



BOLLETTINO



*Buon Natale!
Merry Christmas!*



All the branch members after being initiated.

ICF Opens Branch 443 in Simi Valley, as St. Gianna

Anne Interrante
Grand Trustee

On Friday, November, 6, 2015, the ICF welcomed Branch 443, St. Gianna to St. Rose of Lima in Simi Valley, California.

Helping the ICF reach this day were members of the Expansion Team and Central Council Members including: Past Grand President and Life Member of the Central Council David Botta, Past Grand President and Central Council Life Member Emeritus Carmen

Kilcullen, CC Grand Trustee Anne Interrante, Central Council Member Emeritus Patricia Mages and her husband Lou.

This Mistress of Ceremonies for the day's events was Carmen Kilcullen. Lou Mages presented the new branch with its banner.

Grand President Leonard Zasoski, Jr. had the honor of initiating the charter members and installing officers of Branch 443. This is the first branch to open under Zasoski's term as Grand President. The Marshals for the day were Anne Interrante, Grand Secretary Lauren Kilcullen, and Patricia and Lou Mages.

continued on page 2

ICF Honors Past Grand President Robert Basuino

Michelle Feldman
Editor

On Saturday, November 7, 2015, the Italian Catholic Federation hosted a testimonial dinner honoring Past Grand President and Central Council Life Member Robert Basuino.

The evening's festivities were held at Fiorillo's Restaurant, in Santa Clara, California. Members of the ICF from Bob's branch, Branch 191; members of the Santa Clara Valley District; members of the Central Council; ICF members from various branches and districts throughout the Federation; and Bob's family and friends gathered together during the no-host cocktail hour to catch up with one another.



continued on page 8

Grand President's Monthly Message

by Leonard Zasoski, Jr.

Another year quickly comes to an end and we need to take the time to reflect back on all that we have accomplished in our branches and local parish communities. As individuals we made the choice to join an organization, the Italian Catholic Federation, which promotes faith, family, enjoys fellowship among its members and helps others.

Your commitment to the Federation throughout the year has enabled students to receive scholarships, those with Cooley's Anemia to have a fighting chance, our Gifts of Love program to help those in need, and your parish

communities to benefit from not only your monetary donations but the sense of community that your branch brings through your events.

To remain successful you must always be marketing what your branch does throughout the year. Smile, brag about all that you have accomplished as a branch, in the past and in the present.

As we start a New Year, be open to innovative ideas. Change is healthy, maybe you change up a menu for one of your dinner events, maybe you ask your parish priest to assign you a new task for the year to assist him with a parish program, and maybe you plan a completely new event. Be open to all ideas presented and throw out the phrase, "we don't do it that way,"



or "that is not a good idea."

Our faith is what binds all of us together, no matter our heritage. The Italian roots as an organization is what gives us the sense of family. We are charged to bring others into our family and closer to the church.

Christmas is a time of joy and giving, which we should carry with us throughout the year. We should not only carry the light of Christ with us in our hearts but look for that light in others and make it shine.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all members of the Italian Catholic Federation a blessed holiday season.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Zasoski Family – Leonard, B.G., Andrew, Joey and my mother, Marian.

Leonard Zasoski, Jr.

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 10/01/15: 7,400
Subscription Rate: \$6.00 year

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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:

2016 Bishops' Days:

- Feb. 13 Tucson
- Mar. 6 Stockton
- Mar. 13 Oakland – tent.
- Apr. 3 San Francisco (San Francisco,
San Mateo & Marin)
- Jul. 31 Monterey (Central Coast)

2016 District Installations:

- Jan. 3 Stockton
- Jan. 9 Santa Clara Valley
- Jan. 10 San Francisco
- Jan. 16 San Mateo
- Jan. 16 Joint Installation of Br. 144,
Arcata and Br. 145, Eureka
- Jan. 17 East Bay
- Jan. 17 Los Angeles (includes San
Fernando Valley, San Gabriel Valley and
Santa Barbara/Ventura)
- Jan. 19 Marin
- Jan. 23 Contra Costa
- Jan. 23 Santa Rosa
- Jan. 30 Central Coast
- Jan. 30 Orange
- Jan. 30 San Bernardino
- Jan. 31 San Diego
- Feb. 9 Las Vegas
- Feb. 13 Tucson
- Feb. 21 Fresno

Letter to the Editor

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you who sent cards, mass cards, flowers, and the many, many donations to the Providenza Fund and Gifts of Love during Joe's illness and passing. And, also for remembering him and missing him at convention. Such an outpouring of love and sympathy! It is a very humbling experience. God bless you all!

Jackie Donato

Br. 367, Las Vegas, NV

A Child is Born to Us!

IS 9:1-6

Monsignor Daniel Cardelli
Spiritual Director ICF
ICFSpiritDir@aol.com

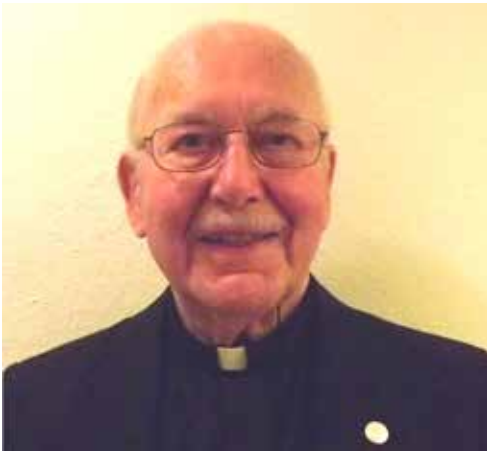
A child born two thousand years ago changed the world! The present day calendar is set by His birth. His name is Jesus, the Savior, the Redeemer, the Son of God. He is known and loved throughout the world.

He came to "light a fire." The fire of Love, of Faith, of Hope. The whole world celebrates His birthday. It is Christmas! It is a time of Joy, good cheer and gift giving. "Peace on



earth to men of goodwill."

May the Peace of Christ fill the hearts of the officers and members of the ICF.



The branch officers with Fr. Shea and Grand President Leonard Zasoski, Jr.

New Branch

continued from page 1

There were a grand total of 69 adults and 18 children installed as charter members. That equals 87 members and 9 family memberships.

The new officers are:

President: Joey Lo Dolce

1st Vice President: Rita Downey

2nd Vice President: Chris Fabry

Recording/Corresponding Secretary: Linda Fabry

Financial Secretary: Frank Saraceno, Jr.

Treasurer: Robyn Castillo

Orator: Fran Morley

Trustees: Maria Di Battista, Frank Saraceno, Sr., Barbara Tweedy

Sentinel(s): Marianne and Rick Boerem and Enza Pro

Chaplain: Father Joseph Shea

Deputy: Lou Mages

Branch 443 has chosen St. Gianna Berretta Molla as their saint. She is the patron saint for mothers, physicians and preborn children.

There were 90 guests in attendance for the inauguration of the branch. The ICF was well represented at the opening of Branch 443. There were members from 9 branches/3 districts in attendance, including: Br. 317 Diamond Bar, Br. 374 La Canada Flintridge, Br. 108 Pasadena, Br. 67 Los Angeles, Br. 380 Thousand Oaks, Br. 52 Healdsburg, Br. 281 Bakersfield, Br. 111 and 118 both from



GP Leonard Zasoski, Jr. give the branch charter to the new Branch President Joey Lo Dolce.

Montebello.

Thank you to the day's photographers: Lauren Kilcullen, Tad Shaw and Richard Interrante.

All in attendance enjoyed a delicious Italian dinner from Viva la Pasta in Simi Valley. There was a great raffle that was assisted by the children in attendance. Items included gift baskets with themes - Italian, Bath, Tea, Wine, Kids's Gift Baskets.

The next branch meeting will be Friday, December 11 at 7:00pm. It will also be the branch's Christmas Party.

Save the Dates:
September 2 - 5, 2016

ICF National
Convention

Fresno, California

Theme:

Called To Be
Merciful

2016 Convention Director: Roselynn Jarrett - Committee: Reverend Monsignor Daniel Cardelli, Denise Antonowicz, James Jones, Lauren Kilcullen, Franklyn Lopes, Deborah Rodondi - Advisor: Steven Fuentes - Assistant: Nettie Descalso-Del Nero - Member-at-Large: Fresno District President Allen Watts

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



GP Leonard Zasoski, Jr. gives the gavel to the new Branch President Joey Lo Dolce.

ICF HISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

Jingle Bells! Jingle Bells!

David Botta and Carmen Kilcullen
Past Grand Presidents

Since this is the Christmas issue, we thought that we would highlight some of the Christmas events and traditions of many of our branches. Most branches do something for their Christmas meetings. Some of these ideas may inspire you to try something new.

- Attend the Oakland Children’s Hospital annual Christmas party on Dec. 2, 2015 for the children suffering with Cooley’s Anemia.
- Have a fun Christmas dinner at the branch, possibly exchanging small gifts.
- Do a presentation of the nativity with the children of the branch.
- Candlelight procession in the church to the nativity scene singing Christmas hymns.
- Send your branch’s Christmas ad to the Bollettino.
- At the Christmas party, have Santa give gifts to the children present.
- Playing and singing Christmas music at the party.
- Donate food to food banks and shelters.
- Bring small gifts to the people in retirement homes.

- Schedule a Christmas party for people in shelters and retirement homes.
- Have a raffle for a Nativity set. It can be purchased online.
- Bring toys to children in hospitals.
- As a group, attend a Christmas show in your area.
- Have a Christmas piñata for the children at your party.
- Have the children (even the adults) make Christmas decorations for the party.
- Present the story of the Befana.
- Heritage Chairperson could present how Christmas is celebrated in various parts of Italy.
- Invite a local high school or community group to present a Christmas musical to the branch.

We have now been doing this column for over a year. The intent is to present something of the history of the ICF. Many of our members are new and are not aware of our rich past and traditions. We hope that this column fulfills this purpose.

Both of us wish you and yours the most joyous and blessed Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year. Buon Natale a tutti!!!

Branching Out

Anne Interrante
CC Grand Trustee,
Public Relations Committee Member



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

Branch 195 in Calumet City, Illinois offers a Variety of Ideas:

We all know about opportunity drawings where a winning ticket keeps half the earnings. How about the non-winning tickets? Well, this branch collects them every month (with member names indicated) and enters them in a special drawing at the annual Christmas Party where the prize is \$100. There are no tickets sold at the Christmas Party, so the only way to win the prize is to attend the monthly general meeting. This is a great way to encourage monthly participation and add a little fun to the end of the year celebration.

Guest Speakers are also a big hit for monthly meeting programs. Branch 195 members make it a point to invite various professionals from the city to share their expertise. For example, some presentations have included reverse mortgages and help with financial management. They are planning to invite the City Historian to a future meeting. Featuring

guest speakers is beneficial to members and it provides an avenue to reach out to other parishioners and community members to learn something new.

An important focus of the ICF is to support vocations. Branch 195 members sponsor a spiritual / social event that takes them to a local monastery. They tour the monastery and seminarians also give a presentation on what they do there. The afternoon closes with a prayer service and dinner hosted by the monastery. If you have a monastery / seminary near your branch, give them a call to find out if they offer tours, programs, open Masses, etc. This type of event not only builds community for branch members, it is an opportunity to embrace our spirituality alongside our future priests.

As this branch tries different things to meet the interests of its members, please do the same with your branch – try new things! I discover so many interesting ideas by just reading branch articles in our monthly Bollettino. We have so much to learn from each other. I applaud each and every branch for all they do for the Federation – you are amazing!



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

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

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



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

NOVEMBER CALENDAR WINNERS

DAY	NAME	BR	CITY	WINS
11/1	Daniel Quaresma		Woodbridge, VA	\$50
11/2	Alice Marshall	14	Concord, CA	\$50
11/3	Michael Falvey	209	Sebastopol, CA	\$30
11/4	Fr. Guglielmo Lauriola	1	San Francisco, CA	\$30
11/5	Debbie & Dan Johnson		Rodeo, CA	\$30
11/6	Crystal Watts	281	Bakersfield, CA	\$30
11/7	Catherine Cervelli	10	Alameda, CA	\$30
11/8	Carl Heller	14	Alameda, CA	\$30
11/9	Carole Gruss	12	Napa, CA	\$30
11/10	Janet Rosa	39	Merced, CA	\$30
11/11	Kate DeMartini		Rodeo, CA	\$50
11/12	Rosemary Janis	191	Campbell, CA	\$30
11/13	Jeff Bondi	31	Los Banos, CA	\$50
11/14	Tom Malaspina	327	Redwood City, CA	\$30
11/15	Josephine Parra		Modesto, CA	\$30
11/16	Lillian Pauletto	139	Manteca, CA	\$30
11/17	Rose Anna Cresci	127	Petaluma, CA	\$30
11/18	Gloria Ghirarduzzi	161	Corte Madera, CA	\$30
11/19	Jerry Ratti		Oakland, CA	\$30
11/20	Eileen McGauran	442	Pleasant Hill, CA	\$30
11/21	Kathy Filice	28	Gilroy, CA	\$30
11/22	Roger Honzik	75	Cloverdale, CA	\$30
11/23	Patricia Cordich	368	Gilroy, CA	\$30
11/24	David Taddei	343	Castro Valley, CA	\$30
11/25	Dorline Camozzi	127	Petaluma, CA	\$30
11/26	Mary Jane Womack		Merced, CA	\$100
11/27	Alan Levine		So. San Francisco, CA	\$40
11/28	Bob Zanoni	395	Stockton, CA	\$30
11/29	Paula Reynolds		Gilroy, CA	\$30
11/30	Anna Nanna	163	San Mateo, CA	\$30

Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza
Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations*

IN MEMORY OF:	DONATED BY:
Florence Pasquinelli	Roger and JoAnn Dorn
Joe Donato	Leroy and Stella Taddei
Joe Donato	Officers/Members of Br. 91
Joseph Donato	George and Diana Bacigalupi
Joseph Donato	Officers/Members of Br. 367
Joe Donato	Charles and Diane Lamon
Joe Donato	Lisa and Rosalind Crudo
Claude Weaver	Officers/Members of Br. 343
Joe Donato	Jim and Janice Jones
Florence Pasquinelli	Officers/Members of Br. 10
Joe Donato	Leonard and B.G. Zasoski, Jr.
Florence Pasquinelli	Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Dianda and Jane
Florence Pasquinelli	Mr. and Mrs. Fiore Marcheschi and Family
Joe Donato	Jo-Ann Maggiora-Donivan
Jeanne Coyne	Jo-Ann and John Donivan
Connie Dolci	Officers/Members of Br. 362
Mary Corona	Officers/Members of Br. 229
Florence Pasquinelli	Leroy and Stella Taddei
Florence Pasquinelli	Officers/Members of East Bay District
Eleanor Frusetta	Officers/Members of Br. 28
Eleanor Frusetta	Pat and Louie Cordich
Ann Darpiano	The Victor Tallarida Family
Richard and Lillian Valli	Valente, Marini, Perata and Co.
Carmel Tapiro	Teresa M. Hurlbut
Florence Pasquinelli	Giovanni and Nancy Corsi
Baci Fazio	Giovanni and Nancy Corsi

GET WELL WISHES:

David Botta	Ida M. Lomazzi
David Botta	Leroy and Stella Taddei
David Botta	Officers/Members of Br. 91
David Botta	George and Diana Bacigalupi
David Botta	Lisa and Rosalind Crudo
David Botta	Officers/Members of Br. 343
David Botta	Jim and Janice Jones
David Botta	Leonard and B.G. Zasoski, Jr.
David Botta	Mr. and Mrs. Franklyn Lopes, Sr.

IN HONOR OF:

Past Grand President Bob Basuino	Mike and Marcie Rossi
Past Grand President Bob Basuino	Officers/Members of Santa Clara Valley District

HAPPY 92ND BIRTHDAY:

Marie Antonowicz	Ed and Jo Bertaccini
Marie Antonowicz	Janice Jones

A donation was made to the Providenza Fund by JoAnn Maggiora-Donivan of Maggiora Jewelry from the proceeds of a sale of the new I.C.F. cross necklace offered by the store.

*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.

Gifts of Love D o n a t i o n s

<i>Donations Received By November 10, 2015</i>	Janelyn Russo Family
Branch 423	In memory of Horace J. “Diz” Russo
Aldine Grisenti	Liz Donaldson
Get well wishes for Elaine Davis	In honor of the birthday of Marie Antonowicz
Officers/Members of Br. 403	Bill and Maria Greco
In memory of Melba Sweeney	In honor of the 92 nd birthday of Marie Antonowicz
Adolfo and Carla Del Carlo	Mr. Charles Gullo, Jr.
In memory of Frank Sicco	
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph J. Sangiacomo	In memory of Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Gullo, Sr.
In memory of Olga Gutierrez	W. John Filice
The Gallinetti Family	In memory of Eleanor Frusetta
In memory of Albert Traille	

ICF Is Going Green!

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

DONATION REMINDER

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

Benvenuti Membri Nuovi

Report Date: 11/10/2015		GINA CASAGRANDE	Branch 443
		ISAAC CASAGRANDE	Branch 443
LEILA MEADOWS	Branch 027	JOSH CASAGRANDE	Branch 443
ANNE MARIE GRADER	Branch 040	TIM CASAGRANDE	Branch 443
JOSEPHINE M AMOROSO	Branch 050	JOEY LO DOLCE	Branch 443
MARIE GANDOLFO	Branch 050	MARILU LO DOLCE	Branch 443
JUDITH L FITCH	Branch 052	ROSI MADRID	Branch 443
AUDREY MAC VICAR	Branch 052	ELAINE M SCHUARTZ	Branch 443
CHLOE MAC VICAR	Branch 052	ROGER P SCHUARTZ	Branch 443
DEE DEE MAC VICAR	Branch 052	DIANA AMPER	Branch 443
GARY MAC VICAR	Branch 052	ORLANDO (LANNY) AMPER	Branch 443
SADIE MAC VICAR	Branch 052	MARIANNE L BOEREM	Branch 443
GERALDINE MC GRATH	Branch 052	RICHARD T BOEREM	Branch 443
GEORGIANN R MORRISSEY	Branch 075	LISA BURKE	Branch 443
ANN MARIE RIVAS	Branch 075	ROBYN CASTILLO	Branch 443
MATTHEW CAPO	Branch 108	MARGARET CHEN	Branch 443
REPARATA MAZZOLA	Branch 108	CATHY CULLEY	Branch 443
RONALD K CHIMENTI	Branch 139	CHRISTINA CULLEY	Branch 443
DARION A COLT	Branch 139	JULIANNE CULLEY	Branch 443
GARRISON M COLT	Branch 139	STEPHEN CULLEY	Branch 443
JULIAN M COLT	Branch 139	CARMEN V DE LA TORRE	Branch 443
MARY E COLT	Branch 139	JOHN DOWNEY	Branch 443
MIKE A COLT	Branch 139	RITAMARIE C DOWNEY	Branch 443
OLIVIERO J OLIVERI	Branch 139	ALEX FABRY	Branch 443
GARY MERCURI	Branch 173	BELLA FABRY	Branch 443
REV MICHAEL GAZZINGAN	Branch 191	CHRIS FABRY	Branch 443
VAL GOMES	Branch 191	DIANA FABRY	Branch 443
JUDITH SEGALE	Branch 209	JIM FABRY	Branch 443
WILLIAM SEGALE	Branch 209	LINDA FABRY	Branch 443
ABIGAIL EGUEZ	Branch 218	JOE GENTILE	Branch 443
JOANNA EGUEZ	Branch 218	KATHLEEN GENTILE	Branch 443
JOHN SOLLOMON EGUEZ	Branch 218	FRANCES HOKANSON	Branch 443
MAURICIO EGUEZ	Branch 218	MARYANN KENYON	Branch 443
LISA H RICCHIAZZI	Branch 218	JO KING	Branch 443
PAUL A RICCHIAZZI	Branch 218	TOM KING	Branch 443
JOANNE NORMAN	Branch 285	JENNIFER LEDDY	Branch 443
LYNN K STENSON	Branch 308	PATRICK LEDDY	Branch 443
CAROL GREEN	Branch 342	PENNY LIBERATORE	Branch 443
MAGGIE N WILLIAMS	Branch 342	MARIA LOOSBROCK	Branch 443
EMILY ENSTROM	Branch 395	REBECCA MILLER	Branch 443
MAX ENSTROM	Branch 395	VERONICA MILLER	Branch 443
SUSAN ENSTROM	Branch 395	FRAN F MORLEY	Branch 443
CARLO E SCHIFANO	Branch 416	MARILYN OLSON	Branch 443
LUISA RAVALICO	Branch 432	FELICIA PARKER	Branch 443
CAROL BARNETT	Branch 438	SANDRA PIZANO	Branch 443
JACQUELINE J COYNE	Branch 438	EILEEN T PRATT	Branch 443
KENNETH E COYNE	Branch 438	JAMES K PRATT	Branch 443
ANTHONY P CRAVOTTA II	Branch 438	KATHRYN PRATT	Branch 443
HANK J DEEKEN	Branch 438	KYLE PRATT	Branch 443
PIDGE C DEEKEN	Branch 438	ENZA PRO	Branch 443
THELMA KRALJEVICH	Branch 438	MARY JO RUMBALL-PETRE	Branch 443
DOROTHY MAURER	Branch 438	DOLORES SANTORO	Branch 443
DEBBIE M MOSCUZZA	Branch 438	FRANK SARACENO SR	Branch 443
TERESITA SANCHEZ	Branch 438	FRANK SARACENO JR	Branch 443
GARY F SCALORA	Branch 438	BARBARA R TWEEDY	Branch 443
ROBERTA K SCALORA	Branch 438	FRANK WILHELMI	Branch 443
NING WON PAT	Branch 438	JOSEPHINE (JO) WILHELMI	Branch 443
CELEST ABIGAIL AGUILAR	Branch 443	DIANE L ZORICK	Branch 443
LESLIE AGUILAR	Branch 443	MARK ZORICK	Branch 443
ISABEL BLANCO	Branch 443		

