



BOLLETTINO



Buon Natale! Merry Christmas! Buon Natale! Merry Christmas! Buon Natale!

ICF Bids Farewell to Al Teglia

Past Grand President, Albert "Al" M. Teglia passed away at his Roseville home on Sunday, October 26, 2014, after a long battle with cancer. He was 83.

Al joined the Italian Catholic Federation in 1958 and quickly moved up the ranks. In 1966 at the age of 36, Al became Grand President of the ICF until 1969. As a member of the Central Council Al created the Gifts of Love Program in response to the need in the community for such a program.

Aside from his passion and work for the ICF, Al was also the mayor of Daly City, known as "Mr. Daly City." Al's reach extended beyond Daly City's borders to help shape countless Peninsula and Bay Area programs, agencies and charities.

A child of Italian immigrants, Teglia was born in Colma and in 1949 moved to Daly City, where he attended Jefferson High School. He then earned a degree from College of San Mateo, and was hired by the San Mateo Union High School District, where he worked for 38 years. Teglia served three terms on the Jefferson Union High School board of trustees from 1967 to 1976, and was board president from 1969 to 1971.

Teglia, who also worked for the San Mateo County Human Services Agency, served five terms on Daly City's City Council, including four terms as mayor.

Teglia married his childhood sweetheart, Verna Mae Kunz, in 1953, and was her caregiver before she died in 2006. Two

years after the death of his first wife, Teglia married longtime friend and fellow Central Council Member Frances Foglia.

Teglia also started the Jobs For Youth program, which began in Daly City, but was eventually adopted by San Mateo County.

Other Daly City initiatives spearheaded by Teglia included the Daly City Public Library Associates, and dental programs for uninsured children and seniors at the Mike Nevin Health Center.

Although friends say Teglia didn't like to take much credit for himself, he received numerous honors over the years, including the Easter Seals Humanitarian Award, the Daly City-Colma Chamber of Commerce Special Humanitarian Award, and the Community Kindness Award from South San Francisco's Sitike Counseling Center.

The longtime resident additionally holds the distinction of being the first man to receive special recognition in the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame, and in 2012 he was one of six individuals who received a Community Quarterback award



from the 49ers and NFL Charities. In 2013, the Daly City City Council declared Teglia's birthday, June 27, to be Al Teglia Day in perpetuity.

Al is survived by his beloved wife Frances; loving stepfather to Michael (Crystal) and CherylAnn (Walter); caring uncle to Fernando (Roberta) and loving great uncle to Marc (Kelly), Matthew, and Steven (Alisa) and great-grandniece Jessica. Also survived by 3 grandchildren; 7 great-grandchildren. Al is preceded in death by his parents Mario and Assunta, brother Angelo and first wife Verna.

Grand President's Monthly Message

by Bob Basuino

I cannot believe the holidays are upon us again! Where did this year go? It seems like yesterday we were putting all the Christmas decorations away, yet here we are again getting ready to celebrate the season with family, friends and loved ones. It is also the time we start thinking about all the blessings that were bestowed upon us this past year, and prepare to make new memories for ourselves.

This past year was such a memorable one for me. I was blessed with the arrival of Dean, my fourth grandson, seventh grandchild for those counting. My oldest grandson, Christopher, received his First Communion. His brother Michael, my second grandson, started school and is doing very well. My third grandson, Jake and oldest granddaughter, Jocelyn started preschool. Olivia my youngest granddaughter, who is 2 years old, feels left out because she is not in school yet.



Along with all of the excitement in our family, I had the honor of being your Grand President. My travels to all of the district functions was so rewarding. I was able to meet so many of our members and got to hear about issues that both positively and negatively affect our branches. These successes and concerns are being taken to our Central Council meetings to help improve the ICF for all of us.

As we prepare for the Holy Season of Christmas, take the time to thank God for all of our blessings and ask for the guidance to help the ICF grow so we may continue our good works in our parishes and communities. Our donations this year to our seminaries was outstanding and such a great help to our future priests, and your hard work in supporting Children's Hospital in Oakland makes such a difference to so many lives. So, please take a little time to follow our ICF tradition of helping others by volunteering at a food bank or shelter, or visiting the elderly or shut-ins. We all have the ability to bring a little joy of the holiday season to those less fortunate than ourselves. After all, the holidays are not just about us and our happiness, it is about spreading our generosity and compassion to those around us. Keep in mind the real reason for this season: The Birth of Our Lord and Savior! Focus on that beautiful verse of the Christmas Carol "Angels We Have Heard On High" -- "Gloria, In Excelsis Dio."

continued on page 7

continued on page 4



Seminarian Spotlight:
Mario Samuel Rizzo

In response to interest at the Convention in the lives of our seminarians, we are starting a new column "Seminarian Focus." If you know of a seminary or seminarian you would like to have interviewed please contact the Bollettino Editor. Thanks!

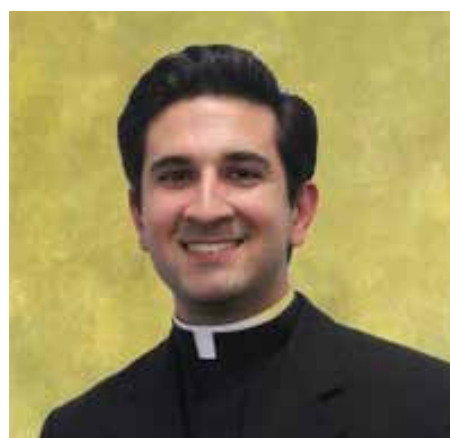
Full Name: Mario Samuel Rizzo

Name of Seminary: St. Patrick's Seminary and University

Years attending seminary and years left: This is my 4th year; 3 more after this one.

When did you realize you wanted to become a priest and join a seminary?
What was your inspiration?

The first time someone ever approached me about a priestly vocation I was 18. It was the pastor of my parish, St. Monica, Father Paul Minnihan, but I had no idea what a priestly vocation was or how to ap-



proach discerning one, so I went to college and kind of forgot about it. I attended Diablo Valley College and then UC Berkeley where I studied theatre. When I got out of college in 2010 I returned to my home parish where our current pastor, Father Wayne Campbell, approached me about a vocation. Since this was the second priest to ask me this question, I started to get more serious about the spiritual life and discerning this call.

What is your favorite area of study?
What is your hardest subject or topic?

I wouldn't say I have a favorite area yet because it's all kind of new, and everything we cover is very interesting, from Scripture to Pastoral Counseling. The hardest topic is figuring out how I play a part in this colossal story. A lot of people probably do not think of the seminary in

TIME SENSITIVE: PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY!

BOLLETTINO
Official Publication of the Italian
Catholic Federation
(ISN 0745-256X)
Published Monthly
(except for Combined Aug./Sept. Issue)
by the Central Council
of the Italian Catholic Federation
8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110
Oakland, CA 94621
READERSHIP as of 10/01/14: 7,800
Subscription Rate: \$6.00 year

Editor
Michelle C.I. Feldman
Phone: (510) 633-9058; 1-888-ICF-1924
Fax: (510) 633-9758
Website:
ICF.org
Email:

info@icf.org (general)
admin@icf.org (Charlene Kramer)
accounting@icf.org (Patty Smith)
icfeditor@gmail.com (Michelle Feldman)
vpiro@icloud.com (Vince Piro)
Periodicals postage is paid at Oakland,
CA., and additional mailing offices.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
BOLLETTINO, 8393 Capwell Drive,
Suite 110, Oakland, CA 94621

UPCOMING:

2014 Bishops' Days:

- Dec. 7 Reno

2015 District Installations:

- Jan. 4 Stockton
- Jan. 10 Santa Clara Valley
- Jan. 11 San Francisco
- Jan. 17 Contra Costa
- San Bernardino
- San Mateo
- Jan. 18 East Bay
- Jan. 20 Marin
- Jan. 24 Blessed Sacrament
- Jan. 31 Santa Rosa
- Feb. 8 Los Angeles (includes San Fernando Valley, San Gabriel Valley and Santa Barbara/Ventura)
- Feb. 8 San Diego
- Feb. 10 Las Vegas
- Feb. 15 Orange
- Feb. 21 Tucson
- Feb. 22 Fresno
- Feb. 26 Chicago
- Feb. 28 Central Coast
- Jan. 31 Joint Installation of Br. 144, Arcata and Br. 145, Eureka

2015 Bishops' Days:

- Feb. 21 Tucson
- Mar. 7 Orange
- Mar. 28 Stockton
- Apr. 12 San Francisco (San Francisco, San Mateo & Marin)
- Oct. 11 Santa Rosa

icfeditor@gmail.com

The only email address to
send things for the Bollettino
is icfeditor@gmail.com.

We Really Need Christmas!

Monsignor Daniel Cardelli
ICF Spiritual Director
ICFspiritDir@aol.com

Can you imagine what the world would be like if Christmas didn't happen?

Yes, the world is in bad enough shape right now, but it would be in a horrific state without Christmas. People would be completely without a purpose in life. There would be no belief in anything except selfish, personal gain. There would be no knowledge of God, no love of God, no love of our fellow human beings. It would be a world of get, get, get, and gimme, gimme, gimme. No true love at all, no faith, and no hope... only chaos.

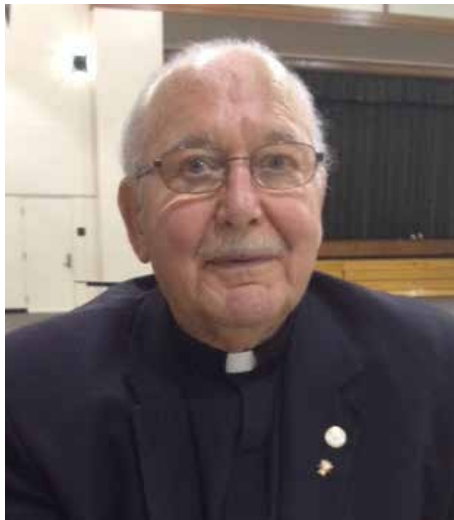
Ah, but remember! The Angel Gabriel appeared to Mary and announced she would give birth to a Savior whose name was to be Jesus. The birth of Jesus is the greatest event in all of history. His birth gave purpose to our lives. His birth gave us Light. His birth is our Light because we believe in him as our Savior. ("I am the light of the world."

Jn. 8:12)

Jesus also came to give us Love ("No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." Jn. 15:13) His love was so great that he came to Earth and left us the gift of himself in Holy Communion. ("I am the bread of life." Jn. 6:48)

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God and trust in me." (Jn. 14:1-2) His birth gave us ultimate hope, that great feeling that we can only know when we are being taken care of. His birth gave us the hope of all hopes that paved the way for us to share eternity with him in heaven.

To be sure, Christ's birth in Bethlehem changed the world. People experienced new purpose, new love and new hope. His message was one of love, love for God and love for our neighbor. As His followers, we model our lives according to the love and example of Jesus. It may at times be difficult, but not to worry. Jesus is there to help us. He gives us strength when we need it. He loves us more than we love ourselves.



We live our lives as best we can, trusting in Jesus because He is backing us up all the time. He is the greatest Christmas gift we can have.

So, you see, we really need Christmas! May each of you be wrapped in the love of Jesus this holy season.

Membership Retention -- Part 1

Forrest Price
CC Member Emeritus

All of the functions and activities of the Federation, its districts and branches have an impact on membership. And conversely, membership has a bearing on the ability of the Federation to sustain itself and fulfill its mission to aid the Catholic Church in saving souls and to aid our fellow man. At the branch level, membership is crucial to enable the branch to grow and play its role in the overall mission of the Federation.

Generally, most of the articles in the Bollettino from the Membership Committee have been devoted to the extremely important subject of methods of attracting and recruiting new members. However, this article is devoted to the very broad topic of membership retention. And, of course, the ultimate and ideal goal of membership retention should be efforts to retain members for life.

Whether or not a member becomes a life-long member certainly depends a great deal upon his or her rapport with fellow branch members, including the officers; the inner satisfaction of being part of a group that serves the Lord and that achieves goals and objectives in a pleasant, enjoyable manner and harmonious atmosphere.

Therefore, the conduct of all members and especially the branch officers towards one another is paramount. Here are some thoughts on the subject:

Membership Committee – 1) The ideal is for every branch to have a Membership Committee composed of more than one or two members, including a Membership Chairperson. **2)** The chairperson of the committee should be asked to attend the officer's meetings by the Branch President and to report on progress. **3)** The Branch President should call on the Membership Chairperson to report his/her progress at every general meeting. **4)** Members of the Membership Committee should continue to be mentors to new members for a substantial period of time in order to introduce them to others, explain proceedings, answer their questions and make them feel that they are part of a dynamic and welcoming organization. **5)** The Membership Committee should also encourage the new member to promptly become involved in the branch activities. **6)** Within a year, the new members should be encouraged to at least accept one of the lower ranking offices and **7)** Thereafter, the new member should be encouraged to accept higher offices if he/she has the ability and willingness to do so.

High Five!

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

Central Coast	+34
Contra Costa	+30
Fresno	+27
Santa Barbara	+14
San Mateo	+14

Membership Stats as of October 31, 2014:

10,455

Members as of July 1, 2014:

10,454 = overall gain of 1 member	
New:	242
Reinstated:	19
Transfer in/out:	11
Deceased:	-72
Cancelled:	-184
Non-payment >12 mos.:	-4

Participation in District and Central Council Events – A branch which truly wishes to retain members should support its District, the District special events and Central Council programs. The vibrant branch should also adopt projects to aid the parish and worthwhile charities. Programs of this nature should not be substituted for District and Central Council programs, but should be in addition to these programs.



San Francisco Italian Heritage Parade

(This is the complete article and photos from the Heritage Parade as submitted by the Heritage Committee.)

Denise Antonowicz Heritage Committee

On the hottest weekend in San Francisco history (or so it seemed), a group of intrepid builders, designers, candy distributors and a “chicken” all joined together to show the parade viewers how to have fun.

On October 11, 2014 on Pier 54 in San Francisco, Jim & Mary Ann Friebe, Marco & Diane Galeazzi, Dante Galeazzi, Michelle & Denise Antonowicz, Franklyn Lopes, Jr., Rose Jarrett, and Jo-Ann Maggiora Donovan built and decorated the “Trattoria Gallina.” We all pitched in and created our moving restaurant. As an added bonus we were able to watch the Blue Angels practice their maneuvers for Sunday’s show.

At 8:30am on Sunday, October 12, we moved the float to our parade position, #51 out of 85 parade entries. The Chicken Suit (left on Pier 54) never made the parade despite the valiant efforts of Michelle Antonowicz (and a special thanks to Officer Flores, SFPD, for not giving her a ticket for driving past the barricades). By parade time the temperature soared to 90 degrees so Marie (our Chicken) danced the 2.5 hours with shorts and a T-shirt that read, “Italian

Chicks are the Best!”

Special thanks also to Germaine Antonowicz and Rose Jarrett who walked the parade route, handing out our Grazie mints with information on the Italian Catholic Federation attached to them. When the 2,500 mints were passed out (by Fisherman’s Wharf) Germaine joined the others on the float (Louise & Russ Vento, Jim Friebe our driver and Mary Ann, Marco and Diane Galeazzi, Jo-Ann Maggiora Donovan, Franklyn Lopes, Jr., Denise Antonowicz and of course, our 91 year old Chicken, Marie Stalteri Antonowicz.

It was great watching the expressions of the parade viewers faces when they heard the music (blasted out by Marco’s sound system and generator) and then they began dancing the Chicken Dance. All ages and races were up and moving, great fun for them and for us to see.

Thanks to all of you who were there to cheer us on, give us wine and encouragement as we traveled the parade route.

Remember that you too can help us show that the Italian Catholic Federation knows how to have fun. See you all next year Saturday, October 10, 2015 at 10:00am on Pier 54 in San Francisco.

ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION HISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

David Botta and Carmen Kilcullen Past Grand Presidents

- 2004 - The first Young Adult Award was presented to Anne Interrante.
- 2004 – Family Memberships were open to include grandparents and their grandchildren.
- 2007 – Annual Convention was held for the first time in Arizona.
- 2007 - Monsignor Daniel Cardelli named ICF Spiritual Director.
- 2010 – First “Night of the Seminarists” event planned for April.
- 2010 – Funds to be allocated for a new program for Deaf Children under the auspices of the “Gifts of Love” Program.

- 2011 – ICF Dual Membership approved.
- 2012 – “Live to Give” program established.
- 2012 – First ICF Blood Drive held at the Reno Convention.
- 2013 – CC votes (June) on accepting the Strategic Plan for the ICF as proposed by the Denner Group.
- 2013 – Awards Committee established.
- 2014 – Four separate districts in Los Angeles area are combined to form the Los Angeles Archdiocese District.
- 2014 – June: 90th Anniversary Galas held in Chicago, San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Branching Out

by Anne Interrante
CC Member, Public Relations
Committee Member



Branching Out is a series that will focus on successful ideas shared by our branches. If you would like to find out more details about a particular idea, you can find the branch contact info at www.icf.org.

Branch 145, Eureka, California hosts an annual “Hot Cocoa with Santa” event to bring all parishioners together to celebrate the Christmas season.

After the Sunday morning Mass, everyone is invited to the fully decorated parish hall where branch members have provided fresh baked goods, potluck breakfast items and hot cocoa for all to enjoy. The finale is the visit from Santa who gives a small token gift to each child present.

An Italian heritage table is also set up so that guests can learn more about the ICF programs, as well as view photo albums, books, and other information on Italy.

What a great way to build community in your parish and show how the ICF is an organization that is family-oriented.

Branch 442, Pleasant Hill, California strives to be Visible in their Parish Community by supporting other ministries and participating in church activities such as the annual Spring Festival. They hosted a game booth where one could win a salami – which turned out to be the most popular booth at the festival. Of course information on their branch was available to all who visited.

A grass roots “word of mouth” effort by members to friends and family has successfully attracted many new people. Many members invite guests to meetings, which always include a social function. Guests are recognized and made to feel truly welcome and included.

Branch 442 just celebrated its first year as a branch and hosted a very successful Italian dinner to raise money for its charities. In addition to 100 members attending, there were more than 175 guests as well - all due to the outreach of branch members. In the end, it comes down to its members being the best resource!

NOVEMBER CALENDAR WINNERS

DAY	NAME	BR	CITY	WINS
11/1	Irene Androlowicz	12	Napa, CA	\$50
11/2	Barbara Levey		Merced, CA	\$50
11/3	Pauline Cardoza	14	Rodeo, CA	\$30
11/4	Tom Kingshill		Belmont, CA	\$30
11/5	Vincenzo Veneziano	111	Montebello, CA	\$30
11/6	Janet Shenker		Stevensville, MI	\$30
11/7	John Tucciarone		Aurora, CO	\$30
11/8	Louis M. Cordich, Jr.	28	Gilroy, CA	\$30
11/9	Janice & Gary Brown		Morgan Hill, CA	\$30
11/10	Ramona Ruiz		Modesto, CA	\$50
11/11	Tony Clancy	368	San Jose, CA	\$30
11/12	Gerry Buxie	91	Alameda, CA	\$30
11/13	Shelley & Bob Kovacs		Gilroy, CA	\$50
11/14	Mary Ann Long	144	Arcata, CA	\$30
11/15	Richard De Francisci	408	San Jose, CA	\$30
11/16	Estela Robles		Lennox, CA	\$30
11/17	Joe Walsh & Janet Angel		Hercules, CA	\$30
11/18	Gene Altobella	367	Henderson, NV	\$30
11/19	Gloria Garibaldi	12	Napa, CA	\$30
11/20	Angie Bondanza		San Rafael, CA	\$30
11/21	Paul & Suzanne Peterson	442	Pleasant Hill, CA	\$30
11/22	Michele Ketcham		San Mateo, CA	\$30
11/23	Annette Elissagaray	390	Tracy, CA	\$30
11/24	Joseph & Barbara Colombana		Bakersfield, CA	\$30
11/25	Stella Canoles		Oakland, CA	\$30
11/26	Barbara Borra	327	San Carlos, CA	\$30
11/27	Fr. Joseph Dass		West Covina, CA	\$100
11/28	David Prudenciado		Daly City, CA	\$40
11/29	Erma Brogan	290	San Francisco, CA	\$30
11/30	Maria Della Santina	161	San Rafael, CA	\$30

SEE THESE FIRST ON OUR WEB SITE: ICF.ORG

Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza
Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations*

IN MEMORY OF:	DONATED BY:
Bob Bixel	Forrest and Prudence Price
Louise Cronan	Nina Malone
Hector Lizardi	Nina Malone
Nello Rossi	Officers/Members of Santa Rosa District
Josephine Lucido	The Horace "Ray" Russo Family
Nello Rossi	Officers/Members of Br. 209
Gerald Caravelli	Officers/Members of Br. 435
Nello Rossi	Robert and Beatrice Tomasello
Jerry Caravelli	Jim and Janice Jones
Nello Rossi	Officers/Members of Chicago District
Gail Lo Schiavo	The Kilcullen Family
John Cuneo	The Kilcullen Family
Jerry Caravelli	Mike and Marcie Rossi
Marie Martuccio	Mike and Marcie Rossi
Marie Martuccio	John and Donna Rossi
Nello Rossi	Joseph and Betty Allegrotti
Nello Rossi	Carolyn Cugia
Marie Martuccio	Lorraine and Mike Nunziata
Giuseppe F. Maggiora	Jo-Ann and John Maggiora-Donivan
Elvira Masi	Lawrence Masi
Nello Sam Rossi	Joan Grazzini, Paul Grazzini and Family
	and Linda Grazzini Carey and Family
	Ann Henning
Nello Rossi	Louis and Jeanette Basso
Nello and Cookie Rossi	Officers/Members of Br. 161
Robert Urban	Jim and Janice Jones
Al Tegli	Giovanni and Nancy Corsi
Jim Lomenzo	Giovanni and Nancy Corsi
"The Great" Al Tegli	Leroy and Stella Taddei
Albert Tegli	Romolo and Lorraine Iavarone
Robert Urban	Juliana Locatelli-Boccone
Nello Rossi	Officers/Members of Central Council
Mary Elizabeth Ghiorso	Mr. Steve Crisafi
Mary E. Ghiorso	Giovanni and Nancy Corsi
Don Grant	John and Donna Rossi
Richard Cortese	Officers/Members of Central Council
Armandina Centurioni	
GET WELL WISHES:	
John Rizza	Nina Malone
Teresa Helfand	Robert and Theresa Dianda
Teresa Helfand	Jane Dianda
Kathy Acquistapace	Leroy and Stella Taddei
Rena Fazzini	Officers/Members of Br. 290
Rev. Monsignor Joseph Milani	Joan and Jerry Delfino
Rev. Monsignor Joseph Milani	Mike and Marcie Rossi
Rose Frankina	Mike and Marcie Rossi
Louise Isola	Officers/Members of Br. 290
Joe Smith	Officers/Members of Br. 290
Frank Basuino	Giovanni and Nancy Corsi
IN HONOR OF:	
Dcn. Tom Boyle, Br. 6 Chaplain	Officers/Members of Br. 6
HAPPY BIRTHDAY:	
Bob Dianda, K.S.G.	Leonard and Karen Rossi

*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.

Grand President
continued from page 1

As I look forward to 2015 I'm so excited to be able to serve you, our members, to the best of my ability while spending time with you at your Bishops' Days and Installations as we all bring the good works of the ICF to everyone we come in contact with.

