

Figuring Out Our Finances

Roselynn Jarrett
Grand Treasurer

Finances are a major part of our ICF operations. Without generating income we cannot fund our charitable programs, our office, our newspaper, or provide support to our branches. To help educate our members on our finances, check the [Bollettino](#) for occasional articles about our financial operations.

This month, let’s take a peek at our general fund’s sources of income and expenses. The list below provides examples of where the majority of our cash flows. Our general fund is where we fund the day to day operations of the ICF.

Sources of Income

- Per Capita
- Bollettino Ads
- Interest/Dividends
- Liability Insurance
- CC Meetings and Dinners
- Convention
- Convention Raffle
- Calendar Sales
- Golf Tournament
- Sale of Supplies
- Hospitalization Plan Donation
- Administrative Fees

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

TIME SENSITIVE: PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY!

Examples of Expenses

- Bollettino
- Liability Insurance
- Payroll and Benefits
- Central Council Meeting Travel Expenses
- Charitable Donations
- Convention
- Raffle and Calendar Prizes
- Golf Tournament
- Branch Expansion
- Branch Awards
- Scholarships
- Festivals
- Strategic Plan
- Advertising
- Postage
- Supplies and Printing
- Rent and Utilities
- Leased Equipment
- Tax Review Services

How Can We Get Out of the Red?

- Recruit and retain members (per capita)
- Reduce Bollettino expenses
 - Exploring an online option and the choice to opt out of a printed version
 - Recently changed printers to reduce cost
- Reduce Central Council expenses
 - Is it time to reduce the number of CC Members? This is being explored as part of the financial portion of the strategic plan.
- Support CC fundraisers
 - Calendars, Convention Raffle, Souvenir Book, Golf Tournament
 - Fundraisers help us keep dues low and prevent dues increases.
 - CC Fundraisers also generate income for branches, districts, and in some cases, provide commissions for individuals.

In our next article, we will learn a little more about one of our other funds. Have a financial related question that you’d like answered in this column? Email the treasurer at roselynnjarrett@gmail.com.

Grand President’s Monthly Message *by* **Bob Basuino**

(The following is the Grand President’s Installation Speech.)

It is my honor to be with you again this year as your Grand President. It is a New Year filled with many exciting opportunities and expectations. It is this anticipation that inspires me when installations take place. These ceremonies bring new optimism and life into the Federation. At installation time we remember what it’s like to have the sense of family and belonging, with our heritage and our church. Together with the unity that brings us together we will work hard in 2015 to make our parishes, communities and the world a better place for everyone.



Most of us have put New Year’s resolutions in place with the best intentions yet most of the time our goals and plans only last for a few weeks or months. Let’s make 2015 different! Our resolution as members of the Italian Catholic Federation should be “Always pray to have eyes that see the best in people. A heart that forgives the worst, a mind that forgets the bad, and a soul that never loses faith in GOD. With a resolution like this we will be able to continue properly serving our communities, our parishes, and each other. We will do this every time we serve our brothers and sisters in need, help those that are ill or have no family to help them, and most of all when we gather together to pray and worship. All of us have done these things time and time again. This is what makes our Federation special and known by many.

People ask what makes the Italian Catholic Federation special? What makes our members who they are? It is our shared values and our Catholic faith that we set, our minds to, and achieve the goals we set for ourselves. Looking back at all the things we have done this past year I’m proud to say that I belong to the Italian Catholic Federation.

In 2014 our members volunteered thousands of hours and have donated over \$500,000.00 to various charities. During 2014 we were able to make this world of ours a better place because of our kindness and generosity! This is outstanding! All of you deserve a big round of applause.

The Gifts of Love Program was able to donate over \$30,000.00 to help our brothers and sisters with special needs. This money has made

continued on page 2

IRS AND STATE OF CALIFORNIA FRANCHISE TAX BOARD

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

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

The IRS limit for the tax year ending 2014 is the following:

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

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

The State limit for the tax year ending 2014 is the following:

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

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

*****THIS IS IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND MUST BE STRICTLY FOLLOWED*****

Both Forms must be filed no later than May 15, 2015. The IRS and State strictly adhere to this date, so please take this process seriously.