In Loving Memory

Report Date: 11/10/2015		FAUSTINA PICCHI	Branch 073
		LOUIS E GUGLIELMINO	Branch 075
MARGARET P BOITANO	Branch 012	HENRY BARTOLUCCI	Branch 139
SHIRLEY A LEWIS	Branch 025	ALBERT V CARDOZA	Branch 139
CORINNE M BONTURI	Branch 026	GINO MARTINUCCI	Branch 154
ELEANOR FRUSETTA	Branch 028	GRACE R PAULSON	Branch 169
PETER FAVAZZA	Branch 036	MARY G CORONA	Branch 229
JOSEFA NOLAN	Branch 036	VERONICA MONTEMAYOR	
GINA CANDILORO	Branch 051		Branch 326
SARAH A ENEA	Branch 072	JANICE C PEREZ	Branch 435

Cooley's Corner

Laurice 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 2016 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.



Central Council Meeting Minutes **DRAFT** Saturday October 17, 2015 Castro Valley, CA

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 am by Grand President Leonard Zasoski.
Opening Prayer: led by Msgr. Cardelli
Salute to Flag/ICF Pledge: Salute to the Flag was led by Steve Fuentes. GP Leonard Zasoski led the ICF Pledge.
Roll Call of Officers and CC Member:
Excused: Jim Friebel, Nina Malone.
CC Life Members Emeritus and Members Emeritus present: Bob Acquistapace, Carmen Kilcullen, Jerry Delfino, Pat Mages.
Introductions: GP Leonard Zasoski welcomed guests from visiting branches.

CC Meeting Minutes: Minutes for June 13, 2015 approved as presented.

Communications

- Thank you notes from the Archbishop of Chicago and Fr. Presta, the Director of Priestly Formation on behalf of Bishop McElroy of San Diego and the Bishop of Fresno for our Providenza Fund Donations to their dioceses.

Reports

Spiritual Director- Msgr. Daniel Cardelli

- Thanked the outgoing officers of Central Council, Districts and branches for jobs well done. Looking forward to a successful year in membership and growing spiritually closer to Jesus and fellow human beings, which is the whole purpose of the ICF. We're always in his prayers and Msgr. remembers us in his masses. If we need Msgr., he's available via e-mail, phone, letter.

Grand President – Leonard Zasoski
ATTENDED: Executive Committee Meetings on September 11 and October 2. Chicago Strategic Plan and Bishop's Day on Sept 19 and 20. There were 60 members at the

workshop. San Diego Bishop's Day. Finance meeting on October 2, Fresno Bishop's Day on October 4, Santa Rosa Bishop's Day on October 11. Lauren Kilcullen represented him at San Mateo District's 50th Anniversary. Andy Pappani presented the banner to Br.442, Pleasant Hill, on the occasion of their 2nd Anniversary.

TO ATTEND: Br. 7's 90th Anniversary, Las Vegas Bishops Day, Br. 443's opening, Bob Basuino's testimonial, Sacramento Bishop's Day and Santa Clara Valley Bishop's Day.

Grand Treasurer –Deborah Rodondi
Thanked Roselynn Jarrett for giving us a better understanding of our finances. Met with UBS and they reported that with our diversified portfolio we weathered the downturn of the market fairly well.
For the 2015 budget from January to September, so far everything is looking good.

Income: Per capita we have 500 delinquent in dues; Bollettino ads are down; liability insurance payments just starting to come in; we have done better than projected on the golf tournament and the cruise commission. Convention raffle is down by \$1500. Actual Total income at a good place.

Expenses: Bollettino mailing is up by about \$1950; Branch liability is up but Central Council liability is down; Central Council expenses are down by about \$5,200, postage is down by \$2245 thanks to our office staff using email and the website portals for much of our information. Total expenses so far are on budget.
We're on track for both income and expenses for the year. Mike Cannady has a concern with per capita because it's down. Deborah Rodondi said we have about 500 delinquent members, which is the reason for the decline.

Deputy Chairperson – Andy Pappani

- Nov. 1 – deputy meeting via teleconference.
- Br. 4 – got a full slate of officers
- Br. 435 – has president and all officers
- Br. 118 – will continue to remain open
- Br. 40 – will go to their meeting next

Cooley's Anemia Donations

Donations received by November 10, 2015

Branch 18
Branch 332

Scholarship Donations

Donations received by November 10, 2015.

Scholarship Donations - 1st Year

The Tschanner and Grimshaw Families
In memory of Gino Martinucci
Officers/Members of Br. 435
In memory of Janice C. Perez
Joe and Debbie Miglia
In memory of Gino Martinucci
Christine Sinnette
In memory of Gino Martinucci
Novacart, Inc.
In memory of Gino Martinucci

- Thurs.
- Br. 38 – will stay open. Andy talked to the branch President
 - Br. 5 – has a problem getting officers. Mike Rossi and Gerry Delfino are going to their officers meeting on Monday, October 19. Andy Pappani is going to their meeting on Thurs.
 - Br. 206 – closed. Vince Piro and Franklyn Lopes went to the meeting.
 - Br. 441 – Des Plaines – closed and sent all regalia to office
 - Br. 439 – waiting to see what happens with convention fine.
 - Br. 236 – will stay open to the end of the year.
- Andy wants to split Chicago into two areas – North and South areas to make is easier for deputies to go to branches. He hasn't determined how many branches would be in each area. Tucson – will be reassigning the district deputy.

Committee Reports

Workshop – Andy Pappani
Went over letter that goes out in presidents' packets and he will write a letter and send out to district presidents and deputies about having a workshop. He asked all Central Council members please push the workshop in your areas. For 2016, we will have one workshop format that will cover deputies, general information and strategic plan.

Ways and Means – Lisa Crudo
Late Nite Catechism will be postponed to the Springtime.

Calendar Raffle (Daily Raffle Book) – For 2017 calendar, the committee is looking at making it more interactive.

Golf Tournament – Leonard Rossi is in charge. Made over \$8500 at the July 2015 tournament. The 2016 tournament will be July 22, 2016 – Laguna Seca Golf Course.

Night at the Seminarians – Pat Mages to look at a venue in Southern California to balance the location. June will be the date.

Cruise – Looking at Caribbean Cruise in Nov. 2016 or Hawaii from LA or SF in Fall 2016.

Mike Rossi asked about producing an ornament, again. Lisa Crudo said the committee hadn't looked into it. We still have 90th anniversary ornaments and are looking at ways to sell those. Lisa Crudo will look into a new ornament. Roselynn Jarrett said the company that makes ornaments also does magnets, might be an alternative.

Membership Stats as of

October 31, 2015: 10,090

Members as of July 1, 2015:

10,074 = overall gain of 16 members!
New: 275
Reinstated: 10
Transfer in/out: 22
Deceased: -68
Cancelled: -195

High Five!

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

Santa Barbara	+62
Blessed Sacrament	+39
Stockton	+17
Fresno	+11
Santa Clara Valley	+11

GP Leonard Zasoski said without ways and means we'd be operating with more of a deficit. Everyone should try to promote the ways and means activities at our branches and Districts.

Task Force – Vince Piro

Primary goal is the strategic plan. Task Force offer a lot of other support to the other committees. Strategic plan workshops will be held in Orange, San Diego, Santa Clara, Tucson by the end of the year. Had four districts schedule workshops immediately after the Convention workshop.

Part of Strategic Plan is to look honestly at ourselves. We were probably overly ambitious for the first year. Vince sees several positive trends. We're moving forward, just not moving fast enough. Carmen Kilcullen reported that Cloverdale created a new brochure and picked up six new members. Theresa Helfand said that St. Francis Borgia is putting in an ad in the parish bulletin. She asked if we can get a new poster to put in churches? Roselynn Jarrett said the template exists in the office. Vince Piro said to bring the idea to Nina Malone to update it. Donna Raffanti said their parish started a ministry fair and the branch participates. Bob Acquistapace said to have a good relationship with the pastor right away.

12:00 PM break for lunch. Resumed meeting at 1:00 PM.

Scholarship – Franklyn Lopes

The committee received an e-mail from Los Angeles members re: increasing the 1st year scholarship to \$500. Committee met and is keeping it at \$400. Bob Acquistapace said Br. 198, Santa Rosa, gave an extra \$200 to each winner, thus increasing the overall scholarship to \$600. This way, the recipients are still part of the ICF program. Vince Piro asked if we've had a drop in applications because of the amount. Deborah Rodondi said no, we haven't received a drop. Problem is with 2nd, 3rd, and 4th year scholarships. We're receiving more applications and have much fewer scholarships.

Public Relations – Lauren Kilcullen
Apologized for the delay in the October Bollettino. The committee met, this morning, and the Editor has developed a schedule for printing and proofing for 2016, which should have the Bollettino online and delivered to

continued on page 7

BOOK REVIEW

Vince Piro
Grand 2nd
Vice President

A Variety of Children’s Books for Christmas

Every Christmas season, I am on the look out for books about Italians or Italian-Americans that I can give my children and grandchildren as gifts. This year, I am also looking for books about Pope Francis since there is much excitement in my family about his recent visit to the United States. Here are the publisher descriptions of some of my favorites that I found on shelves this year or that ICF members have passed my way. You can find these books on amazon.com, Barnes and Noble online or ordered through a store, or from your local book dealer. I hope one of them makes a great gift for your child.



A Picnic in October

by *Eve Bunting*

Tony thinks it’s dumb to have a picnic in October every year. He thinks it’s dumb to go all the way to Liberty Island for a birthday, too. It’s too far. And it’s too cold. And it’s just plain embarrassing. But that’s what he thinks before he helps the lady who can’t speak English--and before he begins to understand what the Statue of Liberty means to Italian-American Grandma. This picture book is intended for children from kindergarten through third grade.

Peppe the Lamplighter

by *Elisa Bartone*

In the tradition of Lois Lowry and Paul Fleischman, Elisa Bartone’s Caldecott Honor-winning book gives children a glimpse into American history and the immigrant experience. This is the story of Peppe, who becomes a lamplighter to help support his immigrant family in turn-of-the-century New York City, despite his papa’s disapproval. Peppe’s family is very poor, and though he

is just a boy he needs to find work. Being a lamplighter is not the job his father had dreamed of for Peppe, but when Peppe’s job helps save his little sister, he earns the respect of his entire family. This book is intended for children Grades 2-5.

Caterina’s Journey: An Italian-American Immigration Story

by *Maryann Pisano*

Caterina Tolitano and her family have decided to emigrate to America from Calabria, Italy. Caterina’s father, Antonio, has heard that America is the land of opportunity and the streets are paved with gold! Caterina leaves her beautiful town on a voyage to America. In America, life doesn’t get easier... but Caterina is up for the challenge!

Lessons from Pope Francis for Children

Angela M. Burrin

Pope Francis has lessons for all of us young and old alike. In this beautifully illustrated book, the Holy Father talks about God’s love, our friendship with Jesus, the gift of the Holy Spirit, the importance of prayer and taking care

of the poor, how to get along in our families, and more. Each lesson is paired with a story from the Bible from the parable of the Good Samaritan to the wedding feast at Cana. This is a wonderful way for children to understand the Holy Father’s teachings as they grow in their Catholic faith.

The Pope Who Loves Soccer

by *Michael Part*

While joining his fellow Cardinals in the Vatican to elect a new Pope, Jorge Mario Bergoglio, the Cardinal from Buenos Aires, Argentina, goes back in time to his childhood neighborhood in Buenos Aires, Argentina. This is the heartfelt story of a boy with a passion for music and the beautiful game. Young Jorge’s values were forged in the neighborhood soccer park, and by his family and his grandmother who loved him and inspired him. Jorge was a boy whose care and compassion for every human being took him from the streets of Buenos Aires to become Pope Francis, the head of the Catholic Church. This is also the tale of 1946, an amazing Championship year for Jorge’s beloved soccer club, San Lorenzo. It is a year where he never missed a game, and the one game he will never forget.

Family Recipes

By Deborah Rodondi
CC Grand Treasurer

I hope your Thanksgiving was filled with wonderful moments with family and friends. This year in my family some went duck hunting in the morning and then we all gathered for good food and stories. Every year we make new memories and sometimes even create new traditions. Thanksgiving is now behind us and we are preparing for the festivities of the Christmas Holidays.

I have found no matter what the holiday or special occasion when I ask what I can bring the response is always the same...French bread pizza appetizers and raspberry jello. When my family walks into my house or I enter theirs their eyes are searching for the containers known to carry these treats. My nephews are still trying to figure out a way I can ship these items to them now that they have moved out of state. These are both very easy recipes and a hit with all ages.

Let’s start with my favorite food first...the appetizer! My Great Aunt Roma (born and lived in Pleasanton and Livermore California), as I have mentioned before, she was a great one to experiment with recipes, found this one as a sandwich. She altered it to become one of our standard appetizers.



French Bread Pizzas

- 1 pound extra sharp cheddar cheese, grated
- 1 4 ounce can chopped olives
- 1 Large onion finely chopped
- ½ cup oil (I oftentimes use less)
- 1 8 ounce can tomato sauce (if you feel mixture is too dry add more sauce)
- Salt, pepper, garlic and ground oregano to taste
- Hot peppers/Tabasco sauce optional

Combine all ingredients, season to taste. On sliced baguettes spread mixture. Broil until bubbly. Serve hot.

You will need 3-4 Baguettes, the size around of a jumbo egg. I get the stale baguettes from a local bakery and they work really well.

Can freeze the pizzas ready for broiling, layer with wax paper so they don’t stick. Can also freeze mixture for future use.

When I make for family events I get a 2 pound grated bag of cheese, this makes plenty for the event with a nice amount to freeze for them and me.

You can get creative and add other ingredients or change some; but this is so good there is no reason to change a thing.

Raspberry Cream Salad

Dissolve 2-3 oz. packages (or 1 large) raspberry jello in 2 cups boiling water/pineapple juice from crushed pineapple.

Take off heat source.

Add 2 packages frozen raspberries and stir until berries are thawed.

Add 13 ounce can crushed pineapple, well drained (I squeeze excess juice out with my hand)

Add 2 chopped ripe bananas

Pour ½ of jello/fruit mixture into 9 x 13 pan (glass baking dish looks better).

Allow to set in refrigerator.

When firm, spread gently 1 to 1-1/2 cups sour cream over top (I drop the sour cream by dollops all over the top and spread using the back of a spoon).

Pour remainder of jello mixture over cream layer. Chill.

So easy and delicious! Put it out and watch it disappear. Can use strawberries instead of raspberries, but in my opinion the raspberries

are the best.

Wishing a wonderful and joyous Christmas and a festive and safe New Years from my family to yours. Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo! See you in 2016!

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

Buon Appetito!



Leonard Zasoski, Jr.
Vice President Construction Operations
Director of Safety

COLOMBO
Construction Company Inc.

Lic. # 191788

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Bakersfield, CA 93308-4945
(661) 316-0100
Fax: (661) 316-0101
lzasoski@colomboconstruction.com
www.colomboconstruction.com

General Contractors
Construction Management
Design/Build Services

CC Minutes

continued from page 5

members right around the beginning of the month. Lauren Kilcullen discussed some of the survey results. So far, 200 total responses have been received. The column / article that is read the most are the branch articles. The second most read column is the Monthly calendar winners. A new webmaster has been hired, Aaron Del Monte. Aaron will be working with Richard Interrante to transition to the new website design.

Membership – Nina Malone / GP
In Nina Malone’s absence, GP Leonard Zasoski said there is a lot coming out from the membership committee.

Live to Give – Bob Basuino
Thanked Jane Dianda and Laurice Levine. By May 1, will have everything ready for the Convention blood drive. Jane Dianda said 25 units of blood were donated at the Convention, which is more than the previous year. 31 people showed up to the blood drive. If any branch wants to hold a blood drive, contact the committee.

Hospitalization – Dante Galeazzi
In 2003 we had 1200 members in the plan. In 2015 we have 405 members. We need more participation. The plan needs to be promoted at branches. The committee would like to have a table at the convention or be able to discuss the hospitalization in front of the delegates. Nina Malone started updating the form, the committee will continue this. The committee motioned to give \$35,000 to the general fund. 3.93% of total fund. Motion passed.

Heritage – Denise Antonowicz
The committee has an aggressive agenda, this year. With the help of the district presidents, going to send out Heritage Highlights, which will focus on successful branches’ heritage programs. If your meetings are going to long, it’s not the fault of the heritage chairperson. Do not delete the heritage portion of the meeting. The committee wants to find out about other parades, etc. in each district. It’s our heritage that keeps us being who we are. The committee would like a workshop at the convention. Russ and Louise Vento will have a booth at the Convention. We are in need of a truck company to volunteer a flat bed; on which we can build our float. Float is ready to go; we just need a flat bed. When we’re entered into a parade, the truck is needed for two days. A 16-foot flat bed is what’s needed. Leonard Zasoski said he may be able to obtain a truck to use. Theresa Helfand said the ICF children were in Harry Caray’s float in Chicago.

Gifts of Love – Steve Fuentes
Bob Acquistapace spoke about telling Santa Rosa Catholic Charities about Gifts of Love and Catholic Charities submitting an application and being awarded \$2000 for bed bug proof mattresses. This stimulated other branches to download the form to get funds. Pat Mages said in August there were more donations given to local people and ICF people.

Expansion – Anne Interrante
Thanked Carmen Kilcullen and David Botta for their dedication the past few years. David Botta said the Br. 443 Simi Valley will open Nov 6. Anne Interrante, Pat and Lou Mages spent a lot of time doing the initial organization. David Botta suggested sending

Branch 443 congratulations card from other branches. There are 50 members (at this time). Each of committee member has been assigned to specific regions, some containing several districts. Within each of these regions, they have several tasks – find potential sites for branches, assess the opportunity, identify local branch members to help with expansion, and work as a team through the process of opening a branch. The goal is to increase the number of locally trained members to assist with future expansion. Another task of the committee is to develop guidelines and training for opening a branch – from identifying an opportunity all the way through inauguration and ongoing support. Out of our 18 districts, we have 8 districts with leads, some districts have multiple leads. Each Expansion Committee member has a goal to open one branch during this year.