I ran across a wonderful quote from John Powell who said, "God sends each person into this world with a special message to deliver, with a special song to sing for others, with a special act of love to bestow. No one else can speak your message, or sign your song or offer your act of love."

So with this quote in mind, let each one of us go into the new year using our talents that the good Lord has given us.

Take your special message and deliver it to your community and make it a better place for everyone!

I wish all of you a Blessed Holiday season filled with Peace, Hope and Joy!

God Bless you and your families!

Buon Natale e Buon Capo D'Anno a Tutti!!

Fraternally Yours;

Bob Basuino

Life Is Sweet...
So Come Celebrate It With Us!

Annual Thalassemia Christmas Party
Saturday, December 13, 2014, 6:00-9:00pm
UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland
Outpatient Center Atrium
744 Fifty Second St. Oakland, CA 94609
Lunch, Games, Arts & Crafts
And a special visit from Santa Claus

Please RSVP by December 5 to
Laurice Levine, Thalassemia Outreach
510-428-3885, ext. 5427 or
LLevine@mail.cho.org



Gifts of Love Donations

Donations received by November 10, 2014	
Bob and Joann Bianchi	Mr. and Mrs. Joseph J. Sangiacomo
In memory of Anne Guerin	In memory of Albert Teglia
The Horace "Ray" Russo Family	Jo Bertolucci and Family and The Kyle Kelley Family
In memory of Josephine Lucido	In memory of Al Tegli
Officers/Members of Br. 191	Mrs. Lorraine Leveroni and Family
In memory of Josephine Silva	In memory of Mr. Albert Teglia
Mr. and Mrs. Adolfo Del Carlo	Marianne Petroni
In memory of Emilio Mangini	In memory of Al Tegli
Eva Stern	Bob and Elaine Osorio
In memory of Gerald Caravelli	In memory of Al Tegli
Bob and Elaine Osorio	Mrs. Joanna C. Van Blaricom
In memory of Gerald Caravelli	Blessed Christmas wishes for Sher and Jack Allison
Romolo and Lorraine Iavarone	Officers/Members of Br. 236
Get well wishes for Kathy Acquistapace	In memory of Al Tegli
Marlene Farber	Nina Malone
Get well wishes for Kathy Acquistapace	In memory of Albert Teglia
Officers/Members of Br. 161	Natalie Malone
Thinking of you wishes for Kathy Acquistapace	In memory of Albert Teglia
Officers/Members of Br. 5	John and Dorene Campanile
In memory of Dorothy Dias	In memory of Albert Teglia
Officers/Members of Central Council	Diana Petrolino
In memory of Albert Teglia	In memory of Albert Teglia
Robert, Theresa and Jane Dianda	Forrest and Prudence Price
In memory of Albert Teglia	In memory of Al Tegli
Donna, Steve and Jackie Barnes	Anonymous Donation
In memory of Al Tegli	In memory of Al Tegli
Joan and Jerry Delfino	Barbara Firpo
In memory of Al Tegli	In memory of Al Tegli
The Kilcullen Family	Roselynn Jarrett
In memory of Albert Teglia	In memory of Al Tegli
Bob and Kathy Acquistapace	Anthony and Lillian La Pres
In memory of Al Tegli	In memory of Marie Martuccio
Nettie Descalso-Del Nero and Tom Pollicita	Rosalie Campisi
In memory of Al Tegli	In memory of Nello Rossi
John and Donna Rossi	Rosalie Campisi
In memory of Al Tegli	Get well wishes for Harold Fuentes
Officers/Members of Br. 163	Antoinette Franchieri
In memory of Albert Teglia	In memory of Albert M. Teglia
Mike and Marcie Rossi	
In memory of Albert Teglia	

Live to Give

90 Units for 90 Years

Jane Dianda
Committee Chairperson
Past Grand President

As Chairperson of this Committee, it was my goal to hopefully reach 90 units in celebration of the 90th Anniversary of the Federation. Thanks to all who have donated blood at our last 3 Conventions we came very close with 76 units donated. Thanks to the great efforts of Branch 13, Martinez, we have surpassed my goal of 90 units.

A huge thank you to Branch 13 for all their time, energy and efforts hosting a blood drive that yielded 32 units of blood, the most collected at a single blood drive to date. I speak on behalf of Laurice Levine when I say that we were thrilled with your success, and thank you all from the bottom of our hearts.

Your effort brings the total units of blood donated since the beginning of this committee three years ago to 108 units of



Branch 13 President Tom Cook is interviewed by the Blood Drive of the Pacific's nurse before donation.

blood.

As you can see by the pictures, hosting a blood drive in your parish is not only a great way to help the Cooley's patients at Children's Hospital Oakland, it is also a great way to promote the ICF and to involve your parish and community in an ICF sponsored event.

Please speak to your branch and consider hosting a blood drive at your parish. Laurice, the Live to Give Committee, and I are available to consult and help.

Remember, with interest comes new members and a brighter future for your branch and the ICF.

Once again, thank you to Branch 13, and thanks to all of you for your support of this crucial program.



ICF Branch 13 President Tom Cook in the processing of donating blood at the Annual Blood Drive at St. Catherine of Siena Parish in association with CHO and Blood Centers of the Pacific.



Branch 13 President Tom Cook with Children's Hospital Oakland's Mint Bhetraratana greeting donors as they arrive for collection.

Cooley's Corner

Dr. Elliott Vichinsky, Laurice and Matt Levine, the Cooley's Anemia (Thalassemia) Staff, and most especially the patients and families in our care, at UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland, would like to wish the Members of the Italian Catholic Federation a Joyous Christmas Season. May 2015 be a year of good health, genuine happiness, and peace. Thank you for your continued commitment to the



thalassemia community, your generosity, and your friendship.

Cooley's Anemia Donations

Donations received by November 10, 2014
Charles P. Gullo, Jr.
In memory of Yano Sortino

Gifts of Love Gratitude

The Season for Thanksgiving and Gifts

Pat Mages
Committee Chairperson

seat for our van... to allow him more independence and involvement in the community."

We are officially in the seasons of gift giving and thanksgiving. So, of course, I'm making the usual request to add the Gifts of Love Program to your list. With one donation you will double the gift; first to that special someone in your life and secondly to someone with special needs; one gift for at least two people.

I would like to try something different. Since this is also a time of thanksgiving, I want to share a few of the thank you notes the Program has received from the award recipients. Receiving the letters from the recipients are inspiring and validating. Here are some excerpts from the letters we have received in the past year.

"Thank you for your contribution of our son's Hoist... we know we will be able to keep him with us in our home longer."

"Thank you. Your generosity will allow him (son) the opportunity for a new Bruno

"I am grateful to the Italian Catholic Federation for giving me \$500 to help me pay some of the cost of my medical bills... because you helped me I was able to buy books and supplies for the (upcoming) semester."

"Thank you so much for the money for the bed I so desperately needed, it is a true miracle of love what you are doing."

Thank you for your generous gifts to others and yes, these are miracles of love. Your donations have improved many lives. A special remembrance of one of the 'founders' of the Gifts of Love, Al Teglia; his legacy will live on through the Gifts of Love Program.

A Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.



CC Grand Trustee Rose Jarrett with the blood drive's give-away bags.



BOOK REVIEW

Vince Piro
Branch 39, Merced

Caterina’s Journey: An Italian-American Immigration Story
Maryann Pisano
March, 2014
3 Sisters Publishing

Am I small? Io sono piccola?
Philipp Winterberg
February, 2014
Philipp Winterberg Publishing

Say What Now about Italy
D. R. Tara
May, 2014
Global Village Publications

This year’s annual review of children’s books includes a story of a young girl’s journey to America from Italy and a bilingual Italian-English story about a young girl who feels she is too small. Both books are beautifully told and illustrated and should make fine Christmas gifts for your young children or grandchildren.

Caterina’s Journey: An Italian-American Immigration Story by Maryann Pisano is the story of Caterina Tolitano and her family as they journey to America from Calabria, Italy. Caterina’s father, Antonio, believes that in America the streets are paved with gold, so he moves his family across the ocean to the United States in search of opportunity. In America, life doesn’t get easier. Focusing on Caterina’s experiences, the book illustrates the various challenges that Caterina must overcome in the United States. In her new school, Caterina at first isn’t welcomed by her American teacher and classmates. She struggles to communicate with them, but she is determined to learn her English and make friends. In the end, Caterina comes to appreciate and fit into her new country. This story does a great job of focusing on Caterina’s experiences and reminds us all of the difficulties and rewards of the life of an immigrant. The illustrations by Jennise Conley help the story come alive with their clear and sensitive portrayal of the Caterina’s experiences.

Maryann Pisano is an author and journalist who published her first novel at the age of 15. She is a freelance reporter for several publications. Pisano is the founder of an online lifestyle magazine entitled Emme Magazine. She has interviewed a wide range of fascinating people from Olympic gold medalists, reality stars, authors, directors, and actors. For the future, she hopes to pen more books about her grandparents and the Italian-American experience. Pisano graduated from Dominican University in 2010 with a degree in journalism and a minor in

English.
Caterina’s Journey is published in paperback by My Three Sisters Publishing (March 6, 2014).

For those who wish to teach their children or grandchildren some Italian, there is Am I small? Io sono piccola?, a bilingual children’s picture book in English and Italian, written by Philipp Winterberg and illustrated by Nadja Wichmann.

This story is about Tamia, a young girl, who is “very small.” She begins to ask a series of creatures, some imaginative and others more realistic, if she is small. Depending on their size, they answer her in various ways. She is piccolina, piccolissima, minuscolo or she is grande, grandissima or enorme. In the end, Tamia comes to realize that she is “just right!” The illustrations are full of whimsical and enchanting details that a child - and adult - will enjoy and that will reward multiple readings. It is also available in other bilingual editions.

Philipp B. Winterberg M.A. studied Communication Science, Psychology and Law in Münster (Germany), lives in Berlin and loves being multifarious: he went parachuting in Namibia, meditated in Thailand, and swam with sharks and stingrays in Fiji and Polynesia. His apps have been downloaded from the internet millions of times. His books introduce new perspectives on essential themes like friendship, mindfulness and happiness. They are read in languages and countries all over the globe.

Am I small? Io sono piccola? is published by Philipp Winterberg (February 6, 2014) and distributed by Amazon Digital Services, Inc. It is available both as a paperback and an e-book.

Say What Now about Italy by D. R. Tara is a book for middle school and older children. Two children, Allie and Brandon, are told by their mother that they would be spending summer on their grandparents farm in Georgia. However, they are extremely unhappy and do not look forward to their summer vacation. They do not want to spend their summer milking cows, feeding chickens, and doing other various farm chores.

Once on the farm, they find out that Grandma Powers has something special for them to do. She actually takes them on a trip to Italy through some very unorthodox means. In Italy, they visit a church made of human bones, a tower that seems like it’s about to turn over and re-live the famous Pinocchio story all in one day. Allie, Brandon and Grandma Powers explore some of the country’s most interesting and memorable locations in this imaginative and creative look at Italy.

The story is illustrated with a series of photographs that will capture your child’s interest.

Say What Now about Italy is published by Global Village Publications (May 24, 2014) and distributed by Amazon Digital Services. It is available as an e-book for your tablet or Kindle.



La Celebrazione di Gioventu --
The Celebration of Youth
Merry Christmas!

Submitted by Roselynne Jarrett
Grand Treasurer



Joy to the World

S	H	R	R	Y	M	G	Z	S	B	Z	S	D
L	H	T	R	I	B	H	T	B	Z	E	G	T
E	H	S	C	M	G	A	J	A	J	S	N	H
M	Z	Y	A	L	R	A	J	D	M	N	I	R
A	O	R	T	L	U	E	M	V	I	E	S	E
C	Y	H	W	I	S	E	M	E	N	C	S	E
E	J	Y	P	U	V	T	K	N	F	N	E	K
L	P	E	S	E	R	I	K	T	A	I	L	I
C	W	D	M	E	S	B	T	P	N	K	B	N
A	L	E	G	N	A	O	L	A	T	N	A	G
R	H	N	N	S	T	X	J	Z	N	A	T	S
I	A	R	E	J	O	I	C	E	M	R	S	J
M	B	E	T	H	L	E	H	E	M	F	X	S

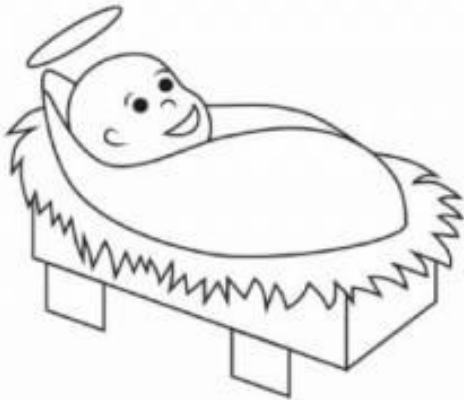
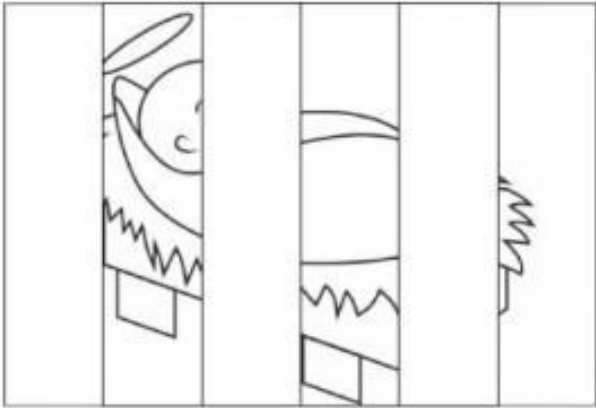
ADVENT
ANGEL
BETHLEHEM
BIRTH
BLESSINGS
CAMELS
FRANKINCENSE

INFANT
JESUS
JOSEPH
MAGI
MANGER
MARY
MIRACLE

MYRRH
NATIVITY
REJOICE
STABLE
STAR
THREE KINGS
WISE MEN



Can you complete the picture of Baby Jesus by copying the missing parts from the picture below?



Continuing Our Good Works

Apostolic Committee

As we begin this Christmas season with thoughts of family and togetherness, let us be ever mindful of the needs of the poor and destitute in our communities. For many, the Christmas season is a time of loss, grief, sadness and despair. What can we do to help? Our first priority is to help our fellow man by reaching out with prayer and services to help them cope during this time.

Our goal as an apostolic and charitable organization is to spread the Good News and live the words of the Gospel by loving our neighbor. During the coming year, the Apostolic and Charity committee will be urging you to engage in activities that spread this word.

Our committee extends our gratitude to you in advance for all the time and money you and your branches and districts spend to help promote our faith and charity. Not only will we be urging you to reach out to your communities, but also to your pastors and the bishops in your diocese. We cannot stress enough the importance of the support of your pastor. Please take the time to reach out to him and explain the role of the ICF in the parish community. Members of our committee are ready and willing to help visit your branch or district to aid in improved communication where needed.

We look forward to helping you support

and promote all our charitable programs, including, but not limited to, Cooley's Anemia research, the Gifts of Love program, the Providenza fund and Scholarships. Please help your parish and communities with food drives, St. Joseph's Day tables and other events that will spread our faith and giving. Support your pastors and chaplains with a special event just for them, or hosting quarterly communions or nights of recollections.

We are certain that with the progress and implementation of the strategic plan, we will grow in strength and numbers, thereby being better able to support and promote our charities. Please appoint an apostolic chairperson in your districts and branches who can act as a liaison to your pastors, bishops and community at large. We also urge you to contact any of us on the committee if you have questions or needs in which we can assist you. We should all be proud of the work we do, and together we can accomplish much.

God's blessings on all of you this Christmas season and throughout the year.

Franklyn Lopes Jr., Chairman

Msr. Daniel Cardelli

Nina Malone

Jim Jones

Lisa Crudo

Seminarian Spotlight

continued from page 1

this way, but it's not all classroom work. Some of the hardest moments come during prayer when I have to ask, "ok, I just learned some theology, now how do I incorporate that into my life?"

What are your goals once you are ordained? Where would you like to serve God? What are you most looking forward to doing once ordained?

This question is great because the seminarian is somewhat trained to always put a big "IF" in front, or "God Willing" because we don't know if we will get ordained. That being said, IF it happens, there really is only one goal: help people encounter God, to receive his love and love Him in return. If that is accomplished then everything else is icing on the cake. It's idealistic, but it's true. So, that's what I am most looking forward to; being a part of this encounter in people's lives, being invited into those really personal moments, to share their joys, and hopefully help them through their pains.

What is the one thing people don't know about life in a seminary?

Life in the seminary is tough, not just academically, but interpersonally. It is hard living with the same 100 people everyday, and sometime you just want to get away. Seminarians aren't saints. Some of the best men I've ever met are here at the seminary right now, but we all are struggling with something. No one is worthy of this call to priesthood, and so that can wear on you a little when everyone is trying to do their best, and we see each other fall short. But we get back up. Most of the time people see us after we've picked ourselves up from something, not noticing that we go through tough times just like everyone else.

What is your favorite thing to do away from the seminary?

In the past year I picked up golf with a fellow seminarian. Although I am not very good, it's become a fun outing every once in a while. I love the San Francisco Giants and live theater. And of course, spending time with the people of God, in their churches and their homes, collaborating in ministry or sharing a meal.

In Loving Memory

Report Date: 11/12/2014

DOROTHY A DIAS Branch 005
HENRY (HANK) NORMAN Branch 019

ALBERT TEGLIA Branch 019
JOHN CUNEO Branch 052
GAIL LO SCHIAVO Branch 052
MARIE A MARTUCCIO Branch 391

Benvenuti Membri Nuovi

Report Date: 11/12/2014

REV PAUL J MC CARTHY Branch 012
DENNIS D BRESCIA Branch 014
ROXANNE BRESCIA Branch 014
DENISE CANEPA Branch 014
JOHN W GOTELLI Branch 014
SHIRLEY A GOTELLI Branch 014
NORMA FONTANA Branch 027
RONALD J AIELLO Branch 036
CHRISTINA ALIOTTI Branch 036
VINCE F ALIOTTI Branch 036
JOE L BROWN Branch 036
DIANNE H DOYLE Branch 036
KEN G MARSHALL Branch 103
MADELINE FASSETT Branch 127
ROBERT FASSETT Branch 127
AUSTIN D'AMBRA Branch 173
DENISE D'AMBRA Branch 173
ISABELLA D'AMBRA Branch 173
JULIAN D'AMBRA Branch 173
MICHAEL D'AMBRA Branch 173
MAGALY RODRIGUEZ Branch 173
DONNA RUIZ Branch 173
MARILYN J BECK Branch 227
ANGIE MOZZANI Branch 229
FRED MOZZANI Branch 229
JOANN M DIANDA Branch 343
RICHARD J DIANDA Branch 343

MARGE PERATA Branch 343
AIDAN SACCO Branch 351
BENJAMIN SACCO Branch 351
JOSEPH SACCO Branch 351
MARY SACCO Branch 351
MICHAEL SACCO Branch 351
DANIEL ROSETTE Branch 374
KEITH ROSETTE Branch 374
LUKE ROSETTE Branch 374
PAUL ROSETTE Branch 374
THERESA ROSETTE Branch 374
DONALD A O'ROURKE Branch 380
PATRICIA E O'ROURKE Branch 380
ANITA PASQUINELLI Branch 391
SHARON PASQUINELLI Branch 391
JOE BURG Branch 392
FILOMENA DI FRANCO Branch 392
VERA BRYAN Branch 417
CONCEPCION J YOUNG Branch 425
RICHARD A YOUNG Branch 425
JENNIFER J CIRELLI Branch 442
JOSEPH S CIRELLI Branch 442
NICHOLAS D CIRELLI Branch 442
VINCE J CIRELLI Branch 442
COLETTE COTE Branch 442
DOMINIC COTE Branch 442
JULIETTE COTE Branch 442
TIM COTE Branch 442
SILVANA S FABLE Branch 442

Scholarship Donations

Donations received by November 10, 2014.

Scholarship Donations - 1st Year

Robert and Theresa Dianda
In memory of Melvin Rapozo
Robert, Theresa and Jane Dianda
Get well wishes for Kathy Acquistapace

Marlene Farber
In remembrance of the sick and deceased members of Br. 161
Ed and Jo Bertaccini
In memory of Jerry Caravelli
Giulia Gallego
In memory of Jerry Caravelli
Ken, Sharon, Lisa and Jessica De Luna
In memory of Marie Martuccio



Italian Catholic Federation

Cruise 2015

Sailing: Fri. 5/22/2015 - Mon 6/1/2015

Ports of call: San Francisco, Tracy Arm, Haines, Juneau, Ketchikan, Victoria, San Francisco



on board the beautiful Golden Princess

Call today. It's not too late!!




Final payment due March 15, 2015

New Lower prices

~~Interior cabins start at \$1,444 per person (double occupancy)~~

~~Ocean view Cabins start at \$1,794 per person~~

~~Balcony cabins start at \$2,500 per person~~

~~Suite \$2,794.00 per person~~

prices include port charges and taxes

Inside Cabin	Ocean View	Balcony	Mini Suite
call for prices	From	From	From
925-997-5922	\$1,343.00 pp	\$1,893.00 pp	\$2,193.00 pp

The Golden Princess is one of the most innovative cruise ships sailing today. With it's glass elevators, tasteful decor and central location, the lobby boasts a convenient reception desk, comfy chairs for listening to live music and an inviting bar perfectly suited for people-watching. Enjoy a slice of Italy in Sabatini's Trattoria, the perfect place to enjoy a classic Italian meal. Get a taste of Santa Fe at The Painted Desert, the first southwestern style restaurant at sea. It features everything from Margaritas to tacos for you to enjoy.

Contact: Julie Graham

Julie@CruisePlannersCA.com 925-997-5922

<http://www.grahamsgetaways.com/rw/cruise/3627>

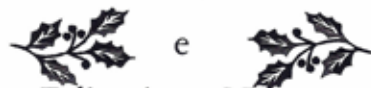
ITALIAN CATHOLIC
FEDERATION
RENO BRANCH 135
AUGURI A TUTTI
PER UN NATALE BENEDETTO
E
UN FELICE E SANO 2015
BEST WISHES FOR A BLESSED
CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY AND HEALTHY
2015



*Augurando a tutti un grande
Buon Natale
E
Felice Anno Nuovo
Da
The Officers and Members of
St. Elizabeth
I.C.F. Br. 258*



We at Branch #28
wish everyone in the
Italian Catholic Federation
Buon Natale
e
Felice Anno Nuovo



Buon Natale



Wishing all our
wonderful ICF
family and friends
a very Blessed and
Merry Christmas!

Much Love,
Officers and members
of Branch #343
Castro Valley

**St. Francis Borgia, Br. 392
Chicago, IL**

Happy 90th Anniversary to the
Italian Catholic
Federation.



Best Wishes
from
Central
Council
Member
Teresa
Helfand.



*Merry Christmas and wishing you
a Happy and Prosperous
New Year!
The Pappani Family*



Wishing Peace and
Blessings for All
at Christmas and
the New Year.
St. Michael, Br. 209
Sebastopol

Wishing you happy
holiday-times to cherish and re-
member throughout the year.
Buon Natale and Buon Anno.
Officers and Members
of Branch 391
St. Martin of Tours,
San Jose, CA



*The Todos Santos Branch #214
Concord, Ca.*

*Which includes the surrounding churches:
St. Agnes, St. Bonaventure,
St. Francis of Assisi and Queen of All Saints*



*Wish you all a
Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!*

Wishing You a
Blessed Christmas
and a
Happy New Year!