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

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

Please make sure all District or Branch finances are in order and that Bank Statements are reconciled through December 31, 2014. Remember that the Gross Receipts are total amounts received without subtracting any costs or expenses. These amounts include, but are not limited to, Membership and Hospitalization Dues, Dinners, Fundraisers, Raffle Tickets, Income from Convention Raffle Tickets and Calendar Sales, Interest from all Bank Accounts, Monetary Donations, etc.

New:	327
Reinstated:	25
Transfer in/out:	38
Deceased:	-116
Cancelled:	-252
in-payment >12 mos.:	4

We held off pulling the calendar winners to give everyone a chance to return their ticket stubs to the I.C.F. office by the January 16th deadline. The winners' names for January 2015 and February 2015 will be printed in the March 2015 issue. The winners' names will also be available in the Bollettino Highlights on the I.C.F. Web site at www.icf.org beginning with the March 2015 issue.

ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION

HISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

David Botta and Carmen Kilcullen
Past Grand Presidents

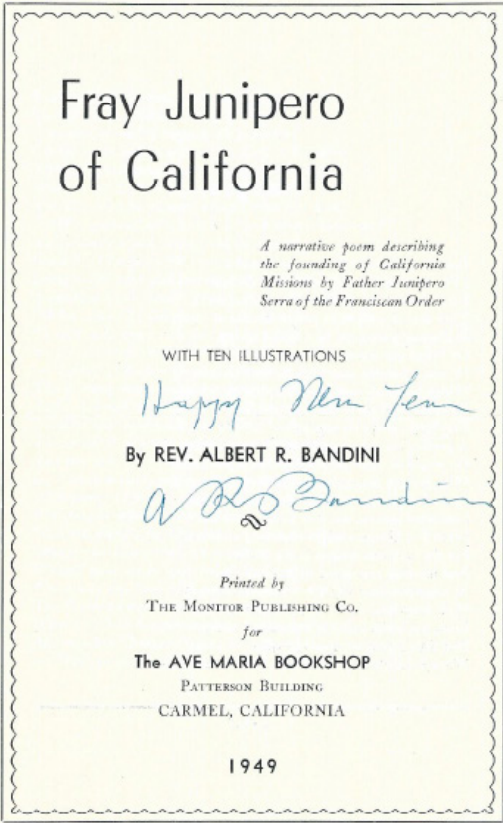
Father Albert Bandini...

Last month, we featured Luigi Providenza, one of the founders of the Italian Catholic Federation. This month, we will focus on the other founder, Father Albert Bandini. The two men could not have been more different. Luigi was a practical pragmatist traveling up and down California selling newspaper subscriptions to immigrant Italians. Father Bandini, an extraordinary intellect, an attorney, a poet, a translator, was, above all, a parish priest.

He was born into an aristocratic family in Florence, Italy in 1882, but his great vocation was to work with Italian immigrants in the United States. After arriving in America, he taught at St. Andrews College in New York where he formed a friendship with Reverend Edward J. Hanna, later to become the Archbishop of San Francisco. It was this same archbishop who would give his approval for the formation of the ICF.

Father Bandini came to California in 1915 and immediately began doing pastoral work with Italian immigrants. At some point, he met Luigi Providenza. Together, recognizing the great need for a spiritual and fraternal organization for these immigrants, they began to develop the framework that this organization would take. And, as we say, the rest is history. The ICF was formed in 1924. Father Bandini developed the by-laws and statutes of the ICF and was mostly responsible for the structure of the organization.

Father Bandini was a great intellect. In the period from 1928-1931, he translated Dante’s great work, The Divine Comedy, in a lineal and rhymed translation. Other writings include Fray Junipero of California (written as a narrative poem), Catherine of Siena (a play in five acts), The Miracle of Syracuse: The Weeping Madonna, and other essays and articles. Father was elected to the Gallery of Living Catholic Authors in 1932. Some of his writings are available on-line from selected book outlets.