Convention’ Director’s – Roselynn Jarrett
Thanked Steve Fuentes for eight years as Director. Looking forward to being the new Convention Director. The committee is going to focus on feedback from the surveys on workshops, programs, etc. The final budget from the Las Vegas Convention will be presented in February. The Fresno District is very excited to welcome the delegates. Roselynn will be meeting with the district in January. Roselynn has ideas about theme, parties, etc. Dante Galeazzi mentioned the Stockton District was concerned about the fining process. Leonard Zasoski said the Executive Committee is looking into it.

By-Laws & Rituals – David Botta
The by-law books are out at the printer. Made changes to the Central Council Statutes. Charlene Kramer is waiting for any changes from today to print out the new statutes.

Awards – Dante Galeazzi
Had fantastic winners at the last convention. The committee is thinking about a Youth Award for 14 – 20 years and change the Young Adult Award to 21 – 39 years old. The Youth Award would be presented at the local installation. Need to start now to get award winners, as it takes a while to get all the letters, application completed, etc. Committee members will call the district presidents to follow up.

Apostolate & Charity – Leonard Rossi
On the Apostolate / Charity Report, a section will be added which emphasizes the branch’s charitable contributions to their parishes - financial as well as volunteer services. Jane Dianda asked to add blood drives to the apostolate charity report.

Finance Committee – Deborah Rodondi
Next Finance meeting will be February 12th at 2:00 PM. A reminder we still have a few expense vouchers for convention we are waiting for. If you do not intend to submit one please let us know that also, so we can finalize the report.
PROVIDENZA FUND DONATIONS FOR 2016
The committee moved to keep the donations the same as 2015.
The committee moves to increase the convention registration fee from \$200 to \$225 dollars. (Last raised on October 13, 2012 from \$175 to \$200). Leonard Rossi asked if the increase in registration fees will be used to help pay for the added expenses of the Convention. Deborah said yes, they would. Motion passed. The Finance Committee reviewed the accounting procedures manual for the Central Council.

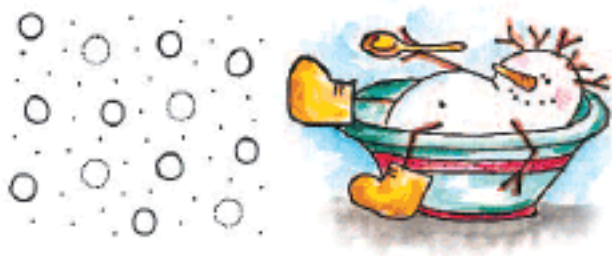
continued on page 8

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

Submitted by Roselynn Jarrett
Central Council Life Member

Snowman Soup Recipe

This is a great activity for the kids to do at an upcoming meeting or event and is a great beverage to enjoy with a birthday cake for Jesus. Place the following ingredients in a Ziplock bag or mug along with the poem. Provide hot water in pitchers for the teens or adults to pour.



Ingredients:

- 1 package hot chocolate mix
- 1 cup hot water
- 10 mini chocolate chips (eyes, mouth and buttons)
- 3 large marshmallows (snowman body)
- 1 candy cane (scarf)
- Optional orange straw (nose)

Process:

- Pour package of hot chocolate in cup, add water
- Add the chocolate chips and marshmallows
- Stir with candy cane
- Sip with or without the straw (when temperature is right)



Poem:

“Was told you’ve been real good
this year,
Always glad to hear it .
With freezing weather drawing near,
You’ll need to warm the spirit.
So here’s a little Snowman Soup,
Complete with stirring stick.
Just add hot water, sip it slow.
It’s sure to do the trick!”

CC Minutes

continued from page 7

Votes were taken on the changes, which cleaned up the verbiage. All Central Council members will receive the updated Accounting Procedures Manual at the February 2016 Central Council meeting and will have to sign that they have received it and read the manual. Deborah Rodondi discussed the proposed 2016 budget. Discussion followed on the line items. Bob Acquistapace asked what proposal the Public Relations committee is going to do about deficit of the Bollettino. Public Relations committee is going to be looking at the deficit and decide what to do – such as a per capita or dues increase, a decrease in issues or something else. After discussion, the 2016 budget passed.

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

Roselynn Jarrett made a recommendation about the Central Council directory to keep it as a letter size document with all the Central Council contact information and District Presidents, Deputies, etc. when we receive that information in early 2016. This will decrease costs, as we won't have to print the booklet that has been printed in the past.

- GP gave Pat Mages her plaque for CC Emeritus. Marco Galeazzi will get his at District Installation. Pat Mages thanked everyone for their support and she will continue to work for the ICF.
- Future Central Council meeting locations will be out in the next few weeks. Dates will be through October 2016.
- Committee Guidelines – please keep them updated. Mike Rossi said Charlene Kramer will update the new guidelines.
- Go To Meeting – use it when you need to do, as it saves money. Will use it for a meeting with Committee Chairs in the future. Leonard Zasoski uses e-mail, make sure he has an e-mail address for each Central Council member that we check regularly.
- Online portal – make sure your branch presidents are using it. Pres, 1st VP and 2nd VP all should be looking at it. Roselynn Jarrett suggested changing the name from President's Portal to Officer's Portal.

Action on Communications

None.

Good of the Order

Leonard Zasoski welcomed new Central Council member, Donna Raffanti.

Laurice Levine – Christmas Party is Dec. 2 from 6 – 8 PM. Invitations will be going out soon.

Bob Acquistapace thanked everyone for prayers Kathy Acquistapace.

David Botta and Lisa Crudo thanked everyone for their prayers.

Carmen Kilcullen congratulated Leonard Zasoski on conducting an excellent meeting.

Andy Pappani reminded everyone about Bob Basuino's Testimonial on Nov. 7.

Roselynn Jarrett attended Joe Donato's funeral. There was a large ICF presence at the funeral. In addition to the Bishop, there were eight priests at the Mass.

Closing Prayer: led by Msgr. Cardelli
The meeting adjourned at 3:35pm by Grand President Leonard Zasoski

Respectfully submitted,
Lauren Kilcullen
Grand Secretary



Testimonial Dinner

continued from page 1

Once everyone entered the banquet room, guests were seated at tables adorned with beautiful floral displays provided by Central Council Grand Sentinel Franklyn Lopes, Jr.

Those in attendance enjoyed a dinner of salad and their choice of chicken, beef or shrimp.

Grand First Vice President Andy Pappani, chairman of the testimonial dinner, welcomed everyone to this beautiful evening in honor of Past Grand President Bob Basuino.

The opening prayer was offered by ICF Spiritual Director Msgr. Daniel Cardelli, and the guests seated at the head table were introduced.

Branch 191, St. Frances Cabrini in San Jose President Jo Bertaccini thanked Bob for his years of service as Grand President, but also his guidance and stability for their branch and for the Santa Clara Valley District.

On behalf of the Santa Clara Valley District, Grand Trustee Denise Antonowicz presented



Bob with a donation in his honor.

Spiritual Director Msgr. Daniel Cardelli, presented Bob with a beautiful proclamation from Pope Francis.

Grand President Leonard Zasoski, Jr. spoke of Bob's dedication and appreciation for his guidance and for creating a great foundation for Leonard to step into. Leonard presented Bob with a plaque of appreciation from the members of the Italian Catholic Federation.

Helping to celebrate Bob, Grand 2nd Vice President Vince Piro had everyone laughing as he spoke of Bob had opened up gifts including a blue hair wig, crazy red moustach and fake teeth.

Past Grand President and Life Member Emeritus Jim Jones added a nice tribute to Bob.

Lastly, Bob's children Gina Basuino D'Amico, Robert Basuino, Jr., and Angela Basuino Pena gave a tribute to their Dad. Speaking for the family, Gina presented her Dad with a beautiful ICF necklace designed by Joann Maggiora.



She also gave her Dad a calendar with all the days he will be committed to family events now that his Grand President commitment is complete. Bob will now have designated babysitting days for each family and will be available when needed.

In his response to the night's outpouring of love and merriment, Past Grand President Bob Basuino said he could not believe his two years were over. He mentioned how even though the toughest of personal times with the loss of his beloved father, Frank, the members of the ICF and his Central Council family surrounded him with love and support and were there for him and his family in their time of need.

Bob's years of service were much appreciated and he will be missed.

Farewells were said, but for Past Grand President Bob Basuino, this chapter in his life has officially come to an end. Bring on the family calendar!

ITALIAN CATHOLIC
FEDERATION
RENO BRANCH 135
AUGURI A TUTTI
PER UN NATALE BENEDETTO
E
UN FELICE E SANO 2016
BEST WISHES FOR A BLESSED
CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY AND HEALTHY
2015



*Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year from
The Zasoski Family*



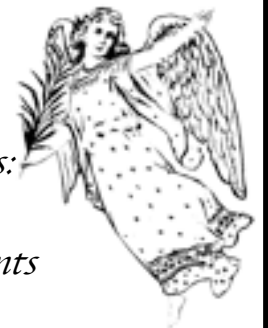
Christ's Blessings
to each of you.
A Merry
Christmas!
Jim & Janice Jones



Merry Christmas
and Happy
New Year
from Officers
& Members of
Branch 130,
Redwood City, 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 Peace and
Blessings for All
at Christmas and
the New Year.
St. Michael, Br. 209
Sebastopol



Wishing You a
Blessed Christmas
and a
Happy New Year!
Branch 432, Immaculate Heart of Mary
Brentwood, CA

May the beauty of the Christmas
Season bring you happiness
Throughout the coming year.

The Officers and
Members
St. Martin of Tours
Branch 391



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

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



*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.

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



*Branch 218
would like
to wish
everyone a*

*Merry
Christmas and
Happy New Year.*

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.



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

Happy 91st Anniversary to the
Italian Catholic
Federation.



Best Wishes
from
Central
Council
Member
Teresa
Helfand.

THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF
ST. FRANCES CABRINI BRANCH 191
WISH YOU ALL MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR!



MAY THE BLESSINGS OF THIS HOLY SEASON
SHINE UPON YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES



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



**May the Lord bless
and keep you and
your families during
this Christmas Season
and Always.**

**Your Brothers and
Sisters of
Branch 28, Gilroy.**

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



*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



*For
unto us
a child is born
unto us
a son is given.*

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

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



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



Officers and Members of
Branch 6

Wish all a Merry
Christmas and

Happy New Year!



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

Buon Natale e
Buon Capo D'Anno!



Lauren Kilcullen
Grand Secretary



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



*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. 194	St. Frances Cabrini	San Jose
Br. 28	St. Mary	Gilroy	Br. 368	Santa Teresa	San Jose
Br. 47	St. Joseph	Mountain View	Br. 394	St. Martin	San Jose
			Br. 408	Resurrection	Sunnyvale
			Br. 435	St. Catherine's	Morgan Hill

The Italian Catholic
Federation Office Staff
Wish all members a very
Blessed Christmas and
a Healthy and Happy
New Year!

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



***BUON NATALE
MERRY CHRISTMAS
FROM THE MEMBERS
OF SAN GIUSEPPE***



BRANCH #12 NAPA



***Wishing
Everyone
a Merry
Christmas
and Happy
New Year!!***

***From ICF Branch 439,
Our Lady
Mother of the Church***

Merry Christ-
mas and Happy
New Year from
the Officers and
Members of
Br. 173 in
Burlingame, CA



**Happy
Holidays!**

**From
The
Fuentes
Family**

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





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



*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



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



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



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



Buon Natale & Felice Capo D'Anno

Franklyn Lopes, Jr.
CC Grand Sentinel
Branch 227, Capitola



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



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



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



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

From Branch 442

Christ the King Parish

Pleasant Hill, CA



Italian Catholic Federation - Branch No. 428

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL

CELEBRAZIONE NATALE

Tuesday December 15, 2015

6 PM Cocktails 7 PM Dinner

Mel and Faye's Banquet Room

31 State Highway 49/88

Jackson, California

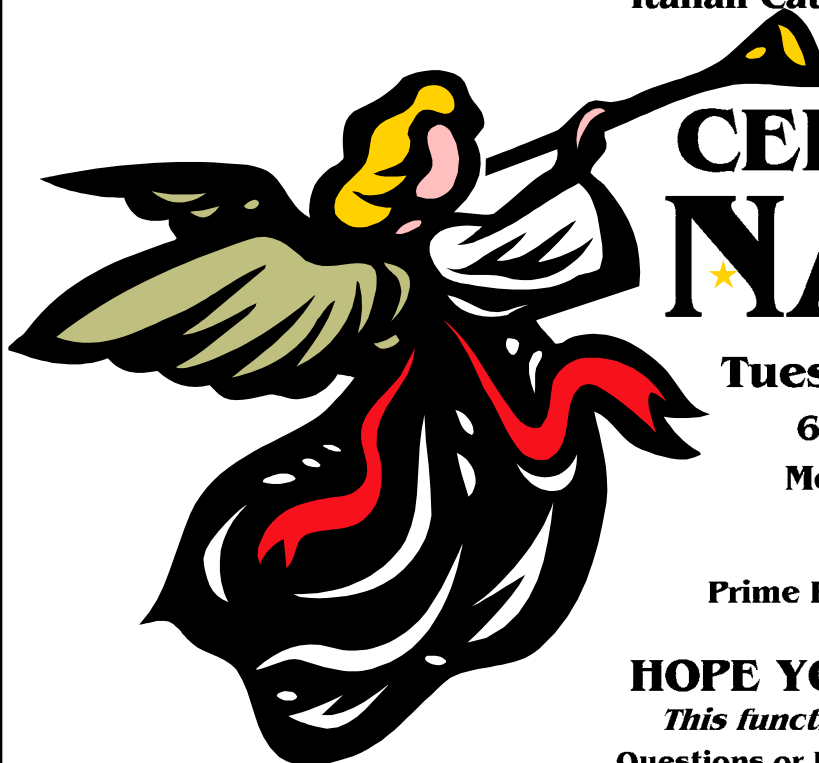
Prime Rib or Salmon @ \$30 with No Host Bar

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



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

Wishing you Peace, Love
and Joy for the
holiday
season and
in 2016.

Deborah Rodondi,
CC Grand Treasurer



Sending Christmas Cheer
from the
Contra Costa District!



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

BUON NATALE E UN FELICIS-
SIMO BUON ANNO NUOVO!

FELIZ NAVIDAD!

FROM

OFFICERS & MEMBERS OF
BRANCH 290

CORPUS CHRISTI,
SAN FRANCISCO



Sicily & Rome

March 31 ~ April 9, 2016 \$3,395*

Air & Land

- Air from Los Angeles
- 6 nights Hotel Ariston or similar in Taormina
- Buffet breakfast & Dinner Daily in Sicily, Breakfast in Rome
- 2 nights Hotel Ergife Palace or similar in Rome
- Sightseeing: Taormina, Agrigento, Siracusa, Mount Etna, Forza d'Agro & Savoca, Ancient Rome, St Peters Basilica, Sistine Chapel & more!!

Tuscany Wine Region

April 9, 2016

\$1,499*

Land Only

- 7 nights 4 Star hotel in Pescia
- Daily Breakfast & Dinners
- Comprehensive Sightseeing Tours: Lucca, Florence, Siena and Chianti Wine Road, Volterra, San Gimignano & Pisa
- Fran's Cocktail Parties
- Optional tour to Rome

Plus tips for Driver/Guide \$110



Italian Riviera & Lake District by Boat

May 30 ~ June 9, 2016 \$2,499*

Land Only

- 4 Star Hotels: 3 Nts Genoa / 2 Nts Lake Como area / 4 Nts Lake Garda
- Full Day excursion to Venice; Portofino from Santa Margherita by boat; Cinque Terre, 3 Villages by boat; Cruise on Lake Maggiore & Lake Como
- All Breakfasts & Dinners
- Fran's Cocktail Parties



Bologna: Food, Wine & Motorcars

June 9 ~ 16, 2016

\$1,899*

Land Only

- 7 nights 4 Star hotel in Bologna
- Daily Breakfast & Dinners
- Food tour with tastings at Producers: Parmesan, Balsamic vinegar & Prosciutto
- Ducati Motors & Ferrari Tour
- Sightseeing Bologna, Ravenna & Faenza
- Optional cooking Class



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New members of Branch 27. From Left: President, Elsie Bottorff; Leila Meadows, District Deputy Mabel Willmon, Nancy Meyers and Mark Beveridge.



Art Berryman looks on as Jim Espinola prepares to serve the meatballs for the spaghetti dinner.



Branch 27 members working in the kitchen at the spaghetti and meatball take-out.

Chicago

River Forest

St. Vincent Ferrer, Br. 358

Some of our district members marched in the annual Columbus Day Parade and they couldn't have had better weather. But it was short lived as the weather turned much cooler the following weekend for our branch Bake Sale which is our only fundraiser. Parishioners and guests responded well and we were sold out. We held the election of officers at our meeting and sold all our calendars -- now have to wait and see if we have a winner during 2016. We hosted the Mother Cabrini Mass in November; our branch also had our annual mass for the deceased ICF members in November. Took up a collection of non-perishable food during the November district meeting which in turn is donated to the churches for their food pantries. Looking ahead to the district Christmas party on Dec. 17th--will have a catered dinner so everyone can relax and enjoy the evening. A few members have December birthdays - Michael Fiorito and Marilyn Marine. And of course Jesus who is the reason for the season. As you plan your Christmas giving this year, keep "value" in mind. Gifts wrapped in Christmas love are the most valuable of all. Around a fireplace or in some other way, gather your family and loved ones together this Christmas to bask in the glow of Christmas love that only Christ can give.

Talk to you again next year!

Leonora

Itasca

St. Peter the Apostle, Br. 418

Exciting news for Br. 418 and the Itasca Community! Groundbreaking for our new St. Peter the Apostle Church will take place June, 2016. As a service organization of St. Peter's for over 20 years, this has been a dream come

true, not only for our branch, but for the town of Itasca and nearby communities. Divine Intervention has surely been on the side of the parish and diocese.

Many of our members have already left for the sunny weather of Florida, but we still have two events for our branch back in Illinois for this year. Our Family Christmas gathering will be on Saturday, Dec. 12th, at Alta Villa Banquets, from 11:30 a.m. till 4:00 p.m.

On Thursday, Dec. 17th, we will be going to Drury Lane Theater in Oakbrook, to see the live performance of "White Christmas"! Dinner: 6:00 p.m., Show, 8:00 p.m.

Please contact any officer for payment information and reservations.

From the officers and members of Br. 418, we would like to wish all I.C.F. members, their families, and friends, a very Merry Christmas, and a Happy and Healthy New Year. May God bless all!

Ciao,

Rita

Fresno

Madera

Santissimo Crocifisso, Br. 27

The October meeting was a Halloween themed event with witches, bats and pumpkins. The festive centerpieces were filled with candy at every table. A few lucky raffle winners were able to take them home. A delicious potluck was enjoyed by all who attended. There were lots of unique dishes to choose from and nobody left hungry. Thanks to the chairmen

*Wishing All a
Very Merry Christmas
and a Healthy
Happy New Year.*

Branch 32, Fresno,
Our Lady of Victory Parish





Members of Branch 39 enjoying Laurice Levine's presentation on Thalassemia.

Branch 39 member Gina Pugliese presented Laurice Levine with a beautiful baby blanket for Laurice's son who is due in February.



Members enjoying the Fresno Bishop's Day.