Branch 432, Immaculate Heart of Mary
Brentwood, CA

Italian Catholic Federation - Branch No. 428
FOURTEENTH ANNUAL

**CELEBRAZIONE
NATALE**

Tuesday December 16, 2014

6 PM Cocktails 7 PM Dinner

Mel and Faye's Banquet Room

31 State Highway 49/88
Jackson, California

Prime Rib or Salmon @ \$30 with No Host Bar
No tickets sold at the door

HOPE YOU CAN CELEBRATE WITH US

This function is open to both members and guests

Questions or Reservations: Call Alba Arosio (209) 223-0622



Wishing you Peace, Love
and Joy for the
holiday
season and
in 2015.

Deborah Rodondi,
CC Grand Secretary



Merry Christmas
and Happy
New Year
from Officers
& Members of
Branch 130,
Redwood City, CA



Christ's Blessings
to each of you.
A Merry
Christmas!
Jim & Janice Jones



Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year to
all of my friends!
Diana Petrolino



The Italian Catholic
Federation Office Staff

Wish all members a
very Blessed Christmas
and
a Healthy and Happy
New Year!



Christ the King Branch 442 in
Pleasant Hill wishes you all a Merry
Christmas and a Happy New Year

Tanti auguri per un Buon Natale
e Felice Anno Nuovo da vostri
amici nel Gruppo 442 della
Federazione.



*Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year from the Officers and Members of the
Santa Clara Valley District*

Br. 4	Holy Cross	San Jose	Br. 186	St. Nicholas	Los Altos
Br. 5	St. Clares	Santa Clara	Br. 191	St. Frances Cabrini	San Jose
Br. 28	St. Mary	Bitoy	Br. 368	Santa Teresa	San Jose
Br. 47	St. Joseph	Mountain View	Br. 391	St. Martin	San Jose
Br. 184	St. Mary	Los Gatos	Br. 408	Resurrection	Sunnyvale
			Br. 435	St. Catherine's	Morgan Hill

*Dear Brothers and Sisters
of the I.C.F.:*

*Our wish for a very
Merry Christmas and a
Happy, Healthy New Year.*

Larry and Elise Marsalli



Buon Natale
e Buon Capo
D'Anno a
Tutti! We
are still here,
thank God. Come up
for a visit.
All are welcome.
The Officers and
Members of ICF
Branch 18, St. Rose,
Santa Rosa



**THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS
OF MONTEREY BR. #36
WISH YOU
A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A
HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR**



Officers and Members of
Branch 6

Wish all a Merry
Christmas and
Happy New Year!

**May the miracle of this holy season
bring peace and love to all !**



**From the Officers and Members of
St. Frances Cabrini
Branch 191, San Jose**

*From Our Family to Yours, May the Spirit of Christmas which is Peace, the
Gladness of Christmas which is Hope and the
Essence of Christmas which is Love,
be with you this Holiday Season.*



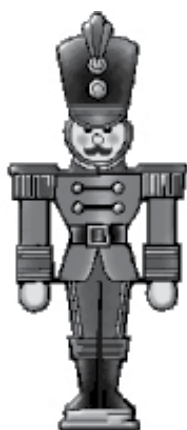
Jane Dianda
Past Grand President



Sir Robert & Theresa Dianda
Life Member Emeritus of C.C.



THE
OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF
BRANCH 403
WISH EVERYONE
BUON NATALE
AND
BUON ANNO.



Best Wishes for
A Merry Christmas and
A Happy New Year.
From the Officers and
Members
of Branch 213
St. Augustine,
So. San Francisco, CA



*The Officers & Members of
St. Frances Cabrini
Branch 191 Wish
everyone a
MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR!*



*Branch 218
would like
to wish
everyone a*

*Merry
Christmas and
Happy New Year.*



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!
 BUON NATALE E UN FELICISSIMO BUON
 ANNO NUOVO!
 FELIZ NAVIDAD!
 FROM
 OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF BRANCH 290
 CORPUS CHRISTI, SAN FRANCISCO



Buon Natale & Felice Capo D'Anno

Franklyn Lopes, Jr.

CC Grand Trustee, Branch 227, Capitola



Buon Natale



The Beauty of the
 Christmas season can
 remind us of all
 the beauty in life that we
 take for granted.
 Our family, our friends
 and our faith.
 Wishing all my wonderful ICF
 family and friends a very Blessed
 and
 Merry Christmas
 Much love to you all,
 Lisa Crudo and family



The Members of
 Br. 327 of
 St. Charles
 Church in San
 Carlos, wish all a
 Happy and Holy
 Christmas Season.

Auguri Per Le Feste Natalizie Da Tucson



Fr. Eusebio
 Kino,
 Branch 433
 Tucson,
 Arizona



Buon Natale

*...Oggi,
 nella cilla di Davide,
 è nato un Salvatore,
 proprio il Messia,
 il Signore...*

*Buon Natale from the Officers
 and Members of
 Branch. 184 -
 St. Mary's Los Gatos*



Merry Christmas and
a Happy New Year
to all of our families
and friends.

May the birth of
Christ fill your hearts
with love and may the
New Year bring you
good fortune
and good health.

Members of Branch 39
Merced, California

Buon Natale

MERRY
CHRISTMAS



Happy
New Year

*The Stockton District would like to give thanks to
God for the gifts of family, friendship, and love.*

Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year!



San Mateo
District

*Buon Natale e
Felice Capo D'Anno.
Branch 154, St. Raymond's,
Richmond*



*Merry
Christmas to
all our ICF
family and
friends.
Vince and
Robyn
Piro*



Sonia Alioto

Italian Estates & Inheritances
Proprietà ed Eredità

UPDATE TITLE TO FAMILY
PROPERTY IN ITALY

Find Unclaimed Property

www.italianlaw.net
(415) 382-6171

From My Family to Yours!
May you have a Christmas filled with love and joy and
a New Year filled with peace and good health.
Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo!
Bob Basuino and Family



Buon Natale
e auguri
Per un
felice,
prospero New Year
From the Officers
and Members
of Novato,
Branch 332

Merry Christmas

Stockton Branch 395
Church of the Presentation
Wishes everyone a joyous
Christmas season.



Buon Natale



Wishing
Everyone
a Merry
Christmas
and Happy
New Year!!
From ICF Branch 439,
Our Lady
Mother of the Church



Happy
Holidays!

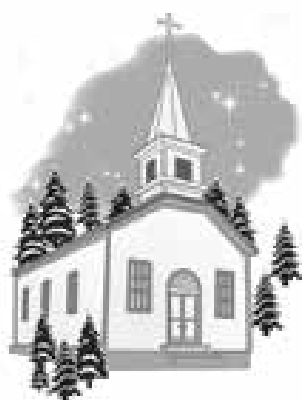
From
The
Fuentes
Family

**BUON NATALE
MERRY CHRISTMAS**

**FROM THE MEMBERS
OF SAN GIUSEPPE**



**BRANCH #12
NAPA**

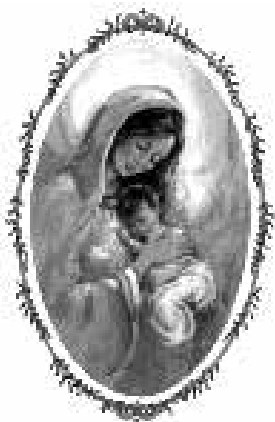


Seasons Greetings
From
The
Officers and
Members of
Br. 19, San Vincenzo
De Paoli, Colma, CA



Buon Natale e
Felice Capo D'Anno
from the Officers
and Members of
San Carlo,
Branch 14, Crockett

TANTI AUGURI DAI CUORI
DI TUTTI I MEMBRI DELLA
SESSION 163, SAN MATEO, PER
UN BUON NATALE ED UN CAPO
D'ANNO SANA E FELICE.



We wish you every
happiness for a
Holy Christmas
and for the New
Year.

Buon Natale E
Capo Di Anno
From the Officers and
Members of Branch 7,
Sacro Cuore

Wishing all members of the
Italian Catholic Federation
a Buon Natale and a Felice
Capo d'Anno!

May you have
a Christmas
filled with Love
and Joy and a
New Year filled
with Peace and
Good Fortune.

From the Officers and
Members of Santo Stefano,
Br. 50, San Francisco



Happiness is An ICF Workshop

Robert Acquistapace
Workshop Committee
Past Grand President

The members of the ICF in San Diego, Los Angeles, and in Hollister came away from their workshops with a smile and a better knowledge of the Federation. The topics covered included a historical background of the ICF; an in-depth look at branch and Federation finances; and a look at officer responsibilities in their branch.

The workshops not only cover topics requested by the branch or the district, but those attending can see Central Council members in person and ask them direct questions. Those of us who give workshops will either give an answer to your

questions or take them with us and get an answer back to you.

We all know that getting and retaining leaders in a branch is not easy. The Strategic Plan calls for developing leadership over the next three years. As a result the workshop committee and the Task Force committee will join forces to present efficient and meaningful workshops to branches and districts.

Every area should look to schedule workshops in March, April, May or June. These workshops are not an option, they are a MUST.

Contact Dante Galeazzi or Leonard Zasoski, Jr. to get the date which works for you.

AN ICF WORKSHOP CAN MAKE YOU HAPPY TOO!

Letters to the Editor:

Dear ICF Brothers and Sisters,

Thank you for all the cards, donations and especially prayers on my behalf.

I had breast cancer surgery on Oct. 16 and my doctor assures me it was a complete success. I will have to follow up with continuous medication, but that will be no problem.

God bless and love,

Kathy Acquistapace

Children's Hospital Gift Giving

Every year the Thalassemia program at Children's Hospital Oakland has a Christmas party for approximately 200 patients and families (and gifts are also distributed in the hospital and clinics for children who cannot attend the party). Please consider helping us for the holidays by making a donation or running a toy drive.

Due to hospital policy, fire hazard, and the prevention of infectious disease, we ask that all donations be brand new and that you please adhere to the following guidelines:

Suggested donation items:

- ☐ Infant Toys: mobiles, musical toys, rattles, teethers
- ☐ Books for all ages – hard cover preferred
- ☐ Board Games for all ages: Life, Monopoly, Clue, Sorry, Trouble, Candyland, Chess/Checkers, Uno, Chutes and Ladders, Simon, Trivial Pursuit, Jenga, Taboo, Hi Ho Cheerio, Operation, Scrabble
- ☐ Barbies, baby dolls
- ☐ Hand held video games
- ☐ Portable CD and DVD Players
- ☐ Sports equipment
- ☐ Gift cards to: Target, I-Tunes, Gap, Old Navy, Forever 21, Barnes and Noble, Movie Theater Passes, Starbucks, Peet's Coffee, Jamba Juice, See's Candies
- ☐ Make up kits and nail polish
- ☐ Jewelry

- ☐ Art supplies including pens, crayons, coloring books, paper, glitter pens, gel pens

- ☐ Art kits/craft sets
- ☐ PlayDoh and modeling clay
- ☐ Toy cars, match box cars
- ☐ Model airplanes
- ☐ Lego sets
- ☐ Action figures
- ☐ Brio Trains

☐ We are doing a Teen Chapter Book and a Scissor (child size) drive for the Painted Turtle Camp – where many of our thalassemia patients go for a week during the summer. They lost their books during the fire and do not have many teen books.

We are unable to accept the following:

- ☐ Ceramic dolls
- ☐ Clothing of any type
- ☐ Used baby blankets
- ☐ Used toys and games – including board games and puzzles
- ☐ Used books
- ☐ VHS videos

If you would like to make a donation please contact:

Laurice Levine at 510-428-3885 x5427 or LLevine@mail.cho.org

Thank you in advance for your generosity and support!!!

Your donation is tax deductible:

Federal Tax ID Number:

Tax ID: 94-1657474

Chicago

Calumet City

St. Victor, Br. 195

Our Church Hall is undergoing some major ceiling repairs; thus it was necessary to move our meeting to the lower level of our rectory.

Following a quick business meeting, we announced our Christmas Party at Lorenzetti’s. Reservations can be made at the November Meeting at a non-refundable cost of \$10 to members; Guests \$30 - with lots of surprises plus \$100 raffle for members already participating in 50/50 Monthly Meeting Raffle Ticket Holders. Tickets for the \$100 will not be sold at the Christmas Party on December 7, Lorenzetti’s ---Doors Open at 12 Noon. Turkey Raffle was held, after which we turned meeting over to (member) Tony DeFilippo, Our Pharmaceutical Specialist. He presented an interesting program on Monitoring Your Diabetes. His program presented Part One of a two Part Program on the effect of Nutrition, Diet, Exercise and Medications in controlling Diabetes. It was Excellent and well received by our members. Part Two will be presented at our November Meeting. On a sad note, our beloved Cecilia Kawalski, is retiring to Casa San Carlo in Northlake, Illinois, where her sister, Sr. Elizabeth resides. She intends to continue her 195 membership to keep in touch with us. A luncheon is being held on Saturday, November 22 at the American Legion Post 330 at 1 P.M. Please pray for the return to good health of Dr. Michael Koller.

Also keep in your prayers a successful completion of our Parish Transformation Process with our good friends at Our Lady of Knock Parish. Pray for our brave Veterans. We wish a blessed Thanks giving to all.

God Bless,

Jo Merlo

River Forest

St. Vincent Ferre, Br. 358

2014 is just about over and we wonder where did the year go. We look over our accomplishments and failures, and hope to have learned from them to make 2015 an even better year. Our branch does not have meetings in December and January, but the officers will be busy making plans to increase membership to keep the Federation moving forward. Jesus and our members, Marilyn Marine and Michael Fiorito will be enjoying their December birthdays. I close out the year with this thought -- ‘True happiness is to enjoy the present, without anxious dependence on the future; not to amuse ourselves with hopes or fears but to rest, satisfied with what we have, which is sufficient, for he that is so, wants nothing’.

ACHristmasGreeting

Christmas comes to us once more, a time of love and glory,

We’ll soon meet our Savior King, the start of life’s great story.

Long ago in Bethlehem, looking for a place to stay.

Joseph and his spouse were seen trudging, weary from their day.

Joseph stopped along the way, seeking shelter for the pair,

Mary, ready for the birth of her long-awaited heir.

They finally found a stable, as they journeyed on their way,

There, Mary bore the Infant, placed Him on a bed of hay.

Shining down was a bright star, God’s wel-

come to His Son,

The redeemer of the world, who’ll help us all-yes, everyone.

So, on this very special day, I wish you all God’s best,

May your hearts be filled with love, and you loved ones all be blest’.

Leonora

Des Plaines

St. Zachary, Br. 441

The Spaghetti and Meatball Luncheon held at St. Zachary on Sunday, October 19th was a great success. Members and parishioners attended the luncheon. Chairman, Florinda Partipilo, and many volunteers made this event very successful. A huge thank you goes out to the cooks and helpers in the kitchen -- they did a tremendous job. Unique Gift Baskets containing wine, food, candy and items from regional parts of Italy and Sicily were raffled. An informative video coordinated by Paolo Palmas greeted the people as they entered and a table featuring pictures of different regions was available for viewing.

Our Christmas Party is scheduled for Saturday, December 13th, in the Life Center at St. Zachary. All members and their families will attend as well as clubs and societies of the parish. We look forward to a great evening of food and fun as the featured entertainment for the evening will be an Elvis Impersonator. Buon Natale to all the Branches throughout the country.

Ciao!

Fresno

Madera

Santissimo Crocifisso, Br. 27

The October meeting was a Halloween themed event with witches, bats and pumpkins filled with candy at every table. A delicious dinner of spaghetti and meatballs, salad, bread and dessert was enjoyed by all who attended. Thanks to the chairmen Nancy and Dan Prosperi, and the committee: Ada Cavallero, Gary Cavallero, Carol and Jim Espinola, J.B. and Camille Overstreet, Jeff Dal Cerro, Mary Dal Cerro and John O’Meara. Welcome to our new member Dan Prosperi. Elections were held and the new officers are Elsie Bottorff, President; Ray Chiarelli, 1st Vice President; Jim Cavallero, 2nd vice president; Cari Beveridge, recording secretary; Kerin Cavallero, corresponding secretary; Carol Espinola, treasurer/financial secretary; Ila Schoettler, orator; Gary Cavallero, Sentinel; Jim Espinola, trustee; Frances Hope, trustee; Louise Chiarelli, trustee and Mabel Willmon, District Deputy. Congratulations everyone! Members attended the Bishop’s Burse at St. Mary’s Church in Sanger on the 12th. It was a wonderful day and the congregation at St. Mary’s did a fantastic job and served a delicious lunch. Please continue to pray for our ill and injured members.

Ciao,

Kerin Cavallero

Fresno

Our Lady of Victory, Br. 32

The newly elected officers of Br. 32 are: Claire Pisching, President; George Pisching, 1st Vice President; 2nd Vice Presidents working as a team, Monica Vivenzi and Ashli Quirarte; Patricia Vivenzi, Treasurer; Elaine Lencioni, Financial Secretary; Evelyn Nieto, Corresponding Secretary; Yvonne Saldubehere, Eleanor Andreotti, and Martha Acuna, Trustees; Beverly Follett, Sentinel;

and Dorie Sabbatini, Orator. Congratulations to these fine members as we look forward to a great year.

With the absence of our fabulous chef, members brought their own delicious food specialties for a potluck dinner before our meeting in October. Afterwards, there was a Halloween costume contest. The winners were: Richard Romagnoli and his friend, Elaine, and Elaine Lencioni. Each received a movie pass. Honorable Mention goes to Ceci Bispo.

We lost another very dear member, Terri Osuna. Terri always attended our quarterly communions and purchased items from our bake sales. We will truly miss Terri. May she rest in peace. Get well prayers go out to Virginia DePasquale, Bryant and Evelyn Nieto, Peggy Barbato, and Beverly Follett. Our condolences are also sent to Larry Scott on the recent loss of his brother.

Br. 32 wishes everyone a very Merry Christmas. Remember, Jesus is the reason for the season. Peace to all.

Merced

St. Cecelia, Br. 39

We had a wonderful Thanksgiving celebration on Nov. 12 with many of our parishioners and students from UC Merced in attendance. The meal of turkey, handmade mashed potatoes and vegetables was delicious; thank you to everyone who helped prepare and serve the meal. It was a true community event. We also elected officers for 2015. Congratulations to everyone elected and thank you for your willingness to serve. More details will follow in our branch newsletter. On December 14th, we will hold our annual Children’s Christmas party in conjunction with the Italo-American lodge. It will be held at 2 PM at the lodge. You’ll want the bring your children and grandchildren to sing Christmas carols and visit with Santa.

On a sad note, our beloved member Tom Pollicita passed away on Nov. 14. He was loved by all who knew him and will be missed by family and friends.

Clovis

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Br. 250

Our Annual November Chicken & Spaghetti was quite a success. Thanks to all the cooks, waiters and staff. A special thanks to those family members and friends who came to give us a hand. Our proceeds go to scholarships, Seminary Burse, Cooley’s Anemia, the Holy Cross Crisis Center and several other charities. We thank everyone who attended and hope to see you all next year.

Fr. Robert had a great time scuba diving in Hawaii in August and survived hurricane Iselle. So glad to have you back safe and sound, Father.

Loretta Benedetti is home from a stay in the hospital and recovering nicely; Ernie Dalton is home now after having had surgery; and Beverly Travis just spent a few days in the hospital. Please pray for their quick and complete recovery and for all others who are ill.

New member, Carol Rice, went to Portland, Oregon to visit family. She was back to help with our dinner in November.

Angelo and LeAnne Lavagnino visited their son, Peter, in Lake Stevens, Washington. Angelo’s sister, Irene Simoni, who is a member of Branch 144, Arcata, California accompanied them.

Vincent Rodriguez celebrated his 8th birthday with us in September. He brought a delicious birthday cake to share. Thank you, Vincent.

Birthday greetings go out to Michael Quiroz (12/9), Carol Rice (12/29), Isabel Ronzano (12/14), and Glory Spatafore.

“Peace on earth will come to stay, when we live Christmas every day.” (Helen Steiner Rice)

Have blessed Christmas, Everyone!

Ciao!

LeAnne Lavagnino

Bakersfield

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Br. 281

With the completion of the election of officers, our branch looks forward to a great new year of philanthropy, friendship, and fun. Congratulations to all the newly elected and continuing officers.

It’s officially the holiday season, a favorite time for Branch 281’s members. On November 13th, we had our annual Turkey Bingo meeting which was very successful. Members enjoyed a delicious Italian meal followed by bingo, where several lucky members won prizes such as turkeys, pies, and money! Now it’s time to look forward to our yearly Christmas Party. On December 13th, all members are invited to bring their families for a night of food, music, raffles, and activities for children of every age (even those who are only children at heart!). Dinner will be provided at a nominal charge, but please bring an appetizer to share. Also, remember when RSVP-ing to provide the names and ages of children under the age of 12 that will be attending so they can receive a personalized gift from Santa! Last year’s Christmas Party was a great evening of entertainment and camaraderie, and we look forward to another successful event.

Finally, with the New Year approaching, it’s the perfect time to purchase your 2015 ICF Calendars, “Italian Recipes Through the Year: Celebrating Holidays & Traditions.” The calendars make great gifts, and the profits from their sales help keep our dues manageable! Contact BG Zasoski at 872-8725 to purchase one. Happy Holidays!

Baci e abbracci,

Kristen Watts

Fresno

St. Anthony of Padua, Br. 308

It’s that time of the year when everyone’s attention is being placed on planning or traveling to family gatherings.

The last few months have been very busy at St. Anthony de Padua. Can you believe we are almost at the end of the year?

Carolyn Romersa, Susan Mencarini, Antoinette and Angelo Pecora were among some of the members from St. Anthony de Padua’s Branch 308 attending the Bishop’s Seminary Burse hosted by St. Mary’s Church in Sanger. Every year at this time is when the valley branches present a monetary gift to the Bishop to help defray costs for the Seminarrians.

We had our Sausage Sandwich Sale at the end of October and on November 8 & 9 after the masses. Many thanks to all the volunteers who helped either making them or selling all of them.

Our 2015 Calendars are now on sale, if you wish reserve or buy one please see or call Susan.

We had our nominations and elections of Officers for 2015 in October. The new slate of officers are:

President--Antoinette Pecora, 1st Vice-President--Pat Faragia, 2nd Vice President--Jay Newsome, Corresponding Secretary -- Carolyn Romersa, Recording Secretary -- Maria

E. Juarez~Garcia, Treasurer/Financial Secretary -- Susan Mencarini, Orator -- Angelo Pecora, Sentinel -- Alex J. Garcia, Trustees -- Larry Pricolo, Bernie Squeo and Tim Solipasso.

On November 12, members enjoyed a traditional turkey dinner with all the delicious trimmings which all our wonderful cooks provided. The turkeys were prepared by Dennis Grillone, Antoinette Pecora and Tom Ryno.

Many of our members look forward to our last event of the year, which is our annual branch's Christmas Party on December 10 at Pardini's. Please bring an unwrapped toy for a sick child at the Children's hospital. Please make your reservations in advance by signing up or calling Antoinette.

Celebrating November birthdays were Susan Mencarini (Nov. 3), Jeff D. Pardun (Nov. 9), Nikki E. Di Cicco (Nov. 11), Monsignor Robert Wenzinger (Nov. 10), Anna Harguindeguy (Nov. 14), Ruth Galembo (Nov. 15), Genevieve Ochinerio (Nov. 16), Juan Mata (Nov. 18), Yvonne M. Mattrocce (Nov. 18), Beatrice Collier (Nov. 19), Maria J. Pricolo (Nov. 20), Russell Renna (Nov. 20), and Kaye Licciardello (Nov. 22).

