club.

On April 10 we will join our neighbors Branch #173, Our Lady of Angels, Burlingame, for a Communion Brunch. Mass is 10:00 at St. Dunstan, followed by brunch at the Terrace Cafe in Millbrae.

Our annual fundraiser Spaghetti & Meatball dinner will be held on May 22 in the Parish Center.

The dinner will include antipasto, salad, spaghetti & meatballs, bread, dessert, and wine for \$25 per person. For reservations, send check payable to ICF #403, to Dan Capodanno, 325 San Jose, Millbrae, CA 94030.

Rose Marie

Marin

Larkspur

St. James, Br. 161

At our March meeting we had a St. Joseph's table with sweets made by members, sold, with profits going to one of our ICF charities.

Hope you all had a wonderful Easter.

Our next event will be a fundraiser dinner at Chalet Basque Restaurant in San Rafael. No host cocktails will start at 4:00pm with dinner at 5:00pm. Your choices for your entrée are Poached Salmon with Champagne Sauce, Half Roasted Chicken with Mushroom Sauce, Veal Piccata and Entrecote Bearnaise (N.Y. Steak). The meal includes pate, soup, salad, dessert, coffee and wines. Cost per person is \$55. Please make your reservations early as seating is limited. Call Lorraine Iavarone for reservations.

Upcoming events: In July we will have a Mass with Brunch. More details later.

Our get well wishes to everyone who isn't feeling well.

See you next month,

Ciao,

Anna Biggio

Novato

Our Lady of Loretto, Br. 322

During Lent, our Branch initiated an outreach program by sponsoring a food drive to help restock the food pantry of Our Lady of Loretto Church. The pantry provides food to individuals and families in our community. The spirit of sharing is a hallmark of our Branch, and once again, the members did not disappoint. Hundreds of non-perishable food items helped fill the pantry shelves. We are grateful that our members are always so quick to respond to the needs of our parish and our community.

On March 8th, we celebrated Il Giorno delle Donne, International Women's Day. While not widely celebrated in the US, it is an important celebration in Italy, and other parts of the world. The day remembers the 1908 garment factory fire in New York, where 129 women, mostly Italians, lost their lives. The women, who had begun organizing for better working conditions, were locked in the factory while it was torched by factory heads. Traditionally, women are presented with beautiful yellow mimosa blossoms on this day. Our "mimosas" were daffodils, won by three of our dinner guests.

In April, we will be celebrating the wisdom and love for life of our octogenarian plus members. It will be a great party!

San Jose

Santa Clara Valley

District Council

Under the able guidance of Bob Bausino, The SCV District council meeting was conducted with due aplomb. The members enjoyed Tony Spagnola's



Branch 28, Gilroy Ca. Scholarship breakfast Bake sale crew.



Branch 28, Gilroy Ca. Scholarship Breakfast Kitchen crew.



Branch, Gilroy CA. Scholarship Breakfast March 6, 2016 Father Robert and President Gennaro Filice.

“Mardi Gras in Italy” story. It was revealed that Marie Greco, Bob Bausino and Tilly Spagnola are from the same town. Emily Corral emphasized the Scholarship applications are due NLT March 15.

Elaine Osorio reference the recent “Gifts of Love” teleconference report. Twelve applications were reviewed eight of which were awarded a total of \$8,780. She also suggested distributing Gifts of Love brochures to high schools and other public places. The members were happy to learn of the birth of Laurice Levine’s new baby boy.

One new development is the idea of combining the SCV District mass with the Barbeque on August 7. The discussion evolved that the “Lady of Peace” mass would be cancelled and then hold an outdoor mass at St. Clares prior to the Barbeque.

Jim Jones read a note about the Pope’s dedication to “Jubilee Year of Mercy” to be observed this year. Main points, are conversion, repentance, confession and especially encouragement to reach out to people who are broken in body and spirit.

Jo Bertaccini said the Fr. Mike would like to reinstate the Pilgrimage to St. Francis Cabrini.

This item was left open to be resolved later.

Next Meeting: April 11 at St. Martins San Jose, Br. 391.

Mike Nunziata

**San Jose
Holy Cross, Br. 4**

Hope you all had a Blessed Easter!

Your dues are now due. Please bring them to the next meeting or send them to Bill Greco at his home address.

April 16 is the Fundraiser, Drive Thru Pasta Dinner. The cost of Dinner for 2 is \$18,00, and for a Family of 4, \$36.00. All Orders are to be paid for in advance. Pick up will be Saturday starting at 4 P.M.. The meal will be hot when you pick it up. Dessert will be available.

May 4th is the Crowning of the Blessed Mother with the Rosary and reception to follow. We need Cookie donations. Please bring them to the hall before the Rosary. Everyone is Welcome!

June 1 is our Barbeque Rib Dinner. Start getting your groups together! As you all know, this is a Great dinner. I’ll have more details later.

Remember all of our sick members in your prayers. David Ballard, who had a heart procedure, is doing well.

To All of our Moms, we wish you a Happy Mother’s Day!

Remember, “No act of kindness, no matter how

small, is ever wasted”.

*God Bless,
Ann Fitzgerald*

Gilroy

Santa Maria Ausiliatrice, Br. 28

Thank you to those members who attended and supported our Scholarship breakfast. We would have welcomed more members, and that would have helped a great deal. But our bake sale, with all the beautiful goodies was a smashing success. Thank you to our bakers and thank you to the kitchen crew who always do a wonderful job.

Our next fundraiser is our Taste of Italy dinner on April 9, with chef Andy Pappani and crew cooking. It is a sit down dinner served family style. If you have a raffle prize, bring it down to the hall earlier that day or call Jeanette Hudson at 408 842 1705. We need prizes.