Butch and Frances Hope and the committee: 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 members Nancy Meyers, Leila Meadows and Mark Beveridge who were sworn in by Mabel Willmon, District Deputy. Election Selections are underway and the slate of officers is almost ready for the voting will take place in November. Members attended the Bishop's Burse at Our Lady of Victory Church in Fresno on October 4th. It was a wonderful day and the congregation at OLV did a fantastic job and served a delicious lunch prepared by their very own ICF Branch. The spaghetti and meatball take-out dinner on October 25 was a success. Almost 250 tickets were sold and the kitchen crew did an outstanding job. Thanks to everyone who participated in the preparation, serving, baking or cleaning up. Please continue to pray for our ill and injured members.

Ciao,

Kerin Cavallero

Bakersfield

San Luigi, Br. 33

Branch 33 celebrated the coming of Fall by enjoying a polenta and chicken dinner. JoAnn Borders from St. Vincent de Paul was the guest speaker. In addition to manning a thrift shop, the Society serves over 150 homeless persons each day. 50 daily clients are identified as mentally unstable and fragile and receive special focus. Clients come and find coffee and a safe environment allowing them to stay off the streets. Hot breakfasts and lunches are served later and shower facilities are available. The Center is funded by donations, grants, fundraisers and proceeds from the thrift shop. ICF members volunteered at the Center's recent benefit barbecue. What are most needed are prayers, donations of money, food and clothing. Branch 33 voted to donate \$200 to the center and will participate in the Thanksgiving drive by

donating sweatshirts.

In other business, members volunteered to lead Branch committees: Natalie Steele – Heritage; Mike Cerri – Calendar Sales.

Member Marc Steele was granted 3rd year ICF Scholarship funding.

The Nominating Committee presented the 2016 slate of officers and members elected the slate unanimously. Officers are: President, Maria Steele; First Vice-President, Michael Cerri; Second Vice-President, Charles Linkenbrick; Treasurer, Barbara Crear; Recording Secretary, Judy Jacobs; Corresponding Secretary, Barbara Eyherabide; Trustees, Fernando Teglia, and Richard Ceccarelli; Orator, Rita Bertolucci; and Sentinel, Joseph Passaglia.

Three members, Catherine Dounies – 94, Josephine Colombana - 95, and Mary Marchetti – 99, were honored for arriving at landmark birthdays and having given decades of service to the ICF. Branch 33 has eighteen members 85 and above and twenty members between 75 and 85 years. The meeting closed with a rousing rendition of Non Vogliam Dio led by Mary Marchetti.

Roberta Cerri Teglia



Left to right- Branch 33 Bakersfield members Catherine Dounies, 94; Josephine Colombana, 95; and Mary Marchetti, 99. Decades of service to the ICF.

Merced

St. Cecelia, Br. 39

Happy Holidays everyone! Please welcome our 2016 Board members as we thank them for their precious time for such a great organization; President Terrie Rhodes, 1st VP Lori Sutton, 2nd VP Gina Pugliese, Recording Secretary Debbie Giannone, Financial Secretary Janet Pugliese, Treasurer Stephanie Lucich, Orator Mike Belluomini, Trustee, Ann Marie Bandoni, Loretta Symes and Maryellen Mazzei, Sentinel Carol Salmeri.

Our branch celebrates our long standing tradition with our members and their families at our Christmas Party at the Italo American Lodge in Merced on December 13 along with the Italo members and their families. All who attended will have fun with good food and presents for the children too. Robert Tomasetti will h3 our train conductor from the motion picture “Polar Express.”

Last month on Sunday, November 15, our parish celebrated a Dedication Mass for Fr. Frank Piro who passed away at the 9:00 am Mass last November. He is missed but fondly remembered by our parish and our branch – Thank you Fr. John.

Looking ahead at 2016 – Our Fresno District will be installing our 2016 board on Sunday, February 21st in Merced, CA - more information to follow next month. In February 2017 – yes 2017, our Merced County Courthouse Museum will feature an Italian-American Exhibit on the history of Italians who came to Merced County. Our branch will be working side by side with the members of the Italo American Lodge in providing oral history, pictures, and regalia from many years ago. For all of us living in Merced County are encouraged to contact Stephanie Lucich and/or Frank Muratore with your family history. This will be such a fun project for all who live in Merced.

Clovis

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Br. 250

Sunday, November 8 was our Annual Chicken/Spaghetti Dinner. We had a very good turn-out and many wonderful raffle prizes. Thank you to all those who worked to make this a success.

At the October meeting we had a Halloween costume contest. Godzilla (Vincent Rodriguez) won first prize, a \$25 gift certificate to a local restaurant, and Bozo the Clown (Angelo Lavagnino) won second prize, a \$15 gift certificate to the same restaurant. A picture of the other participants accompanies this article.

LeRoy and Dolores Guaglianone very proud of their granddaughter, Gabriella Guaglionone. Gabriella won our Branch's 2nd year scholarship.

We have a newly married couple among our membership. John and Sharon Rainaldi were married October 24. Congratulations, John and Sharon.

We welcome two new members to our Branch. They are Kristen and Thomas Marschall who transferred from the Our Lady of Victory Branch.

Wes & Maxine Johnson enjoyed a family dinner recently with 46 family members in attendance. What a wonderful gathering. Hope the kids did the cooking.

Flora DePasquale, our Deputy, has a new great grandson, David DeLuca. David was born early and weighed in at 4 lb. 2 oz. David's dad became captain in the U.S.Army and is stationed in El Paso, Texas.

“Be thankful for what you have. Your life, no matter how bad you think it is, is someone else's fairy tale.” (Wale Ayeni)

Happy Thanksgiving to Everyone!

Ciao!

LeAnne Lavagnino

Bakersfield

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Br. 281

Thanks to all who contributed to our October Potluck meeting. Many officers reinstated their positions for next year, and Crystal Watts was voted to move up and lead our branch as president. Congratulations to all!

As always, our Annual “Nite at the Races” event was a success. Dinner was great, and all had a good time. Special thanks to Allen and Crystal Watts and Becky and Craig Collins for managing the finances all night, Gary Moles for being our MC, George Carson for bartending, and last but certainly not least, Walter Scott, for



Branch 250, Clovis - Halloween costume winners. 1st prize winner, Godzilla (Vincent Rodriguez) and 2nd prize winner, Bozo the Clown (Angelo Lavagnino).



Branch 250, Clovis - Halloween costume contest (L to R) Mary Zanarini, Cindy Newton, Vincent Rodriguez, Jennie Campopiano, Mark & Jessie Budd & Angelo Lavagnino.

tirelessly managing the kitchen.

November 12th is our Turkey Bingo meeting! This meeting focuses on fun, because all work and no play makes the ICF a dull organization! Come on out and join us to win pies, money, and of course, turkeys. Also, Laurice Levine from Children's Hospital Oakland will be there to discuss our national charity and raise awareness for Cooley's Anemia. Furthermore, Kristen Watts and Joey Zasoski will be rallying the troops for our upcoming Christmas party! Be ready to sign up, and be sure to mark your calendars for November 12th!

Speaking of our Christmas party, it will be held December 12th, and everyone is encouraged to bring as many family members as possible! This merry event is definitely merrier when more people we love gather to celebrate the birth of our Savior and the joys of togetherness.

Baci e abbracci,

Kristen Watts

Fresno

Name, Br. 308

The Branch 308 meeting was preceded by a Oktoberfest Potluck with delicious Polish Sausage Sandwiches and various side dishes.



Branch 308 (l to r) Branch Deputy Representative, Flora De Pasquale, Mary Fierro, Rosemary Stockton, Diane Hill & Raymond Hill.

President Antoinette Pecora called the meeting to order.

Branch 308 sold cookbooks along with Italian sausage sandwiches at the Silver Angels Boutique on October 17 & 18th.

Plans are also being made to hold the annual Christmas Dinner at Pardini's Restaurant on December 9th. Members will be asked to bring a new unwrapped gift for a child ages 1 through 18 that are hospitalized.

Branch Deputy Representative Flora De Pasquale initiated new members Mary Fierro, Rosemary Stockton, Diane Hill & Raymond Hill.

Please pray for ill members, friends & their caregivers.

Birthday wishes go out to Ann Rader (Oct.1), Joe Cuellar & Jane Watson (Oct. 3rd.), Linda Sargeant, Rosemary Stockton & Dennis Grillione (Oct.10th), Angelo Pecora (Oct. 12th) & Raymond Hill (Oct.29th).

Happy Anniversary to ballroom dancers, Bill & Flory who are celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary!

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Juarez Garcia



Philomena Consiglio and Vee Speziale from Branch 367 with their crooked hats on at the novelty table. These two ladies worked all the hours the novelties were on sale at the Convention for five days. They had help, but they are the only ones who were there every day plus going in early to set up and staying late to pack up.

Las Vegas

Las Vegas

St. Francis de Sales, Br. 367

Our one little branch here in Las Vegas managed to host a fairly nice convention for 2015. We have a core of about 20 hard workers who worked a lot of hours to make the convention a success. Our Thursday night dinner was fantastic. The buses were on time, the food was great, and the baskets were plentiful. Our Boy Scout Troop #133 did us proud at the opening ceremonies. Our novelties sold like hot cakes. And our choir at mass made us proud - especially being accompanied by our Pope John XXIII award winner! Good job Br. 367 members!

A month after convention, on November 1st, we had our Bishop's Day beginning with mass at St. Francis de Sales. Bishop Pepe told the whole congregation at church all the good things the Federation does in his homily. After mass we journeyed to Carrabba's where we had a nice lunch and presented Bishop Pepe with our check of \$2,500 which was the proceeds of three bake sales and a little from our convention profits. Our bishop is one of our biggest supporters, and he attended the convention like the champion host that he is. He is so gracious and down to earth. We are so lucky to have him.

Br. 367 certainly hopes everyone has a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Ciao for now,

Jackie Donato

Los Angeles

Archdiocese District

District Council

As we get closer to Christmas, we pray for a happy and healthy Holiday Season in the District and throughout the Los Angeles Archdiocese. District members continue working to represent the ICF at various Cultural Events throughout the Los Angeles Archdiocese. Developing awareness of our organization, networking with other Italian American Organizations at Church and Community events and helping to get word out on our organization; that the ICF is based on Faith, Family and Friendship and welcome all community members to join ICF with their



Vee Speziale is modeling one of the T-shirts we were selling at the convention.

families and friends.

On November 15, 2015, the District held it's annual Bishop Day Mass at Saint Peter's Catholic Church in Los Angeles followed by the 89th Chaplain's Recognition Luncheon in the Casa Italiana Cultural Center. Thank you ICF Branch 67, staff and members of all Branches in the District for making this a successful event again this year.

The LAA District is growing! Congratulations to newly installed ICF Branch 443 Saint Gianna Baretta Molle, Branch President Joey Lo Dolce, Board and Branch Members at Saint Rose of Lima Church in Simi Valley on November 6th! Thank you ICF Council member Ann Interrante (Branch 380) and the CC Expansion Committee for the successful opening of the 19th Branch in the LAA District.

ICF Members recognize that Saint Peter's Church and Casa Italiana in Los Angeles give us an opportunity to develop the present and future generations of Italians and Americans of Italian descent in the former Little Italy Section of Los Angeles. ICF Branches and/or Members are welcome to help in this effort by joining Branch 67 at Saint Peter's Church as a sign of solidarity and respect for traditions of the Italian Culture for all generations to enjoy. [Please join Branch 67 now and help us develop this Branch](#)



Agnes Centurioni-Daws donates Sacred Heart of Jesus Statue to Cabrini Chapel Library.

together.

As part of our faith and heritage commitment, the District maintains the Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library in Burbank. Support has been coming from ICF Members, Affiliated Mother Cabrini Groups and Friends of Mother Cabrini. The Monthly Madness Raffle continues to bring in necessary funds for the repair and replacement of the existing doors and frames of the Chapel and Library. A \$1.00 donation per member was also recommended as a way to bring necessary funds for the rehabilitation of the Chapel and Library. Please bring this recommendation to your Branch and encourage your members to help the Mother Cabrini Door Replacement Project by collecting \$1.00 per member at your next branch meeting. Your support will be greatly appreciated. Thank you Maria Gloria (Branch 38 San Francisco) for your donation of \$100, Marianne Canetti (Branch 115 San Pedro) for your donation of \$15, and Branch 108 (South Pasadena) for your donation of \$41 in support of the Mother Cabrini Door Replacement Project!

If I could ask anything of all ICF Members it would be to help support the above efforts by keeping the Los Angeles Archdiocese District in your prayers as we continue this journey to reorganize ICF for future generations to enjoy.

Thank you for being a leader in ICF,

Carmelo A. Sabatella AIA

President ICF/LAADC

Los Angeles

St. Peter, Br. 67

Branch 67 continues to work with Saint Peter’s Church and the Casa Italiana Cultural Center reaching out to all ICF Members, the Italian Community and those who are interested in continuing an ICF presence at this beautiful Italian National Church.

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

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

Your help is greatly appreciated.

Carmelo Sabatella AIA

South Pasadena

Holy Family, Br. 108

Thank you members for helping staff and support the ICF/LCA Salsa Dinner Dance on November 14th! ICF and LCA Members (Latino Catholic Association) provided a night of “all you can eat street tacos” along with salsa dancing for new and experienced Salsa Dancers. Thank you Holy Family Parishioners and friends of ICF for making this a successful event. Proceeds



Branch 108 Past President Carmelo Sabatella and Treasurer Linda at Ronald McDonald House Gala.

will help those afflicted with Cooley’s Anemia (Thalassemia Virus) and research to someday cure this terrible disease.

ICF Members visiting the Los Angeles Area are invited to join Branch 108 in a game of Bocce (1:00 to 2:30 pm) and to come enjoy lunch and visit with members at the General Meeting (beginning at 3:00 pm). All Branch meetings are on the first Sunday of each month. Call 626 372-7812 to RSVP and for more information.

SAVE THE DATE:

“Carnivale” is coming to Holy Family Church again on February 6, 2016 at the ICF Branch 108 13th Annual Wine Tasting Event in the Parish Hall. An exclusive Wine Pairing Opportunity will also be offered with limited seating for 20 persons. Contact 626 372-7812 to RSVP and for more information. Flyer upon request.

Thank you Members, families and friends for your support of 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 “œper cento anni!”

Carmelo Sabatella, Past President

ICF Branch 108 Email: cas1810@aol.com

Montebello

St. Benedict, Br. 111

Ciao a Tutti. A warm hello to everyone. Hope you all had a wonderful & bountiful Thanksgiving celebration with your loved ones and are now looking forward to the holidays! Thank you to everyone who participated at our November 12th Thanksgiving potluck dinner & general meeting. Let us remember the great times spent together, the delicious food eaten and Thank God for everything!

We would like to congratulate all the members who celebrate their birthdays in the month of December: Armando Arenas, Mario Mauro, Sal Franco, Domenica Orofino, Nancy Valdez, David Tarazon, Yanira Vanegas, and Elizabeth Rodriguez. Happy Birthday to everyone!! Buon Compleanno a tutti!!

Thank you to everyone who participated in this year’s Bishop Banquet and Chaplain Recognition Mass & Luncheon held on Sunday, November 15th, at St. Peter’s Italian Church and Casa Italiana in Los Angeles. This was a great turnout, as 13 ICF 111 members attended the event. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for all the charitable works you do, and in a very special way for your continued and generous support of vocation to the priesthood and religious life.

We would like to congratulate all the 2016 ICF



Members of Branch 111 celebrating September and October birthdays.



Branch 115 at the convention (L-R) delegate Frank Colonna with wife Antonietta Colonna, Fr. Antonio Cacciapuoto, delegates Neal Di Leva, Anna Di Leva and Nancy Donato.

111 Officer’s who got nominated & elected at our October general meeting: Chaipain: Rev. Francisco Sandoval; President: Frank Salomone; 1st Vice President: Rene Mata; 2nd Vice President: Maragret Valdez-Gallardo; Recording Secretary: Nancy Valdez; Financial Secretary & Corresponding Secretary: Crocetta Salomone; Treasurer: Salvatore Sorce; Orator: Peter Revilla; Trustees: Eileen Viera, Henry Herrera, & Rosemarie Melendrez; Sentinel: Alfred Viera; Past President: Vincenzo Veneziano; Branch Deputy: Nancy Dolci. We would like to thank our outgoing Officers; 1st Vice President: Giuseppe Veneziano; Recording Secretary: Christina Castello; Orator: Esperanza Chavez; and Trustee: David Melendrez. The 2016 ICF Officer’s Installation will be held at Casa Italiana in Los Angeles on Sunday, January 17, 2016 - mark your calendars, more details will follow. Thank you for all you do for the ICF and may God Bless you abundantly.

Our Christmas Dinner Dance will be held on Saturday, December 19th. This year we will have the dynamic Duo Domino, with Rita & Marion Marino, a Professional Piano Bar type music, along with our traditional delicious Italian Buffet dinner from Eastside Market. Adult tickets will be \$25.00; Children (ages 6 to 12) \$12:50; Children under 6 and ICF 111 members - Free. It will be a great year-end party! Please plan on joining us and invite your family and friends for some great dancing and holiday cheer. For more information or to make reservations please call Frank at (323) 888-



Branch 115 President Neal Di Leva and his wife First Vice President Anna were delegates to the convention in Las Vegas.

2074.

We pray for our sick members and those in need; keep them in our thoughts and prayers. Finally, we want to wish all of you and your families every Happiness and Joy this Christmas and throughout the coming year! May your life be filled with love, peace and harmony!

A Presto!

Frank Salomone

San Pedro

St. John Joseph of the Cross, Br. 115

A wonderful time was had by all who attended our Branch Christmas Party on Dec. 5th. Thank you to all who worked hard to make our party a success. At the party we were introduced to our 2016 officers which include Neal DiLeva President, Ana Dileva 1st VP, Frank Colonna 2nd VP, Nancy Ventimiglia Recording Secretary, Nancy Donato Corresponding Secretary, Pauline Iacono Financial Secretary, Anita Trujillo Treasurer, Carmela Gioiello Orator, Mary Cigliano Sentinel Trustees Frank Amalfitano, Nicolina Mattera, and Maryann Lauro and Gloria Russo.

We wish our new board members success in the New Year.

21 of our branch members attended the annual Bishop’s Day and Chaplain Recognition Mass on Nov 15th. We were joined by our seminarian Ian Hagen. Neal presented our Spiritual Bouquet.

On Sunday, December 6 many of our members went on the pilgrimage to honor Mother Cabrini. A delicious luncheon was enjoyed by all. This is a wonderful tradition that our branch participates in.

There is still time to join our branch as we cruise the California Coast on the Crown Princess. The Ship will sail from San Pedro on April 23rd.



Members of the LA District planning the recent Bishop's Day celebration.

Please call Mrs. Letizia Chaparro at 310 832 0140 to reserve your cabin.

We wish all our members and friends Happy Holidays. May your Holidays be filled with family and friends and an abundance of God's Blessings.

We hope to see you all at our first general meeting of the New Year on Jan 21st at 7:30pm. Annual dues for the year are \$36.00 are now due and will be collected at the meeting.

Upcoming events

Jan. 14 Turnaround trip to Pechanga Casino. Cost is \$23.00/person Members receive a \$3.00 discount. Bus leaves at 9am Call Pauline for reservations 310 832 0563

Feb 21 – 24 Laughlin trip with stay at Aquarius Hotel Please call Pauline for information 310 832 0563

Save the Date March 5th Mass and Fish Dinner/ Dance in Honor of San Giovan Giuseppe

Please keep all our sick members in your prayers

Anita Gioiello Trujillo, Treasurer

La Canada Flintridge St. Filomena, Br. 374

In keeping with ICF's strategic direction, Branch 374 at St. Bede the Venerable in La Canada Flintridge, California of the the Los Angeles Region of the Los Angeles Archdiocese District has initiated a heritage education program under the direction of board member David Capurso.

At the October meeting members were entertained and educated by an Italian heritage quiz developed and led by David that pitted men and women members in a fun-filled quiz with questions provided by David that tested the knowledge of Italian heritage for members who attended the branch's monthly meeting.