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers those members who are ill during this time of the year especially for Jim Watson, Genevieve Ochinerio, Rosita E. Villegas, Carlotta Alvarez, Leonard Garber and Carolyn Romersa.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all of you and your families.

Maria E. Juarez~Garcia

Recording Secretary

Fresno

Holy Spirit, Br. 417

Sanger hosted the Bishop Dinner for our Fresno District and did a great job preparing and cleaning up the hall. A special thanks goes to the very helpful enthusiastic confirmation students who helped plate, serve and clean up.

Branch 417 prepared and cooked the main course of roasted salmon, pasta in a garlic cream sauce with sun dried tomatoes, grilled chicken and mushrooms.

Fourteen members of 417 attended. The cooking group also helped to clean up the kitchen. This dinner was the first time that Fresno district had more than one branch hosting an event. All went very smoothly. It was great to work together.

Sacred Heart did a great job with the raffle. Lady of Victory created tasty individual plates of appetizers. Merced started the dinner with a great salad and finished the dinner with a lovely tiramisu.

Merced also stayed to help clean up the

Save The Dates:

- December 7, 2014 - Annual Mother Cabrini Mass, Pilgrimage and Luncheon at Saint Francis Xavier Church in Burbank. Call 626 372-7812 for more information.

- January 11, 2014 - Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library Open House at Saint Francis Xavier Church at 3801 Scott Road in Burbank from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm hosted by the Villa Cabrini Alumni Association. ICF Mother Cabrini Chapel Committee meeting from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm in the Chapel Library. Call 626 372-7812 for more information.

- February 8, 2015 - ICF LAADC Installation at Saint Francis Xavier Catholic Church located at 3801 Scott Road in Burbank, CA. Call 626 372-7812 for more information.

kitchen. Bravo to all.

Bishop Ochoa stayed and thanked the cooking crew wearing an Italian cap. He also took pictures with the confirmation students, which we knew was a bonus to them to be recognized and appreciated.

Our branch Christmas party will be Sunday December 14th at 1 -5PM at the DeRienzo new residence at 3169 Poe Avenue Clovis. More information and directions will be sent by email to members or by contacting the Derienzos.

Ciao and Merry Christmas,

Pat Duncan

Los Angeles

Archdiocese District

Los Angeles Region

The LAADC wishes all ICF Members a very Merry Christmas and

Happy New Year!

On November 22, 2014 the Los Angeles Archdiocese District held its elections at the District's General Meeting in the Parish Hall of Our Lady of the Assumption in Claremont. The General Meeting was hosted by Branch 319. Thank you Regional VP William Mussatto and Branch 319 for hosting this event. Congratulations also to the newly elected 2015 LAADC Board on a prosperous and successful new year.

Thank you ICF Members, families and friends for your support of the ICF and its related events. Prayers go out to those Members and parishioners who have gone to their eternal reward and to the sick members, family, friends and Community Members for a speedy recovery and especially to those who recently passed to their eternal reward.

Please remember our brothers and sisters of our armed services in your prayers to keep them out of harm's way.

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

Carmelo Sabatella, President

Email: cas1810@aol.com

South Pasadena

Holy Family, Br. 108

Merry Christmas and a very Happy and Healthy New Year to all!

On November 9, 2014 Branch Members enjoyed the ICF LAADC Bishop Day and Chaplain's Recognition Luncheon at St. John's Seminary in Camarillo. Former Holy Family Clergy member Father Leon Hutton welcomed ICF Members and was very happy ICF joined Seminarians at St John's Seminary for this wonderful event.

Congratulations to the newly elected 2015 Board of Branch 108 who were elected to office on November 2nd!

Congratulations also to the winners of the Branch Bocce Practice Tournament (Team 1 - Rita, Tony Matazzaro, Kathy Crimo and



Branch 108 members after mass.



Members of Branch 108 celebrating Thanksgiving.



Congratulations also to the winners of the Branch Bocce Practice Tournament (Team 1 - Rita, Tony Matazzaro, Kathy Crimo and Gina Osti) and to Members who celebrated their October and November Birthdays (Carmelo Sabatella, Ryan Fielding, Quinto Bianchi, Ernie Anderson, Santo Plescia) and Wedding Anniversaries (Carmelo and Linda Sabatella, John and Adriana Maggiora) with members.

Gina Osti) and to Members who celebrated their October and November Birthdays (Carmelo Sabatella, Ryan Fielding, Quinto Bianchi, Ernie Anderson, Santo Plescia) and Wedding Anniversaries (Carmelo and Linda Sabatella, John and Adriana Maggiora) with members.

Parishioners are encouraged to join ICF Members at the next Mother Cabrini Mass, pilgrimage and luncheon scheduled for December 7, 2014 at Saint Francis Xavier Catholic Church, 3801 Scott Road in Burbank. Mass starts at 12:30 pm in the Parish Church followed by a roasry pilgrimage to the Chapel and Benediction and over to the Parish Hall for lunch. Call 626 372-7812 to RSVP and/or more information.

Thank you President Michele Silveri and Branch 108 Staff for making the ICF Booth on October 11th and 12th a success again this year. All Sausage Sandwiches, Pasta and Cannoli's were sold out by end of day Sunday!

SAVE THE DATES:

- January 11, 2014 - Branch Bocce Practice Tournament (1:00 pm to 2:30 pm), Lunch Social and General Meeting (3:00 pm to 5:00 pm) in the Parish Hall.

Thank you ICF Members, families and friends for your support of the ICF and its related events. Prayers go out to those Members and parishioners who have gone to their eternal reward and to the sick members, family, friends and Parishioners for a speedy recovery.

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

Carmelo Sabatella, Past President

ICF Branch 108 Email: cas1810@aol.com

Montebello

St. Benedict, Br. 111

We held nominations and elections for our 2015 Branch Officers at our October 9, 2014 General Meeting & Columbus Holiday Dinner, and after a few nominations to change some officers were not accepted, the members re-elected the entire board, and all the existing officers agreed to continue their position for 2015. Congratulations to all the re-elected officer's for 2015 and Best Wishes for a successful and rewarding 2015.

Due to some electronic mistakes we missed our October Bollettino article, so we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our members who celebrated their Birthday during the month of September: Elizabeth DeLorenzo, David Melendrez, Rose Licari, Giuseppina Sorce, Esperanza Chavez, and Leonardo A. Salomone; Congratulations to our members who celebrated their Birthday during the Month of October: Lina Canzonieri, Crocetta Salomone, Jeannine Vieni, and



Branch 111 celebrating September birthdays.



Members of Branch 111 at the District Bishop's Day.

Gus Contreras; Congratulations to our members who celebrated their Birthday during the Month of November: Rene Mata, David Estrada, Giselda Arenas, Thomas Enrico, & Patrino Pizzorno; and finally, Congratulations to our members who will celebrate their Birthday during the Month of December: Armando Arenas, Mario Mauro, Sal Franco, Domenica Orofino, David Tarazon, and Yanira Vanegas. May all your wishes come true, and may God Bless all of you, with good health, joy, and happiness. Buon Compleanno a tutti!

15 of our members attended this year's Bishop Banquet and Chaplain Recognition Mass & Luncheon held on November 9th at the beautiful St. John's Seminary in Camarillo. It was a wonderful event, approximately 65 seminarians joined us at the 10:30 a.m. mass, concelebrated by Bishop Gerald E. Wilkerson, Monsignor Marc V. Trudeau (Rector/President of St. John's Seminary), Reverend Leon Hutton, Director of Human Formations and Evaluations at St. John's Seminary, and others. After mass there was a delicious luncheon at spacious Seminary Dining Hall and we enjoyed meeting and getting to know several wonderful seminarians which sat with us during the lunch.

Our next event is the St. Francis Xavier Cabrini Pilgrimage in Burbank, on Sunday, December 7th with mass at 12:30 p.m., followed by a procession to the Shrine, adoration to the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction; followed by a luncheon buffet at the Parish Hall. Hope many of you will join us this year.

Our Branch Christmas Party is scheduled for Saturday, December 13th at 6:00 p.m. at the St. Benedict Parish Hall. Come and join us for a delicious Italian buffet dinner, dancing & holiday cheer. We will have a DJ play great music, a choir will sing popular Christmas Carols, and a special visitor from the North Pole will be coming with gifts for the kids. The event is free to Branch members, \$20 for guests, \$12 for children under 12, and free for children under 3. Any questions or to RSVP please call me at (323) 888-2074.

Best Wishes to everyone for a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy, and Prosperous New Year! Tanti Auguri per un Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo a tutti!

We pray for our sick members and those in need; keep them in our thoughts and prayers. I leave you with a quote from Pope Francis "Let us learn from Christ how to pray, to forgive, to sow peace, and to be near those in need".

A Presto!

San Pedro

St. John Joseph of the Cross, Br. 115

How fast this year has blown by! Our branch is busier than ever!



Celebrating October birthdays at Branch 111.

Our Christian Care Brunch on Nov 2nd was a huge success. Thanks to Neal DiLeva, Isidoro Amalfitano, Ciro Lauro, and Frank Colonna for all their hard work and to all the members who supported this worthy cause.

On Nov 9th 16 of our members attended the Bishop's Day Mass and luncheon. We were able to spend time getting to know our Adopt a Seminarian Ian Hagan who our branch supports. Our branch donated \$600.00 to the seminary burse. A wonderful time was had by all.

Our Relay for Life fundraiser sponsored by our branch was a huge success. \$1000.00 was raised and will be donated to The American Cancer Society. Thank you to all members who help us raise these funds.

Fun was had by all who attended our Holiday party on Dec 6th. New officers for 2015 were introduced. The new officers are President Neal DiLeva, 1st VP Ana DiLeva, 2nd VP Frank Colonna, Recording Secretary Nancy Ventimiglia, Correspondence Secretary Nancy Donato, Financial Secretary Pauline Iacono, Treasurer Anita Gioiello Trujillo, Sentinel Mary Cigliano, Trustees Frank



(L-R) San Pedro Branch 115 President Neal Di Leva, Los Angeles City Councilman Joe Buscaino and First V.P. Anna Di Leva at the Italian Heritage Month Celebration at the Los Angeles City Hall on October 17, 2024.



San Pedro Branch 115 along with other branches of the Los Angeles District participated at the Bishop Day at the Saint John Seminary in Camarillo. Checks were presented to Bishop Wilkerson of a total sum of \$10,650 to St. John Seminary.



San Pedro Branch 115 at the Bishop Day at St. John Seminary in Camarillo with the Branch 115 adopted seminarian Ian Hagan (third from left).

Amalfitano, Stefano Finazzo, Gloria Russo, Nicolina Mattera, and Robert Hohman. Orator is Carmela Gioiello. Congratulations to all.

On Dec 9th our branch traveled to Burbank for the annual St. Francis Xavier Cabrini pilgrimage. Mass was followed by procession to the Shrine and benediction. A delicious lunch followed the procession. What a wonderful way to honor our Patron Saint and mother of all immigrants.

Our first general meeting of the New Year will be on Jan 15th at 7:30pm. Start the New Year by attending our meetings.

Our branch's annual Las Vegas trip will be held on Jan 26 - 28th. We will be staying at the Golden Nugget Hotel. \$135.00 per person double occupancy \$185.00 single occupancy. Please call Pauline (310 832 0563) for reservations.

Save the Date March 7th St. Giovan Giuseppe Crab Dinner

Please keep all our sick and deceased members in your prayers

Anita Gioiello Trujillo Treasurer



(L-R) San Pedro Branch 115 Ciro Lauro, Frank Colonna, Isidoro Amalfitano and Branch President Neal Di Leva getting ready to cook and serve potatoes with sausages and eggs at the Christian Care Brunch on November 2, 2014 at Mary Star of the Sea Church. All proceeds from the various societies cooking food will benefit the Christian Care Program for the poor.



Branch 237 President Connie and husband Don enjoying a turn on the dance floor also Jennet and Richard Roberts and Mike Murphy table sponsors.



Corresponding Secretary, Sherene De la Motte
Treasurer, Joe Vinci
Financial Secretary, Don Monteleone
Orator, Phyllis Harb
Sentinel, David Capurso
Trustee, Fiora Marcucci Murphy
Trustee, Paula Clinnin
Trustee, Connie Hockens

Branch Deputy is Carmello Sabatella, President of the Los Angeles Archdiocese District Council and member of Branch 108 in South Pasadena.

Six happy members of our branch bused to Camarillo to St. John Seminary to attend a Bishops’ Day Mass presided by Los Angeles Regional Auxiliary Bishop Gerald Wilkinson. Afterward, a delicious lunch was served in the seminary dining room to members of eighteen ICF Los Angeles branches and the sixty-five current seminarians. Attending from branch 374 were, Al and Diane Restivo, Fiora Murphy, Mary Wynton, Alice McCormick, and Christine Wheeler.

Our Christmas Party will be on Tuesday, December 16, our regular meeting date. There will be festive potluck dinners and music provided by Joe Celoni.

Al Restivo
Branch 374 President and
First Vice President, Los Angeles Region



Branch 374 Members attend Bishop's Mass. Pictured at the fountain of the Seminary are, Left to right: Christine Wheeler, Mary Wynton, Fiora Murphy, Branch President Al Restivo, Diane Restivo, Alice McCormick. Photo by Neal De Leva

San Gabriel Valley

Arcadia

Holy Angels, Br. 218

We recently had our potluck Thanksgiving feast. It was a delicious dinner cooked by the members.

Congratulations to the new Board.

President- Jo Anne Howell

1st Vice- President John Curley

2nd Vice- President Frank Berardi

Treasure/Financial Secretary- Karen Berradi

Recording Secretary- Lolli Magnoli

Corresponding Secretary - Jeane Bernabei

Orator- Kreig Keeler

Trustees - Al Bernabi, Kerri DiMichina, Jerry Farrugia, Scott Carrano

Sentinal - Larry Roviarno

At the November meeting the branch put together toiletry packages for over 100 homeless for the Brothers of Mother Theresa’s Missionary Sister and Brothers of Charity. A special thank you to Jerry Farrugia for organizing and making us aware of this need and to the members who donated funds to purchase these items.

Upcoming Events:

Branch and their Families Christmas Party.

Our 2nd annual New York New Years Eve Party

Blessings,

Kerri DiMichina

Heritage Chair

Diamond Bar

St. Denis, Br. 317

12/7th - Mother Cabrini Pilgrimage

12/7th - ICF donut Sunday

12/19 - ICF – Christmas Party and meeting

Our annual Breakfast with Santa will take place the weekend after the Thanksgiving Holiday.

All proceeds are donated to St. Denis Christmas baskets ministries involved. ICF Women’s Council and Knights of Columbus will do the cooking. Thank you everyone who donated, participated and gave their time for this successful event.

On 12/7th The Mother Cabrini Pilgrimage will place at St. Francis Cabrini Church in Burbank at the 12:30 PM Mass followed by a wonderful luncheon . Details in the newsletter.

Our ICF Christmas party and general meeting will take place on 12/19th. Since Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass and dinner is scheduled on 12/12th. ICF members and St Denis Community will join in the celebration.

Merry Christmas and have a very Happy New Year. Thank you members for a wonderful year of ICF spirit and fundraising effort.

God Bless,

Roxanne Perry

President

Temple City

St. Luke, Br. 326

Merry Christmas to all of our members!

Our Annual Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner was held on November 16th. Everyone had a good time sharing in the deliciously prepared food by ICF members. The cost was \$5.00 per person which was donated to St. Vincent de Paul. Members also brought nonperishable food items for the St. Luke Pantry.

Our Christmas Party will take place on December 14th in the hall at 1:00 p.m. There will be a short meeting beginning at 1:30 p.m. and dinner at 2:00 p.m. The menu will be antipasto salad; ham; pasta and meatballs; mashed potatoes and gravy; vegetables; rolls; apple pie and ice cream. The cost will be: Members: \$13.00, Guests - \$15.00 and children 11 & up - \$13.00, 4 to 10 \$6.00, and 0 to 3 – free. We will again be giving gifts to “Friends of Foster Children.” Bring unwrapped toys, games or gift cards and no name tags or ages on packages.

Please continue to keep all of our ill members in your prayers, especially: Anne Dandrea, Roberta Nangelo, Josephine Basile, Mary Jacobs, Eva Arrighi, Pat Buccola, Joanne

Gardena

St. Anthony of Padua, Br. 237

Dear Members,

Well I can no longer say I never won the calendar raffle. Last week I got a surprise check in the mail. So thanks to mom for the Christmas Gift! Don’t forget to buy yours and you too can win!!!

Our 45th Annual Columbus Day Dinner Dance was a great opportunity for all to enjoy the celebration of the 50th year of the Spaghetti Western. We all learned several square and line dances. This event funds our many charities including the Thanksgiving Baskets and scholarships! Thanks to all who supported us with our annual fundraiser.

December 14th is our annual Christmas Mass and Party. Santa is looking forward to meeting all the little ones and we will have a special birthday celebration for the new born King.

Speaking of birthdays, happy day to Scott Naso, November and Gennifer Bohannon December.

Buon Natale

Respectfully submitted,

Micheal Roa

La Cañada Flintridge

St. Bede the Venerable, Br. 374

At our last meeting we were privileged to have Laurice Levine, spokesperson for the Thalassemia Foundation, who traveled from Seattle, to tell us about the horrors of Cooley’s Anemia and the hope for a cure from the work being done by researchers at Children’s Hospital in Oakland, California with the help of generous donations from ICF branches all over the country.

The members of branch 374 elected new officers and a new board of directors for 2015.

The newly elected will take office on January 1, 2015 and will be installed in a gala event in Burbank in February.

President, Mark Mannarelli

First Vice President, Ron Baisley

Second Vice President, Al Restivo

Recording Secretary, Mary Wynton



Members of Branch 380 at the recent Bishop's Day.

Miller, Herminia Saez, and Ann Primising. And, let's not forget to pray for our deceased members.

As we remember the baby Jesus, may peace and love fill our hearts during the holidays.

"...May the happiness and joy of Christmastide invade the souls of all; upon good people the whole world wide I pray the blessings of the Lord befall. May the happiness of the Christmas holiday endure throughout the year. May you all enjoy, I hope and pray, good friends good health, and good cheer." (Joseph Ferrara)

God Bless,

Jo Anne Disney

Santa Barbara/ Ventura

Thousand Oaks

St. Paschal Baylon, Br. 380

Our Branch had an wonderful time at Bishop's Day this year, which was held at St. John's Seminary in Camarillo. A delicious lunch was served and a tour of the Seminary was given. Thanks to Pat Mages for organizing a wonderful event this year.

Our November meeting was as a fun evening of Crafts for the kids. A delicious turkey dinner was served.

We are looking forward to our family Christmas party which is to be held on Sunday December 21, in the St. Paschal Baylon Parish hall. Please come and enjoy some holiday fun and some great food.

2015 Officer Installation will be held on Sunday, February 8, at St. Francis Xavier Church in Burbank, Mass is at 10:30. Installation and Lunch follow. All officers (adult and youth) from all branches in the Los Angeles District.

Ciao,

Jean Fontana Bridges

Corresponding Secretary

Monterey

Santa Cruz

Holy Cross, Br. 21

It's the Christmas Season once again....time to enjoy family, friends, and savor memories of past Christmas celebrations. We at Branch 21 will be having our annual Christmas Dinner Dance on December 5th. As usual, there will be good food and good music for dancing. Be sure to bring the children and grandchildren because Santa and Mrs. Claus are expected guests! Reservations can be made with Rosa Radicchi and Norma Wilson.

Then, before you know it, we will be moving into Year 2015; and for next year, Branch 21 has completed elections of Board Members. The new lineup for 2015 will be: President, Richard Puccinelli; 1st Vice President, Richard Vote; Second Vice President, Eugene Ghio; Secretary, Patty Morelli; Treasurer, Rosa Radicchi; Financial Secretary, Norma Wilson; Sentinel, Madeline Crews; Orator, Valerie Vote; Trustees, Mary Jo Belli, Cindi Schuette, and Larry Tartalino; and Branch Deputy, Vicki Howell. We want to thank our retiring President of the past two years, Roseann Costabile, who did such a wonderful job managing our branch...it's many affairs and its crazy Italians.

We will continue into the New Year with more celebrations and fund-raisers. On March 15th, our Branch has the honor of hosting the District Meeting so stay tuned. At this time, we want to thank all the members and their friends who have helped support our ICF get together; without you all, we could not do all that we do....and, it wouldn't be as much fun. So thank you one and all.

Our next meeting will be on January 6th, 2015 at Holy Cross Hall. In closing, Norman Vincent Peale once said: "Christmas waves a magic wand over this world, and behold, everything is softer and more beautiful." May your Christmas be Magical and Beautiful.

Patty Morelli

Secretary Branch 21



The wonderful volunteers for Branch 21's ICF's 90th Anniversary.



ICF 90th Anniversary Celebration: Branch 21 Nonagenarians (90 years and older): Seated: Left to Right: Marie Medina, Aurelia Bozzo, Virginia Stagnaro, Ezzio Mazzei, Dina Vaggoli, Lena Silva, Erma Delbesio, Rosalie Campisi, Standing: Left to Right: Josephine Pista, Lina Gemignani, Lido Marietti, Ermino Orlando, Giovanna Orlando, Paul Quilici.

Salinas

Nostra Signora Del Sasso, Br. 25

The Polenta Luncheon November 12 was a big success, thanks to help from so many members, and also from John Cailotto, Frank Cedillo and Chuck DeBord. It was well attended, and there were many happy customers according to comments received.

Our Christmas Party is scheduled for December 14, 2014, and it's an event you won't want to miss. Julie and Joe are wonderful hosts, and it is always a pleasure to start the Christmas Holiday season in their home. If all we had were the decorations alone, it would be a highlight of the season; however, we get so much more with good food and good friends. The branch will supply the meat and potatoes and all are asked to bring hoer d oeuvres and/or desserts.

Julie Richards and Rita Dominy participated in Bishop's Day in Capitola and were very impressed with the whole affair. Capitola can be proud of the day they provided.

Our branch will tentatively host the next Installation at Sacred Heart Church on February 28th. More on this later.

There will be no meeting in December.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all our members who may be recuperating, especially Emil Mirandette. We miss you Emil.

Last year I ended the year with a prayer written by a close friend in Ohio. I think it is worth repeating.

May your Christmas be filled with family and friends, no matter near or far. May the blessings abound, and may God fill the year

ahead with more happy times than sad, more good things than bad, and more love than you can hold.

Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo.

Roy Frontani

Monterey

Santa Rosalia, Br. 36

Our Thanksgiving dinner was fabulous, our members brought plenty of food and checks for St Vincent de Paul's pantry, but the most exciting event of the evening was wishing Josephine Haidich a very happy 100th birthday.

We were honored John and Josephine chose their I.C.F. family to spend this wonderful birthday, Josephine received beautiful red roses, a crown to wear, a standing ovation and lots of love. We all love John & Josephine, they could be role models for each of us to live by.

We had election of officers for 2015, they are: President, Elizabeth Grammatico, 1st Vice, Ted Ursino, 2nd Vice, Robert Huffer, Recording Secretary, Carrie Griffin, Corresponding Secretary, Josephine Favazza, Financial Secretary, Eddie Leonard, Treasurer, JoAnn Riso, Orator, Jane Gasperson, Trustees: Turie Cavaliere, Joe LoManto, Anna Panetta, June Serrano, Sentinel, Antonia Ihnot, Branch Deputy, Jim Friebe. Great slate of officers, with the support of our members we will have another terrific and busy year.