Our April dinner meeting will be on April 18, 6PM Cullen Hall.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Bruna Goold, who passed on recently.

See you at the meeting.

Anna Barberi

Branch 28 captions:

Br. 28, Gilroy Ca. Scholarship Breakfast Kitchen crew.

Br. 28, Gilroy Ca. Scholarship breakfast Bake sale crew.

Br. 28, Gilroy CA. Scholarship Breakfast March 6, 2016 Father Robert and our Presiden Gennaro Filice.

Los Gatos

St. Mary, Br. 184

With all the rain in March, are we ready for the April Showers not far behind!? We hope you had a Blessed Easter.

Benvenuti new members. When you can, welcome Brandon Harlon, Larry Vollman, Andrea Maccato (born in Padua), Edward Russo and Victoria Nguyen. We are happy to have you join us, and hope you continue to enjoy being a member of our fine organization.

We were happy to give Fr. Rick Rodoni \$1000, for the hospitality St. Mary’s gives our ICF Branch. We hope our Branch makes you proud.

Eileen Fritsch, our Organ Donor Chairman, gave us some interesting facts. The Santa Clara County Organ Donor Program is up to 49 % at this time. Also, out of 2.6 million deaths, less than 1% can actually be organ donated. So we continue to spread the word.

June 26 is the ICF 92nd Anniversary. We plan to hold a membership drive at St. Mary’s on that day. Invite someone to join.

Save July 17 for our Branch Mass, BBQ & Bocce, to be held at the St. Frances Cabrini Courts. It is always a wonderful way to get to know your fellow members. Details to follow.

We are happy that Marie Antonowicz is feeling better, and at same time call out to Don Arnaudo and Richard Amico, both recovering from falls. God Bless all of our members and their families.

Happy Spring,

Lucy Amico

San Jose

St. Francis Cabrini, Br. 191

Here’s hoping that everyone in the Federation had a blessed Easter Celebration. Our branch held our Quarterly Mass and Breakfast on Palm Sunday. It was wonderful going to Mass, in mass, as an organization and then going to Essig Hall for breakfast cooked by members of the branch. The kids had an Easter Egg Hunt, held in the Bocce

Ball Court. That was an experience! Debbie Piro did a great job of organizing the event and the kids were mostly satisfied with the number of eggs found and the treats in the eggs.

We are having our Polenta and Sausage Fund Raiser this month on the 16th of April headed up by Frieda Flocchini and Jim Jones. The theme is “The Adventures of Pinocchio”, with hall decorations, table decorations, a Balloon Lady for the kids, (Kids are invited to dance with Mom and Dad, Grandma and Grandpa) and a great meal of Polenta and Sausage, salad, bread and dessert. I want to thank everyone who volunteered to make this event successful. Love you all.

Jim Jones

San Jose

Santa Teresa de Avila, Br. 368

Our new hall may be available for activities soon! Mike Nunziata and John Gillio encouraged us to tour the hall before our meeting. John showed us the beautiful tile work done by our branch member Marcello Ridi in the kitchen, bathrooms, and general meeting room.

Bruce Gill, one of our branch’s first presidents, has Parkinson’s disease and is not doing well. We honored five of our past presidents at our March meeting with Bob Osorio presenting each with a pin.

Did you know that Pinnocchio was originally written by Carlo Lorenzino, a native of Florence, under the pseudonym C. Collodi, and that his name means “pine eye,” or wooden eye?

Our thanks go to Anne Cordoni and Mary Ridi for agreeing to be co-chairs again this year for our fund-raising Pasta Dinner on May 13. Our branch members are very generous with their time and will help you.

The Gifts of Love program is providing Nina a hospital bed so she can finally come home from the hospital. A two-year-old who needs round-the-clock nursing care, she is only now able to sit up and is learning to crawl.

Happy spring, everyone!

Blessings,

Judy Zahn

San Jose

St. Martin of Tours, Br. 391

The Italians celebrated an Irish dinner with corned beef, cabbage, carrots, rye bread, and potatoes, and green mint chip It’s-It’s for dessert. Thank you to our Kitchen Crew for preparing the meal and cleaning the kitchen: Diana and Al Vallorz, Mary Lipari and Linda Vallorz.

Pay your branch membership dues to Tina Rossi asap.

President, Mike Rossi, led the meeting. In the past 15 years, ICF membership has decreased from 17,000 to about 10,000 people, so Marcie Rossi spoke on increasing branch membership. Louise Vento’s Heritage Report focused on the life of St. Patrick of Ireland, and Pete Sanchez and Jessie Romero spoke about the annual Valentine Dinner Dance, which raised raised over \$3,000 to support scholarships, Oakland Children’s Research Hospital, Seminarians, and St. Martin’s. Steve Lencioni presented the financial report, and the 2016 branch budget was voted on and passed.

Susan Busco spoke about a new wine tasting fundraiser to close a gap between income and expenses in the branch budget. The fundraiser will be April 22 or 29, but the exact date/time is TBD. It will take place on a Friday evening and will include 6 tastings, Italian appetizers, and is a great way to recruit new members from St. Martin’s parish.

Un abbraccio,

Bianca Vallorz

Sunnyvale

Resurrection, Br. 408

Buona Pasqua!

Mille grazie to all our of many supporters of our ICF PASTA Dinner Fundraiser. We had a good turn out, and Fun and Fellowship was had by all. We raised over \$1200 to contribute to the Resurrection School Science Camp. Thanks to our crack Chefs and Kitchen Crew- Mike Kunz , Brenda Robbins, John Parker, Steve Richey, John Parker and Kate Shimshock.

Only a few more dues – please send them in.