Over time future quizzes and educational



David Capurso at Branch 374 runs a heritage education program and at the October meeting members were entertained and educated by an Italian heritage quiz that he developed.

programs will emphasize other areas of heritage including the heritage of the ethnic backgrounds of non Italian members. Members came away from the meeting saying that the meeting was fun, "and while it was really fun, I seriously really learned things about my Italian background that I never knew", noted one member after the meeting.

David, a native New Yorker and a resident of nearby Montrose, joined the La Canada Flintridge branch a few years ago and has become very involved in the growth plans of the growing branch and the LA Region.

ICF Photo by Al Restivo

San Gabriel Valley Region Arcadia

Holy Angels, Br. 218

The holidays are upon us and our New Year is right around the corner. The New Year's party is being planned by chairman, Matt Luchetta. Please watch for more information on this.

Our election of officers has brought some changes to the board. Jerry Farrugia is our new president, 1st VP – Scott Carrano, 2nd VP – Frank Berardi, Financial Secy is now Linda Sherman, and we have two new trustees – Matt Luchetta and Suzie Noyes. All other positions are status quo. We welcome the new board members and Matt back to the board.

The balance of our money earmarked for donations will be decided very soon and distributed by the end of the year. We have donated, so far this year, over \$7,000 and can be very proud of that accomplishment.

The installation of officers is January 17 at St. Peter's Church in Los Angeles. There is also a donut sale January 20th. A reminder – there is no meeting in December. And with that, I wish everyone a wonderful Christmas and a very happy and healthy New Year.

Lolly M.

Diamond Bar St. Denis, Br. 317

12/06 – Mother Cabrini Pilgrimage

12/06 – Christmas Tree Lane

12/08 – Feast of Immaculate Conception

12/13 – Christmas Party/General Meeting

12/13 – Quarterly Mass

12/25 – Merry Christmas Buon Natale

Thank you to our hosts for the Thanksgiving Dinner and their preparation of the delicious turkeys – Julia, Pamela, Josefina and Eliseo.

Also we thank our great members for all the side dishes, desserts, and also to Mary Schmidt for the lovely decorated tables.

The Mother Cabrini Pilgrimage was well attended, and enjoyed by all, and the Christmas tree Lane was successful. The ICF tree with the theme "Gift Card Bonanza" was very popular.

We celebrated another wonderful year with our great members at our Christmas celebration. Grazie!

We shall attend our quarterly Mass on 12/13th and thank the Lord for all the blessings to ICF and look forward to celebrating the 40th year anniversary at St. Denis in May 2016. God Bless Everyone and Happy New Year.

God Bless,

Roxanne Perry

Claremont

Our Lady of the Assumption, Br. 319

November was exciting with the honoring of our Veterans Nov. 11, celebration of the feast day of St Frances X. Cabrini on November 13 and the Annual Thanksgiving Day Dinner on November 26 for those whose don't want to be alone.

December we will have the St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Pilgrimage on Dec. 6 at St. Francis Xavier Church in Burbank. This annual event honor the patron saint of the ICF and allows all members to see all the good that was accomplished by the wonder woman.

Later in the month will be a Christmas Dinner for all members and their families with donations of canned foods and small gifts for the shelters. It will be a fun time for all.

This is the time to remember that it's the birthday of Christ and keep Christ in Christmas and remember the need of those less fortunate.

Happy birthday and anniversary to all celebrating them in December.

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

Temple City

St. Luke, Br. 326

Merry Christmas to all of our members!

Our Annual Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner was held on November 15th. 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 13th 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. A delicious menu is planned. The cost will be: Members: \$13.00, Adult non-members ages 14 and up - \$15.00, ages 4 to 13 \$6.00, and ages 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 Miller, Herminia Saez, and Ann Primising. And, let's not forget to pray for our deceased members.

It is with great sadness that Branch #326 shares the passing of one of its members, Vera Montemayor. Vera was a longstanding member of ICF and a dear friend to many. She was very active in St. Luke's Church as a Eucharistic Minister, Cooking Angel and more. She loved to play Bunco and taught many members how to play the game Mexican Train. Vera will missed. May she rest in peace.

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 heath, and good cheer." (Joseph Ferrara)

God Bless,

Jo Anne Disney

Monterey

Santa Cruz

N.S. Del Soccorso, Br. 21

Merry Christmas! Happy New Year! By now you have probably used up the last of the left-over Thanksgiving turkey and have started your Christmas shopping. Another year gone; another new year and the chance to 'get it right'. We at Branch 21 always strive to achieve just that.

If you didn't make it to this year's Memorial Mass at Holy Cross Church, all reports were that it was wonderful. So many passed family members were remembered by way of a beautiful mass; and following the mass was a delicious brunch served in the elegantly decorated Hall. The turnout was great. Once again we thank all those that helped to make the day memorable.

There is something sad about another year ending; but there is also something joyful about it. Come to our monthly meetings at Holy Cross Hall and be part of that joy! We have great plans for year 2016 with a positive and upbeat Board and an enthusiastic membership. Our next meeting will be on January 5th at Holy Cross Hall. Come and join old friends and meet new members.

"The chief beauty about time is that you cannot waste it in advance. The next year, the next day, the next hour is lying ready for you, as perfect, as unspoiled, as if you had never wasted or misapplied a single moment in all your life." — **Arnold Bennett**And may we continue to see God's blessings in every day.

Patty Morelli

Secretary Branch 21

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Branch 25 2015 ICF Sacred Heart Festival.



Branch 25 Frank & Katherine Ditto at Br. 25 Polenta Luncheon.

Salinas

Nostra Signora Del Sasso, Br. 25

The big news over the past month was the Polenta Luncheon. The meal is a community favorite and we had a very successful turnout. The preparation required a dedicated group of bakers and servers and as usual our branch came through with not only a wonderful polenta meal, but great homemade baked goods. We had a very nice write-up in the local paper as well. To all who helped, sincere thanks.

The next big event is the Christmas Party hosted by Julie Richards and Joe Massolo on December 13, 2015. It is always a highlight of the season and we encourage you to come. If you plan to come, please RSVP to Julie by December 7th by calling 679-0213, and indicate whether you will bring an appetizer, side dish, or dessert. The branch will provide prime rib, ham and potatoes.

All of the officers from last year have agreed to serve another year. They are:

- Chaplain -- Father Ignacio
- President -- Julie Richards
- 1st Vice President -- Don Stoffey
- 2nd Vice President -- Thelma Frontani
- Recording Secretary -- Roy Frontani
- Financial Secretary -- Gia Ussery
- Trustee -- Linda Hoffman
- Trustee -- Olga Mazgai
- Sentinel -- Ralph Crostofano

We appreciate your service to the branch.

We close with a Christmas thought from Oren Arnold:

The best gifts to give: To your friend, loyalty; To your enemy, forgiveness; To your boss, service; To a child, a good example; To your parents, gratitude and devotion; To your mate, love and



Branch 25's Gia Ussery selling tickets at the Branch 25 Polenta Luncheon.

faithfulness; To all men and women, charity.

Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo

Roy Frontani

Monterey

Santa Rosalia, Br. 36

Great Thanksgiving dinner-meeting with 314 members and guests, delicious turkey dinner with salad, mashed potatoes and gravy, dressing, seasoned carrots, rolls, and of course, pumpkin pie. Members brought staples for St. Vincent de Paul pantry as we do

every year, and we had a very short meeting and a great time visiting.

- CALENDAR
- December 5 - Adult Christmas Party
 - December 13 - Children Christmas Party 2016
 - January 7 - Monthly Dinner Meeting
 - January 28 - Volunteer Dinner - Volunteers only Can you believe Lenten Dinners are here, we need all of our volunteers and a dessert each week for six (6) weeks, and we know we can always count on you. so.....
 - February 12 - 1st Lenten Dinner
 - February 19 - 2nd Lenten Dinner
 - February 26 - 3rd Lenten Dinner
 - March 4 - 4th Lenten Dinner
 - March 11 - 5th Lenten Dinner
 - March 13 - St. Joseph Celebration

March 18 - 6th Lenten Dinner - You can relax!

Our deepest sympathy to the following:

Natalie Whitney whose daughter Nacharl Anderson passed away, Mitzie Grillo who lost her son Jack, Kevin Nolan on the death of his wife Josefa, Katherine Amelio whose son Barney passed away, and, Josephine Favazza whose husband Peter passed away, Peter worked for years during Lenten dinners and he and Josephine came to every function Br. #36 had. May they all rest in peace.

Christmas is the season of love, a time for gathering together and celebrating the greatest gift of all, the arrival of our Savior. Happy Birthday Jesus.

Merry Christmas,

Bettye Sollecito

Castroville

Santa Caterina de Siena, Br. 51

Merry Christmas and Very Happy New Year!! Thank you Lord for sending some much needed rain.

Congratulations to Salinas Branch #25 on the great Polenta Luncheon. Julie and her crew did a wonderful job. They put in a lot of hard work and it was delicious. Looking forward to next year.

Our Branch had a ghostly dinner and all the goblins came out for our October dinner and election night. The following are the elected officers of Branch #51 2016 Board:

- Paul Cortopassi- President
- Pat Stefani- 1st Vice-President
- Diane Ausonio- 2nd Vice-President
- Ashley Stefani- Secretary
- Stefani Cortopassi- Treasurer
- Leonora Barlow- Financial Secretary
- Cindy Stefani- Orator
- Carlo Cortopassi- Sentinal
- Trustees- Vera Doris, Dennis & Toni Hibbs, and Dave Pecci

Assistants to the Vice-Presidents- Kathy Stefani and Susan Seeno

The Branch Christmas Party will be a Potluck on December 7th. Cindy is working on the entertainment for that evening. She and her elves are planning something special.

December birthdays include Larry Barlow and Zach Barlow.

Please pray for our sick members Carl Armento and Alice Soliven and all who need healing prayers.

During this Holy Season remember those who are less fortunate, the homeless, those who are far from home, the sick and those who have lost loved ones and feel lonely, may God's blessings be on them. Perhaps these people and all people can feel the hope and love this

Newborn Child brings and we can all feel the joy and peace on earth. As Linus from the Peanuts Gang would say, "This is What Christmas is All About Charlie Brown".

To my granddaughter Samantha and my sister Anna we love and miss you so much.

May all of you have a Blessed Christmas.

Ciao,

Leonora Barlow

Capitola

St. Joseph, Br. 227

Providing a wonderful start to the Thanksgiving season were Andy Armanino and his crew, who prepared turkey and all the trimmings at our November meeting. Many thanks to all of them.

- The following officers were elected for 2016:
- President – Bob Montonye
 - 1st Vice-President – Ellen Pauly
 - 2nd Vice-President – Franklyn Lopes
 - Secretary – Deanna Musler
 - Financial Secretary – Jane Kotila
 - Treasurer – Jim Smith
 - Orator – Bruce Dunn
 - Trustee – Ron Castle
 - Trustee – Vicky Howell
 - Trustee – Dolores McCartney
 - Sentinel – Mary Harrison
 - Chaplain – Fr. Paul McDonnell
 - Branch Deputy – Rosa Radicchi

At the November meeting members voted to increase the price of dinners to \$9 starting in January. Wine, beer, soda and water will now be included in the cost of meals.

Also in January there will be sign-up sheets for workers at the Fish Frys. The first dinner is Friday, February 12.

Save the date of June 18, 2016 for a Wine-Tasting. Ron Castle has graciously agreed to coordinate the event. Let him know if you'd like to help.

Prayers and thoughts for Filomena Pacheco and Jeanne Hougardy who are dealing with serious health challenges.

In keeping with ICF's tradition of charity, donations have been made to the following groups: St. Vincent de Paul, Oblates of St. Joseph, St. Francis Catholic Kitchen, Grey Bears, Sienna House Maternity Home, and St. Joseph's Ministry with People with Disabilities (more familiarly known as Stars).

With wishes for a blessed Christmas filled with peace and joy,

Deanna Musler, Secretary

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Branch 291 held three Fundraiser Dinners this fall to benefit the Catholic School Registration Assistance Program. Pictured here are some of the young members who enjoy helping at the dinners.

Arroyo Grande

St. Patrick, Br. 291

Our third Fall Fundraising Dinner was held on Saturday, November 14th. We served a delicious spaghetti dinner with the choice of homemade 3-meat sauce or marinara sauce, salad and garlic bread, plus a wide selection of delicious cakes for dessert. The net proceeds from our fall fundraising dinners go toward our Catholic School Registration Assistance Program. All 3 dinners this fall were a big success!

We were honored to have our newly elected Grand Council President Leonard Zasoski and his wife B.G. as our guests at our October General Meeting. Their son, Andrew, plans to join our Branch in January. We also have several families interested in joining our Branch and we look forward to initiating them at our January meeting as well.

Our members are looking forward to our Christmas Luncheon at the Madonna Inn on Dec. 6th. It's always a fun and festive afternoon as we enjoy a delicious meal, lots of raffle prizes and musical entertainment, plus it's a treat to take-in the beautiful decorations that adorn the Madonna Inn during the Christmas season! We would like to thank Joanna Van Blaricom, Kathleen Sullivan and Sylvia Nasholm who have worked so hard to make our Christmas party a success!

Please keep the following ICF members from Br. 291 in your thoughts and prayers: Barbara Badasci, Sr. Carol Carter, Dianne Clees, Homer Clees, Stevie Hall, Gayle Quain, Sharon Reed, Lorraine Spargo, Helen Summerfield, Joanna Van Blaricom, Sonia Wagner and Jens Wagner.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year!

Keely Sanchez

Recording Secretary

Paso Robles

St. Rose of Lima, Br. 354

Here come the holidays! We are reminded early with merchants’ displays of Christmas trees, lights and decorations that the season is coming, ready or not.

The monthly meeting honoring our veterans was held early due to preparations for the semi-annual Pasta Dinner. Father Roberto, our greatest ticket seller, offered opening prayers. President David and wife Irma cooked up hot dogs and included apple pie & ice cream for dessert. Our guests were District Deputy Pete Gallagher and wife Abby. Pete who is president of the Arroyo Grande Branch informed us of their success with families’ activities and how the children were involved. We introduced new member Ted Dembeck who will be a great help with the club.

Preparations for the pasta dinner on November 14th, have become a social event with a group

meeting at the home of David & Irma on Thursday the 13th, for cutting onions and peeling garlic. All of the sauces and meatballs are homemade. Teary eyes, but lots of fun. Melissa Ellsworth & daughters Brooke and Hope, Yvonne Maddalena, Jackie Biotto & Lucy Olsen volunteered to make baskets for the raffle.

Saturday, December 5, we will meet for the much anticipated Christmas luncheon at the famous and beautifully decorated Madonna Inn in SLO. Members are asked to bring an unwrapped toy for “Toys for Tots”. David and Irma hold a raffle, and all of us go home with something nice.

Our long time member Muffy Banks & husband Hud can use your prayers as can Tony Salvia and Evelyn Gandra. Laura Kudija is receiving treatments for her migraines, and they seem to be successful.

Our branch officers for the coming year are: Father Roberto Vera, Chaplain; David Zanini, President; Karen Kudija, 1st VP; Yvonne Maddalena, 2nd VP; Mary Mazzo, Recording Secretary; Theresa Sollazzo, Correspondence Secretary; Lucille Olsen, Financial Secretary; David Zanini, Treasurer; Irma Zanini, Orator; Missy Ellsworth, David Kudija and Evelyn Gandara, Trustees; Mary Ferry, Sentinel; Pete Gallagher, Branch Deputy.

“A generous heart, kind speech, and a life of service and compassion are the things which renew humanity.” Buddha

Theresa Sollazzo, Correspondence Secretary

Oakland

East Bay

District Council

In the spirit of giving during this holiday season, we are proud of all the branches for their contributions and full support of the scholarship program and say, Thank You. We are also glad to celebrate with Br. #40 their ability and hard work to remain open going into the new year. Welcome aboard to all the new and returning district officers.

Sadly we have had to reschedule “Late Night Catechism”, it will be held April 17, 2016. Watch for flyers with time and other information so you can plan ahead and there will be a good turnout.

While St. Nick has a list that he checks twice we all need to get our day planners out and schedule some upcoming important dates. As a district, the first affair after the holidays is installation of officers on 1/17/16 at the Fratelanza Club. The next one to “pencil in” is Bishop’s Day, 3/13/16 at OLG in Castro Valley. Between then and now there will be branch functions to be involved with and help make a success. Sounds Like I just made out your new year’s resolutions! But we do want to keep ICF up front in your planning in order to keep us going strong into 2016.

May God Bless us all with a Merry Family Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Pat Grasso, District Secretary

Alameda

Nostra Signora Delle Gracie, Br. 10

Our December social calendar features our annual Christmas family party on Friday evening, December 11, at Monsignor O’Brien Hall in Alameda. Our regular standout chef, member Ben Ratto, is once again preparing the meal, while Jeff Branchaud is assisting Santa Claus in the distribution of gifts to the children in attendance. Prices are \$5.00 for children and \$10.00 for adults. For further information, you can contact president Dave Rose, (510) 522-6004.

We are also serving a ravioli lunch for the 2016

Confirmation class of the Alameda Deanery (Saint Barnabas, Saint Joseph and Saint Philip Neri-Saint Albert the Great parishes). The meal follows the 11:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, December 6 in Saint Philip Neri Church.

We are looking forward to a number of events in the early part of 2016. We will host our annual Polenta Dinner on Saturday evening , January 9. Our officers will be attending the Oakland District installation on Sunday, January 17 at the Fratellanza Club in Oakland. We hope to hold another Bunco party in January or February.

Our sponsoring parish, Saint Philip Neri-Saint Albert the Great, celebrated a most remarkable Mass on Sunday, November 8. On the altar were a total nine priests of the following ethnicities: Italian, Spanish, Indian, Samoan, Filipino and Burmese (Myanmar). All are members of the Missionaries of Faith order, which was founded in Italy and was meeting in California for its Western Hemisphere convocation.

Finally, we were saddend by the death of Florence Pasquinelli, a longtime ICF member who most recently belonged to Branch 10. Florence was the mother of Patricia Pasquinelli, Oakland District Council president and also a Branch 10 member. The Funeral Mass for Florence was said in Saint Philip Neri Church on October 16.

John Zugnoni

Publicity

Oakland

Santa Rita, Br. 40

Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year to you and your family. Wishing you all good health and peace for the coming year.

Congratulations to our newly elected 2016 officers. President: Vito Muscaroin, Vice President: Rita Marie Dykes, Recording Secretary: Mary Ann Francis, Financial Secretary: Catherine Kapper, Treasurer: Anna Alberti, Orator: Elma Casale, Trustees: Esemea Tabacco, Lawrence Francis, Claire Ramirez, Sentinal: Betty Young.

Upcoming:

January: Monthly meeting. No date as of yet.

January 17th: Installation of officers at St. Augustine in Plesanton. If you are interested in attending please contact Mary Ann Francis at 510-655-4971. 2016 ICF raffle calendars are here. The cost is \$25 and \$5 of each purchase goes to our branch. So go and buy one, you have 365 chances to win prizes from \$30-\$100. Better than a casino. Buy one at our next monthly meeting. Our Bocce Ball Team took 1st place in the Fratallanza Club Bocce Ball Tournament. Congradulations to team members Esemea Tabbaco, Bruna Gasparro, Ida Scodella and Catherine Kapper. This is the 3rd year in a row they have taken 1st place. A scholarship for one year was given to Alivia Chegia by our branch. Alivia is the grand daughter of Gino Chegia. Happy Birthday to David Avery, Franca Duncan,

Karen Garcia, Bruna Gasparro, Jean Infrerra and Esemea Tabacco. God Bless you all.

Please pray for the sick and convalescing of our Branch. Especially Rosalie De Santi, Mary De Vincenzi, Angela Rainero and Clemence Zanata.

Thought: “It is not how much we do, But how much love we put into the doing” Saint Mother Teresa.