By the time you receive your Bollettino our adult dinner dance will be over.



a PROTRAVEL INTERNATIONAL affiliate



MERANO TOURS & CRUISES

We offer the lowest fares to Italy
In economy or business class

Call Giancarlo Fadin
Giancarlo.fadin@protravelinc.com

14130 Riverside Drive suite 200
Sherman Oaks, California 91423

Toll Free 1-800-785-1944 Direct 818-455-0093 Fax 818-386-2112 x 0093



HOTEL
ACCOMMODATIONS



MEDITERRANEAN
CRUISES



CAR RENTAL



CAR RENTAL

Pierce Brothers Turner & Stevens Mortuary

❖ Pre-arrangements Available

❖ Cremations & Burial Plans ❖ Serving all Faiths

1136 E. Las Tunas Drive

Phone (626) 287-0595

Se habla Español

San Gabriel, CA 91776

Fax (626) 287-3393

FD-995



SERVICE BEYOND EXPECTATION



Because her birthday and the Branch 36 November 6th dinner meeting came on the same night our oldest member Josephine Heidich celebrated with us her 100th birthday. She was presented with a beautiful bouquet of roses.

Our Children's Christmas Party will be Sunday, December 14th. Santa will pay a visit with a toy and advent calendar for each child, there will be games and great food. Reservations had to be in by December 5th, so each child will receive a gift from Santa and we have enough food.

Our deepest sympathy to Florence Ross on the death beloved Stanley, to Lad Wilson on the death of his beautiful wife, Louise Marie, and to Sharon LoManto on the loss of her father, John Goulart Jr.

Save the date: January 22, 2015 - Thank you volunteer dinner.

Thank you to Capitola branch for hosting Bishop's Day, beautiful Mass celebrated

by Bishop Garcia, great food, company, and the hall looked elegant.

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus,

may you be adorned with His love,

graced with His peace, and filled with His presence.

Salesian Missions

Have a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year,

Bettye Sollecito

Castroville

Santa Caterina de Siena, Br. 51

Merry Christmas, Buon Natale to all!

In October we had our potluck/election/

initiation which was well attended. There was (as always) great food, good company, fun prizes and we initiated three new members. I would like to thank Julie Richards, District President, for helping with the initiation ceremony.

Wilma Cursi, Pauline Bigby and I attended the Bishop's Day in Capitola. The mass was beautiful and the luncheon that followed was fantastic. The table decorations were outstanding, (kudos to Franklyn Lopes). If you ever need someone to decorate for a special occasion he is the one to get in touch with.

Our Christmas Party is on December 9th and I know we will have delicious food and a fun gift exchange. Cindy Stefani is planning some entertainment, (maybe some little elves will show up)!!

Happy 60th Anniversary to our member Eva Mae and husband Vic Sigala. Congratulations to both of you!!

The following are Branch 51 officers for 2015:

President- Leonora Barlow

1st Vice-President- Pat Stefani

2nd Vice-President- Frank Rossi

Treasurer- Cindy Stefani

Secretary- Carmen Rossi

Orator- Alice Soliven

Sentinel- Carlo Cortopassi

Trustee- Vera Doris

Trustee- Paul Cortopassi

Trustee- Dave Pecci

Trustee- Pauline Bigby

A very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to our members that live out of our area, Gina Candiloro, Bruna Del Chairio, Virginia Frassetto, and Thelma Sbarra—we miss you.

Let's remember that Christmas begins with Christ.

Merry Christmas to our angels Anna and Samantha, we love and miss you so much.

Ciao,

Leonora Barlow

Pacific Grove

St. Angela Merici, Br. 206

Because our enchiladas, made by our awesome team led by Dolores Kaelin, are so popular, our branch decided to make them one last time to raise money to support our Monterey Diocesan Seminarians. Our President, Sarah Jane Amoroso, had mentioned that the Central Coast District, although the largest in the ICF, does not give as much money to support our Bishop and the Seminarians as other, smaller districts give. We sold out by the Noon Mass, and raised enough money to be able

to deliver a \$500 check to Bishop Garcia for the Diocesan Fund for the Seminarians at the recent Bishop's Day in Capitola. Bishop Garcia said a wonderful Mass, and he let all in attendance know what a great organization the ICF is and has been for the 90 years it has been around.

The Capitola Branch did a great job with the celebration, and we had many of the Central Council members in attendance. The Bishop made everyone's day by going from table to table and greeting everyone. Capitola deserves a big THANK YOU!! for this event. Also, a big thank you to all who helped. It is a huge endeavor and they excelled at every turn - beautiful church, wonderful hall, lots of parking and great weather!

So many of our Members are in need of your prayers, and we ask all of you to remember those who have passed away.

Pray for Peace and Rain.

Sarah Jane Amoroso, President

Marjorie McClure, Recording Secretary

Capitola

St. Joseph, Br. 227

In our message last month about Bishop's Day on October 26, we neglected to mention that Father Ignacio Martinez, Pastor of Sacred Heart in Salinas and Chaplain for Branch 25, assisted Bishop Garcia at the mass. Our apologies for the oversight.

Our November monthly meeting featured the election of officers for 2015 and a delicious turkey dinner prepared by Andy Armanino and his crew of helpers. Andy has done this for several years, and our members always look forward to the feast.

Thoughts and prayers go to William Garr who is now at Capitola Manor. He would enjoy a visit.

Dig out your red hats and snowman shirts for the annual Christmas party on December 13. The festivities start at 3:00 p.m. with our traditional Tom and Jerrys, followed by dinner at 4:00 p.m.

As we wish everyone a Merry Christmas, let us not forget Christ, the reason behind our celebration.

Deanna Musler, Secretary

Arroyo Grande

St. Patrick, Br. 291

Branch 291 members are looking forward to our Christmas luncheon at the Madonna Inn on Dec. 6th. It's always a very festive occasion with great food, wonderful fellowship, fun raffle prizes and even Santa makes an appearance! Many thanks to Joanna Van Blaricom, Kathleen Sullivan and Sylvia Nasholm for all their hard work to put on a lovely luncheon for our Branch!

We had a busy fall serving up 3 spaghetti dinner fundraisers. They were a big success and all net proceeds fund our St. Patrick Preschool, Elementary and Junior High School Registration Assistance Program.

At our October General Meeting we elected our Branch Officers for 2015. Congratulations to our new Officers – Pete Gallagher, President; Jerry Quintiliani, 1st Vice President; Sandy Quintiliani, 2nd Vice President; Keely Sanchez, Recording Secretary; John Smith, Treasurer; Abby Gallagher, Financial Secretary; Kathleen Sullivan, Orator; Rose Haupt, Sylvia Nasholm and Joanna Van Blaricom, Trustees; Ellen Bavaro, Sentinel.

Please continue to keep in prayer Sr. Carol Carter, Annette Grimaud, Dianne Clees, Stevie Hall, Jean & Emil Minicucci, Joe Slavin, Lorraine Spargo, Sonia & Jens Wagner, Delfina Zarate, Mary Ann Zogata

and all members of ICF and their families who may be experiencing pain or heartache.

A very Merry and Blessed Christmas to our ICF family!

Keely Sanchez

Recording Secretary

Paso Robles

St. Rose of Lima, Br. 354

October went by quickly for our branch. Several important activities and plans were finalized, however, priority was the submission for approval of the panel of branch officers for 2015: Fr. Roberto Vera, Chaplain; President David Zanini; 1st Vice President Karen Kudjia; 2nd Vice Present Yvonne Maddelena; Recording Secretary Mary Mazzo; Correspondence Secretary Theresa Sollazzo; Financial Secretary Lucille Olsen; Treasurer David Zanini; Orator Irma Zanini; Trustee Missy Ellworth, Muffy Banks, Evelyn Gander; Sentinel Mary Ferry; Deputy Pete Gallagher. Members enjoyed Pollo Loco with all the trimmings + margaritas, cake and apple pie.

Alice Mastagni offered to make the Thanksgiving favors for patients of the Vineyard Nursing Home. Missy Brook and Hope Ellsworth will be make Christmas tray favors. Thank you for helping to make the patients' days more pleasant.

The highlight of the October activities was, of course, the Central Coast District Bishop's Day presentation by the Capitola ICF Branch 227. Mass was celebrated by Most Reverend Bishop Richard Garcia; Fr. Paul McDonnelli, St. Joseph Branch Chaplain for Branch 227; Fr. Ignacio, Pastor Sacred Heart Church of Salinas Branch 25; and Seminarian German Rodriguez, Assistant to the Bishop. Presentation of Bishop Burse, spiritual bouquets to the Most Reverend Bishop Garcia were made by Vincent Piro, Robert Basuino, Julie Richards and Franklyn Lopes.

We congratulate President Franklyn Lopes President of Capitola Branch for a very memorable afternoon with members of the nine Central Coast Branches. Steak and Lobster dinner was exceptional as were the beautiful table arrangements and service. Thank you!

"Start by doing what is necessary, then do what is possible--suddenly you are doing the impossible." St. Francis of Assisi

Oakland East Bay

District Council

And a good time was had by all! But what else would one expect at the District Christmas party @ Buon Appetito, so well planned for us by Lisa Crudo. Grazie tante, Lisa. Now that we are into the Christmas spirit, there is still time to spread some of that cheer to those who cannot be with their families at Christmas time. I am talking about the Thal-assemia Christmas party on Dec. 13th @ UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland. There is a need for donations of all kinds, toys, clothing, games and gift cards. The children and Laurice will thank you.

Once again Fran LaTorre has taken on the planning of the District installation on Jan. 18, 2015 at the Fratellanza Club, beginning with Mass @ 3 P.M. Fran will work with Branches #215 and #223, who are hosting this event. Grazie, Fran. This is an important district happening and all should try to attend. It is an excellent time to meet your peers from other branches and enjoy a good dinner.

Looking into the future, save room for the

A Great Place to Stay in Monterey

**VOTED MONTEREY PENINSULA TRAVEL
PLANNER BEST VALUE**

Lone Oak Lodge

www.loneoaklodge.com

800-283-5663

Members of ICF Branch 36, Monterey, California

District Crab Feed in Feb., more information to follow.

And with that, I wish you all,

Buon Natale! Felice Anno Nuovo!

Alameda

Nostra Signora Delle Grazia, Br. 10

We welcomed a large group of spirited children and watchful parents and other adults to our annual Christmas Party on Friday, December 5. Monsignor O'Brien Hall in Alameda hosted the evening, which featured a visit by Santa Claus, gifts for all the youngsters and dinner by Maria (Mariani) Croft, the mother of our first vice-president, Gina Foster. Branch 10 takes pride in continuing its tradition of presenting this longstanding family-oriented event.

Our annual Polenta Dinner on Saturday, January 24 in Monsignor O'Brien Hall will open our 2015 fundraising year. The 6:00 p.m. social hour will be followed by dinner at 7:00. For reservations to this well-attended fete, please contact Branch 10 financial secretary JoAnn Dorn, (510) 701-6959. More information, including prices and the complete menu, will appear in the January Bollettino.

At our October meeting we re-elected all of our current officers for next year. They are: president, Dave Rose; first vice-president, Gina Foster; second vice-president, Peggy Lubeck; financial secretary, JoAnn Dorn; recording secretary, Jeanette Zugnoni; orator, Warren Brunetti; sentinel, Ernie Poggi; and trustees, Sharon Brunetti, Betty Lupetti and Agnes Marcheschi. John Zugnoni will return as the publicity committee. Officers will be attending the East Bay District Mass and Installation of Officers on Sunday, January 18 at the Fratellanza Club, San Pablo Avenue at 66th Street in northwest Oakland.

Branch 10 and the entire Oakland Area of the ICF lost a dear friend and valued priest with the death of Rev. Msgr. Raymond G. Breton on All Souls Day, Sunday, November 2. From 1985 to 1990 Monsignor Breton, known to most as "Father Ray," served as pastor of Saint Philip Neri-Saint Albert the Great Parish, one of the sponsoring parishes of Branch 10. He next became Chancellor of the Diocese of Oakland, a position which he held until 1998. His second and final assignment with the Diocese was as Judicial Vicar from 2000 until his retirement in 2012.

Monsignor Breton is fondly remembered by the people of the parish and often returned to Saint Philip Neri Church for special Masses. Typical of his caring for families is that he once concluded the funeral of a older woman born in France with a surprise prayer in French, the woman's beloved first language. Typical of his interest in children is that he considered it his good fortune that a Catholic

elementary school was attached to each of the four Oakland Diocese flatlands parishes to which he had been assigned as pastor or assistant pastor.

Monsignor Breton's full obituary appeared in the Oakland Tribune of Wednesday, November 5. His funeral Mass was said at Saint Philip Neri Church on Friday morning, November 7.

John Zugnoni, Publicity

(510) 523-8005

Oakland

Santa Rita, Br. 40

Merry Christmas and blessed New Year to you and your family. Wishing good health and peace in the coming year. Good news, Branch 40's bocce ball team won first prize at the Bocce Ball Tournament held at the Fratellanza Club this October. Congratulations to the team: Esemia Tabacca, Bruna Gasparo, Ida Scodella, Cathy Kapper, and Anna Alberti.

Upcoming:

December 16 -- monthly meeting

December ?? -- christmas party pending

January 20 -- monthly meeting

January installation of officers

A happy birthday to David Avery, Franca Duncan, Karen Garcia, Bruna Gasparo, Jean Inferrera, and Esemia Tabacco. God bless you all. Please remember in your prayers the sick and the convalescing members of our branch. Prayer: May the peace and love of our savior fill your heart this Christmas season.

Ciao,

M.a. Francis and L. Francis

Fremont

Corpus Christi, Br. 215

It is so hard to believe that the year 2014 is drawing to a close. We hope and pray that the year 2015 is a blessed and healthy year for the members of our wonderful branch.

Congrats to the newly reelected branch officers for the year 2015. Fran LaTorre returns as President and will be ably assisted by Genevieve Vanek as 1st VP, Claire Chiatello as Recording Secretary, Ralph Marinelli as Financial Secretary, Scott as Schiechl as Orator, Clem and Yvonne Brum with Jack Navarra as trustees! Returning as branch Sentinel is Joan Lampe. Unfortunately, Ken Chiatello was unable to continue as 2nd VP due to health issues. Thanks Ken for all your hard work. Thank you to all the branch officers for committing your time and talent. Thank you Vicky Marlar for serving as our

Sentinel during 2014.

Nadine Mattier and Vilma Romo joined President Fran at Corpus Christi Church's Ministry Fair held after all Masses during the weekend of November 8th and 9th. We enjoyed meeting the leaders of the other parish ministries. We had our best response to the ICF following the 6:00 p.m. Mass on Sunday. Thanks Nadine for providing a CD of wonderful Italian music. It definitely attracted people to our table as did Vilma's friendliness and welcoming spirit.

By the time this article will appear, our branch Christmas party would have already been held on 12/9 once again at Giorgio's Italian Restaurant in Milpitas. Jack Navarra provided accordion music to our Christmas caroling. Thanks Claire, Noelani and Jeanine for leading us and making sure we stayed on key. Best of all, our branch chaplain, Father Sergio Lopez was able to join us this year. Thanks Jack, Scott, Judy and Carolyn for making this all possible.

Please continue to keep in your prayers Dorothy Benya, Al Grasseschi, Doug Cross, Judy Schiechl and Vicky Marlar. They need our ongoing support as they face various health issues. Keep Sandy Marotta's mother in your prayers and Aric Deetz's mother, too.

Belated Happy Birthday to Sharon Culp, Pete DeLisi, Shirley DeLucchi and Nancy Smith. They all had birthdays in November. Unfortunately your humble correspondent did not get an article submitted in time for the November Bollettino. Please join me in wishing Happy December Birthday to Claire Chiatello, Vicky Marlar and Brad Senge. Belated Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary to Pete DeLisi and his wife. They celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on the night of our October meeting. Congrats also to any branch members celebrating their a wedding anniversary during the month of December. My own parents were married on 12/17/1939. Their Wedding Anniversary was always the start of my family's holiday season. This would have been their 75th Wedding Anniversary if they were still living.

To those long time members who are unable to join us at our monthly meetings due to age, please know that we think of you and miss you.

Buon Natale and Felice Anno Nuovo to all!

Respectfully submitted,

Fran LaTorre

Oakland

St. Theresa, Br. 223

Our Branch 223 Christmas Party this year will take place on December 13th in the Flex Room at St. Theresa Event Center, at 6PM, after the 5PM Mass. Cecile Cuttitta and Marlene McShane have graciously offered to chair this event for Branch #223 members. Members may bring one guest. Reservations must be made by December 7th by phoning Marlene at (510) 653-2688 or e-mailing Cecile at cecile.cuttitta@att.net.

We have come to the end of this year (our 47th)! We thank God for the many years of happy times and camaraderie we have shared at our branch and the officers who have made it a great branch.

May God help and give strength and courage to our members who are ill.

This will be my last article to appear in the Bollettino because I have retired (after 45 years) as Br. #223 Recording Secretary. I've truly enjoyed my position during these years, but it is time to say Ciao.

A Merry Christmas to all.

Buon Natale a tutti.

Yoli Moglia

Livermore

St. Filomena, Br. 285

It's been said that it is good to get a new member involved quickly in an organization. Branch 285, has put this saying in practice with our newest member, Father Leonard Marrujo, who is now our new Branch Chaplain! Father Leonard, a Parochial Vicar at CCOP in Pleasanton, was born in Alameda, has Italian in his background and has lots of enthusiasm for the ICF! Benvenuto, Father Leonard!

Our branch Mass of Remembrance took place November 21st at St. Elizabeth Seton with Father Leonard officiating. The meaningful ceremony included a table with pictures of our deceased loved ones, a red rose for each member, to be placed in a vase and beautiful music by Pat Mueller and Carolyn Cardinalli. A bountiful Thanksgiving dinner, provided by all and hosted by Carolyn and John Cardinalli, completed the evening. Thanks to all who participated.

Our Christmas Dinner was held December 3rd at the elegantly decorated Castlewood Country Club in Pleasanton. Members dressed in holiday finery were in a festive mood, from the fancy hors d'oeuvres, through the delicious dinner and dessert, to the singing of carols, which capped the evening. "Thank You" to Judy Bates who arranged the evening and took reservations.

The 4th Annual Display of Nativities from around the world, was held at St. Elizabeth Seton on December 7th. Nativities included various mediums and objects (plates, pictures, soft sculpture, etc...) "Thank you" to Phyl Buonsante, her committee, and all who helped make this heritage project a huge success.

December birthdays include: Ray Calabrese, Paul Christensen, Mary Gieri, Pauline Kirk, Patricia Mueller, Gail Rocca, Ed Sacca and Denise Miano. Buon Compleanno!

At this busy holiday season, with all the shopping, parties, etc... let us remember the precious gift of Our Lord Jesus Christ, by spending some daily time in prayer and reflection. May God bless everyone with a peace-filled, joyous and holy Christmas!

Ciao,

Mary Merucci

Castro Valley

Our Lady of Grace, Br. 343

It's the most wonderful time of the year for most of us, but some will need our help to discover this. Enter ICF members with a number of ways to enjoy the season and help others find happiness also. Our first chance is at our branch Christmas party where we bring baby clothes and baby items, for those in need, who are helped through Birthright. Our next opportunity is at the Thalassemia Christmas party at UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland. These children will be given toys, clothes, and gift cards to make their season brighter. Since Jesus is the reason for the season, any sacrifices or prayers for those not as fortunate as we are greatly needed at this time of the year.

On the business side, it is time to get together for installation of re-elected and newly elected officers. Installation will be on Jan.18,2015 at the Fratellanza Club, beginning with Mass at 3 P.M., this is a nice way to begin the year.

Wishing you all, Buon Natale! Felice Anno Nuovo!



Maggiora Jewelry

Jo-Ann Maggiora Donivan, Owner

833 Market Street, Suite 521, San Francisco, CA 94103

415 362-4412 jjdon@pacbell.net www.donivanandmaggiora.com

New Membership Jewelry available NOW!!!

20% of proceeds go to ICF charities ICF Member, Branch 91



Members from Branch 14, Crockett who helped in the set up and decorating for their successful Polenta Dinner.



Some Members from Branch 14, Crockett working together on the Polenta Dinner.

Contra Costa

District Council

At our last district meeting the election of officers for 2015 was held.

Here is the officers list.

President- Joseph Flores, First Vice- Patty Jarrett, Second Vice- Joann Thilgen, Secretary- Roberta Healy, Treasurer- Gene Simonetti, Orator Carol Lawson, Trustee' Deanna Carone, Peggy Aiello Hagerthy, Judie Van Maren and Sentinel- Walter Costa.

We thank all outgoing officers and congratulate our new officers.

Upcoming District events:

Thurs. Dec. 11-- District Christmas Party at the Old Spaghetti Factory in Concord. Social at 6:30 PM with Dinner at 7:PM. Please RSVP by Dec 9 by calling Patty at (925) 228-0810 or by email Jandp1976@aol.com

Sat. Jan. 17---Contra Costa District Installation hosted by the Concord Todos Santos Branch. Mass and Installation ceremony will be held at 10: AM at St. Agnes Church in Concord. Luncheon will follow at the La Veranda Restaurant in Clayton. A headcount will be needed. Contact your branch president for reservations and details well in advance. Branch presidents please RSVP to the District with your headcount and payment for your branch.

Thurs. Jan. 29---District Meeting at 7: 30 PM in Danville. All branches should send representation.

Watch for details soon regarding our 2015 Bishops day to be held on March 1. This event will be hosted by our Danville branch at St. Isidore Parish.

The Contra Costa District wishes all a Merry Christmas and we pray for a successful New Year for all of our branches.

Until next time,

Patty Jarrett

Martinez

San Martino, Br. 13

Thanks to all the revelers who participated in our Thanksgiving Feast. And, that is was! It is truly one of my favorite meetings. We are seated around a long, long table of grateful folks breaking bread together and offering thanks to God for our good fortune. Thank you all.

As 2015 approaches, it is important in every branch to learn the ropes of the various jobs and more people should take positions as officers at the branch and district levels. It is wise to remember that it is not what position is held but that all members work together for the common goal within the parameters of the organization and its rules. Of-



Some of the guys from Branch 14, Crockett who stirred the Polenta for the great dinner.

icers in 2015: President=Mary Cook, First Vice=Peggy Hagerthy; Second Vice=Tom Cook, Financial Secretary/Treasurer=Karen Glen; Orator= Mina Pospishek; Trustee= Kelly Pospishek; and Sentinel=Paul Cook. May God bless us with guidance and insight as we assume our roles at the first meeting of the year on the fourth Friday, January 23. Please mark your calendars, branch members are needed to serve at the SCS breakfast on Sunday, January 18. On behalf of the Cook Family: Tom, Rosemary, Paul and myself, you are all wished God's richest blessings for a peaceful and reflective Christmas season and into the New Year—the "Year for Consecrated Life."

Mary Cook

Crockett

San Carlo, Br. 14

As their first meeting happened to be our Halloween gathering, we can't help but wonder what our newest members, Dennis and Roxanne Brescia, John and Shirley Gotelli, and Denise Canepa thought when they were greeted by a witch, a clown, flower children, and several other lively, spirited people when they arrived. Whether they see us as fun loving or serious, we welcome them all to Branch 14.