A Day of Prayer will be led by Father George Arahna on Saturday 2 April at Santa Teresa Parish. We look forward to a good turn out for this event

Please remember to include our sick members in your prayers - especially for Paul Blefari, Edith Novak, Al's wife Syd, Carolyn O'Connor, John Parker's wife Barbara, and MaryJo DiMuccio.

May God Bless us all in this Easter Season.

Morgan Hill

Santa Caterina D'Alessandria, Br. 435

Our February dinner was a real treat to our branch. This was possible because we were fortunate to have Mitch Mariani, his dad and all his working crew. We feasted on delicious, tender lamb (first time) and a beautiful platter of pasta and Italian sauce. We also enjoyed wonderful antipasti with all the trimmings.

Thank you Mitch and family. We truly enjoyed every bite. I can't forget our dessert. It was made by Guilia Gallego and Sylvia Sorci. It was Angel food treat with blueberries and topped with whipped cream. So yummy!

On Friday March 18th, our branch along with St. Catherine's Middle School Ministry are hosting a Lenten Soup Supper, for St. Joseph's Table at 6pm.

Our annual Fundraiser will be held on April 23rd. Please put the date on your calendar. More information will come later. Please try to attend.

Please keep Joe Tacci and Sylvia Sorci in your prayers and also a while back both Guilia Gallego and Fran Scalzo had eye surgery. They are both healing and coming along nicely.

Have a Happy, Healthy and Blessed Easter.

Donna Basilin

Santa Rosa

Napa

St. John, Br. 12

Our March dinner meeting* will be held in St. John's Hall. Ken Marshall and crew will be serving up a St. Patrick's Day corned beef dinner. We will initiate a new member, who attended our February meeting. Call 226-8253 with your reservation. *Please note the date has been changed to Monday, March 14 in order to help the St. John's Men's Club and their meeting night.

We are working on a Membership Week-End at the many churches in Napa. Our Quarterly Mass and Branch will be Sunday, April 10th at Downtown Joe's. Joe's mother, Angela Peatman is a member of our Branch. Family and prospective members are always welcome to join us, just call Joan 254-2054 with your reservation.

We continue to have our monthly Mass for our living and deceased members at one of the three Napa parishes.

Buona Pasqua,

Ciao,

Juliann

Santa Rosa

Santa Rosa, Br. 18

Congratulations, Martha Rusake, our First Vice



(Above) More than 360 guests enjoyed Branch 52's 2nd Annual Fish Fry. The gym was packed to capacity! (Right) Johan and Mary Del Monte are honored for their service to Branch 52. Pictured with John and Mary are Branch Pres. Nancy Seppi and Fr. Sean Rogers, Pastor of St. John's.

President, Orator and District Deputy, winner of our March 2nd Attendance prize- \$30.00! Winner must be PRESENT to win. March 19th, Branch 18's 88th Anniversary. Join us for fun, good food and exciting raffle prizes. Butch Bondi does a great job spreading the news of our future events. All our fund-raisers go towards all the items listed on the now famous yellow place mats we use to set the tables at our dinner dances. For tickets, call Doreen O'Rourke; 707/525-0295 as soon as possible. Please, let us remember our good friends and loyal supporters, Jerry Shotts and Louise Vicino in our prayers.

Buon Compleanno Happy Birthday; Godfrey Babbini, Edyth Regan, Ann Sarubbi, Jerry Shotts and Bill Occhipinti. New Members, we welcome entire families! Bring them in to enjoy our fellowship and love.

Special March Feast Days; March 17th-St. Patrick, and March 19th-St. Joseph.

Ciao,

Marie Canale

Healdsburg

St. Francis de Sales, Br. 52

Pres. Nancy Seppi thanks everyone who attended and who helped make our 2nd Annual Fish Fry on Feb. 19 our most successful fundraiser to date. We honored John and Mary Del Monte for their many years of service to the branch. This is the first year, since they joined that John is not an officer of the branch. He's enjoying being part of the "Peanut Gallery" at our monthly meetings.

Thank you to everyone who brought soups to the Lenten Soup Supper on March 9.

Upcoming Events:

April 5: Branch Meeting, 7 PM at the Rectory.

May 10: Mother's Day Dinner / Meeting. Parish Hall. 6:30 PM. More details next month. We will honor our Mom's and our High School and College Scholarship Recipients at this dinner.

Looking farther ahead, mark your calendars for our Golf Tournament on Sunday, October 9.

We welcome our new members: Todd and Veronica Clow and Family, Kate MacMurray, Linda Rochester and Ernie Ralston, Eleanor Secreto and Bertha Vieyra

Happy Springtime!

Lauren Kilcullen

Sonoma

St. Sebastian, Br. 103

After a successful March St. Patrick's dinner, Branch 103 is looking forward to the first fundraiser



of the year. Hosted by member and former president, Margo Kosta, there will be a Grand Bingo Party on Sunday, April 10 from 2-4 p.m., at the Seven Flags Clubhouse, 300 International Way, Sonoma. Donation for the Scholarship Fund will be \$15, with extra cards 2 for \$1--Champagne, desserts and great prizes. Reservations a must; please call Margo, (707) 938-2016.

Our next dinner will be on April 12, 2016. For dinner reservations, call Lila at (707) 996-3448. This month will be a pot luck; note cut-off date for reservations and instructions on what to bring in the April newsletter.

Tanti saluti e Buona Pasqua!

Marie-Therese Denning

Petaluma

St. Vincent, Br. 127

Greetings from Petaluma!

Slept late this morning, as I could hear the rain, coming down rather heavily during the night and so far all day. It's a beautiful sound and with it everything looks and smells wonderfully green and clean. As I enjoy the day I think about so many good thoughts, so many many beautiful memories. I hope that you all feel the goodness of God and all the beautiful things that he provides us with.