Ciao,

M.A. Francis, L. Francis

Livermore

St. Filomena, Br. 285

We begin this month with thankful hearts for all of our blessing of this Holiday Season, remembering that “JESUS IS THE REASON FOR THE SEASON”.

A big thank you to member, Joe Buonsante, who served as head of the nominating committee for our new slate of officers. Voting by the membership took place at our November meeting. We thank those members who have committed to serve our Branch 285 next year and offer our support.

Our annual Mass of Remembrance was well attended at St. Elizabeth Seton Chapel. Our chaplain, Father Leonard, was the celebrant. Pictures of deceased loved ones were placed on the altar and a red rose was given to each member and placed in a vase in remembrance. We welcomed guests Nancy & Moreno Navarini. Fran LaTorre, District Deputy, was also able to join us for the evening. Thank you to all who participated in the planning of this special evening when we remember, in prayer, our faithful departed. The evening culminated with a delicious chicken/polenta dinner.

Several members of our branch attended the polenta dinner in Tracy on Nov. 7, sponsored by Branch 390.

We extend our congratulations to Father Ray Sacca, who was recently installed as pastor of St. Joan of Arc in San Ramon. Father Sacca’s father, Ed Sacca, is a member of our branch.

Our annual Christmas party will be on December 2 at the Zypher Grill in Livermore. It promises to be a festive evening.

We continue to pray for our members who are not feeling well.

Wishing everyone a joyous, holy Christmas.

Ciao, Judy Bates

Castro Valley

Our Lady of Grace, Br. 343

Silver Bells, Jingle Bells and Church Bells ring in this busy holiday season that was kicked off with our very successful bake sale. Much thanks to the bakers, sellers and shoppers. And many thanks for your donations of nonperishable food stuff for the OLG St. Vincent de Paul cupboard.



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Some of the servers at Branch 14 Crockett Polenta Dinner.



Wow Branch 14 Crockett has some Strong Polenta Stirers.



The set up group for Branch 14 Crockett's Successful Polenta Dinner. Great Job members.

And to continue in this spirit of giving, we will be supplying new born layette items to Birthright at our Dec. branch Christmas party.

Here’s hoping that all who attended the District Christmas party had a great time.

We are sad to report that we are losing our Deputy, Holly Raineri, due to problems dealing with night driving and poor health. We will miss you, Holly.

Also please note that “Late Night Catechism” has been rescheduled for April 17, 2016. Lots of time to plan ahead to attend.

As we welcome the New Year, let’s include ICF on our calendar of activities. The first will be Installation of Officers at the Fratelanza Club on Sunday Jan. 17, 2016 at 3 P.M. FYI, we will be hosting Bishop’s Day, here at OLG, on Sunday March 13, 2016. All help welcome!

So between now and next year, here’s wishing all.

Buon Natale! Felice Anno Nuovo!

Contra Costa

Crockett

San Carlo, Br. 14

Best wishes for another successful year to our 2016 officers: President, Donna Hoffman, First Vice President, Dee Carone, Second Vice President Janice Burnett, Recording Secretary Kathleen Thomas, Treasurer, Carl Heller, Financial Secretary, Clare Alvarado, Orator, Diane Thomas, Sentinel, Derek Petersen, and Trustees, John Valentini, Vonda Lesti-Egan and Nancy Botta.

David Botta reported that our October Polenta Dinner was one of our most financially successful ever! It is only in all working together that we can obtain such success, and thus be able to contribute to so many worthwhile charities throughout the year, and especially during the Christmas season. Many thanks, and a virtual pat-on-the-back to all who always help make the dinner such a popular occasion.

It was a treat to have Lena McCrossen, our ever-

th birthday to member Denny O’ Loughlin. Denny’s late wife Eleanor requested that Denny always remain an ICF member. I am happy to say that Denny continues to honor that request.

Two heritage reports were given. at our last meeting. Grace shared stories about her trips to Sicily. Denny shared stories about his time in the military. Both very different but both very interesting.

Elections for 2016 were held at the Nov. meeting. We thank our officers for once again stepping up to the plate.

Upcoming:

Sunday, Dec. 13----- Christmas Potluck Party at 2:PM followed by our meeting. We will honor our hostess, bus trip chairperson and deputy at this event.

Sunday, Jan. 19-----Branch meeting and Happy New Years party at 2: PM

Saturda,y Jan. 23----Contra Costa District Prayer service and Installation of officers at 12: 30 PM hosted by the Brentwood branch. Check district report for all details.

Thursday, Jan 28----District meeting held in the conference room in Danville at 7: 30 PM

I am sad to report that Branch 72 has lost one of its own. Sarah Enea has past away. We offer condolences to her family. May her soul and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

I want to wish all of our members a happy and holy Christmas. I look forward to seeing you at our meetings and events in the new year.

Sempre Avanti,

Patty

Richmond

St. Raymond, Br. 154

The Polenta Dinner held on October 17, 2015, was a tremendous success. We had well over one hundred and fifty attendees who helped to make our fundraiser one of our best ever! Thank you to Walter Costa, Toni Reeder, Alan Paolini, the Framsted family, Alicia and Ruben Trevino, Julian Acuña, Fred De Simoni, Domenica Yonke, Carmen Avila, The Martinucci family and everyone who contributed your time, talents and support.

Fr. Mel of Salesian College Preparatory High School said mass for our deceased members. A meal of Soup and Salad preceded the November meeting.

Joe Meneghelli reported another successful bus trip to Cache Creek. Seventy five people loaded up the bus for a great time. All proceeds benefit Cooley’s anemia research at Children’s hospital.

We are saddened by the recent loss of Gino Martinucci, member since 1975. Many Polenta Dinners were successful under the guidance of Gino and his family. He will be missed!

New officers were nominated and elected for 2016. They are:

President: Lorraine Acuña

1st Vice President: Alicia Trevino

Recording Secretary: Dee Rosier

Financial Treasurer: Lori Framsted

Treasurer: Toni Reeder

Trustees: Julian Acuña, Domenica Yonke, Ruben Trevino

Sentinel: Diana De Simoni

Calendars are here and for sale. Please see Dee Yonke to place your order, who knows you might win!

The December 14th meeting is our Annual Polenta Dinner. Free for all members, \$10.00 for guests. Reserve with Toni Reeder by December 4th, short meeting to follow.

Find us on FaceBook-St Raymond154. Like Us!

Lorraine Acuña

Concord

St. Agnes, Br. 214

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

Update on new and renewed board members to come.

December - no meeting or Christmas dinner, we had a Christmas Cocktail party (well attended) for members and spouses, held at Ray & Joanne Dooracks lovely and festively set home.

A Stewardship sign-up at St. Agnes church brought us several interested in joining our branch. We will have an installation at out January meeting; David Botta will do the honors.

We keep John & Lillian Whalen, Wanda Smithson, Diane Lorenzetti in our prayers & Happy 90th Birthday to Mario Maggio.

Ciao & Buono Natale

Christina/correspondence secty.

Danville

St. Isidore, Br. 352

The November dinner meeting of Danville Branch 352 kicked off with a very tasty pasta and chicken dinner, which was thoroughly enjoyed by the members. Many thanks once again to Chef Angelo, for his outstanding culinary skill!

Results for our slate of Branch Officers for 2016 are as follows: President-Marianne Bordogna; 1st VP & Historian-Peter Torchia; 2nd VP- Marilyn Creighton; Recording Secretary-Madeline Cefalo; Financial Secretary & Treasurer-Steve Gouig; Orator-Peggy McCarthy; Trustees-Rosemarie Ellsworth, Suzy Reynolds and Tony Rosellini (Tony is also Membership Chair); Sentinel-Paul Cowell.

Plans for our December dinner meeting are in the works & word has it – it will be a potluck! Members, be sure to check your email for the details and join us for a fun time to share Christmas cheer & comradery.

With this year soon coming to a close, we’d like to thank all of the 2015 Branch Officers and our faithful volunteers (you know who you are!) for their generous contribution of time and talent at all of our monthly dinners, events and fundraisers. The Branch could not function without you – and you are greatly appreciated. We wish you & your families all the blessings of the coming holiday season. Merry Christmas to all – and a very happy New Year to (and from) Branch 352!

Buon Natale,

Marianne Bordogna

Recording Secretary

Brentwood

Immaculate Heart of Mary, Br. 432

Ciao all,

With our last official Branch meeting of 2015, officers for 2016 were nominated and voted into office. There were a couple of wrinkles in the selections that should add to the board’s effectiveness in 2016. Branch 432 will have Co-Presidents and Co-First Vice Presidents, decidedly a first, at least for us.

Congratulations to our new officers for 2016:

Chaplin -- Deacon John Kortuem

President -- Frank Stagnitto and Jack Bagar

First Vice President -- Sandy Gamble and Clarice Londos

Second Vice President -- Frank Silva

Secretary -- Anita Camera

Pittsburg

San Domenico, Br. 72

Everyone enjoyed the Pasta lunch held before our last meeting in Nov. We thank Roselynn for making the pasta and our deputy Peggy for the green salad. The other members brought appetizers and desserts. We sang happy 90

Financial Secretary -- Gene Simonetti

Treasurer -- Linda Kortuem

Orator -- Ted Arcado

Trustees -- Philomena Sawko, Beverly Silva, Lilly Beatty

Sentinel -- Marie Modafferi

Operation Creekside is a non-profit organization that provides services to Veterans free of charge. At this time of year Operation Creekside puts together gift packs for distribution to members of the U S Military all over the world. We are proud to make a donation to this worthy effort. In addition to Branch 432’s donation, our incoming Co-President, Frank Stagnitto, will match the Branch’s and all personal donations by Branch members up to \$1,000. Response from the members present produced a steady drumbeat of checks to the treasurer’s table.

More ramblings from our last meeting of 2015 produced this thought: change the format of the “Festa d’ Italia”, one of the Branch’s big winners. Changes could include, having it on a weekend, no dinner, move it to a venue that will accommodate more cars, say 100, and change the name. This should make for some interesting meetings in 2016.

Take the time to thank the people that make a difference in our lives.

la vita è buona

Reno

Reno

St. Albert, Br. 135

On November 7, 2015 the branch held its annual Polenta and Chicken dinner. We had a great crowd of over 300 people who enjoyed the food and the entertainment provided by accordionist, John Covarelli and singers Lydia Aberasturi and Burt Bonaldi. Many thanks go to all our members who worked very hard to make the dinner a success. Thanks also go out to Rachael Ferrari, Bob Ferrari and all the committee members who did the planning.

Because Bishop Randolph Calvo has a very busy schedule in December it was voted at an earlier meeting to present the Seminary Burse at the Polenta Dinner. President Carolyn Smith presented a \$1,000.00 check from Central Council’s Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund for the education of the Seminarians, to the Bishop. She also presented a gift of \$1,500.00 from Branch 135 for his seminary fund and a gift of \$300.00 for his TV ministry. Bishop Calvo thanked the Branch for the checks and introduced two of the seminarians studying for the Reno Diocese, Luis Espinoza and Monico Esquivel.

Buon Natale e Capo D’Anno a Tutti!

Charlyne Pacini

Sacramento

Sacramento

St. Mary, Br. 45

Happy Holidays!

Branch 45 will host its annual Christmas Party at the Espanol on December 13 at 2:00PM. Dinner choices are Roast Beef, Roast Chicken, Veal Parmesan, or Catfish. \$13.00 for members and \$25.00 for non-members. RSVP to Mary Ann, 916-568-2324.

Congratulations to our new officers for 2016. President, Janine Orsi; First Vice-President, Tina Tallman; Second Vice-President, Ted Georguson; Secretary/Corresponding Secretary, Bonnie Lally; Treasurer/Financial Secretary, Lisa Bandaccari; Orator, Mary Jo Lee; Trustees, Marie Leonard, Eric Bush and Arlene

Gianatasio; Sentinel, Mary Ann Heinen.

Welcome in the New Year by joining us in the first fund raiser of 2016. Branch 45 is sponsoring a day trip to Black Oak Casino in Tuolumne, CA. Date is January 9, 2016 and cost is \$35.00 per person. Credits for slot play, food, and refreshments. Call Jackie at 916-207-9691 for more information or questions.

Buon Compleannno to our December birthday celebrants, Bettye Leveroni Wright and Concetta Isola.

CIAO and Merry Christmas!

Mary Jo

Roseville

San Vito, Br. 73

The officers of Branch 73 for 2016 are: President, Tony Barsotti; Vice President, Bruno Novi; Secretary, Jeannete Presti; Treasurer, Marie Martin; Financial Secretary, Fred Terrio; Orator, Arlene Roe; Sentinel, Rosina Genessi; Trustees, Robert Delpippo, Julia Mitzel, and Rose Marie Presti.

Jeannete Presti will relinquish the position of Secretary when she returns to school in February or March, so it would be very helpful if a member would assume the position at that time. It basically consists of taking the minutes at each meeting and preparing a copy for the President, and another to be read at he meeting and placed into the branch’s records.

Buon Natale a tutti I soci della Sezione 73 il 25 dicembre. Che il Bambno Gesu ci porti tante benedizioni.

Buon compleanno e tante belle cose a tutti i soci della sezione nati nel mese di dicembre.

Auburn

St. Joseph, Br. 342

A very big thank you to all who were involved in the preparation and set-up for our annual Members’ Christmas Dinner that was held on December 6th. We have a great time and a fantastic dinner! Our members brought many canned food items that we were able to donate to the local food closet and our branch made financial donations to the Salvation Army, St. Vincent dePaul and Religious Education programs at both St. Joseph and St. Theresa parishes.

Our next big event is our world famous Polenta dinner prepared by Chef Rico and his crew. If you haven’t already done so, please purchase your tickets because this event always sells out. Tickets are \$20 and you will be served a yummy dinner of chicken, sausage,polenta, salad, and dessert. There will also be great music and a raffle. Hope to see you there!

Our branch would like to wish all of our fellow ICF members and their families a very Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year filled with good health and much happiness

Ciao!

Pam Andersen

Bolletino Contributor

Roseville

St. Clare, Br. 438

Our Bishops’ Day for the Blessed Sacrament District was held at the Cathedral this year on Sunday Nov.8th. What a beautiful mass. Nine of us Participated from our branch. Nina and Natalie Malone, Paula and Hank Scarpelli, Michael and Sandra Fuentes, Judy Del Grande , Frank Decato, Yvonne Perry and two guest my daughter Rebecca and her husband Sterling. Several branches were represented. Best of all Mr. & Mrs Leonard Zasoski, jr. attended. Leonard is the Central Council President. It was so good to see them again. District President



Branch 246 Scholarship Winners.

and branch member Paula Scarpelli presented Bishop Sotto with the Spiritual Bouquet along with President Leonard Zasoski who presented the Bishop with a check. Both of these gifts will be going to the Seminarians. Paula you did such a beautiful job. It felt so much more inspirational to present Bishop Soto with his gifts inside the Cathedral.

The bake sale will be chaired by Connie Terry. We will be baking cookies on Fri Dec.11th. at 11:00 A.M until 2:00 P.M. We will b e selling our bake goods Sat. Dec.12th. from 4:30- 6:30 P.M. and Sun. Dec.13th. from 7:00 A.M. until 1:30 P.M. So get your aprons on and BAKE, BAKE ,BAKE. Lets make this year a big success like last year.

Our Christmas party will be held on Dec.18th. President Joe Fisher and his crew will be cooking the dinner. Joe makes such a fabulous dinner. So mark this day on your calendar. This is opened for the members and their families. Oh yes Santa will be there.

Please remember our sick members in your prayers. And Merry Christmas to all and have a safe and great New Years.

Your Reporter,

Yvonne Perry

San Bernardino

Fontana

San Bernardino, Br. 210

We had two short meetings since the Convention in Vegas, because our President Mauro Romagnoli and his wife, Judy, have been on vacation and a cruise. Vice President, John Carlo, lead September meeting and 2nd Vice President, Ron Rovere, took over in October since John Carlo had to take care of settling his mom’s Estate. Our condolences for the passing of your mom. We also lost another long time member, Martha Nagy. Our Parish held a Requiem Mass for Father Luc Tran our former Pastor who passed as a result of Cancer. On a positive note we had a successful Bishop’s Luncheon on October 28th. Grand President Leonard Zasoski and Central Council member Annie Interrante attended as well as our Bishop, Gerald Barnes. Annie McCarthy invited as her guests Sister Sarah Shrewsbury Vocational Director and Father Javier Gonzales Associate Director of the Seminarian House that received the Bishop Burse. Two of the Seminarians, Andres Raveria and Francisco Herea, also attended. We missed having our District Chaplain, Father Ochetti with us to bless our food and give the closing prayer. He was visiting the Holy Land. Thank you Father Javier for doing the Blessing. We will have nominations and elections at the

November Meeting. We hope everyone has a blessed Thanksgiving and stays well.

Ciao!

Jack Grisafe

San Diego

Chula Vista

St. Rose of Lima, Br. 229

Buon Natale! Buon Anno!

Congratulations to the Officers of 2016:

President: Bob Maruca

First Vice President: Louis Pierotti

Second Vice President: Anthony Scipione

Treasurer & Financial Secretary: Theresa Wilson

Recording Secretary & Corresponding Secretary: Karen Judson

Orator: Esther Pierotti

Trustees: Jody Balestrieri, Michele Snyder, Mark Snyder

Sentinel: Vince Dirckx

Members-At-Large (Assistants to Sentinel): Yolanda Savageau, Jim Savageau

The Branch Christmas Party is on December 12, 2015 noon to 2:00 p.m. at Mangia Italiano. There will be a white elephant gift exchange for those who wish to participate, and attendees are asked to bring a new toy for the Tijuana orphanage.

Please pray for our deceased members, for those who are sick, for the unemployed, for the military personnel, 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

St. Vincent, Br. 246

These past two months have been busy ones.

In September, the branch presented scholarships to children attending St. Vincent’s School, as well as several older children attending catholic high schools in the area. These were awarded through our Monsignor Peter Mimmagh Scholarship fund.

One of our major fundraisers - Phil’s BBQ dinner - was held in October at St. Vincent’s church hall. This year we decided to change

the dinner a bit. Instead of just BBQ chicken, we served ribs as well. The meal included many side dishes and dessert. The dinner was an outstanding success and all proceeds went to fund the the Mimmagh Scholarship. Thank you ICF members, families and friends for your support.

In the works right now is our November heritage meeting, which will be held on the 20th.

To all our members fighting health problems, we send prayers and get well wishes.

Ciao and God Bless,

Brenda Vecchioni

San Diego

St. Therese, Br. 261

The “Can Do Spirit” of our Branch 261 - St Therese Parish....

A few years ago the ICF was confronted by an unusual dilemma... Our members chaired two major parish events - New Year’s & Valentine’s Day Dinner Parties... While we all enjoyed the parties we were plagued by drainage systems blockages... We always seemed to be inviting Roto Rooter to the events...The old drainage piping was installed before the new street which was put in about 25 yards from our hall... The old drain extended more than 70 yards to the nearest street – and was continuously invaded by a variety of roots... Our Branch proposed a plan to or pastor to correct the problem... He agreed to the update...

Since the new street was so much closer a new drainage piping was popular...After a few planning meetings plans were drawn for new drainage system... Our ICF membership did include most the trades that would be required to construct the new system...We inserted in the parish bulletin the need for plumbing assistance for the project... Our prayers were answered within a week... A mother – and owner of a large area plumbing company - called and told us to call her son for assistance and to schedule a project meeting – and that all the needed plumbing supplies would be provided at no cost...

Our members began the demolition - pneumatic hammers - backhoes were provided by neighbors at no cost... Seeing our members - Mike Del Vac & Vic Tallarida Jr - ride that backhoe was memorable... Just like a rodeo event!!

With the professional plumber the work progressed in a timely fashion....

(To be continued)

Vic Tallarida

San Francisco
San Francisco
District Council

Mea culpa. I sent the incorrect report last month. Here is the correct one, updated.