We were pleased to learn the get well cards sent to Robert Pallotta and Vince Ramos worked, because both are doing better.

Sincerest sympathy to John Niehouse on the passing of his longtime, kind friend, Gayle McConlogue.

Congrats and good luck to our 2015 officers: President Donna Hoffman, 1st Vice President Dee Carone, 2nd Vice President Janice Burnett, Corresponding Secretary Kathleen Thomas, Treasurer Carl Heller, Finance Secretary Clare Alvarado, Orator Diane Thomas, Trustees John Valentini, Vonda Lesti-Egan and Carol Lawson, and Sentinel,



This is how Italian serve thanksgiving dinner at Branch 14.

Derek Petersen.

So, now it is December, that joyous, marvelous time some of us await all year. Our branch festivities begin on December 12, when gamblers travel to the Graton Casino to try their luck. Others will wait until Tuesday, December 16th (note date change), for the Branch Christmas Social. There will be no mass, so holiday cheer time is 5:30. Jolly Old St. Nick arrives at 6:00pm with a bag full of presents (provided by loving parents/grandparents, etc.) for the children. Dinner follows, and this year, the branch will provide pasta and bread, so all you are asked to contribute is a dessert or a salad, your choice. To attain that Christmas spirit, what's better than friends gathered together, excited, wide-eyed children, song, merriment...and an adult beverage? Our Christmas Social is such an occasion, and tis always quite jolly good!

We send a cheery "Ho, Ho, Ho" to those who have been unable to attend events this year,

and want you to know you have been missed. We wish all of our members, and your families, a glorious Christmas filled with love, joy and peace, and a bright, beautiful 2015!

Buon Natale e felice anno nuovo!

Ciao,
Diane Bottini Thomas

Pittsburg
San Domenico, Br. 72

Everyone had a great time on our Reno Bus Trip. The Branch made \$500.00. We thank Joann Thilgen for all of her efforts.

On Nov. 16, we celebrated our 67 th branch anniversary. After our meeting and anniversary celebration we went to the Pittsburg Museum for a tour and for an Italian cookie contest which was enjoyed by all.

At the Oct. meeting we held an election of officers for 2015. There was only one officer change. The new sentinel will be Anthony Aliamo.

Upcoming events:

Thursday Dec. 11- District Christmas party at the Old Spaghetti Factory in Concord. Social at 6: 30 PM and Dinner at 7:PM. RSVP to Patty at (925) 228-0810 by Dec 9.

Sunday Dec. 14- Branch Christmas Party and Potluck followed by a short meeting at 2:PM. (Note, if we need to change this date members will be notified)

Sunday Jan.11- Branch meeting and Happy New year party at 2:PM

Saturday Jan 17- District Installation of officers. Mass and Installation ceremony will be held at 10:AM at St. Bonaventure Church in Concord.

A luncheon reception will follow at La Veranda Restaurant in Clayton.

Fliers with all details will be mailed. All officers should attend but everyone is welcome.

Thursday Jan. 29—District meeting at 7: 30 PM in Danville.

We offer continued get well wishes to Joann Thilgen, Diz Russo and our Deputy Peggy Aiello Hagerthy.

A big thanks to all of you for making this a great year for Branch 72.

Merry Christmas,
Patty

Richmond
St. Raymond, Br. 154

The meeting opened with mass for all our deceased members. The meeting was followed by a supper of soup and salad. Thanks go out to Toni, Reeder and Walter Costa for another delicious meal.

Nominations for officers for 2015 were held. The following were nominated:

- President: Lorraine Acuña
- First Vice-president: (tentative) Michael Cannady
- Second Vice-president: Carol Jobes
- Recording Secretary: Dee Rosier
- Financial Treasurer: Lori Framstad
- Treasurer: Toni Reeder
- Trustees: Domenica Yonke, Gino Martinucci, Julian Acuña
- Sentinel: Diana De Simoni
- Orator: Alan Paolini

Calendars are for sale! Please see Terry Ventin.

Carol reminded us about earthquake



Happy 60th Anniversary to Terry and Dick Ventin of Branch 154! Congratulations on reaching such a significant milestone.

preparedness. She passed on a great tip about keeping a pair of slippers next to your bed incase of broken glass.

Next meeting is the Polenta Dinner. Free for all members, \$10.00 for guests. Reserve with Toni Reeder by December 4th.

Happy 60th Anniversary to Terry and Dick Ventin! Congratulations on reaching such a significant milestone.

Lorraine Acuña

Concord
Todos Santos, Br. 214

Branch includes: St. Agnes Church, St. Bonaventure Church, St. Francis of Assisi Church and Queen of All Saints Church

We began our November meeting with a Fun traditional Thanksgiving Feast.

We are pleased with the growth of our Beautiful Branch.

Patty Jarrett installed one of our newest members Marlene McCann.

Welcome Marlene.

Somehow I lost track of time and forgot to send Birthday cards to some of our November members: Happy Belated Birthday to: President Roberta Healy; Secty. Ed McGuirk, and member: Sylvia Downs. May Your Year Be a Blessed One.

We look forward to the Annual Christmas Party on December 7.

We were saddened with news of the loss of Long Time Member: Mary Santoni; she was 93.

Prayers for our sick and elderly. Always keeping the military in our thoughts and prayers too.

God Bless You and Yours this Holy Season.

Danville
St. Isidore, Br. 352

Our October 25 Harvest festival Dinner fundraiser was very successful. Congratulations and thank you to Chairlady Mary Quinn and to all who assisted her. You all did a wonderful job.

We are now approaching the end of the year. I hope you had a Happy Thanksgiving and I extend to you my wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

The District Installation of Officers will be on January 17 in Concord.

The following is the list of our Branch 352 Officers for 2015:

- President: Madeline A. Cefalo
- 1st Vice President: Mary Quinn
- 2nd Vice President: Charles Fiedler
- Recording Secretary: Marianne Bordogna
- Treasurer/Financial Secretary: Steve Gouig
- Orator: Peggy McCarthy
- Trustees: Marilyn Creighton, Assunta Reynolds, Rosemarie Ellsworth
- Sentinel: Paul Cowell
- Branch Deputy: Walter Costa

Thank you all for allowing me the privilege of being your Branch President this year, it has truly been an honor and a pleasure to be of service to you.

This will be my last branch article for the Bollettino. I’ve enjoyed authoring the articles throughout the year and hope you’ve enjoyed reading them. Let us go forward in unity, peace and concord.

In closing I bid you Adieu and leave you with the following quotes:

“There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle.”
— Albert Einstein

“Try to be a rainbow in someone’s cloud.”
-- Maya Angelou

Brentwood
Immaculate Heart of Mary, Br. 432

Our Branch 432 held its elections for 2015 and as of this writing I am sorry to report we are without a President and Secretary for the upcoming year. Hopefully that will change, but for now the following positions on the board have been filled and they are as follows:

- PRESIDENT -- N/A
- 1st VP -- Philomena Sawko
- 2nd VP -- Grace Grimes
- Recording Secretary -- N/A
- Treasurer -- Linda Kortuem
- Trustee -- Mary Webber, Frank Stagnetto, Jack Bager
- Orator -- Art Landos
- Sentinal -- Marie Modafferi

We will be celebrating our Anniversary/Holiday on Sat., November 29 at Sweeney’s Restaurant in Brentwood. I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving with lots of family and lots of food.

Let me take this opportunity to wish you and your loved ones a Very Happy and Blessed Christmas Season.

Until next year!

Blessings,
Phyllis Lilly

Pleasant Hill
Christ the King, Br. 442

Branch 442 wishes a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all members and fellow branches! The branch is hosting its second annual Christmas party on Dec. 7 in the Parish Hall. A special thanks to all who took part in planning and organizing the event.

We elected officers for 2015 at our November branch meeting. Officers for the new year are as follows: Paul Nuti, President; Matt Dallara, First Vice President; Diana Mackinson, Second Vice President; Craig Lazzaretto, Recording Secretary; Theresa Bolla, Correspondence Secretary; Judie Van Maren, Financial Secretary; Paul Peterson,

Treasurer; Carole Delucchi Padlo, Orator; Pamela DeBernardi, Joan Mangini Cummings and Teresa Hurlbut, Trustees; Ann Consul, Sentinel; David Botta, Deputy.

A reminder that 2015 calendars are for sale for \$25, with a chance to win a raffle prize each day. Pieology Pizzeria in Pleasant Hill will be hosting a branch fundraiser in early December. Keep an eye out for more details at the Christmas Party and via email.

Please join us for our next branch meeting on Jan. 4 from 2 to 5 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Details to follow via evite and email.

Ciao!

Reno
Reno

St. Albert, Br. 135

One week prior to our Polenta Dinner on November 8, 29 members attended our regular meeting on November 2. Thanks to Carolyn Smith, Vonnie Ramos, and Charlyne Pacini for obtaining the pizzas, fixing the salad and the appetizers. Ice cream bars and cones were for dessert.

Items that were discussed and voted on were; approval of having two Masses celebrated for the living and deceased members of the ICF at each of the 10 churches in the Reno area, to put a Christmas ad in the December Bollettino, and to pay for the use of a table at the Diocesan Conference on January 9th & 10th, to publicize membership in our ICF Branch.

The slate of officers for 2015 that were presented and voted on were:

- Chaplain: Father Mike Mahone
- President: Carolyn Smith
- 1st Vice President: Rachael Ferrari
- 2nd Vice President: Mel Sullivan
- Recording Secretary: Charlyne Pacini
- Financial Secretary: Nancy Telliano
- Treasurer: Ron Frediani
- Orator: Open at this time
- Trustees: Eleanor Donati, Bob Ferrari, Mike Telliano
- Sentinel: Audrey Ferrari

Many thanks go to all our members who worked very hard at our very successful Polenta Dinner, November 8th. Thanks go out to Rachael Ferrari, Bob Ferrari and the all the committee members who did the planning. We had a big crowd of about 400 people who enjoyed the food and the entertainment provided by accordionist, John Covarelli and singers Father Chuck Durante (former Chaplain of our Branch) and Lydia Aberasturi.

On Sunday, December 7th, we will celebrate a special dinner with our Bishop Randolph Calvo. Members are asked to bring non-perishable food for St. Vincent’s Pantry.

Buon Natale e Capo D’Anno a Tutti!
Charlyne Pacini

Sacramento
Sacramento
St. Mary, Br. 45

MERRY CHRISTMAS to all from Branch 45!

Our final CHICKEN and POLENTA Dinner for 2014 was held on November 16 and included a tribute to the many long time members who have passed away in the last few years; it was fitting to remember them and honor them for their years of loyalty to the ICF.

Prior to the dinner, officers were elected for 2015; President, Janine Orsi; 1st Vice President, Tina Tallman; 2nd Vice President, Ted Georguson; Recording/Corresponding Secretary, Bonnie Lally; Financial Secretary/Treasurer, Lisa Bandaccari; Orator, Mary Jo Lee; Trustees, Arlene Gianatasio, Eric Bush and Marie Leonard; Sentinel, Mary Ann Heinen.

Branch 45's annual Christmas Party scheduled for December 14th is at 2:00PM at the Espanol Restaurant; cost is \$13 for members and \$25 for non-members. Menu Choices are Roast Beef, Roast Chicken, Veal Parmesan or Catfish. For reservations call Mary Ann Heinen at 916 568-2324 or Janine at 916 400-3283.

Buon Compleanno to December Birthday celebrants Bettye Leveroni Wright, Mary Anne Almeida and Concetta Isola. Blessings and best wishes for many more years.

Other up coming events, the District Meeting and Christmas Luncheon, December 7th at Woodie's in Roseville and in January, Joint Installation of Officers on the 24th at St. Clare (Branch 438) in Roseville.

Ciao and Merry Christmas!

North Highlands

St. Lawrence the Martyr, Br. 236

On Saturday, November 1st, our general meeting was held at the Parish Center. Members enjoyed pizza, salad & dessert.

Congratulations to Vera Beine who won the 50/50 drawing.

It was good to see Nina Malone at the meeting and that she appears to be recovering well from her recent surgery. Virginia Becker also looked to be recovering well after her recent hospital stay.

Please continue to pray for our sick members and their families.

Our condolences to Fran Foglia-Teglia on the death of her husband Al Teglia. Branch 236 will donate \$30 to the Gifts of Love charity founded by Al.

Belated Birthday wishes to Vera Beine (Nov. 12th) and Maria Keller (Nov. 22nd)

It's that time of year to pay your annual membership dues.

Election of Officers took place in October. Congratulations to the following 2015 Officers:

President – Nina Malone

1st Vice President – TBD

2nd Vice President – TBD

Recording Secretary – Maria Keller

Financial Secretary – Melissa Keller

Treasurer – Natalie Malone

Trustees – Mary Mencarini, Ann D'Antonio, and TBD

Orator – Pat Korf

Sentinel – Josefina Stang

Our Holiday Party will be held on December 6th at 3PM, at Café Napoli, we hope to see everyone there.

Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year to all!

Margie Burke

Auburn

St. Joseph, Br. 342

Thank you to all who came out and helped to make our November Dinner Dance a success! Our appreciation goes out to all those who attended, set up tables and decorations, obtained sponsors, prepared and served the

food, gathered and prepared raffle items, set up the raffle table and cleaned up after the event. Your hard work is very much appreciated!

Mark your calendars for our annual Christmas Dinner which will take place on Sunday, December 7th at 4:00 at St. Joseph's Hall. A great dinner will be served and I hear we may have a visit from a very special guest!

Also mark your calendars for our 2015 Polenta Dinner which will take place at St. Theresa's Hall on Saturday, January 17. Tickets always sell out so make sure to get yours early! Call Dolores at 823-9125 to reserve your spot.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone and their families a very Merry Christmas and a new year filled with health and happiness.

Pam Andersen

Bolletino Contributor

Roseville

St. Clare of Assisi, Br. 438

Members enjoyed the month of October, participated in the Italian Catholic Federation tradition of giving and fellowship on October 26th. attending Bishop's Day Mass and Luncheon at St. Teresa of Avila Church in Auburn. Our Branch also celebrated Italian heritage, food and entertainment at the Great Italian Festival in Reno on October 11th. At the beginning of November, Branch members prepared and served its 3rd Annual Parish Pasta Dinner to a near capacity Parish Hall of happy, entertained, and well served guests.

On a sunny, warm October 26th Sunday in Auburn's historic 'gold country' fifteen Branch 438 members joined approximately 85 other Blessed Sacrament District members, attending the Blessed Sacrament District 2014 Bishop's Day Celebration, hosted by St. Joseph Branch 342. Mass was con-celebrated by Auxiliary Bishop Myron Cotta and St. Teresa Pastor, Rev. Father Michael Carroll; assisted by St. Teresa Deacon Dave Ford and St. Clare Deacon Marinko Kraljevich and accompanied by the angelic voices of two dozen members of the St. Teresa of Avila Youth Choir. St. Joseph Branch treated attendees to a delicious catered luncheon, accompanied by Dave Chelini and his Italian accordian. Central Council Member, Leonard Zasoski presented Bishop Cotta with a Seminarian burse and District President, Tina Tallman presented a number of very nice raffle prizes to luncheon guests (several of whom were lucky Branch 438 members). *

Our Branch 438 Annual Bus Trip to Reno's Great Italian Festival was enjoyed by a busload of Branch 438 members, family, friends and St. Clare Parishioners. Our Festival-goers enjoyed Bingo and other games on the trip out of Roseville into the Sierra; they snacked on coffee & donuts at the Donner Summit and enjoyed the sights sounds and tastes of Italy during their 6 hour visit to the Italian Festival and all that Reno offers. Bus trip proceeds benefitted our seminarian and scholarship awardees.

On November 8th Branch 438 served 175 Parishioners a delicious dinner of spaghetti with meat sauce and meatballs, salad, garlic bread, wine and incredible Italian cakes and old world Italian cookies, handmade by Branch 438 member Connie Terry, owner of Villa Biscotto. Diner guests were entertained by accordionist, Ms. Virginia Fowler of Lifetime Hobbies. Dinner proceeds benefitted our Gifts of Love and Cooley's Anemia Funds. **

We ask all of our ICF sisters and brothers to include in your Branch prayers, our Branch members with health issues, monetary issues, or family deaths. We especially ask for your prayers for the repose of the soul of Hector Lizardi, who dearly loved his sister, Conchita Lizardi.



Members of Branch 438 working hard preparing for the recent Pasta Dinner.

San Diego

District Council

On Sunday, October 12, 2014, the San Diego district I.C.F. held its annual Bishop's Day Banquet at St. Rose of Lima Church in Chula Vista. The 10:00 a.m. mass was concelebrated by Pastor of St. Rose of Lima, Luke Jauregui, Pedro Rivera, Diocesan Director of Priestly Vocations and Father Bill Stevenson, I.C.F. Diocesan Director. Following mass a luncheon and program were held in the Social Center. Father Jauregui was the hosting pastor and Robert Maruca, the President of Branch 229 St. Rose of Lima was the Chairman of the event. Grand President, Robert Basuino, presented the C.C. contribution from the Providenza Fund to Father Pedro Rivera. District President, Richard Barker presented the branch and district contribution to Father Rivera. The branch presidents also presented spiritual bouquets to Father Rivera. The Master of Ceremonies was Richard Barker, President of the San Diego District I.C.F. Catering was handled by Mario Maruca and Spinelli Catering. Maria Tollefson was in charge of decorating and Patricia Postal prepared the program. C.C. representatives present besides Grand President Bob were Pat Mages and her husband Lou Mages, C.C. Life Member Emeritus Jody Balestrieri and Ed Mendoza, C.C. Member Emeritus

Forrest Price and his wife, Prudence Price and C.C. Member Emeritus Mary Alesi and her husband, Jim Alesi. Jody Balestrieri closed the event by leading the group in singing the Federation hymn. The Banquet was dedicated to the Memory of Bishop Cirilo Flores, the recently deceased Bishop of San Diego.

Forrest Price

Chula Vista

St. Rose of Lima, Br. 229

Wishing all of you a very Blessed and Merry Christmas and a Happy and healthy 2015!!

Jesus is the Reason for the Season!!

Our Branch Christmas Party is scheduled for December 13, 2014 from noon until 2:00 p.m. at Mangia Italiano in Downtown Chula Vista. Hope to see you there!

The newly elected officers for 2015 are as follows:

President: Robert Maruca

First Vice President: Louis Pierotti

Second Vice President: Anthony Scipione

Recording Secretary & Corresponding Secretary: Karen Judson

Financial Secretary & Treasurer: Theresa Wilson

Orator: Esther Pierotti

Passing of Msgr. Fred Floreck

We are sorry to inform you of the death of Msgr. Fred Floreck, past ICF District Chaplain and Branch 261 Chaplain for 19 years. He was an assistant and Pastor of St Therese Parish. He was in Louisiana working the Food for the poor program when his heart suddenly stopped.

Father Fred enjoyed attending our dinners and the ICF conventions. He was a motivating force in making improvements to our campus. He eagerly supported an ICF team that renovated the Social Center drain system. He answered many prayers when he had an air conditioning installed in the church.

He enjoyed Italian and Mexican food. The Christmas parish dinners were always meatballs and spaghetti -- one of his favorite meals.

In March 2014 Father Fred, to the surprise of his doctors, celebrated his 50th Anniversary. He never expected to make his 50th because of a serious illness when he celebrated his 45th. We enjoyed both celebrations.



Father Fred was an inspiration. For our young adults he spearheaded the construction of a meeting place. It was named "Fred's Place." Father Fred was an excellent steward..doing God's work.

We'll never forget his favorite Bible verse -- "Follow me." RIP Father Fred.

Vic Tallarida

Branch 261, San Diego

Trustees: Jody Balestrieri, Michele Snyder, Mark Snyder

Sentinel: Vince Dirckx

Honorary Officers (not elected)

Frank Anastasi, John Stassi, Carmelina Maruca

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

When you see a man or woman in uniform, please thank them for their service to our country! God bless our military! God bless America! God bless the ICF!!

Ciao!

Karen Judson

Recording & Corresponding Secretary

San Diego

Our Lady of the Rosary, Br. 230

Fratelli in Cristo,

Father Joseph Tabique led Branch 230 present members in prayer to open a meeting on October 17.

After the pledges and roll call, Jim Bregante announced a screening of Finding the Mother Lode, at University of San Diego, the local Catholic university. The documentary covers the experiences of Italian immigrants in California.

Branch deputy Jody Balestreri spoke about her (then) upcoming trip to Rome with the Southwestern College Choir. Branch 230 is proud that one of ours performed in the Vatican. Bravo, Jody. Branch member, and Our Lady of the Rosary parish choir master, Ernest Pinamonti Grimm has you on his recruitment list.

New officers for 2015 were nominated and elected at the meeting: Delfina Centanni, president; Jim Cardinale Hill, first vice president; Theresa Cutri, second vice president; Maria Tollefson, recording secretary; Amanda Morris Cassidy, financial secretary; Mary Lou Terramagra, treasurer; Michael Paluso, orator; Martha Cardinale Hill, trustee; Patrizia Vigili, sentinel.

Father Joe discussed recent repairs and renovations to Our Lady of the Rosary church and hall including new coats of paint plus marble moldings and above-door signage for the fronts of the church and hall. Our venerable Lady looks resplendent in her new coat.

It's a bit too early to wish you Buon Natale, but not too early to announce the branch Christmas party which will be Saturday, December 13, 6:00 p.m. Please bring unwrapped toys or non-perishable food items to be donated to Catholic Charities.

Mantenete la fede!

—Ernest Pinamonti Grimm

San Francisco

San Francisco

Maria S S Imacolata, Br. 1

Dear Members:

Our November Spuntino was enjoyed by all!

Upcoming events: Dec. 7 - Branch Feast-day Mass - ICC 10:30am

Please note there will be no meetings in January and February 2015

A special thank you to Diana and Pat who translate my reports to "Computer Language" during the year!

A Holy and Happy Christmas to all Branch 1 Members and their families.

Ciao!

Toni Morsello

San Francisco

Sts. Peter and Paul, Br. 38

BUON NATALE...we wish a tutti il membri del "Italian Catholic Federation" a Merry Christmas from our Branch #38 officers and members. We hope everyone will have a happy, joyous, and especially healthy Christmas holiday season.

As you know, our September meeting was cancelled because 3 of our dear members were very ill. Norma Tealdi was rushed to the Emergency, Ines Massetani had surgery and soon after fell down, Lottie Peradatto was rushed to the hospital and returned home a few days later with oxygen! However, I am happy to report all is well with our 3 dear members, and all 3 were present at our November 8 meeting. Thank you, God!

We just had our November Thanksgiving meeting and it was a lot of fun. Cosmo and Dora prepared our holiday meal. Cosmo cooked the turkey breasts and yams and Dora prepared the green beans and had food donated by Norma, Ines, and Norma's daughter-in-law Susan Tealdi. Mind you, Fred & Susan were our branch visitors, great helpers, and Susan made/donated a delicious stuffing. Thank you & Happy Anniversary, U2!!

A big part of our monthly meetings include our Italian Heritage. Our branch is very lucky to have Maria Gloria as our Heritage Chairperson. Maria is a columnist for the L'Italo Americano newspaper, and every month she has something interesting to talk to us about. In October it was about Columbus Day & when it became a national holiday, how old the parade is, etc. For All Saint's Day she told us about known and unknown saints. In November she spoke on Thanksgiving & even told us about an Italian turkey farmer by the name of Joseph Borsoni. Each month Maria also always spoils us with different treats. In October she gave us CiCi Lemon Cookies with a tiny Italian flag and a darling Halloween Pumpkin "Snow Globe". For November, Maria, again, gave each one of us a huge Chocolate Turkey...yum, yum! How can we ever repay you, Maria? Thank you, Ms. Heritage Person!