In addition to all of the above, Father Bandini was editor of the Bollettino for 29 years and served as Grand President of the ICF from 1924-1928 and, again, from 1942-1944.

Above all, he was a parish priest. He served in a number of parishes in Northern California. For example, while at St. Joseph’s in Cotati, CA, he married Kathy Acquistapace’s parents in 1931. We know that he performed other services for ICF members. We would be interested in knowing of any other connections that members or their families had with Father Bandini. You can forward any information to carmensk@comcast.net and, possibly, in a future issue, we can share these remembrances with you.

Father Bandini died in 1973. He leaves behind a tremendous legacy of spiritual, apostolic and literary works.

2015 1st Year Scholarship Program

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

The Deadline for Donations and Applications is March 15, 2015. Please discuss participating in the program at your meetings by making a donation of a full scholarship of \$400.00, if possible, or a partial donation of any amount. Partial Donations do help to make other scholarships possible when that money is grouped together. Individual Donations are welcomed as well. Please encourage your children, grandchildren or anyone you know who is eligible to apply.

These are the eligibility requirements for students:

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

requirements in either #1 or #2: 1) Are Roman Catholic and of Italian Descent and live within the Roman Catholic Dioceses of Arizona, California, Illinois and Nevada, only where Branches of the Federation are established. or 2) Are Roman Catholic but need not be of Italian Descent or live where Branches of the Federation are established if either Roman Catholic parent, guardian or grandparent is a member of the “Italian Catholic Federation” - membership of a Roman Catholic parent, guardian or grandparent is mandatory for #2.

Please visit or call your local high schools where you would like to see applicants come from and make sure that they are promoting our scholarship program and have applications available.

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

Branching Out

by Anne Interrante
CC Member, Public Relations
Committee Member



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

Branch 31, Los Banos, California hosted its first ever Mama Mia Pasta Sauce Fundraiser.

Using a favorite pasta sauce recipe, branch members came together last year to bottle their own sauce – a two day process.

First, volunteers meet at a member’s home with all the ingredients to cook the sauce. After hours of preparation and lively conversation, 30 gallons of homemade pasta sauce is done!

The next day is the sauce bottling process as well as wrapping each bottle beautifully and adding the “Made by Members of the Italian Catholic Federation” label. About 85 bottles are ready for sale to parishioners after all weekend Masses. And, as a bonus they sold homemade biscottis along with the sauce.

This was such a success that branch members sponsored this fundraiser two times. What

a great way to build community by cooking together while raising some funds for charity.

Branch 403, Millbrae, California offers a Themed Dinner and a History Lesson at their monthly meetings.

Branch members enjoy Pizza Night learning about the History of Pizza and Hot Dog Night with History of the Italian Sausage. Other dinner meetings included History of Italian Clothing Designers, Making of Italian Automobiles, the Vatican and many other interesting topics having to do with Italian heritage.

Presentations sometimes include a few questions for the members to answer as well as use of Italian words and phrases to get the message across.

In addition to the dinner meetings, they host a couple socials a year with coffee and dessert with the history lessons also featured.

Bringing everyone together at the dinner table is a fantastic way to learn more about each other and adding a history lesson about Italian Heritage makes the shared time even better.

Gifts of Love Gratitude

Pat Mages
Committee Chairperson

A belated Happy New Year!

I want to start the year out by thanking you for your generous donations to the Program. We have been able to fulfill every eligible applicant’s request.

Since this is the month which celebrates love and valentines, let’s show the love by sending a difference sort of valentine. Let’s encourage or assist someone, with special needs, in your family, community, parish or branch to apply for a Gifts of Love grant. Yes, I’m usually asking for volunteers or money, but this month I’m asking for applicants. We all know at least one person or family who could use a little special assistance. Many times we need a little

encouragement or information before we can ask for some much needed help.

There are three parts which make the Gifts of Love a successful and worthwhile program. You have achieved the first two parts: monetary donations and volunteering. The third and most part is applicants. We have been receiving very few eligible applications for the past six months and only one from the ICF areas. We all know there are persons in our areas that could use the assistance of the Gifts of Love. So please spread the word and help give a valentine of encouragement and referral, to a special someone in your area. Why not download an application or two from the ICF website and have it ready to give to a person in need of a special valentine.