Here is a beautiful expression that Father Alfred Boeddeker OFM (St. Anthony's) gave us: "The great activity of our life is to love - I see God as one act - just loving like the sun, always shining". Keep good thoughts and keep smiling and you can overcome anything that may be an obstacle in your life.

It is too early to report on our St. Joseph's Table, so you will get the report in the next Bollettino. Hopefully it will be a huge success.

April/May is our Bakeless Bake Sale Fundraiser.. So when you receive your letter don't forget to send your donation.

April 11th - Regular Meeting Room 9

May 9th - Pizza Dinner with meeting following - 6:00 p.m, sharp -St. James Church Hall - Cost \$5

May 21st - Chicken Cacciatore Dinner - More information to follow in next issue.

Get well wishes to Lily Ward, Dorline Camozzi and Leo Lavio. Sorry to hear that Annie Allena and Aileen Zanco have dropped out of the Branch due to health issues. We will miss them and hope that they will be feeling well soon. I myself had a bad fall, broke my hand and wrist and have been pecking on this computer to insure that you receive our article this month. Thank you to the Branch and to those who wished me well as I recuperate.

Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary to those

celebrating this month. May you find Peace within yourself during Lent and may you have a blessed and Happy Easter with your loved ones.

Pray for our servicemen and women, for the homeless that they find shelter and food for their families and for those who lost everything from the fires that destroyed so much.

Remember to be nice to someone, you will always get it back in return.

Ciao,

Louise Vicino

Arcata

St. Mary, Br. 144

The Branch Polenta Fund Raiser was successful, thanks to the volunteers who set up, cooked, served, and did clean-up.

We served about 350. Thanks also to the Humboldt State Newman members for their help.

Judy Cardoza called the March meeting to order and reviewed our past month's activities. Meager meal went well thanks to the main chef, Nelida Mills and her crew.

The St Joseph's Table was scheduled for Mar. 12-13 at St. Mary's. Assignments were made.

Mary Tanferani was recognized for her birthday, March 11, 1921. She has been a very active member since June, 1951. She is currently our branch Orator. Mary was Branch President for a total of 13 years. She was a Founding Charter Member of Branch 144. She still participates in most all of the various activities of our church and branch. Mary contributes her advice for suggestions from past experience. She is a jewel and very appreciated.

The Easter celebration is eagerly looked forward to and we wish all of the ICF a blessed and peaceful season to all.

Larry De Peel

Santa Rosa

St. Eugene, Br. 198

At our March meeting, our members enjoyed a traditional St. Patrick's Day dinner of Corned Beef and Cabbage. Many thanks to head cook, Ernie Giampaoli, and his helpers: Dick Carrera, Mark Bisio and Mike Milano for an outstanding meal.

If you haven't purchased your tickets yet for our Spring Fundraiser Dinner at the Monsignor Becker Center on Saturday, April 16th, you still have time to contact Claire Giampaoli (707-539-1443). The cut-off for ticket sales is April 8th. Chef Randy Apel will prepare his wonderful Prime Rib and Pasta dinner. Cost is just \$20.00 and includes cocktails and dinner. What a bargain!

Get well wishes to Stephanie Buettner, Mary Desideri and Jolanda Gabriele. Please keep them in your prayers for a speedy recovery.

Happy Birthday wishes to past president Bob Acquistapace who celebrated his birthday this year on Easter Sunday!

Ciao,

Gail Bonghi-Azevedo

Sebastopol

St. Michael, Br. 209

Our annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner was delicious! It is always delicious when prepared by our "kitchen staff" directed by our President Barbara Bidia and her helpers, Don Becchetti and Roy & Leona Spadoni. We thank them and everyone else who helped prepare the Corned Beef & Cabbage!

Plans for our annual Fish Fry on Friday, March 18th are all in order. By the time you read this, it will be history! As usual, we anticipate a sell-out crowd.

Our Bocci Tournament is scheduled for May 22nd. Jackie Corsetti has printed flyers with the information and will be mailed soon. Call

Chairpersons Tia Polley (707) 823-4971) or C andy Peters (707) 824-9467) should have additional questions.

Upcoming:

April 5 -- Board Meeting

April 12 -- Regular Meeting

Ciao,

Lona Bertoli

Stockton

District Council

Robert Pachinger did an excellent job at his first meeting as the new District President. The meeting was hosted by Branch 390, Tracy, who provided a delicious chicken/pasta dinner, prepared by their members. Thank you Branch 390 for your hospitality and generosity.

The 54th Annual Bishop's Burse was hosted by Branch 413, Angels Camp, on June 6 at St. Patrick's Church. Bishop Blaire presided at the 10:15 a.m. mass with Fr. Rolando Petronio, Deacon Fred and District Chaplain, Deacon Karl Welsbacher. A list of the deceased members of Br. 413 were displayed on the sanctuary and read as part of the Prayers of the Faithful. A banquet was held following mass which featured a prime rib dinner prepared by the members of Br. 413. Honored guests were Bishop Stephen E. Blaire, Fr. Roland Petronio, Fr. John Paul, Director of Seminarians and Deacon Formation of the Stockton Diocese Sr. Wanda Billion, ICF Grand President Leonard Zasoski, Jr. and his wife Betty, Past President Leonard Rossi and his wife Karen, Past President Jim Jones and his wife Janice, Central Council Member Lisa Crudo, Life Member Emeritus Marco Galeazzi and his wife Diane, Deacon Fred and his wife Maria, District Chaplain Deacon Karl Welsbacher, and Stockton District President Robert Pachinger and his wife Annette. Seth Bakke, cantor at St. Patrick's Church and sophomore at Bret Harte High School, entertained us with a beautiful vocal performance of Ave Maria. The members of St. Patrick's Youth Group served the dinner and assisted in clean up. Bishop Blaire was presented a Spiritual Bouquet of 5,825 masses, 6,151 communions, 850 rosaries, and 5,800 special intentions as well as monetary donations of \$4000 from the Stockton District, \$1500 from Central Council, \$2000 from Br. 139 Manteca, and \$1000 from Br. 395 Presentation. Thank you to all of Branch 413 for your hospitality and successful event.