At the October meeting we were able to elect our 2015 branch officers. Nothing much has changed, except our new Chaplin is Fr. Al Mengon, SDB. Fr. Armand has been too ill to continue. We have missed you Fr. Armand and you have been a friend to ALL of us. Please take care. Fr. Al has much experience with the ICF, and we know we'll get to know him better very soon. Thank you Fr. Al for being our Chaplain...we need you!

Our December luncheon plans have been made with Paul Alioto at SFIAC. Additional

details will be sent to you. It will take place on Saturday, December 13, in the PC. All you have to do is practice singing the Christmas Carols so Santa Clause won't get a headache, nor will the 1000's of Santas in Washington Square Park!! I know we can do it...right Dora (our Choir Leader)!

Ciao,

Ci Vediamo il 13 di dicembre!

Mara Amato

San Francisco

St. Elizabeth, Br. 258

Dec. 12th: our Christmas Luncheon. Our menu is Turkey and all the trimmings.

Members \$10.00/Guests \$15.00. Please call Mary Perata for reservations at 415-239-5936.

Beverly, we hope and pray you have a speedy recovery. Bev recently had leg surgery.

Our sincere sympathy to Isola and her family. Aldo was a member of BR. 258 for 26 year. He always helped when he could. May God and the Blessed Mother keep you in their care.

We wish all our Members and their families a very Happy Holliday Season.

Please remember our ill and deceased members in your prayers.

December 1st: Officers meeting

December 28th: Meeting

Ciao

Eva Perata: President

San Francisco

Corpus Christi, Br. 290

Greetings, dear members. I hope everyone enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving.

There will be no meeting in December.

However, we will celebrate the feast of Christmas at our annual party at the Basque Center on Saturday, December 13. A no-host bar at 5:30 PM will precede the dinner at 6:30.

Kindly remember to bring a wrapped gift valued at \$4.00 for our gift exchange.

Please continue to pray for all members who are not feeling well.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our Christmas party.

Buon Natale a tutti!

Ciao,

Jeannette

San Francisco

St. Cecilia, Br. 365

This week, Joe and I have been praying for God's blessings on the upcoming birth of our 7th great grandchild. It seems it was only yesterday that we went to San Jose to see our new granddaughter, Elizabeth. She was a scrawny little thing who immediately captured her grandfather's heart and has hung on to it all these years.

At our October meeting, Gary Gualco moved that we start our meetings at 6:30, beginning January 2015. The motion was seconded and passed. Let's all try to be there in January when President George wields that gavel. We also elected our officers for the coming year. All of our officers remain the same, except for John Fiore who came on board as a trustee, replacing Paul DeMartini. Thanks to all of you, especially Father Landi, who will continue as our Chaplain.

Please continue to pray for our sick members Leo and Isabel Juarez. Also, I ask that you pray for the speedy recovery of our dear lifelong friend, Louis Vicino, a member of the Petaluma Branch.

Our next meeting will be January 14th, 2015, Serra Room, 6:30.

Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

Ann Basuino

San Mateo

District Council

Congratulations to the newly elected District Officers for 2015!

President: Marc Teglia

1st Vice President: Dorene Campanile

2nd Vice President: Sylvia Row

Secretary: Deborah Rodondi

Treasurer: Bea Tomasello

Orator: Virginia Fuentes

Trustees: Barbara Firpo, Kelly Teglia, Kathy Trevizo Heckman

Sentinel: Harold Fuentes

Many Thanks to outgoing District Officers for their service this past year.

Chaplain's Night was enjoyed by all who attended. Thanks to Branch 6, Redwood City for hosting this event. Kudos to the Chaplains for greatly entertaining us.

Mark your calendars:

Thursday, December 18, 2014 District Christmas Party. Our Lady of Angels, Burlingame. Hosted by Branch 163 St. Matthews, San Mateo. Potluck dinner, 6:30 p.m. Please call Virginia Fuentes 591-3545 to let her know what food your Branch is bringing.

Saturday, January 17, 2015 San Mateo District Installation. Hosted by Branch 403, St. Dunstan's, Millbrae. Lunch to follow at the Terrace Cafe, El Rancho Motel, El Camino Real, Millbrae. Price \$36.00. Reservations to Dan Capodanno, 325 San Jose Avenue, Millbrae, CA 94030.

Bilingual Staff
Information • Referrals
Social Service Coordination

ITALIAN-AMERICAN
COMMUNITY
SERVICES AGENCY

providing services to the
Italian-American
community since 1916

CASA FUGAZI

678 Green Street, San Francisco,
CA 94133 • (415) 362-6423

Valente Marini Perata
& Company FD-100

F u n e r a l D i r e c t o r s

4840 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA 94112

(415) 333-0161 www.vmpandco.com



San Mateo District celebrated their Annual Chaplains Night on Friday November 7th. Hosted by Branch 6 Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Redwood City, Chairperson Barbara Firpo created a wonderful evening at the San Mateo Elks Club for Branches and Chaplains. Mistress of Ceremonies Deborah Rodondi shared the bios of the chaplains, and the chaplains told jokes and sang their way through the evening.

(Above) Standing: Kathy Trevizo-Heckman, President of Br. 19 Colma; Jean Tomatis, President of Br. 130 Redwood City; Candy member of Br. 351 Menlo Park; Norman Bennett, President of Br. 173 Burlingame; Dan Capodanno, 1st Vice of Br. 403 Millbrae; Kelly Teglia, President of Br. 7 So. San Francisco; Marc Teglia, San Mateo District President.

Seated: Fr. Alex Legaspi, Holy Angels Colma Br. 19; Fr. Tom Martin St. Pius Redwood City Br. 130; Fr. Gladstone Stevens St. Patrick's Seminary Menlo Park; Fr. Michael Mahoney Our Lady of Angels Burlingame Br. 173; Fr. Joseph Glynn St. Dunstan's Millbrae Br. 403; Deacon Tom Boyle Our Lady of Mount Carmel Redwood City Br. 6; Fr. Ulysses D'Aquila Pastor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

(Left) Father Gladstone H. Stevens, S.S. 16th President-Rector and Associate Professor of Dogmatic Theology of St. Patrick's Seminary and University in Menlo Park, Candy member of Br. 351 Menlo Park and Father Tom Martin Chaplain to Branch 130 St. Pius in Redwood City.



17, 2015 at St. Dunstan's, Millbrae. Lunch will follow at the Terrace Cafe, El Rancho Motel, El Camino Real, Millbrae. Price: \$36 per person. Please call Barbara 323-0189 if you would like to attend.

Please call Catherine Boyle (650) 364-6165 with the names of any sick members so she can send them a card. Our condolences to Tom and Catherine on the loss of Tom's Mother.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!

BF

South San Francisco

Sacro Cuore, Br. 7

Our October Western BBQ Fundraiser Dinner- Dance was outstanding! While celebrating our 89th Anniversary, we feasted on huge steaks with all the trimmings. Officers and all the helpers are to be congratulated on a job well done.

A big thank you to Kelly, Marc, Norma, Lola, Jim and all the helpers, for the wonderful turkey dinner for our November meeting. We all enjoyed wonderful homemade cranberry relish made by our President Kelly. Also, thank you to everyone who donated items for our raffle.

Our Christmas Party will be held at our December 3rd meeting. It is also at this time of year that I remind you about "A Very Special Toy Box". "A Very Special Toy Box" is a non-profit organization that buys new toys (that are handled in a special way) and is given to children with cancer going through all the related treatments. We will have a donation box at our Christmas Party for your tax-deductible donation. If you are able to donate, checks should be made payable to, "A Very Special Toy Box". (We are only able to accept cash or a check. No toys please.)

So, until next time... a little chuckle for your holiday, "I made myself a snowman, as perfect as can be, I thought I'd keep it as a pet, and let it sleep with me. I made it some pajamas, and a pillow for its head, then last night it ran away, but first... it wet the bed!"

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Sempre Avanti,

Laurie Masetti

Colma

San Vincenzo De Paolo, Br. 19

Hello Everyone!

There is good news and sad news. Sad for us is that two of our long time members, Al

Teglia and Hank Norman, are now with the Lord. Both were very active in the Branch and will be greatly missed. Our prayers are with their families.

The good news is that we have our new officers for 2015. They are:

President: Cheryl Simon

1st Vice President: Kathy Trevizo

2nd Vice President: Deborah Rodondi

Recording Secretary: Christine Prudenciado

Treasurer: Donna Barnes

Financial Secretary: Joanne Sangicomo

Sentinel: Joseph Sangicomo

Trustees: Joanne Alvarado, Annette and David Novi

Big Thank You to all those who helped us celebrate our Branch Anniversary and Halloween. Especially to Donna Barnes who was the Chair Person of the event and her helpers; and to Joe Ursino and crew who cooked the delicious dinner.

Please keep all our members who are ill in your prayers.

We hope that all of you will have a blessed Christmas with your family and friends. Don't forget about the Pedro Tournament in January!

Buon Natale.

N. Thurman

San Mateo

St. Matthew, Br. 163

Congratulations to the elected Officers for 2015. Thanks for accepting again.

President -- Harold Fuentes

1st Vice President -- Eda Rossetto

Recording Secretary -- Anne O'Brien

Financial Secretary -- Virginia Fuentes

Corresponding Secretary -- Aurora Bini

Treasurer -- Frank Venturelli

Orator -- Rose Marie Sickle

Trustees -- Marie D'Asaro and Lena Venturelli

Sentinel -- Jim Loman

Graton Casino was a very successful and fun trip.

Many thanks to Michele and Jim Loman for the delicious Enchilada Casserole Dinner they make for us at their expense for our October meeting night.

Our October 52nd Anniversary luncheon was a huge success and a good time was had by all. Many thanks to Lena Veturelli for manning the entry table and to Frank Venturelli for serenading us with his beautiful music. Big thanks to Michele and Jim Loman for handling the raffle.

Kudos to the Chaplains for their great entertainment on Chaplains Night and thanks to Branch 6 for hosting this event.

Mark your calendars:

Thursday, December 11, 2014 -- Our Christmas Dinner Party of ham and lasagne. Members please donate cookies for desert.

Saturday, January 17, 2015 -- Installation of Officers for 2015. Lunch will follow at the Terrace Cafe, El Rancho Motel, El Camino Real, Millbrae. Price \$36. More information later.

Merry Christmas and happiness in New Year 2015!

Anne O'Brien



Keep in our thoughts and prayers Father Frank Murray and Tom Pollicita. Our sympathy to the Family of our dear friend Al Teglia who passed away October 26.

Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo!

Anne O'Brien

Redwood City

Regina Coeli, Br. 6

Thank you to all for your prayers and cards while I was ill and thank you to Sylvia for running our meetings.

Officers for 2015

Chaplain: Deacon Tom Boyle

President: Barbara Firpo

1st Vice President: Sylvia Row

2nd Vice President: Georgia Row

Secretary: Barbara Ebel

Financial Secretary/Treasurer: Enrica Poggio

Orator: Catherine Boyle

Trustees: Mike Felix, Al Stanley

Our Christmas party will be on our regular meeting night, December 10.

Installation of Officers is Saturday, January

Burlingame

Our Lady of Angels, Br. 173

Our November dinner and meeting will have a guest speaker, Lorraine Moriarty Executive Director of St. Vincent de Paul and our raffle will benefit this helpful organization. A donation basket will also be available.

As we near the end of the year congratulations to all who chaired dinners during 2014 as jobs well done by the many earth angels in our club.

November 16th 11:30 AM Mass at OLA Church in celebration of our Branch's 51st Anniversary. Dinner at the Terrace Café in Millbrae 4 PM. Contact: Lori Cline 650-571-5747 December 11th 6:30 PM Our Lady of Angels Gym - contact Jean Watterson 650-343-6225. There will be a raffle featuring home made Holiday Baked Goods. First initial of your last name is what we would like to be brought to the party. A-F Desserts, G-P Appetizers Q-Z Salad or Entrée.

Please keep in mind all of our sick members and their families.

God Bless,

Rosalind C. Emery

South San Francisco

St. Augustine, Br. 213

Many thanks to chairladies and chefs, Donna DeVoe and Barbara Gabriel for the scrumptious meal they feed us at our November 11 meeting. As usual, wonderful job, ladies!

As promised, here is the slate of officers for 2015, as voted on at our October meeting: President – Barbara Gabriel; First Vice President – Joyce James; Second Vice President – Jackie Smith; Rec. Secretary – Judy Crosetti; Treasurer/Financial Secty. – Roberta Franchini; Orator – Glorinda Dobleman; Trustee – Steve Crisafi; Sentinel – Donna DeVoe. Congratulations, good luck and many thanks to our newly elected officers for 2015.

ICF calendars are now available at \$25.00 each (our branch keeps \$5.00). Interested? Call Judy Crosetti at 650/589-8377 to reserve your calendar.

Some more bad news: Frances Caldeira, the sister of our member, Faith Hill, passed away on October 18. Fran was only 58 years old. Please keep Faith and her family in your prayers. If you would like to send a card, Faith's address is 881 Boyd Dr., Oakdale, CA 95361.

No branch meeting in December; just our Christmas luncheon on December 7th!

Happy Holidays,

rf

Menlo Park

St. Patrick, Br. 351

Our Homemade Soup night Dinner was delicious! A great BIG thank you to the wonderful ladies who donated their 5 delicious soups for our dinner!

2015 Calendars are available at meeting or call Cory - \$25.00 each

Thursday December 4 - 5:30pm member Mass at Church of Nativity followed by our annual Christmas Potluck and brief meeting. Call Cory at 650-867-8946 or Candy at 650-291-5635 with what you would like to bring. If you don't call us, we will be calling you! Deadline is November 29th. Reservations a MUST!!

Please remember to bring non-perishables for St. Vincent De Paul for Christmas. Cash or Checks will also be gladly accepted.

Please pray for our MANY MANY sick members and let us not forget our deceased!

Wishing everyone a Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving!!

Millbrae

St. Dunstan, Br. 403

We had 16 members attend the recent Chaplain's Night at the Elks Club in San Mateo, where we honored our chaplain, Father Joseph Glynn.

Our Christmas Meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 2, following a dinner of Chicken Marsala with all the trimmings, prepared by our president Lorrie Kalos Gunn.

On Saturday, January 17, 2015, we will host the San Mateo District Installation of Branch Officers with 10:30AM Mass at St. Dunstan, 1133 Broadway, Millbrae, followed by lunch at the Terrace Cafe at the El Rancho Inn, 1100 El Camino Real, Millbrae. Choices for the luncheon are:

sliced London Broil, almond crusted red snapper and pan seared chicken breast all with salad and dessert for a cost of \$36.00. Reservations due by January 12, 2015, with check payable to ICF SM District, and mailed to Dan Capodanno, P.O. Box 1188, Millbrae, CA 94030.

Happy Holidays,

Rose Marie Morando

Corresponding Secretary

Marin

Larkspur

St. James, Br. 161

At our meeting in October we had nominations of officers and the following officers were elected.

President – Marlene Farber

1st Vice President – Jeanne Asdourian

2nd Vice President – Phyllis Rybensky

Recording Secretary – Anna Biggio

Corresponding and Financial Secretary – Mary Onetti

Treasurer – Catherine Biggio

Orator – Theresa Rosser

Trustees – Lucia Della Santina, Doris Mulligan, Guy Francoz

Sentinel – Diane Hollister

Mark your calendar for a Crab Dinner on Saturday, January 24, 2015. More to come.

At our February meeting we will have a guest speaker Nora Thompson.

Our next meeting will be January 20.

Our get-well wishes for a speedy recovery to all of you who aren't feeling well.

Wishing you and your families a very MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR.

See you next month,

Ciao,

Anna Biggio

San Jose Santa Clara Valley

District Council

Thanks Anna Greco-Gonzalez and Branch 4 for hosting the St. Frances Cabrini Pilgrimage. The Rosary and Italian Mass were wonderful. Attendance was low. But "numbers" do not define success. Rather it shows what a



Santa Clara, Br. 5. We sold 365 meatball subs at the Santa Clara Art and Wine Festival in August. It was hard work but lots of fun as you can see. What a zany bunch!

small gathering can accomplish to be meaningful.

Pat Cordich's description of the evolution of Veterans Day was informative and poignant and elicited an appropriate patriotic response.

Tony Spagnolo brought us to our cultural roots with an illustrative talk on St. Isidore's accomplishments on making Sainthood. And reminded us that we need to pray to Isidore for rain.

It is official – Branch 186 will disband on Dec 7 after 50 years. Elaine and Bob Osario led all efforts to keep the branch going, to no avail. We can only take pride in what the branch accomplished over that span.

Please submit a list of your branch officer elects to District Secretary Emily Corral.

Heard around the District:

Antonowicz's Halloween Open House to raise funds for Gifts of Love program brought in \$1700.

Bill Greco's similar Open House Fundraiser - Tuesday, December 16

Bel Fana expected at Branch 4 – Holy Cross Church - December 3

Key Dates: SCV District Christmas Party - Santa Teresa Church, Tuesday, Dec 9th

Officer Installation – St. Martins, January 10, 2015

Keep Monsignor Milani and Fr. George in your prayers.

Mike Nunziata

San Jose

Holy Cross, Br. 4

A big thank you to the Greco family for the delicious Polenta Dinner. Also thanks to James Ho and Mark Ravizza who bar-b-qued the sausage.

At the Polenta dinner many toys were brought for Children's Hospital Christmas Party. A GREAT BIG THANK YOU to all who donated the toys.

Jan 10 2015- Installation of Officers at St. Martins Church. 11:30 Mass, luncheon to follow. All Officers plan to attend. You will get a call.

Merry Christmas to Everyone!

Ann Fitzgerald



Gilroy

Santa Maria Ausiliatrice, Br. 28

Boun Natale, or Merry Christmas to all.

Hope you all have a very happy and holy Christmas holiday with family and friends.

Our December Christmas Party will be on December 15. Remember Santa and Mrs. Clause will be available to greet all the children you bring along. Please bring a gift for Santa to give out to each child. They are always agreeable to pose for pictures. Thank you Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Our January and February dinner meetings will be on the fourth Mondays of the month, January 26 and February 23 so as not to conflict with the holidays on our usual meeting dates. Mark your calendars.

Thank you to all those members who helped with our scholarship breakfast in November, and to Gennaro Filice for handling the shopping spree. It's with all these members that we are able to contribute to the scholarships and charities of our branch.

Roger would like to thank the board that was elected in October for agreeing to another year of service. All those elected remain in their office from this year, so good luck to all.

Keep our sick and homebound members in your prayers.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,

Anna Barberi

Los Gatos

St. Mary, Br. 184

Our 50th Anniversary Dinner Dance was exceptional. It started with the attendance of special guests, including Grand President Bob Basuino, who presented our Branch with a Certificate of Merit. Fr. Rick and Fr. Enzie were there, and Fr. Rick said a lovely Grace before our catered dinner, which was followed by music, and dancing, silent and oral auctions, everybody had something to enjoy. Richard Pfaff was amazing as the auctioneer; thank you to all who made this evening possible. Now let's see what the next 50 years can bring.....

The very next day the Antonowicz family had a Halloween Open House. Denise said "it was one of the most successful we've ever had!" The proceeds are donated to Gifts of Love, one of the ICF Charities.

The Los Gatos Christmas Parade is Satur-

day Dec. 6. Look for our branch entry float this year. Come see our “Dancing Chicken”, then join us at Hofmann Center from 3 to 5 for a Christmas Dessert Party. Bring your favorite treat and share the recipe!

Installation of our slate of officers will take place on Saturday, January 10, 2015, at St. Martin of Tours Church in San Jose. Mass will be at 10:30 A.M., luncheon following.

Joe and Marie Yurosco are getting ready for their annual Christmas Caroling Potluck at their house on Saturday, December 13, at 5 P.M. Great way to get the holiday spirit! Give Marie a jingle at 354 4407, if you can make it.

President Denise sends “Buon Natale” greetings, and thanks you “from the bottom of her heart” for all you do to support our Branch #184.

This surely has been a fast year. We pray for our members and their families, and hope that the New Year brings many good things your way.

Merry Christmas,

Lucy Amico

Los Altos

St. Nicholas, Br. 186

It saddens me to say that after 21 years of writing articles for Branch 186, this will be my last. Unfortunately for many, Branch 186 will no longer exist after December 31, 1014. Declining health of the officers, and no one willing to step forward, the members present at the October meet (16) voted to close.

To all who have given so much, over the 50 years of the Branch’s existence, our heartfelt thanks. I do not want to list them all as I am sure I will forget some. So many wonderful people have passed through the Branch over the years. Everyone should be very proud for all that has been given to charity, thru Scholarships, Food Programs, ICF Programs, Community Awareness Programs and supporting Seminarians.

This has all been made possible by those of you that have supported the fabulous, and one of a kind, Cioppino Dinner and the scrupulous Polenta Event. To those members, you know who you are, that provided the service that made these events so successful, many, many thanks.

Hopefully some of our 66 members will join other ICF Branches that are in the area.

For me and my husband, the 41 years we have belonged to Branch 186, have been happy ones. We have met so many wonderful people and have made lasting friendships.

Happy 91st Birthday Guido.

“Measure your lifetime in blessing, and you’ll always remain in your prime-

For youth is a feeling you keep in your heart, whether seven or seventy-nine.”

Have a Blessed Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

Elaine

San Jose

St. Frances Cabrini, Br. 191

Congratulations to our 2015 Board members: Jo Bertaccini - President; Jim Jones – 1st Vice; Liz Donaldson – 2nd Vice; Janice Jones – Recording Secretary; Camille Orlando – Financial Secretary; Aldine Grisenti – Treasurer; Marie Antonowicz – Orator; Gloria Garcia – Sentinel; Trustees Rosemary Janis, Debbi Piro and June Sohn.

The October dinner/dance was a huge success. Co-chairs Jim Jones and Jo Bertaccini did a

wonderful job with the decorations. The food was excellent. The raffle baskets provided by Esther Ramonda and Aldine Grisenti were a big hit.

At the October meeting Bette Antuzzi thanked all those who helped with the maintenance of the bocce courts. She also thanked all those who came to the Thursday night potlucks. Betty reported that there were a great number of people who rented the courts for parties during the summer months. The proceeds from the rentals will be given to Father Hendrickson for the parish.

Our branch will be joining the parish school and other SFC organizations for the holiday food basket and clothing give away on November 22nd.

With sadness the SFC community will be having a farewell dinner for Fr. Eddie Obero. Fr. Eddie has been a spiritual inspiration to many at SFC. His kindness and compassion for those he ministers too has been a great comfort. His new parish will be blessed to have him as their priest.

Merry Christmas,

Rosemary Janis

San Jose

Santa Teresa, Br. 368

Several important events for our parish occurred in October. First was our parish festival, at which ICF members played significant roles planning, setting up, staffing, and taking down the booths, stage, and eating areas.

Second was the bocce ball tournament at St Frances Cabrini parish. The winning team, the M&M’s, from our branch left to right were Mike DeAnda, Marcello Ridi, Mike Ingoglia, and Mike Cordoni.

Third was our election of officers. Noreen Gillio was re-elected president, with a supporting staff of Mike Nunziata, Mike Curula, Paula Radzinski, Barbara Ruffner, Robyn Schlice, Ed Wendler, Paul Butler, Joanne and Jerry Opp, and Joyce Robba. Thanks to them for all their work.