Thank you again for your dedication to the ICF and especially to the Gifts of Love Program.

Gifts of Love D o n a t i o n s	
Donations received by January 10, 2015	
Arthur M. Bree	In memory of Yolanda Arnaudo
Branch 115	
Branch 139	Bill Billings
Branch 154	In memory of Chana and Lupe Portillo
Branch 391	Antoinette and Angelo Pecora
George Kashiwagi	In memory of Vilma Aubert
In memory of Tom Pollicita	Officers/Members of Br. 186
Fran Foglia-Teglia	In memory of Joan Freitas
In memory of Tom Pollicita	Nettie Descalso-Del Nero
Joanna C. Van Blaricom	In memory of Caroline Scarletta
In memory of Earl E. Van Blaricom	Mary Capurro
Julia Padreddii	In memory of Joe Re
In memory of Thomas Pollicita	Vic and Pat Arnaudo
Officers/Members of Santa Rosa District	In memory of Joe Re
In memory of Al Teglia	The Descalso Family
Virginia, Harold and Steve Fuentes	In memory of Tom Pollicita
In memory of Novella Mareno	Officers/Members of Br. 163
Aldine Grisenti	In memory of Charlotte Grippi
In memory of Chana Portillo	

Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza
Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations*

IN MEMORY OF:	DONATED BY:
Chana Portillo	Liz Donaldson
Burton De Martini	JoAnn and John Donivan and Annette Maggiora
Louise Isola	Lydia Marciano
Father Frank Piro	Officers/Members of Br. 308
Louis Vicino	The Kilcullen Family
Nello Rossi	Officers/Members of Br. 48
Louis Vicino	Officers/Members of Santa Rosa District
Lowell Allen	Joe and Julie Bonino
Chana Portillo	Officers/Members of Br. 191
Frank Buonocore	Barbara Firpo
Josephine Bosoni Honn	Mr. and Mrs. G.P. Oldini
Wayne F. Shriwise	Officers/Members of Central Council
Wayne Shriwise	Nettie Descalso-Del Nero
Louis Vicino	Gene and Lydia Camozzi
Wayne Shriwise	Joan and Jerry Delfino
Wayne Shriwise	Bob and Kathy Acquistapace
Wayne Shriwise	Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dianda and Jane
Wayne Shriwise	The Kilcullen Family
Lupe and Chana Portillo	Bob and Esther Ramonda
Father Frank Piro	Benjamin C. Newsom
Albert Ranzani	David and Pat Botta
Wayne F. Shriwise	David and Pat Botta
Jan Butterworth	Officers/Members of Br. 308
Natale Giuliani	Officers/Members of Br. 342
Louis Vicino	Bob and Frank Basuino
Wayne F. Shriwise	Bob and Frank Basuino
Wayne F. Shriwise	Forrest and Prudence Price
Beatrice Perez	Suzanne Padilla

GET WELL WISHES:

Yvonne Borelli	Officers/Members of Br. 290
Father Sam Falbo	Officers/Members of Br. 367
Al Oneto	Officers/Members of Br. 290

THANK YOU:

Robert Basuino	Officers/Members of Santa Rosa District
----------------	---

IN CELEBRATION OF FIVE YEARS ORDAINED TO THE PRIESTHOOD:

Father Sam West	Giovanni and Nancy Corsi
-----------------	--------------------------

HAPPY BIRTHDAY:

Richard Pfaff	Jim and Janice Jones
Al and Barbara La Plante	Jim and Janice Jones

IN HONOR OF:

Gino and Gloria Martinucci	Teri Hurlbut
Father Paul Rossi	Officers/Members of Br. 130
Father Tom Martin	Officers/Members of Br. 130
Father Martin Muruli	Officers/Members of Br. 130
Father Gerald Coleman	Officers/Members of Br. 130

IN HONOR OF THE OUTGOING OFFICERS OF BR. 438:

David Brill	Officers/Members of Br. 438
Angela Sullivan	Officers/Members of Br. 438
Maureen and Mike Farrelly	Officers/Members of Br. 438
John Rizza	Officers/Members of Br. 438
Al Smith	Officers/Members of Br. 438
Linda Gross	Officers/Members of Br. 438

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

Benvenuti Membri Nuovi

Report Date: 01/19/2015		GIUSEPPE V SPADARO	Branch 036
KENNETH J MC KENZIE	Branch 012	VICTORIA R SPADARO	Branch 036
MARTIN DE VENUTA	Branch 013	GERALD C ARRIGONI	Branch 052
SALVATORE BASILE	Branch 021	PATRICIA L ARRIGONI	Branch 052
TERESA BASILE	Branch 021	ANTHONY V MERLO	Branch 052
DUSTY R BELLANGERO	Branch 021	BILLIE JANE MERLO	Branch 052
RONALD BELLANGERO	Branch 021	DOMINIC W MERLO	Branch 052
RONALD C BELLANGERO	Branch 021	HARRY A MERLO	Branch 052
BERNARDINE DODSON	Branch 021	JOEY HART	Branch 072
DONALD DODSON	Branch 021	ANALISE VIARREAL	Branch 072
LOUISA HENRY	Branch 021	LILLIAN BALLIET	Branch 130
PEGGY MANSFIELD	Branch 021	MARIA MASON-LESTER	Branch 130
HEIDI L MORGAN	Branch 021	VIRGINIA PAOLINI	Branch 154
KATHY PAOLINO	Branch 021	BONNIE J HIGGINS	Branch 209
ROD SEIGLE	Branch 021	AMELIA RAYE CASSADY	Branch 230
JIMMY SUNZERI	Branch 021	CHRISTOPHER M FORTE	Branch 230
PETER SUNZERI	Branch 021	SEAN D DOWLING	Branch 261
SALVATORE SUNZERI	Branch 021	JOE ROSA	Branch 261
CATHY ALLEN	Branch 028	KATHRYN ROSA	Branch 261
PAT ALLEN	Branch 028	MADELEINE ROSA	Branch 261
COLETTE MARIE MC LAUGHLIN	Branch 028	NICO ROSA	Branch 261
	Branch 028	TONYA ROSA	Branch 261
CELESTE ESTRADA	Branch 032	THERESA AMARANTE	Branch 281
DOMINIC FICHER	Branch 032	DANIEL ESCALANTE	Branch 281
NICO FICHER	Branch 032	JULIE PALMER	Branch 281
BRANDON J ANTONGIOVANNI	Branch 033	ROBERT P PALMER	Branch 281
	Branch 033	MILLY RIBAUDO	Branch 281
CHEYANNE ANTONGIOVANNI	Branch 033	EMILIA ALIOTO	Branch 332
	Branch 033	KAY PATTERSON	Branch 332
CIANNA N ANTONGIOVANNI	Branch 033	VINCE PATTERSON	Branch 332
	Branch 033	DONNA J THAYER	Branch 352
TIM R ANTONGIOVANNI	Branch 033	GABRIELLA SCHILLING	Branch 362
	Branch 033	ALICIA LLOREDA	Branch 374
LINKA CHAPMAN	Branch 033	BRANDY M PACHECO	Branch 380
TIMOTHY CHAPMAN	Branch 033	ERIC B PACHECO	Branch 380
DAVID R DEL PAPA	Branch 033	REAGAN E PACHECO	Branch 380
LORETTA M DEL PAPA	Branch 033	JOANN SCHIRO	Branch 391
STEVEN M DEL PAPA	Branch 033	BEATRICE ABATE	Branch 392
VINCENT M DEL PAPA	Branch 033	GIULIA GIORGI	Branch 395
JOSEPH M RENZI	Branch 033	JACQUELYN REFREGIER	Branch 395
LAWRENCE RENZI	Branch 033	DOROTHY SEMKE	Branch 403
MATTHEW V RENZI	Branch 033	EILEEN P COUSINEAU	Branch 425
MICHAEL L RENZI	Branch 033	THOMAS J COUSINEAU	Branch 425
TAMMY L RENZI	Branch 033	CAROL A GILL	Branch 425
MARIA F BURNS	Branch 036	WILLIAM P GILL	Branch 425
SANDIE A RUSSO	Branch 036	SHEILA A OJENDYK	Branch 425
ELIZABETH P SPADARO	Branch 036	WILLIAM J OJENDYK	Branch 425