Mark your calendar:

MAY 15TH, 1:30 P.M. District Meeting, Church of the Presentation, Guadalupe Hall. \$8.00.

SATURDAY, JUNE 25TH, 7 P.M. 2nd Annual ICF Stockton District Ports Baseball Night at Banner Island. If you haven't seen Jackson Rancheria's Fireworks display at Banner Island, this is your opportunity. Tickets are \$11 each. Call Karen Rosson (209) 465-8074 for your tickets.

Karen Rosson

Modesto

St. Stanislaus, Br. 48

Our congratulations to Angel's Camp Br. 413 for the outstanding Bishop's Burse Dinner. The food was absolutely delicious, one of the best dinners we have had. The drive to and from Angel's Camp was well worth it.

We will be holding a membership drive April 2 - 3 2016. Our branch is quite small and we hope to gain some new members.

April is a slow month for us except for our membership drive the first weekend but May gets very busy with our bake sale, Mother's Day potluck and district meeting. Like the saying goes it's feast or famine.

Mass for our deceased members will be Sunday, April 10, 2016 and May 1, 2016 at the 8:00 am at the Maze Blvd. Church.



Branch 395 caption: Also attached is a photo from the Stockton District's Bishop Burse of some of our members at the dinner. From Left to Right back row, Mary Ann Piana-Chapman, Karen Rosson, Ruby Zanon. Front Row: Becky Vergano, Carol Quijada, Josephine Weber.

Our bank night winner was Marie Bertolotti. Our refreshments for the April meeting will be furnished by Tom Silvaggio.

Coming up:

April - 13 - 7:00 pm Meeting in the hall at 7 & K Streets Modesto

May - 11 - 7:00 pm Meeting in the hall at 7 & K Streets Modesto

May 14-15 Bake Sale after all the masses

May 15 District Meeting Presentation Stockton

Cecelia McGhee

Manteca

Nostra Signora del Buon Viaggio, Br. 139

Busy spring months are ahead for our branch. Our ICF group is one of the most active in our parish as we participated in a number of Lenten activities.

A series of weekly free soup suppers was held and Branch 139 started them off by hosting an evening of delicious minestrone soup (what else?). The soup was from an old and guarded Queirolo family recipe. Ada Queirolo and Lori Pellegrino-Jackson supervised the soup preparation.

Our branch also hosted a Friday Stations of the Cross ceremony in our parish church.

President Frank Re announced that our branch has purchased a table at our parish's annual Priest Appreciation Dinner on April 9. Proceeds from this dinner are given to our hard-working priests.

Preparations for our annual "All You Can Eat" shrimp dinner are continuing. The event, chaired by Ida Queirolo, is set for April 23.

It was decided that our branch will sell Italian sandwiches from our booth at the Festa Italiana, to be held in Lodi on May 22.

Joe Pellegrino won the Attendance Award this month and, in turn, donated the money to the Wounded Warrior Project.

Ciao,

Mariano

Tracy

St. Bernard, Br. 390

This year's Italian Heritage Night dinner meeting on April 28 in Father Fleming Hall is shaping up nicely. The contestants are urged to bring two quarts of the best Italian home-made tomato sauce of their choice: marinara, bolognese, even Sicilian! We will provide little bits of bread to dip in the warm sauces and the members will be the judges. Grand prize is dinner for two. We then will be serving the classic and fantastic Mike Bacchetti

recipe of spaghetti and meatballs with all the trimmings for dinner that evening.

We welcome all of our new members who may be reading our Bollettino for the first time. Our parish ministry through ICF is a beautiful and rewarding way to celebrate our Italian heritage as well as our spiritual upbringing. Many of our parents and grandparents left their own families behind to come here to make a new life for their children and grandchildren. It is evident in our growing families because they cared enough to bring their faith with them when they crossed the ocean that God plays an important part in our lives as Italians and Catholics.

We have begun our annual scholarship fund raiser, which has proven to be very successful in the past. Tickets are \$20 - first prize is \$1,000, second prize is a Luxury Spa Basket, and third prize is \$100. Drawing will be at April's Italian Heritage night dinner meeting. On display that evening will be many photos from years ago at ICF meetings and district celebrations. Tickets will be on sale at the March 31 dinner meeting.

Members of our branch will be volunteering to help set up the 4th annual Festa Italiana this year which is to be held on Sunday, May 22nd. For tickets and more information call Patricia Raggio at 209-471-2190 or email her at patriciaraggio1234@gmail.com. You may also purchase tickets on the website www.festa-italiana.com. We had a great time last year and look forward to seeing many of you there.

Hope everyone had a blessed Easter!

Ciao for now,

Betty Hollars

Stockton

Church of the Presentation, Br. 395

Branch 395 held our annual Polenta/Chicken Cacciatore Dinner on February 11. It was one of the most successful of this event we've had and was close to a sell-out! A number of our members attended the Stockton District's annual Bishop's Burse on March 6 in Angels Camp, hosted by Branch 413. It was a wonderful event with entertainment and a delicious dinner. We were honored to honor our Bishop, Bishop Steven Blaire with an extra \$1,000 from Branch 395. It may be Bishop Blaire's last Bishop's Burse as he is planning to retire at the end of the year. He has always been very supportive of the ICF. At our March 10 meeting, we welcomed two new members, Robert and Linda Langone. We began planning for our booth at the Stockton Festa Italiana to be held on May 22.