The following is the slate of officers for 2016. They were nominated and voted in.

President – Debbie Major, 1st Vice President – Vic Arnaudo, 2nd Vice President- Beverly Desmond, Recording Secty – Ann Basuino, Treasurer – Debbie Major, Orator - Eva Perata, Trustees – Jane Cunningham, Mary Perata & Mara Amato. Sentinel – Joe Basuino.

It was announced at the Convention that Branch 38 was planning to close. President Mara Amato explained that she merely called the office to find out about the procedure. They intend to keep the branch going as long as possible.

As a point of information, ICF members are always welcome to attend the district meetings as guests. They need not be delegates.

The District and Branch officers will be installed on January 10th, 2016, at 11:30 A.M., at the Italian American Social Club, on Russia.

Luncheon will follow. Your Branch president will receive detailed information.

Save the date – Archbishop’s Day will be celebrated in San Francisco, on April 3rd, 2016. Details when they are finalized. Your branch president will receive the information.

Buon Natale e Felice Capo d’Anno a tutti.

God Bless,

Ann Basuino

San Francisco

Maria S. S. Immacolata, Br. 1

Dear Members:

Our November Spuntino was enjoyed by all!

Upcoming events :

Dec. 6 -- Branch Feastday Mass, 10:30am, I.C.C.

Please note there will be no meetings in January and February 2016.

A special thank to Pat Arnaudo who translates my reports to “ Computer Language “ during the year.

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

Happy New Year !

Ciao !

Toni Morsello

San Francisco

Sts. Peter and Paul, Br. 38

Since we haven’t had our November meeting yet, we are all looking forward to next Saturday. We’ll be celebrating Thanksgiving with Cosmo cooking a Turkey breast, making the salad, & buying the pies. The Tealdi, Peradotto, & Varacchi sisters will be taking care of the yams, string beans, & all the trimmings. I’m sure there will be other munchies too! Now, doesn’t this make your mouth water with anticipation!

At our October meeting, we accomplished a lot. We almost have all our 2016 branch officers! We have one position to fill, but I’m keeping my fingers crossed! We also decided on this year’s Christmas donations, and I asked our members to think about next year’s ideas for our branch’s 2016 “Monthly Meetings & Events Calendar”... we already have a few new ideas planned! As far as the future of our branch...we decided to go “one month at a time.” None of our members want our branch to end...we have all been members of #38 a long time. So, this was our decision at our Oct. meeting! Yippee #38!

Maria Gloria spoke to us about October events such as: Columbus discovering America. There have been debates over the years of who really discovered America, but as Maria puts it, “Columbus was the only one who did something about it!” True!! She also spoke about Halloween and All Saints Day on Nov.1st. She also always has some treats for us members. Grazie, Maria, you are always so interesting and

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Members attending the San Mateo Chaplai night.

thoughtful too.

Fr. Al, we were happy you had time, and we were able to make time, for you to talk to us at our Oct. meeting. You told us about Pope Francis canonizing the French parents of St. Therese of Lisieux. This was the 1st time in Church history that a husband and wife were canonized at the same time. Louis Martin and Marie Zelig Guerin Martin’s had 9 children; 4 died as infants and the 5 living children all entered religious life. They were a good & holy family. Fr. Al, we’re looking forward to more of your interesting stories.

Another event will take place at Sts. Peter & Paul Church here in North Beach on Friday, Nov.13. His Excellency Salvatore Cordileone will be here to celebrate the Mass in honor of St. Frances Xavier (Mother) Cabrini (co-Patron saint of the ICF). Members from Branches #38 and #50 will be present. Mimi, I hope to see you at Mass, Friday!

Our December luncheon plans have not been made yet, but we’re working on them! I’m sure the Varacchi sisters will think up a few surprises! All you have to do to get ready for the party is practice singing Christmas Carols so Santa Clause won’t get a headache this year! We know we can do it...right Choir Leader Dora!

Branch #38 officers and members wish “tutti il membri” del Italian Catholic Federation un BUON NATALE. We hope everyone will have a happy, joyous, and especially healthy Christmas holiday season. **Madeline Torre thanks for all your help this year!

Ciao, ci vediamo il 12 di Dicembre in the PC.

Mara Amato

San Francisco

St. Vincent De Paul, Br. 50

Our last meeting was held on Oct. 7, with our

San Francisco

St. Elizabeth, Br. 258

Sixteen of us took a trip to Hawaii. The trip was fantastic and our group had loads of fun! The

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Congratulations to Branch 7 for celebrating its 90th Anniversary!



weather was good to us and the food delicious!! Our trip to Cache Creek on Oct.23rd was nice and we had a few winners.

On Oct. 25th ,our Parish, St. Elizabeth celebrated the Feast of St. Elizabeth. Our Chaplain, Fr. Suan. Joined Bishop Justice in the celebration of the Mass. A reception followed the Mass.

Dec. 10th, we will have our Christmas lunch. If interested, please call Mary Perata at 415-239-5936.

On Dec. 7th, is our trip to Modesto to see the McHenry Mansion. Then we go to see the Duarte Farms and hundreds of Poinsettias and many other plants and flower arrangements. We will have lunch at Concetta’s family style Italian Restaurant.

Birthdays: Dec.10th. Yolanda Stefani.

We hope all our members and their families had a very nice Thanksgiving. We all have a lot to be thankful for.

Buon Natale and Buon Capo di Anno to everyone. We hope 2016 will be good to all of us.

Remember these dates:

December 7th: Officer’s Meeting

December 27th: Mass

No member’s 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 12th. 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

Everyone enjoyed the pizza luncheon at our October meeting. There was a lengthy and animated discussion under the “Good of the Order”. It was concerning the difficult problem of recruiting new members. We sort of came to the conclusion that prayers and positive thinking would help a lot. We will all give it a go. It was so good to see Constance Mertes. She is feeling well and was happy to be with us, as was Lois Maher. We also had guests, Vic Arnaudo from Branch 1, and Joe Braga, Dr. Braga’s brother, from Australia.

The nomination of officers has been postponed to November. Please make every effort to attend so that we can vote in a complete slate.

We have a tentative date for our Christmas Party. It will be at the Harding Golf Course on December 3rd. Everyone enjoyed it last year and we had a good number in attendance. Your guests are always welcome, of course.

The San Francisco District installation of officers will be held on January 10th. Details in next month’s Bolletino.

Our next meeting will be on November 11th, Serra Room, 6:30. The branch calendar for 2016

will be planned following the meeting.

God Bless,

Ann Basuino

San Mateo

District Council

Congratulations to the newly elected District Officers for 2016!

President -- Marc Teglia

1st VP -- Dorene Campanile

2nd VP -- Open

Secretary -- Deborah Rodondi

Treasurer -- Bea Tomasello

Orator -- Virginia Fuentes

Trustees -- Barbara Firpo, Bob Tomasello, Kathy Trevizo

Sentinel -- Harold Fuentes

Many thanks to the outgoing District officers.

Chaplain’s night was enjoyed by all who attended. Thanks to Branch 130, St. Pius, Redwood City for hosting this event. Kudos to the Chaplains for greatly entertaining us.

Mark your calendars:

District Christmas party may change. Watch your emails. Please let Dorene Campanile know what food your branch is bringing and the count of Branch members attending (650) 344-7870.

Saturday, January 16, 2016, San Mateo District Installation hosted by Branch 351, Menlo Park. 11:00 a.m. at San Mateo Elks Club. Lunch to follow installation. Price \$38/person. Entree choices: Cross Rib Roast, Chicken Marsala and Petrale Sole. Reservations to Cory Roberts, 5 Chateau Drive, Menlo Park, 94025 (650) 867-8946. Deadline: January 9, 2016.

Thursday, January 28, 2016, District meeting 7:30 p.m. Our Lady of Angels, Burlingame. Hosted by Branch 351, Menlo Park.

Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuevo!

Anne O’Brien

Captions:

On November 6, 2015 the San Mateo District celebrated their annual Chaplains Nights. The evening, hosted by Branch 130 St. Pius in Redwood City, began with dinner at the San Mateo Elks Lodge. All 10 branches of the District were present for the event. Mistress of Ceremonies Deborah Rodondi (Grand Treasurer, District Secretary) introduced guests and the Chaplains of the branches. The Chaplains in attendance shared great jokes with the group. We thank all our spiritual leaders for all they do for us.

Pictured are Branch Presidents or 1st Vice Presidents and Chaplains: Seated: Jean Tomatis (Br. 130); Candy Hernandez (Br. 351); Sylvia Row (Br. 6); Cheryl Simon (Br. 19)

Standing: Kelly Teglia (Br. 7); Marc Teglia (District President); Dan Capodanno (Br. 403); Barbara Gabriel (Br. 213); Father Tom Martin (Br. 130); Father Joe Glynn (Br. 403); Dorene Campanile (Br. 173); Father Michael Mahoney (Br. 173); Deacon Leryn Prudenciado (Br. 19); Deacon Tom Boyle (Br. 6); Harold Fuentes (Br. 163); Deborah Rodondi (Br. 19)

South San Francisco

Sacro Cuore, Br. 7

Our October BBQ Fundraiser Dinner was outstanding! We celebrated our 90th Anniversary, and feasted on huge steaks with all the trimmings. We were honored to have the ICF Grand President, Leonard Zasoski and his wife attend along with 1st VP Andy Pappani and his wife. Other special attendees were, Deborah Rodondi, Central Council Grand Treasurer, and

Lisa Crudo, Central Council. Marc Teglia, our 1st VP and also serves as San Mateo District President, was our dinner program chairman. Past President in attendance were, Diana Ferrari, Frank Risso, Lola Migliore and Kelly Teglia. Special recognition was given to Aida Palomba for her 56 years of membership in Branch 7. Other members with over 40 years of membership are: Renato Achiro, Josephine Baldocchi, Gloria Galeotti, Andreino Simonetti, Marilyn Galli, Phyllis Feudale, Marie Pariani and Antoinette Fraschieri. We wish to thank Amoura Café for donating wonderful appetizers, and for raffle prizes, The Basque Cultural Center, DeNapoli Restaurant, Chef’s Warehouse, South City Car Wash and the City of South San Francisco for the use of their “DeLorean” BBQ.

A big thank you to Kelly, Marc, Lola, Jim, Tony 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 2nd 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 thought to ponder at Christmas, “As we rush around buying presents, we must always remember that “our presence rather than our presents” is one of the greatest gifts we can give.”

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Sempre Avanti

Laurie Masetti

San Mateo

St. Matthew, Br. 163

Congratulations and kudos to the elected officers of 2016. Many thanks for accepting again: President: Harold Fuentes

1st Vice President: Eda Rossetto

2nd Vice President: Open

Recording Secretary: Anne O’Brien

Corresponding Secretary: Jim Lowman

Financial Secretary: Virginia Fuentes

Treasurer: Frank Ventrally

Orator: Rose Marie Sickle

Trustees: Lena Ventrally, Marie D’Asaro

Sentinel: Marie D’Asaro

Many thanks to Michele and Jim Loman for the delicious Enchilada Casserole dinner they prepared for us for our October meeting night.

Our 53rd Anniversary luncheon was a huge success and all had a good time. Many thanks to Lena Venturelli and her helpers for manning the entry table; to Frank Venturelli for serenading us with his beautiful music; and Jim and Michele Loman for a great job handling the raffle and distribution of prizes.

Mark your calendars:

Thursday, December 10, 2015 – Our Christmas Dinner Party.

Remember the 2016 calendars are now on sale. Price is \$25 and the branch gets to keep \$5 for each calendar sold. A good fundraiser!

Merry Christmas and Happiness in New Year 2016!

Anne O’Brien



**Burlingame
Name, Br. 173**

Where has the year gone? We are fast approaching the holidays and looking forward to enjoying the ICF festivities and time spent with our families.

For those who attended Chaplain’s night hosted by Branch 130 St. Pius in Redwood City, it was a lot of fun and the priests in attendance told the best jokes. Father Michael was his usual stimulating self.

November 21, 2015 our branch will be celebrating our anniversary being catered by Esposto’s and chaired by Lori Clyne. It will be held at O.L.A. with cocktails at 4:00 pm and dinner at 5:00 pm.

Last month we elected some new officers but wanted to include our Financial Secretary, Jean Watterson and our three Trustees: Lori Clyne, Bea Tomasello and Jim Witherspoon.

Our new District Officers for 2016 are: President: Mark Teglia, 1st V.P. Dorene Campanile, Secretary: Deborah Rodondi, Treasurer: Bea Tomasello, Trustees: Barbara Firpo, Bob Tomasello and Kathy Trevizo, Orator: Virginia Fuentes and Sentinel: Harold Fuentes.

January 16 - Installation of Officers Reservations to Cory Roberts, 5 Chateau Drive, Menlo Park 650-867-8946 Deadline January 9th, 2016 Hosted by Branch 351 Menlo Park.

There are many in our ICF branch who are going through some difficult times with illnesses in their families and need all of our prayers.

One of them is Mary Ann Camacho’s son, Jeff Tucker.

*God Bless,
Rosalind C. Emery*

**South San Francisco
St. Augustine, Br. 213**

Our regular dinner meeting was hosted by Judy & Joe Crosetti on November 10. KFC was

served and was enjoyed by all. Thanks Joe and Judy -- and Jackie for the delicious dessert. The meeting was conducted by Jackie Smith in the absence of President Barbara Gabriel.

Our Christmas Luncheon was held on Sunday, December 6, at the Basque Cultural Center in South San Francisco. As usual, everyone had a good time and enjoyed their lunch.

To all officers: Don’t forget San Mateo District’s Installation of Officers on Saturday, January 16. All officers are expected to be there. It will be held at the San Mateo Elks Club. This year both the Installation of Officers and luncheon will be at the Elks. Flyers have been sent to all officers with details.

We still have a few ICF Calendars for sale. If you haven’t bought one (or more), call Roberta at 650/355-0813. Calendars are \$25 each and our branch keeps \$5 per each calendar sold. They make nice Christmas gifts!

Branch officers for 2016: We have the same slate of officers with the exception of trustees who are Harold Fuentes and Linda Marcelli.

Hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving and are ready for the Christmas Holidays!

**San Carlos
St. Charles, Br. 327**

At our recent October “World Series” meeting and dinner we had our annual election of officers for the upcoming 2016 year. Our roster of officers is: President Tom Malaspina; 1st Vice-President Joe Sheehan; Recording Secretary Carmel Dufault; Corresponding Secretary Gayton De Rosa; Financial Secretary Alma Brennan; Treasurer Marie De Rosa; Orator Kathleen Scully; Trustees Barbara Borra, Irene Meany, Celeste Lennemann; Sentinel Gloria Haars. Thank you to all of you for stepping up and helping make our branch as successful as it is.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, December 15, 2015. It will be our annual Holiday party and will be sponsored by your present board. Please come and enjoy.

A few dates to jot down on your new 2016 calendars:



Saturday, January 16 is the installation of officers for the year 2016. Both installation and lunch will be held at the San Mateo Elk’s Club. Installation is at 11:00am; lunch follows at 1:00pm. More information will follow.

Our quarterly communions are now semi-annual communions. The first for the year will be held at Holy Angels Church in Colma, Branch 19, on Sunday, February 28, 2016. It will be a 1:00pm Mass followed by a social in the church hall.

And on a sad note: Longtime member Margaret “Peggy” Howarth recently passed away. May she rest in peace.

*Buon Natale,
Virginia Malaspina*

**Millbrae
St. Dunstan, Br. 403**

We had 15 members attend the recent Chaplain’s Night at the Elk’s Club as we honored our own Chaplain Father Joe Glynn.

Our annual Christmas Party will be held on December 1, 2015 in the Parish Center at 6:30PM.

The dinner menu will consist of salad, New York roast beef, ravioli, vegetable, bread, dessert and wine for \$10 for members and \$20 for non-members. Reservations due by November 25 by sending a check to Dan Capodanno, 325 San Jose, Millbrae, CA 94030. Again this year we will provide a Christmas Gift basket to a needy family.

The Installation of Officers will take place on January 16, 2016 at the San Mateo Elks Club, with the installation taking place at 11:00 and lunch following at 1:00. Our Officers for 2016 are:

Mary Vella Treseler-President; Dan Capodanno-1st. V.P.; Paul Larson-2nd. V.P.; Eunice Danli-Treasurer; Lois Agresti-Recording Secretary; Rose Marie Morando-Corresponding Secretary; Roy Fry-Orator; Trustees-Kay Lucio, Jack Gardner and Helen Habeeb, and Sentinel-Ann Gardner.

Rose Marie Morando

**Marin
Larkspur**

St. James, Br. 161

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

President – Marlene Farber

1st Vice Presidents – Jeanne Asdourian and Lucia Della Santina

2nd Vice President – Phyllis Rybensky

Recording Secretary – Anna Biggio

Corresponding and Financial Secretary – Mary Onetti

Treasurer – Catherine Biggio

Orator – Theresa Rosser

Trustees – Doris Mulligan, Margaret DeRango, Cristin Leverte

Sentinel – Diane Hollister

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

Our next meeting will be January 19, 2016. That evening we will have installation of officers.

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

Buon Natale a tutti.

See you next year,

*Ciao,
Anna Biggio*

**San Jose
Santa Clara Valley**

District Council

Congratulations to our newly elect council officers;

President -- Denise Antonwicz

1st VP -- Bob Bausino

Recording Sec. -- Marie Yurosko

Treasurer -- Bill Greco (w/Mike Rossi)

Orator -- Jo Bertaccini

Trustees -- Emily Corral, Donna Pfaff, Steve Lencioni

Sentinel -- Eva Stern

Past Pres -- John Gillio

The SCV District Strategic Workshop was a big success thanks to Central Council members Vince Piro, Andy Pappani and Pat Majors. Some 80% of the branches were in attendance. Jim Jones provided the venue, Denise Antonwicz and family provided continental breakfast. Each CC member explained a Core Strategy, Membership, Leadership, and Community Connections. The Branches then listed their goals on a worksheet and timeline as to when the task will be accomplished. The worksheets were then recorded and will provide a measurement which will be monitored by the Task Force and Branch Deputy. Feedback will be provided to keep the Branch focused.

o District Christmas Party – Dec 14th – St. Martins

Mike Nunziata

San Jose

Holy Cross, Br. 4

Our Polenta Dinner was very successful. Thank you to President Anna and her family, the cooks, servers, and all who helped out. Thank you, Jessica, for helping to set up the tables. And Most of All, Thanks to you who came to support us. As you know, all of the proceeds from this dinner go directly to Holy Cross Church. So, Thank You again for supporting our Church!

Laurice Levine was thrilled with the collection of toys for Children’s Hospital Oakland. To those of you who brought toys, Thank You. Your generosity is appreciated. And to Laurice, we love you so much. It’s always wonderful to see you.

Jan 6- Soup Night regular meeting

Jan 9, 2016- Installation of Officers It will be held at Branch 408 in Sunnyvale. If for any reason you can’t make the date, please try to get a stand-in for your office. Lunch will follow at Mariani’s on the El Camino in Santa Clara. Times for mass, and lunch details will be forthcoming.

The season is upon us. I wish for all of you a



Members of Branch 4 working hard at their polenta dinner.



January 25, and February 22.

A large thank you to Gennero Filice and John G. and Kim Filice for all their work on the Shopping Spree. It was a another sucess.

Again, may you have a blessed Christmas with all your friends and family.

Ciao,

Anna Barberi

Los Gatos

St. Mary, Br. 184

Our Polenta Dinner Dance, Oktoberfest, was a lot of fun. The Buonaccorsi men made the polenta, but the sauce cooks tried something different. They cooked German sausages instead of chicken cacciatore. Many people enjoyed the change. We were happy to see members from other branches attend, as well as Bradley James, who won the Pope Saint John 23rd Award at the recent Convention. In 1987 Bradley met with Mother Teresa. She invited him to join a group of people to open a house in Los Angeles for her Sisters of Charity. With his musical background, he was given permission by Mother Teresa to write music to her words. What an honor.