Fourth was our Bishop’s Day celebration on October 19th with Bishop Patrick McGrath, who gratefully accepted our spiritual bouquet and our donation check for the seminarians, who spoke at the luncheon about their vocations and hopes.

Fifth, John Janini reported that the bus trip to Red Hawk Indian Casino raised \$400 for the parish. Thanks, John!

Last, or old Avila Hall came down on October 30 to make way for our new hall. The old one started as a barracks for immigrants working in the orchards in San Jose. Many events important to the life of the parish occurred in that old hall, which was our first church. There are many memories lying there among the broken walls and cabinets, shingles and sticks. Kind of sad.

Ciao, Judy Zahn

San Jose

St. Martin of Tours, Br. 391

As always, November’s dinner was delicious, thanks to our steadfast Kitchen Crew. Ham, scalloped pineapple, cranberry sauce, seasonal salad, and pumpkin cheesecake made the perfect hearty dinner for the cool fall evening.

At the meeting, the heritage report was presented by Louise Vento about the Columbus Day Parade in San Francisco. We also collected Toys for the Oakland Children’s Hospital to make the kid’s holiday a little brighter.

Do you have a child or grandchild who will

be attending a private high school or college? Make sure you tell them about Branch #391’s scholarship program! After the first of the year, Sal Lipari will distribute the applications.

Branch #391 will be holding the installation mass on December 2nd at 10:00 am. We need Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Ushers for the service. Please contact Marcie Rossi for more information.

Be sure to give John Busco your email address to be kept up-to-date on information, events and to RSVP for our monthly meetings. If you don’t have an email address, you will still receive a monthly phone call.

Mark your calendars! Our annual Valentine Dinner Dance will be on February 2nd. This year our theme is the “King and Queen of Hearts”.

Have a merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

Baci,

Bianca Vallorz

Sunnyvale

Resurrection, Br. 408

Buon Natale!

Thank you to all of new 2015 Br 408 Officers! Remember Installation of 2015 Officers will be at Branch 391 St. Martin of Tours starting with a 10 AM Mass on the second Saturday of the New Year – that is Saturday 10 January 2015. This is a change to our normal Pattern. This will be followed by Installation of 2015 Branch and District Officers in the Church at 11 AM and with the Luncheon at the Three Flames Restaurant on Meriden after the Installation.

We host our final Blood Drive of the Year on Sunday 7 December 2014 in the Farana Center from 8AM – 1PM. Please pray for Donors.

Our Christmas Potluck will be held at 6 PM on December 8th in the Double Alcoves. Chef John Parker will prepare his famous Lasagna once again.

We will hold our Fundraising Raffle of the Christmas Creche to raise money for the Education of the Diocesan Seminarians once again this year. Last year our own John Parker was the winner of this beautiful creche.

Please remember to include our sick members in your prayers - especially for Monsignor Milani, Fr. George, Edith Novak, Al’s wife Syd, Carolyn O’Connor, John Parker’s wife Barbara, Susie Quaglia, and Aldo Lucaratti.

Santa Rosa

Napa

San Giuseppe, Br. 12

Our Thanksgiving Dinner was well attended. The meal prepared by the Officers, was outstanding. We were privileged to have our District Deputy Kathy Acquistapace visiting us.

We welcomed Ann Molinari back as she has been absent due to surgery for several months. Joan Sweeney is chairing our December 8th Christmas Party to be held at Fume Restaurant. Happy Thanksgiving to one and all.

Juliann Fontana, President

Santa Rosa

Santa Rosa, Br. 18

We held our last meeting of 2014, November 5th. Amazing what we get done in a year; three fund-raising dinner dances to finance donations to Catholic Charities, Cooley’s



The winning team, The M&M’s, from Branch 368, left to right, Mike DeAnda, Marcello Ridi, Mike Ingoglia, and Mike Cordoni, won the bocce ball tournament at St. Frances Cabrini parish.

Anemia research, Life Pregnancy Services, Handicappeds, Yountville Veterans Home, Memorial Masses for our deceased members, Christmas gifts for local care homes, Bishop’s Day –scholarships for future priests, ICF scholarships-(2)@ \$400.00. Congratulations to Branch 18! Many thanks to all who helped with our November 22nd Festa D’Autunno Dinner Dance. Join us, December 3rd, 1:00 P.M., Sweet T restaurant, 2097 Stagecoach Road, #1, Santa Rosa, everyone pays their own way. Donations of non-perishable

food items for the poor are welcome. NOTE: next meeting; January 7, 2015, attendance drawing prize , \$35.00. Winner must be present to collect prize, location; 303 Stony Point Road, Santa Rosa, CA, 1 P.M.

Buon Natale e Buon Principio a tutti.

Marie Canale

Healdsburg

St. Francis de Sales, Br. 52

The first Polenta Dinner of the season was a great success. Thank you to Scott Cavallo and his crew for cooking a great dinner with homemade sausage.

Upcoming Events:

December 5: Christmas Party. Happy Hour: 5:45 PM. Dinner: 6:30 PM. Price: \$10.00 Adults, children under 12: free. Reservations: Dee Rochester, 433-5454 or Mary Madden 431-0438. A special guest from the North Pole will be at the party!

Jan. 13: Regular meeting in the Rectory. 7:00 PM.



Brother Paul McCarty will soon become the Branch 12 Chaplain. They are so happy to have a Chaplain and one that can attend their monthly meetings.



(Top Left) President Margo Kosta, Branch 103.

(Top Right) Chef Diane Klauber of Branch 103.

(Bottom Left) Members setting tables at Branch 103.

a winner with a bevy of consolation prizes available for those who couldn't manage to stop on the right number! Thanks, Kristine Caturegli, for helping to organize the walk.

We're looking forward to our November 20th dinner meeting in which we will load our baked potatoes with vegetables, bacon, cheeses, sour cream and anything else we can think of! Afterwards we will improve and improve our 2015 Calendar of Events.

Patsy Buchignani

Sonoma

St. Sebastian, Br. 103

The members said a sad "goodbye" to our long-time member, officer, and wonderful person--Don Grant--who passed away in November. Our sincere condolences to his widow, Jo, and his family. He will be more than missed!

The December Christmas dinner will be a special price of \$10 for members and \$15 for guests. Chef Diane promises a superb meal with some surprises. For dinner reservations, call Marie-Therese at (707) 935-3943 FOR THIS MONTH ONLY.

Acting President and the officers wish all the members a most Blessed and Merry Christmas.

Buon e Santo Natale,

Marie-Therese Denning

Petaluma

St. Vincent, Br. 127

Greetings from Petaluma!

Well by now we have celebrated Halloween and Thanksgiving. Hoping you have had wonderful holidays and now we are looking forward to our Christmas Holiday. I love Christmas, with thoughts of our Holy Family, the birth of the Christ Child, the beautiful carols sung and the gathering of families celebrating all over the world. Christmas should be everyday of the year. The greatest gift that anyone can give is the gift of love and helping others who are in need. Tell your loved ones and your friends how much they mean to you.

Branch 127, has had a good year. Our Lead-

er Bruno Fomasi has been a great President and we thank him for all he has done. He has had a great group of Officers and members of the Branch who have given him a lot of support. Thanks to all of you as well. I will give a report on who our new Officers will be in the coming year in my next Bollettino article. Thanks too, to our Branch Chaplain Father Culligan for always being there at our meetings.

Thanks to Leo and Josephine Lavio and Giacomo Manni, Bruno Fomasi, and all who helped in any way to make the Polenta/Stew Dinner a success. The food was delicious and the warmth of friendship filled the Hall. Everyone enjoyed the wonderful dinner prepared.

Our Christmas Party will be January 13th following the 5:00 p.m. Quarterly Mass for Deceased and Living Members at St. Vincent's Church and will be held at the Boulevard Café. Make your reservations with Kathleen Walker - 763-7354.

There will be a Soup/Dessert Nite at our next meeting which will be January 12th in the Church Hall at 6:00 p.m. at the cost of \$5. If you plan to attend please make your reservation with Louise - 769-7389 as we need to know how many will be attending.

Please keep your prayers going for Judi Fomasi, Louis Vicino and Frank Cresci. Also get well wishes to our District Deputy Kathy Acquistapace and to anyone else who is ill. Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary wishes to all celebrating this month.

May the blessings of good health and much happiness to you and your families be yours during this Christmas Season and in the coming New Year. Plan to come to all the meetings in the coming year and support your President and your Branch.

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

Ciao,

Louise Vicino

Arcata

St. Mary, Br. 144

News! For the dark winter months we are trying to have daytime meetings. They will be on our regular dates, but at 1:pm. Our next meeting will be December 3, at 1pm.

The only changes of Officers for 2015 are: Financial Sec. is Marie La Banca, Tony La Banca will replace Jeff Mills as Trustee.

Thanks to all who helped with the November Coffee Hours and the Biscotti sale. Thanks also to you who contributed goods, and or money for the District Christmas Basket and Raffle.

If you need a beautiful calendar with lots of chances to win \$, please contact Linda Spallino (822-0295) We have had several local winners (one was \$100).

Please pray for our ill: Shar Evans, Ben Mills, Toni Green, and Elsie Pialorsi.

December is a magical time! The lights, the



Jerry Colivas and Alfred Eanni preparing the scholarship spaghetti fundraiser dinner held at St. Bernard's parish hall on Columbus Day.

trees, the music, the miracles, and the true good-will to all, all give glory to God. Gift giving reminds us of the stupendous gift that God gave us through the birth of His Son, Jesus. So let's try to make the gifts we give others glorify God.

The best gifts are of little financial cost...they are gifts of ourselves, our love, our service, our spiritual support, forgiveness and NO fighting. Have a Blessed Christmas.

Ciao.....Linda

Eureka

St. Ambrose, Br. 145

The month of October was a busy and productive month for our branch. Our October 14th meeting opened with the minutes of the previous month's meeting; approved as read.

Next Joe Bonino gave a detailed report of our October 12th spaghetti fund raiser dinner. The dinner was an amazing success! There are so many to thank from all members to many non-members. A big thank you to Jerry Colivas and Greg Griffith, and also non-member Alfred Eanni. They had a great time working together. Thank you to everyone for their help from setting up, decorating, and to all our wonderful servers. You did a magnificent job! A big thanks to many local community vendors for their donations to support our event. Lastly, we would not have had the success that we did without all who attended to support our cause.

It is time to elect officers again. We will discuss this at our next meeting.

We have decided to change the time of our meetings to 1:00 p.m. in hopes of improving attendance for the winter months. Our next meeting will be on November 11th at 1:00 p.m. Please attend.

Other dates for your calendar are December 9th for our branch Christmas Party. Remember to bring a snack to share and December 14th at 11:30, we will have our cocoa party. Please bring a festive snack to add to our table. The children have a great time, and it is a great time to give back something to all in the spirit of Christmas.

Please pray for all of our members who are ill or recovering, especially our sister Anita Pera. She is recovering from a fall. We wish you a speedy recovery Anita!

Give thanks for all of your blessings,

Nancy Paoli

Santa Rosa

St. Eugene, Br. 198

Dear Brothers & Sisters

As we come to the end of 2014 we should remember the many members who helped



Greg Griffin preparing meat for the sauce for the Branch 145 spaghetti dinner.

Cloverdale

L'Anunciata, Br. 75

The 2015 Officers' Roster remains unchanged except for Ceil Casciaro asking to resign as Secretary and Lori Schandel accepting the nomination to replace her. Thanks Ceil, for a job well done and thanks, Lori, for relieving Ceil of this task and allowing her to "relax" a bit at our meetings.

Junior members, Samantha and Kyle Stewart ran our Cake-Walk to help generate funds for our Religious Education programs at the parish Dia de los Muertos event on All Saints Day. Samantha kept the music going and Kyle spun the dial to select the winners. We had so many beautiful cakes/cupcakes brought in by branch members that our table could barely contain them! Every child was

make this one of our best years.

Bob sends thanks to our cooks; Randy Apel, Ernie Giampaoli, Bill Scinto and Dick Carrera. Thanks go to our kitchen workers: Vic Torchio Jr, Kathy Acquistapace, Claire Giampaoli, Becca Carrera, Mary Desideri and Cheryl Brown. Many thanks to our bartenders John Kennedy, Vinnie Buttener and Vic Torchio Jr. For her flower decorations Marie Lagomarsino. Thank you to the helpers: Marg & Mike Milano, Frank & Lorraine Castelli, Gail & Steve Azevedo, Juanita Russell, Dolores Neal, Linda Pisenti and Gene & Annie Zingarelli. Also our wine donor Joe Saludes. Plus the many more though unnamed, who give their time to help in whatever way needed.

Our 49th Anniversary Dinner will be on Monday January 5, 2014 with hosted cocktails at 5:30 and dinner at 6 p.m. Randy Apel will cook the dinner. The cost is \$ 10.00 per person.

Pray for all our members, but with special intentions for Marlene Scinto, Rose Anne Sikes, Kathy Acquistapace, Vic Torchio Sr, Lorraine Vannetti and Frank Castelli.

Merry Christmas to all,

Lorraine Castelli

Sebastopol

St. Michael, Br. 209

Our October meeting was conducted as an informal meeting. St. Sebastian's parking lot had been prepared for new paving on the scheduled meeting date. Our usual potluck provided many delicious dishes to share.

On October 25th, we held our Chicken & Polenta Dinner. Although attendance was smaller (due to four other local dinners scheduled for that night), we still had a very nice turnout. As usual, the dinner was well prepared and we received many positive comments.

Our member, District President Dante Corsetti, reported that there were 46 attendees at the Day of Reflection hosted by St. Eugene's. Dante also announced that the Annual Christmas Party for the delegates to the Santa Rosa District Counsel will be held at St. Eugene's on Sunday, December 14th.

President Barbara gave a brief report on the "Anointing of the Sick" Mass and reception. Everything went well including the meals for students from Hayward who worked cleaning our church grounds. In appreciation for the meals provided during the day, the young students entertained members with a musical program.

Santa Rosa District Installation will be held on January 31st in Cloverdale.

Thanks, also, to our longtime member, Mercy Medrano, who once again donated tea towels for our kitchen use.

Upcoming:

December 2 -- Board Meeting

December 6 -- 48th Anniversary Ravioli Dinner -- Call Lona (707) 527-1021 for tickets

December 9 -- Branch 209 Christmas Party

Ciao,

Lona Bertoli

Stockton

District Council

Tony and Ida Queirolo hosted the Stockton District Meeting in their kitchen on a beautiful fall day November 9. All five branches were represented and treated to the Queirolo's delicious polenta and chicken cacciatore, green salad, bread, wine, and dessert. Thank you for your hospitality.

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES DIOCESE OF SANTA ROSA



PEACE OF MIND * PERSONAL CHOICE * DIGNITY & TRADITION

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL OUR OFFICES AT:

SANTA ROSA - (707) 546-6290 SANTA HELENA - (707) 963-1703

PETALUMA/SONOMA - (707) 762-8462

WWW.CATHOLICCEMETERIES-DSR.ORG * WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CATHOLICCEMETERIESSR

Catholic Cemeteries . . . A Legacy of Faith

The 2015 officers were elected as follows: President, Annette Elissagaray; 1st VP, Lucy Orsi; 2nd VP, Robert Pachinger; Recording Secretary, Annette Pachinger; Corresponding Secretary, Karen Rosson; Financial Secretary, Mary Kingshill; Treasurer, Ida Queirolo; Orator, Anna Mello; Trustees, Rita Baretta, Dan Amoral, Serena Martocchio; Sentinel, Tom Silvaggio. Congratulations!

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events

January 4, 2015 (Sunday) Installation of Officers, St. Stanislaus Church, 709 J Street, Modesto Br. 43. Mass at 1 p.m. Installation immediately following. Lunch served approximately 2:30 p.m. in adjacent hall. \$15/person Menu: Polenta, Chicken Cacciatore, California Mixed Vegetables, Green Salad, Dessert

February 15, 2015 (Sunday) District Meeting hosted by Br. 390 Tracy, Fr. Fleming Hall, St. Bernard Church, 163 E. Eaton Ave., Tracy. 1:30 p.m. \$8/person

March 28, 2015 (Saturday) Bishop's Burse, St. Stanislaus Church, 1200 Maze Blvd. Modesto, Br. 43 Details in next edition Happy 70th Birthday to Russ Stephens! Our thoughts and prayers go out to Amy and Ron Schmidt from Angels Camp for speedy recoveries.

Advent season is now upon us. This is the last article of the year before celebrating the coming of our Savior. Make time in each day to reflect upon His promise of hope, peace, joy, and love.

Karen Rosson

Modesto

St. Stanislaus, Br. 48

We will have our Christmas Potluck December 10, 2014 at 6:00 pm. Bring your favorite dish and your family and join us.

The Stockton District Installation will be Sunday January 4, 2015 at old church at 709 J Street. Mass will be at 1:00 pm with the installation and luncheon to follow. The menu will be Chicken Cacciatore, Polenta,



ICF Branch 390 and YMI in Tracy held their annual Polenta Dinner and had the biggest turnout to date. Hard-working contributors are shown here (l-r): Serena Martocchio, Annette Elissagaray, Mike Bacchetti and Letty Fornasero.

Green Salad, Mixed Vegetables and bread and Dessert. The cost is \$15.00. Mark the date on your calendar.

For the Installation each branch is asked to bring enough dessert for thirty people. We would appreciate those that are able to come by 12:00 noon to help us set up.

Branch 48 will be hosting The Bishop's Burse for Stockton District Saturday March 28, 2015 starting with mass at 12:00 noon at the new church at 1200 Maze Blvd. A social hour and dinner will follow mass at the community center next door. Please save the date. Bring your family and friends. More details will be in the following bollettinos.

Mass for our deceased members will be Sunday December 7, 2014 8:00 am and Sunday January 4, 2015 8:00 am at the Maze Blvd. Church

We wish everyone a Blessed Christmas.

Coming up:

Dec 10 -- Meeting and Christmas Potluck St. Stanislaus Hall 7 & K Streets Modesto

Jan 4 -- Installation of officers 709 J Street

Modesto

Feb 11 -- Meeting St. Stanislaus Hall 7 & K Streets Modesto

Feb 15 -- District meeting -- Tracy

Cecelia McGhee

Tracy

St. Bernard, Br. 390

Officers for 2015 were elected at the end of October meeting. Also present and adorable were the children of members who came dressed in their Halloween costumes and participated in their own little parade. Their costumes were so well done that we had to guess who some of them were! November's annual Polenta Dinner was the biggest yet! Hard-working ICF members, co-sponsored with the help of YMI of St. Bernard's Church, beat the bushes for ticket sales and were rewarded with almost double last year's attendance. Funds raised will be divided evenly between the two organizations. The turkeys weren't the only ones who were stuffed during November - so were



Branch 390 in Tracy invited children to march in the parade at their monthly dinner, and look how darling the results were!

the members who attended the November 20 dinner meeting full of turkey and all the trimmings. Members attending that dinner also contributed to the canned food drive for Tracy Interfaith Ministries. We are as excited as the children that Mr. and Mrs. Claus have agreed to add our December meeting to their busy holiday schedule on December 11. We're pretty sure the dynamic red duo will be bringing treats and gifts for the children present at that meeting.

Have a happy and blessed Christmas with your families everyone!

...and a safe New Year!

Betty Hollars

Stockton

Church of the Presentation, Br. 395

It has been a busy few months for Branch 395 since we returned from the summer break. Our branch participated in the St. Mary's Olive Oil Festival held September 28. At that time we signed up two new members and we got contact information from a number of people who expressed interest in joining our branch. Our meeting in October was our quarterly Communion/Mass meeting. Our November meeting is November 13 at which we will enjoy a potluck dinner and welcome the two new members. Seven of our members attended the Stockton District meeting on Sunday, November 9 at Queriolo's Kitchen in Lathrop and enjoyed a wonderful Polenta and Chicken Cacciatore dinner. Upcoming events:

December 13 (Saturday) – Christmas Luncheon 12:00 noon – Guadalupe Hall

January 4, 2015 (Sunday) – Installation of Officers, St. Stanislaus Church, Modesto

Blessings to all for a wonderful Thanksgiving and Blessed Christmas.

Ciao,

Josephine Weber, President, Branch 395

Tucson

Green Valley

Our Lady of the Valley, Br. 425

Most of our snowbird members have returned and our ICF community is humming with activity. The membership drive resulted in nine guests attending the October dinner and there are that many more guests invited to our November potluck. We have installed two new members and anticipate a significant increase in our ranks once our prospects experience the sharing of the proceeds derived from our fundraising. Our annual Lasagna "Take Out" dinner resulted in more than 350 packaged meals being handed out as customers drove through the church parking lot.

Following last month's discussion, Branch

425 members voted overwhelmingly to join with Tucson Branches 433 and 434 in the creation of a new District.

In a display of community spirit, our Branch was represented in the annual White Elephant parade, Green Valley's biggest event of the year. We have a full schedule of fundraising activities for the next six months.

Barbara Barton

Tucson

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Br. 434

Branch #434 has been very busy since we



Branch 434 had fun at the Sock-Hop!

resumed meetings in August. Our second "Sock Hop Dance Party" was held September 13. Party goers dressed in poodle skirts, jeans, tee shirts, and saddle shoes danced to the music of "Jukebox Journey." They enjoyed the hula hoop, bubble gum blowing contests and others. Dancers ranged in age from toddlers to great grandparents. The malt shop food was delicious. Root beer floats were especially popular. Thanks to all our members who worked so hard to make this event a success.

Our branch was privileged to participate in the 39th annual Rosary Celebration held at or parish, Elizabeth Ann Seton. Bishop Gerald Kicanas thanked the Knights of Columbus for introducing this celebration to the Tucson Diocese four years ago.

Members of various catholic organizations came together to honor Mary, under her title



the Immaculate Conception. It was truly inspirational to join with 1,140 others praying the rosary together. The Very Reverend Juan-Diego Brunetta, a Dominican friar, was the featured speaker. Fr. Brunetta encouraged devotion to Mary because of her holiness, her unquestioning faith, and her ability to intercede for us with her son, Jesus Christ.

Our next activity is our Parish Ministry Fair October 25 and 26 after all masses. ICF Br. 434 will interact with parishioners and encourage them to attend our functions and meetings. We will be serving Donna Raffanti's famous home-madebiscotti. That should insure a good attendance!

Mass will be celebrated on October 25, to honor and remember our deceased members Tony Gatto, Helen Michalowski and Debbie Domanico.

Kathy Gatto

Dan Casagrande
Local Reverse Mortgage Expert

I am a **top producing** local reverse mortgage expert and enjoy answering all of your reverse mortgage questions.

- **HIGHER PAYMENTS** coming with your current interest-only home equity line of credit reset?

NO MONTHLY PAYMENTS ever with a reverse mortgage!

- **REVIEWING** a current reverse mortgage proposal?

COMPARE RATES & FEES.
We are #1 for very good reasons.

- **Want a reverse mortgage but your spouse is younger than 62?**

Not a problem! Get a FREE quote today!

RECEIVE up to \$10,000 in tuition credits for each of your grandchildren as a reverse mortgage client!



CALL ME Today
408-297-0000

www.ReverseManDan.com
dan.casagrande@S1L.com

ICF # 227 Branch Officer



NMLS#561104 NMLS#107636

A Division of Reverse Mortgage Solutions, Inc.
Licensed by the Department of Business Oversight under
the California Residential Mortgage Lending Act #4131074