Upcoming Events:

April 14 – Branch meeting

May 12 Branch Meeting

May 15 District Meeting to be hosted by our Branch 395

May 22 – Festa Italiana – Lodi

June 5 – Quarterly Communion

Hope you all had a blessed Easter and Lenten season.

Josephine Weber, President, Branch 395

Angels Camp

St. Patrick, Br. 413

On Sunday, March 6, 2016, Bishop Blaire of the Stockton Diocese, was hosted by the Stockton District at the 54th annual Bishop's Burse. The event was held at St. Patrick's in Angels Camp, home of Branch 413. Considering that the location is somewhat remote for most of our members, it was well attended. Our Grand President Leonard Zasoski and his lovely wife BG made the trip from Bakersfield. Mass was presided by our Bishop, and it was beautiful. Our luncheon afterward felt like an intimate, family affair. The event culminated in the presentation of gifts from our District and branches for the seminarians. Leonard Rossi, his wife Karen, and Jim Jones led the group in our anthem, Noi Voigliam Dio and God Bless America. Joseph, Russell, and Sebastian Pachinger joined in the singing. I guess they know the words by now as they have heard them all of their lives. As Danielle, who presented the spiritual bouquet said, "It went well."

Branch 413 is now looking forward to the annual St. Patrick's Day corned beef sandwiches, which will be sold on March 13th. Sandwiches with accessories will go for \$8.00. As long as we have the Spirit, we will continue with our work.

May God Bless everyone,

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert J. Pachinger

Correspondence Secretary,

Tucson

Fr. Eusebio Kino, Br. 433

The Branch enjoyed celebrating Bishop's Day and Installation of Officers on February 13th at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton with Branch 434 hosting the event.

Our Branch present Bishop Kicanas with a check for support of our seminarians. We are always so proud to be able to do this.

Installation of officers: President, Melissa Rodriguez; 1st Vice President, Jim Acitelli; Recording Secretary, Bette Acitelli; Treasurer, Henry Fleishmann; Orator, Bette Acitelli; Trustees: Mary Pellegrino, Frances De Chainé and Julie Horton. Stephany Brown was installed as Branch Deputy.

At the meeting on February 14th, Fr. Crino led us in opening prayer. Highlights of the meeting: some fund raising ideas were discussed as well as suggestions of things that we could do as a group or a combination of both.

Looking forward to the 2016 ICF Convention on Labor Day weekend, President Melissa Rodriguez stated she will be able to attend this year.

Share the Wealth was won by Jim Acitelli and he selected the book "Saints of the Southwest". A second prize of a tin of cookies was won by Julie Horton.

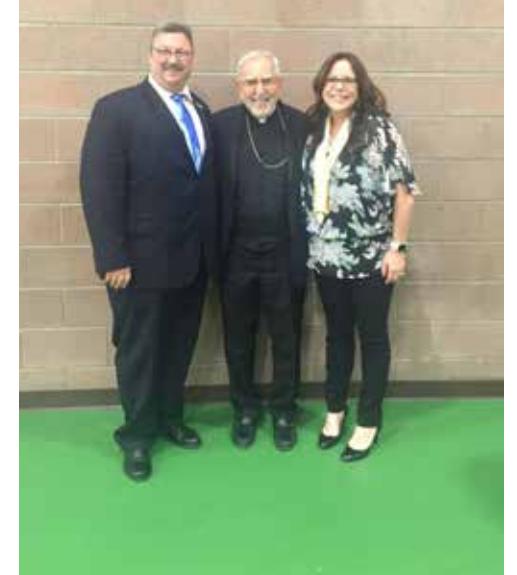
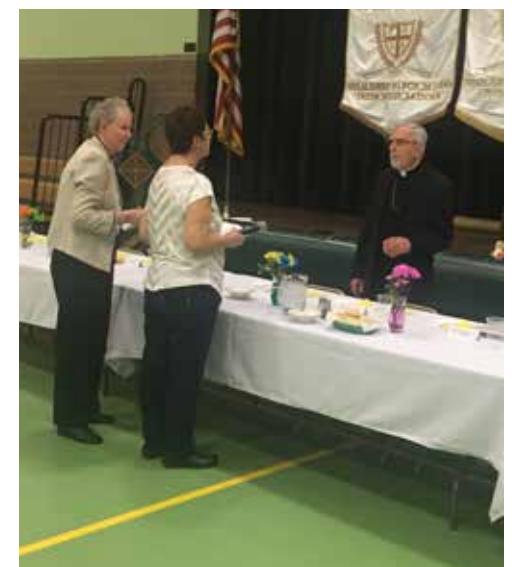
Next meeting is Sunday, April 10, 2016, with Corporate Communion at 11:00 AM

Respectfully submitted:

Bette Acitelli, Secretary



Branch 434 enjoyed celebrating Bishop's Day and Installation of Officers on February 13 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.



Tucson

Tucson

Our Lady of the Valley, Br. 425

A large contingent of Branch 4 2 5 members journeyed North to join with Tucson Branches 433 (St. Elizabeth Ann Seaton), our host, and 434 (Sts. Peter and Paul) in celebrating Bishops Day. Bishop Gerald Kicanas celebrated mass Saturday evening and was in good form with his remarks during dinner.

Our Lasagna Dinner was our most successful fundraising undertaking to date. We sold all the tickets! At last Sunday's Cookie Sale, the tables were picked clean with one mass to go. The biscotti were gone immediately. We are looking forward this Saturday to a successful St. Joseph's Table dinner which is a fundraiser for our Community Food Bank.