Come support our Branch's entry, the Chicken Mobile, in the Los Gatos Christmas Parade, December 5, rain or shine. We need marchers, be in line by 8:30 A.M.!

On Dec. 10, we will meet at Harry's Hofbrau for a Christmas Party/meeting. More info to follow from the telephone committee.

Elections were held in October. Following are the officers who plan and work for our Branch: Pres. Denise Antonowicz; 1st V.P. Julie Klem Brusco; 2nd V.P. Marie Antonowicz; Rec. Secty. Marie Yurosko; Corres. Secty. Lucy Amico; Fin. Secty. Michelle Antonowicz; Treas. Donna Pfaff; Orator Barbara White; Trustees Joe Yurosko, Rose Arnaudo and Norma Buonaccorsi; Sentinel Victoria Nguyen. The officers will be installed on Jan. 9 at Resurrection Church in Sunnyvale, with Mass at 11 A.M. Luncheon will follow at Mariani's.

It's hard to believe that another year is over. Buon Natale e Felice Capo d'Anno a tutti! We pray that the New Year will bring good health to all of our members and their families.

Ciao, Lucy Amico

San Jose

St. Francis Cabrini, Br. 191

Dear Members of the Federation, families and friends,

Branch 191, Saint Frances Cabrini Church, San Jose, Ca. would like to wish you all a Blessed Christmas and a successful New Year.



Branch 184 was honored to have Bradley James, recent recipient of the Pope St. John 23rd Award, at our Polenta Dinner Dance. He is seated here with Mike and Lorraine Nunziata, John and Noreen Gillio, Bill and Maria Greco, and Mike Rossi. Maria is our Grand Deputy.

Our Branch Prayer Committee will keep you in our prayers this coming year because we know that prayer works miracles. We have experienced this all year long. We would appreciate your prayers as well.

Love to you and again Merry Christmas.

James Jones

San Jose

Saint Teresa of Avila, Br. 368

At our Oktoberfest meeting on the fourteenth, a day before the feast day of our patron Saint Teresa, Robin Hayr presented meditations based on Teresa's words. Our parish is celebrating the 500th year of her birth in March of 1515. Also called Teresa of Jesus, she is known as an author, a contemplative, a reformer of the Carmelites, and a Doctor of the Church.

After Father George led us in an Oktoberfest beer-drinking song, we raffled off a wooden cross decorated with tile by our resident artist, John Gillio. A new much-needed barbeque that our branch is donating to the parish also appeared at our meeting.

We enjoyed Lorraine Nunciata's display of the layette items (see picture) her group collects or makes by hand for new mothers who would otherwise not be able to provide them for their newborns. Lorraine will present the beautiful items at the shower at Holy Family Church in December.

At our November meeting in the church, we will be using several crock pots and electrical outlets for our Thanksgiving buffet. The new hall is almost ready for our parish activities. It is so hard to wait!

Branch 368 wishes you all a blessed Christmas and a peaceful New Year!

Judy Zahn



The ladies of Branch 368 with their layette items.

Santa Clara

N.S. Assunta, Br. 5

Thanks to all members and guests for your support of Branch 5 during the 2015 fiscal year.

We had a very good year, and hope the 2016 year is even greater.

Please remember to renew your membership for 2016 by paying your dues as soon as possible.

Call the Financial Secretary, Marlene Rotolo, if there are any questions. Dues are \$38.40 per member.

Congratulations to our 2016 Branch officers: President, Janet Glaubke, 1st Vice President, Joe Martinez, Financial Secretary, Marlene Rotolo, Recording Secretary, Judy Hare, Treasurer, Mary Ann Ruiz, Trustee, Larry Marsalli, Trustee, Bea Cunha, Orator, Elise Marsalli, and Sentinel, Esther Galedrige.

Installation of Officers will be on January 9, 2016.

If you have any fundraiser ideas, or any suggestions, to make 2016 a better year, please let one of the officers know. Again, we are in need of new members. Please invite anyone of your relatives or friends to come join us. The more the merrier.

If you have time during the Christmas season, please visit Christmas in the Park in downtown San Jose. The District ICF has a display.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all members and guests.

Ciao,

Marlene J. Rotolo

Gilroy

Santa Maria Ausiliatrice, Br. 28

Boun Natale a tutti. Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year to all members everywhere.

Our Branch Christmas party will be on December 21. Santa and Mrs. Clause will make an appearance and you will have to bring a gift for each child you bring to the party. We will have the tree, and maybe some entertainment. No meeting, just holiday fun.

Please tell your caller how many are coming, as we need to know how many to set up for and feed.

A reminder our January and February dinner meetings will be on the fourth Monday of the month as to avoid the holidays of those months.

Monday Dec 7th. Chef John Parker will serving Lasagna once again. Please contact Jackie Anderson to lert her know which side dish or desert you can bring.

The Stanford Blood Bank is not able to host any further Sunday Mobile Blood Drives this year- so our next Drive has been rescheduled for SATURDAY Dec 12th in the Farana Center. Please pray for Donors.

Br 408 hosts the Santa Clara Valley District 2016 Installation at Rez. Installation Mass will be held in the main church @10:00 AM with Fr. Phong Presiding. This will be followed by Installation and an Italian Bufett Luncheon @ Marianni’s in Santa Clara @ \$35 per person.

Please remember to include our sick members in your prayers – especiallyfor MaryJo DiMuccio who has moved from the Forum to a Facility in San Mateo, Anne Lopez, Betty Deville, Susan’s Daughter Alexei, Dori Blefari, Edith Novak, Al’s wife Syd, and Carolyn O’Connor.

Morgan Hill

Santa Caterina D’Alessandria, Br. 435

A big CONGRADULATONS to our President Andy Pappani for being elected to 1st Grand Vice President of the Central Council. We are all proud of you.

At our last dinner meeting we were deliciously treated and enjoyed homemade Italian meatballs, sauce, sausage, pasta and spaghetti prepared by Josie Talamo and Peter Cassidy who gave Josie a lot of assistance in the kitchen. We also enjoyed wonderful antipasti and many different desserts.

Giulia Gallego, Fran Scalzo, and myself(Donna) were part of our branch attending the lovely Mass at St. Martin Tours Church officiated by

our Bishop.

I.C.F. branches were very generous in various donations to different charities. We also got to meet some of the new Seminarians. It was great experience.

Our next dinner meeting we will be celebrating an early Thanksgiving dinner on Nov. 12th.

Please keep in your prayers both Janice Perez and Marilyn Tobias who both passed away. Marilyn was a dear friend to many of us. They will both be missed by our branch. Remember Joe Morabito and Joe Tacci in your prayers also.

Have a happy, healthy, and blessed Thanksgiving.

Donna Basilin

Santa Rosa Napa

Name, Br. 12

Happy Thanksgiving to one and all. Pauline, Polly, and Joan prepared our delicious Thanksgiving Dinner, with Laura and Barbara adding the libation. It was a fun evening with 21 members gathering.

The 2016 Budget was presented and voted accepted at the meeting. The calendar of events is in the works. There will be Quarterly Mass and Meals, Beer Booth, four monthly Masses at one of three churches in Napa, hosting Bishop Day and visits to other Branches.

Our Christmas Party is being held at La Strada with three choices of entre. We look forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus as we gather for this Party.

Ciao, Juliann

City Name, Br. 18

We are working hard to set up our calendar of events for 2016. Contact us if you have suggestions for social events or community service projects.NEW MEMBERS--- always always welcome and needed and appreciated. Please remember our sick members in your prayers; Lynn Stornetta Green, Jerry Shotts and Edy Regan. Our October 17th prime rib dinner was a great success, so we will have another one in 2016, plus three dinner dances. Many thanks to Doreen O’Rourke and Butch Bondi for their unending hard work and dedication, our everfaithful bartenders John Kennedy and Larry Kilcullen,and a special thank you to our delightful and helpful Branch Deputy Louise Vicino. Our New Years vision is increasing our membership, invite family members and friends to join us for fun and rewarding endeavors.

Buon Natale e Buon Principio a tutti

Marie Canale

Healdsburg

St. Frances di Sales, Br. 52

More than 260 people enjoyed our polenta dinner on Nov. 7. Thank you to Scott Cavallo and crew for the wonderful polenta and homemade sausage. Thank you to everyone who helped and who attended to make the dinner a success.

Upcoming Events:

Dec. 4: Christmas Party. Doors open at 5:45 PM. Dinner at 6:30 PM. Price: \$10.00. Santa will be visiting from the North Pole. For tickets, call Mary Del Monte or Mary Madden.

Dec. 8: Branch meeting in the rectory. 7 PM. All are welcome to attend.

Jan. 16: Second and final Polenta Dinner of the season. For tickets, call Mary Del Monte: 433-4372 or Mary Madden 431-0438. We will also be celebrating the 80th Anniversary of Br. 52 at this dinner!

Jan. 23: Santa Rosa District Installation of Officers at Sonoma, Br. 103. Mass: 12 Noon with Installation and lunch to follow. For tickets call Carmen or Lauren Kilcullen: 577-7304.

Feb. 19: 2nd Annual Fish Fry. Mark your calendars for a fabulous night.

Raffle ticket sales for the Nativity set will be held after all the Masses during Advent. The raffle will be held at the Christmas Eve Mass. Thank you to Larry and Frances Gaddini for donating the Nativity set, this year. We appreciate it.

Happy Birthday on December 7th to Fr. Sean Rogers and Larry Kilcullen, who is celebrating his 80th birthday!

Merry Christmas!

Lauren Kilcullen

Sonoma

St. Sebastian, Br. 103

Buon Natale a tutti!!!

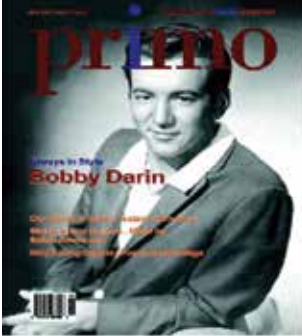
Branch 103 was pleased and honored to welcome the District Council on December 6 at the Council’s luncheon at St. Francis Solano Church’s Father Roberts Hall. The catered lunch was delicious, as declared by all who attended.

The Branch Christmas dinner will not take place until Tuesday, December 8, but the group is still ready for a great party. Members are collecting coats, which will be distributed through FISH,

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Branch 103 members at dinner.

to those in need. For dinner reservations, call Lila at (707) 996-3448.

Members look forward to hosting the installation of District officers in January. More details in the January newsletter.

Marie-Therese Denning

Petaluma

St. Vincent, Br. 127

Greetings from Petaluma!

What a beautiful day filled with sunshine and blue skies. A little on the cool side but an exhilarating day, especially after the rainy day before. I can't believe the year is almost to an end, it has gone by so fast.

The last meeting of the year was held last night and we had great group support. It was nice to see all who were in attendance. Especially nice to see our Santa Rosa District Deputy Kathy Acquistapace and her husband Bob in attendance. Thanks and good wishes go to our Officers of 2015 and we are looking forward to the following Officers in the coming year. President: Bruno Fomasi; 1st VicePres.: Lucy Spingola; Secretary: Linda Cordoni; Treasurer: Denise DiGirolamo; Financial Secty: Sharon Hromek; Orator: Rita Boynton; Trustees: MaryEllen Higgins , Madeline Fassett, Louise Vicino; and Sentinel: Susan O'Connor. Ken Marshal is our Branch Deputy and Father Michael Culligan, Branch Chaplain. We want to congratulate our new officers and wish them well in the coming year. Plan to make next year the best year ever by attending the meetings and the fund raisers. Get to know your fellow members, you'll have a great time.

Thanks go to the members for their donations of canned goods for the needy. There are so many who need to feed their families and so they will go for a good cause. Thanks go too to all the members who helped in any way to make the fund raising dinners and functions so successful. Our last Polenta/Stew Dinner was a huge success in so many ways. The food was delicious and the friendship was wonderful, a great evening. So I want to thank the Cooks Bruno Fomasi, Angelo Leone , Giacco Manni and his friend Rich for the wonderful job they did.

The Branch Christmas Party will be held on December 12th. The Quarterly Communion/ Mass will be at 5:00 p.m. at St. Vincent's Church with the dinner following at the Boulevard Cafe. Cost of the Dinner is \$20 with \$5 if you want wine. Make your reservations with Denise DiGirolamo - 762-5679.

If all goes well we will have our Soup/Dessert Night at the first meeting of 2016. The meeting will be held on January 11th at 6:00 p.m. at St. James Church Hall. Cost \$5. Make reservations with Louise: 769-7389.

At this time I would like to wish all members a very beautiful and holy Christmas Season and the blessings of good health and much happiness in the coming New Year!

Get well wishes to David Botta, Parliamentarian of the Central Council and to any sick members of the Branch. Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary to all celebrating at this time. May God bless the homeless and all who lost their

homes in the fires. May they find shelter and food for their families. Bless our Servicemen and their families as well.

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

Ciao,

Louise Vicino

Arcata

St. Mary, Br. 144

We did well at our Polenta dinner, we cleared over \$3,000. A huge Thank You to all who helped. Dec. will be a quiet month. We will have Befana on Jan.3. Please bring your family (especially children)! Installation of officers for Branches 144 and 145 will be on Jan. 16th at Leavy Hall. Please plan to attend. Don't forget to buy your tickets for the District Christmas Raffle (See Jaquie Aseltine) and bring your donation for our gift basket to Linda Spallino. We prefer something Italian or made in Humboldt County, but will take anything you bring.

Breakfast with Santa is Dec. 6th.

Please pray for our ill: Linda Spallino, Tony LaBanca.

Happy Birthday to Dena MacDonald and Joe Rodrigues.

Please pray for the peaceful repose of our past member Steve Brodhag.

It is so great to be coming back to my Church and my ICF family. I am proof of the power of prayer. I want to thank every one for the prayers, cards, phone calls, visits, communion (brought by our members). I still have a ways to go to go to full recovery, but am getting stronger every day, and more thankful for all of my Blessings.

May all have a blessed Christmas full of family, laughs, and love.

Ciao,

Linda Spallino

Eureka

St. Ambrose, Br. 145

Our October 13th meeting began with a delicious spaghetti dinner. The sauce was prepared by Jerry Colivas and "company." Thank you to all who helped with the dinner.

Joe Bonino reported on the results of our October 11th scholarship fund raiser spaghetti dinner. We served just about eighty-five dinners. All had a great time enjoying the delicious meal and wine and visiting with each other. Thank you so much to all who made this such a success. We were a small and mighty crew but we make it work. Thank you!

Our September 28th fund raiser at Applebees Restaurant proved to be a great idea. Thank you to Nancy Brunner for suggesting this project. It was a great way not only to earn funds for our lodge but also a great way for others to learn what we are about.

Deputy Mike DalPorto reported on the convention, sharing ways to improve our membership.

Remember to put December 13th on your calendar for our annual cocoa with Santa for the children of both parishes.

Next meeting will be November 10th. We will discuss details for the Christmas Cocoa party.

Keep all members and their families in you prayers.

This is the time of the year to be mindful of all of our Blessings, so take a moment during this busy time to give thanks!

Continued blessings to all,

Nancy Paoli



Members of Branch 48 enjoying a meal.

Santa Rosa

St. Eugene, Br. 198

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

President Bob Acquistapace conducted his final meeting after a wonderful spaghetti and meatball dinner cooked by Randy Apel, Marc Bisio and Mike Milano. He thanked all

the members who have supported him over the years and asked that their support for our new president Gene Zingarelli.

The 2016 officers for Branch # 198 are:

President- Gene Zingarelli

1st Vice President - Robert Acquistapace

2nd Vice President-Mike Milano

Secretary- Gail Azevedo

Treasurer- William Scinto

Financial Secretary- Nancy Azevedo

Orator- Mary Desideri

Trustees- Lorraine Castelli, Marie Lagomarsino, Marc Bisio

Sentinal- Randy Apel

Congratulations to all of you for 2016.

If you have any questions about our 50th Anniversary dinner please call Lorraine Castelli-546-7982.

Continue your prayers for Frank Castelli, Kathy Acquistapace Vic Torchio Sr., Carrie Vitalini, Ezio Mangantini and any of our brothers and sisters who could use our prayerful support.

May all of you have a Happy Holly and Merry Christmas.

Ciao,

Lorraine Castelli

Stockton

District Council

Thanksgiving has come and gone and the Christmas shopping has begun. Let's keep the advent season alive as we prepare for HIS coming.

The Stockton District members are looking forward to Sunday, January 3, 2016 for the Installation of Officers. Mass begins at 1 p.m. at St. Stanislaus Church, 7th and J Streets in Modesto. Installation follows in the church and dinner will be served in the hall at 2:45 p.m. The menu is Pasta, Rosemary Chicken, Vegetable, Green Salad, Fruit Salad and Rolls. The cost is \$15.00 per person; children under twelve are \$7.50. Reservations should be made no later than December 29, 2015. Please notify Ida as to who will be attending at: Ida Queirolo – Dist. Treas. (209) 982-5710 and mail check to 18424 Queirolo Road, Lathrop, CA 95330. Thank you Branch 48 for hosting this annual event. Reminder: Each branch must bring their regalia and dessert for 30 people.

The Bishop's Burse will take place on Saturday, March 6, 2016 in Angels Camp at St. Patrick's Church. This is the time to present Our Most Reverend Bishop S. Blair with a spiritual

bouquet as while as a monetary bouquet to educate our diocesan seminarians. Mark your calendar and more details will follow in the next edition of the Bollettino.

I'm still looking for volunteers to be Branch Deputies. Please consider volunteering your time and talent to attend another branch meeting one time a month.

Karen Rosson

Modesto

St. Stanislaus, Br. 48

We had several of our members attend our annual mass and breakfast. We attended the 8:00 am mass at St. Stanislaus Church, on Maze Blvd., then had breakfast at Perko's. Everyone enjoyed the morning.

We had to table our elections of officers until the November meeting due to the absence of some of our officers.

Our Christmas Potluck will be December 9, 2015 at 6:00 pm in St. Stanislaus Hall at 7th and K Streets, Modesto. Bring your favorite dish, your family and friends and join us.

We will host the Installation of Officers January 3, 2016. We will begin with mass at 1:00 pm. Followed by the Installation of officers in the church and then a Rosemary Chicken Dinner with all the trimmings in the hall. Our sister branches are asked to help supply the dessert. Each branch is asked to bring enough dessert for thirty people. Members that can be here by 12:00 noon to help set up will be appreciated.

Mass for our deceased members will be Sunday, December 6, 2015 and January 10, 2016 at the 8:00 am at the Maze Blvd. Church

Coming up:

Dec. 9 6:00 – Christmas Potluck and Meeting St. Stanislaus Hall 7 & K Streets

Jan. 3, 2016 – Installation of Officers.

Jan 13 7:00 - Meeting St Stanislaus Hall 7th and K Streets Modesto

Feb 10 7:00 - Meeting St Stanislaus Hall 7th and K Streets Modesto

Have a Blessed Christmas!

Cecelia McGhee

Tracy

St. Bernard, Br. 390

At the monthly meeting in October, the children of members came dressed in their costumes and participated in their own Halloween parade. Their costumes were so well done - we were very impressed. November's 4th Annual Polenta Dinner was the biggest yet! Hard-working ICF members, co-sponsored with the help of YMI of St. Bernard's Church scored record ticket sales and were rewarded with a great increase over last year's attendance. Everyone there raved about Mike Bacchetti and his crew of chefs who produced 'Perfect Polenta' and their hearty helpings of Chicken Cacciatore. As an added 'thank you' to all who attended, over 200 door prizes contributed and assembled by ICF board members were given out after dinner. Funds raised will be divided evenly between the two



Branch 390 caption: Here are a few Goblins from our Halloween Dinner Meeting.

Dan Casagrande, MBA

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