We will gather for a corporate communion on April 9th. Our April 14th meeting will feature a potluck dinner. On May 1st we will make our annual trip to the Holy Trinity Benedictine Monastery near St. David AZ. Following mass we will enjoy coffee and donuts and browse in the gift shop. Mid-day will find us walking about the grounds or playing games...marking time before an early dinner with the Abbott.

Our May meeting marks the suspension of formal ICF activities until October...when our winter visitor members begin to appear...ready for another round of fundraising. Many of us permanent residents go to breakfast as a group following 9 o'clock mass...a throwback to the traditional family gathering at mom's or grandma's for Sunday dinner...after all...we are family.

Barbara Barton reporting



Please Save-The-Date to Save-A-Life
5th Annual

Convention **Blood Drive**

Friday, September 2nd, 2016

at the Convention Hotel

Snacks~~Prizes~~Raffle



Sponsored by:

The ICF Live to Give Committee

For more information:

Laurice Levine, MA, CCLS

LLevine430@aol.com

360-860-2023

Called To Be Merciful

2016 Convention of the Italian Catholic Federation

Friday, September 2 – Monday, September 5, 2016

Fresno, California

Hotel and Travel Highlights

Convention Site: DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel
2233 Ventura Street • Fresno, CA • 93721

Hotel Accommodations

- Call: (559) 268-1000
 - Book online @ www.doubletreefresno.com
 - Group Code: ICF
 - Group Name: Italian Catholic Federation
 - Room Rate: \$112 plus 14.35% tax (tax rate subject to change)
 - Reservation Deadline: Tuesday, August 9
- Note:** Reservations are available until sold out or until August 9, whichever occurs first. After August 9, reservations will be accepted at the best available rate, based on availability. To reserve your room, you must call the hotel or visit their website.

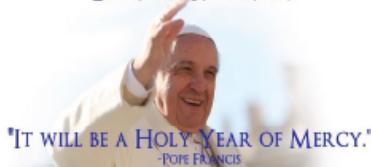
Transportation

- Complimentary hotel self-parking
- Fresno Yosemite National Airport– 6.5 miles Visit <http://www.flyfresno.com>
Airlines include: Alaska, Allegiant, American, Delta and United
- Amtrak – 0.7 miles ICF Code: X66A-945 For travel between 08/29 - 09/08, a 10% discount is offered when you call and provide this code. (800) 872-7245
- Limited complimentary hotel shuttle service to/from Amtrak and Fresno Airport is on a space available basis. Call the hotel front desk when ready for pickup.

Please notify your branch of your attendance.

To ensure we have a name badge prepared, please inform your branch that you are attending the convention, even if you are not staying at the hotel.

EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE OF MERCY
DEC. 8, 2015 - NOV. 20, 2016



For assistance, please contact the ICF Office at (888) 423-1924.

Fresno District to Hold Annual Bocce Ball Tournament

Family Fun! Good Food! Prizes!

The Fresno District of the ICF is hosting a Backyard Bocce Ball tournament on May 14th, 2016. All are welcome to attend and participate, children and seniors, beginners and experienced players, and families and friends.

As many of you know, Bocce is a sport closely related to lawn bowling with a common ancestry from ancient games played in the Roman Empire. Developed into its present form in Italy, it is played around Europe and around the world. People of all ages play the game and find it is a great way to spend a relaxing morning or afternoon.

The Fresno District tournament will be held at San Joaquin Memorial High School (Fresno) and registration fees include a lunch and prizes for the winners. The registration fee is only \$80 per team of four. (Non-players are welcome and can purchase lunch for only \$10/adult and \$5/child.) Registration opens at 8:45 AM with the first games beginning around 9:00 AM.

We hope you will join us for what promises to be a fun filled day.

All proceeds go to support the events and charities of the ICF Fresno District.

For more information and registration forms, contact Allen Watts 661-363-3803 by May 11th, 2016.

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- \$75-1st day, \$50-2nd day, \$25 each day thereafter per hospital stay
 - \$500 per calendar year/\$500 per illness

Features

- Membership continues beyond the age of 70 yrs. old
 - Payments are made directly to you
 - No medical examination is required to join
- Claims are accepted up to 1 year after hospital stay and/or surgical procedure

To apply now, visit our website www.icf.org or call 1-888-ICF-1924

Italian Catholic Federation Cruise 2016



on board the beautiful Grand Princess

Departing San Francisco on Saturday, October 29th 2016

15-night trip going to Hawaiian Islands (Hawaii and South Pacific)

Visiting: San Francisco, Hilo, Honolulu, Nawiliwili, Maui, Ensenada



	Cruise Fare	Taxes and Fees	Per Person
Category: Mini-suite per person/double occupancy	\$3,199.00	\$230.00	\$3,429.00
Category: Balcony per person/double occupancy	\$2,599.00	\$230.00	\$2,829.00
Category: Ocean View per person/double occupancy	\$2,299.00	\$230.00	\$2,529.00

inside cabins also available

\$200.00 deposit per person required upon booking
final payment due August 1

Grand Princess continues to offer the signature service for which Princess Cruises is renowned. With our innovative features like Movies Under the Stars, our Italian-inspired Piazza and The Sanctuary, there are plenty of ways to help you escape completely. Sip on a variety of soothing teas at Leaves Tea Lounge & Library, or enjoy hand-tossed pizza in Alfredo's, our full-service pizzeria. Plus, our new nightclub, The One5 provides a vibrant ambience to dance the night away.

Princess Cruises Grand Princess 10/29/16

Contact Julie Graham

View Details:

Julie@CruisePlannersCA.com

<http://www.grahamsgetaways.com/cs/541466>

(925) 829-7245



**Late Nite
Catechism™**
by Vicki Quade & Maripat Donovan

**ATTENTION CLASS:
ICF CENTRAL COUNCIL
PROUDLY PRESENTS
LATE NITE CATECHISM,
THE RAUCOUS, ROLLICKING
INTERNATIONAL HIT COMEDY
COMING TO HOLY NAME UNIVERSITY
REGENT'S THEATRE, OAKLAND!**

Catechism classes are never as much fun - or as hilarious - as when they are led by Sister in the international hit comedy *Late Nite Catechism* by Vicki Quade and Maripat Donovan.

Late Nite Catechism is an uproarious piece of theater that takes audience members back - sometimes nostalgically, sometimes fearfully - to the children they once were. The irrepressible Sister teaches an adult catechism class to a roomful of "students" (the audience). Over the course of the play, Sister goes from benevolent instructor, rewarding the "students" for correct answers with glow-in-the-dark rosaries and laminated saint cards, to authoritative drill sergeant. These abrupt mood swings are bound to strike a resonant chord with everyone who survived the ups and downs of going to school, with an omniscient authoritarian at the helm.



Late Nite Catechism will be presented at Holy Names University Regents Theatre 3500 Mountain Blvd., Oakland, CA. Performance is SATURDAY, APRIL 16TH 7:00 PM
wine and cheese reception beginning at 5:30 PM

Tickets are \$40.00 Mezzanine and \$50.00 for Orchestra and Box seats, discounts available for groups of 10 or more and are available by calling brown paper tickets at 1-800-838-3006 ex 1, or on-line at

<http://ICFLNC.brownpapertickets.com>

Convention Bylaw Submission Procedure

David Botta
Parliamentarian

Now comes the time of year that we must solicit proposals and/or amendments to the Branch Bylaws. The following is a brief review of the procedure followed in the ICF to accomplish this process and bring the proposals and/or amendments to the floor of the Annual Convention of the Italian Catholic Federation.

All branches are urged to consider, discuss and formulate a proposal to change, modify or abolish a bylaw as it pertains to all the Branches of the ICF. According to the Branch Bylaw Chapter XVII Art. 3 G proposals and/or amendments to the bylaws shall be submitted in writing (signed by the Branch President and Recording Secretary) to the Central Council Office not later than April 30, 2016. Branch bylaw change proposals may also come from the Central Council through the Bylaws Committee.

Such submitted proposals and/or amendments are forwarded to the Central Council Bylaws Committee for review, as to form and content. If a question exists relating to the submitted proposal, the Chairman of the Bylaws Committee will contact the submitting Branch for clarification and if necessary revisions to make the proposal acceptable.

It is helpful to present the original bylaw followed by a copy of the modified or changed bylaw with the changes in bold type. The insertions should be in italics and the deletions either in strike out text or underlined. The proposal must be accompanied by a well-reasoned rationale for the proposed change.

The Central Council through the Bylaws Committee is authorized to eliminate proposals: (1) that are unconstitutional, discriminatory (except as to the age for benefits) or infringing on the fundamental principles of the Federation, (2) proposals defeated at the immediate previous Annual Convention cannot be presented at the immediate next Convention, except if the Central Council approves the proposal for representation.

Once the proposal is found to be constitutional and acceptable in wording and content, the Bylaws Committee will present the proposals to the Central Council at the June meeting for their information. At this point the Bylaws Committee will "certify" the proposals, and announce they will be presented to the delegates at the next Annual Convention. The order of discussions of proposals at the Annual Convention are prepared in advance by the Parliamentarian and approved by the Central Council.

The proposals to be presented at the Annual Convention will be sent to the Branches in advance of the Convention for their discussion and consideration. At the Convention the proposals will be presented to the delegates for their vote. Matters presented by the Central Council will have precedence in the order of discussion.

Once passed by a majority vote of the delegates at the Annual Convention the adopted bylaw change is immediately effective.



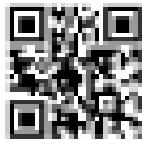
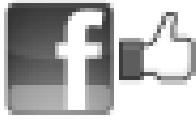
Sunday, May 22, 2016
10 AM - 6 PM

The Lodi Grape Festival and Harvest Fairgrounds

More Info:
209.242.9970

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4. Cover monthly expenses and hold on to other assets while their value continues to grow.
5. Cover monthly expenses and avoid selling assets at depressed values.
6. Pay for health insurance during early retirement years until Medicare eligible at 65.
7. Pay your Medicare Part B and Part D costs.
8. Combine life tenure payments with Social Security and income generated by assets to replace your salary and continue a monthly routine of paying bills from new income.
9. Pay for your children's or grandchildren's college or professional education.
10. Maintain a "steady" cash reserve to get you through the ups and downs of investment markets and provide more flexibility.
11. Combine proceeds with the sale of your current home to buy a new home without a mortgage and monthly mortgage payments.
12. Pay for long-term health care needs.
13. Fill the gap in a retirement plan caused by lower than expected returns on your assets.
14. Pay for short-term in-home care or physical therapy following an accident or medical episode.
15. Pay for a retirement plan, estate plan or a will.
16. Convert a room or basement to a living facility for an aging parent, relative or caregiver.
17. Set up transportation arrangements for when you are no longer comfortable driving.
18. Create a set aside to pay real estate taxes and property insurance.
19. Delay collecting Social Security benefit until payments are maximized.
20. Eliminate credit card debt and avoid building new credit debt.
21. Cover monthly expenses between jobs without utilizing other saved assets.
22. Cover expenses and avoid capital gains tax consequences of selling off other assets.
23. Purchase health-related technology that enables you to live at home alone.
24. Help your adult children through family emergencies.
25. HAVE FUN! Buy a new car, take a dream vacation and enjoy your retirement.

*Your loan will increase until you reach the limit of your loan and to pay property taxes and insurance, you will need your own funds.

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