In Loving Memory

Report Date: 01/19/2015

LOIS CORDO	Branch 007	AUGUST A AMBROSINO	Branch 209
LARRY L BRANCHAUD	Branch 010	MARY R GRECH	Branch 209
NANCY L GRIFFANTI	Branch 014	OLGA GIANNI	Branch 214
THOMAS K SCHOETTLER	Branch 027	SUE GEISSEL	Branch 281
NANCY CIACCO	Branch 028	LOUISE ISOLA	Branch 290
TERRI F OSUNA	Branch 032	LISA STEINER	Branch 332
MARVIN F BERNARDI	Branch 045	MARY A THOMPSON	Branch 352
ALFRED PUCCETTI	Branch 047	VERNON M RICHARDSON	Branch 374
JOSEPH J RE	Branch 050	NITA M STABILE	Branch 382
LOUIE F AIELLO	Branch 154	FRANKLYN COLE	Branch 390
CHARLOTTE L GRIPPI	Branch 163	ALBERT EMHOFF	Branch 390

General Fund Donations

Donations received by January 10, 2015.

Linda Ruggeri
In memory of Joseph John Re
Robert and Gloria Nee
In memory of Joseph Re

Scholarship Donations

Donations received by January 10, 2015.

Scholarship Donations - 1st Year

Officers/Members of Br. 351
In honor of Branch Deputy Deborah Rodondi
Emily Corral
Merry Christmas Wishes for Bill Wilkinson

Scholarship Donation - 2nd - 4th Year

Inger and Norbert Bischofberger
In memory of Joseph Re

Live to Give

Love and Blood: The Gifts That Keep on Giving

Laurice Levine
MA, CCLS
Committee Member

February is often noted as the month of love. As we celebrate Valentine’s Day on February 14, many of us look for the perfect Valentine to surprise that special someone. Here is a unique idea: Why not save a life in honor of your loved one by donating blood? It is totally free, and if you have an hour to spare, it can be the gift of a lifetime. There is no better way to express love to your Valentine than giving the gift of life.

There are four types of transfusable products that can be derived from blood: red cells, platelets, plasma, and cryoprecipitate. Typically, two or three of these are produced from a pint of donated whole blood; therefore, each donation can help save up to three lives.

Of course, true love is celebrated every day of the year, just as the need for blood is constant. Ninety-five percent of the population will need blood at least once in their lifetimes, yet only 5 percent of people actually sign up to donate. A person with thalassemia requires monthly blood transfusions to survive, and a typical thalassemia patient receives approximately 35 to 40 units of blood in a year. Thankfully, a person can donate blood every 56 days, so keep this in mind for birthdays and anniversaries or in memory of a dearly departed friend.

The ICF Live to Give Committee has designed special donation cards, so when you give blood, the person you are honoring will be notified.



I gave the gift of life!

I, _____ (NAME)

donated _____ unit/s of blood or platelets. (NUMBER) (CIRCLE ONE)

☐ In honor of

☐ In memory of

☐ As an anniversary gift to

☐ As a birthday gift to

☐ As a just well wish to

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Special message _____

(PLEASE FILL OUT THE NAME AND ADDRESS ON THE FRONT AND WE WILL SEND AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO THE RECIPIENT.)

BLOOD BANK REPRESENTATIVE _____ DATE _____



Please remember the next time that you are stumped and cannot think of the perfect present—go give blood and save a life! It is the gift that keeps on giving.



For more information and/or to make an appointment to donate blood:

American Red Cross:
<http://www.redcrossblood.org/donating-blood>

Blood Centers of the Pacific:
<http://www.bloodcenters.org>

Cooley’s Anemia Donations

Donations received by January 10, 2015

Branch 139
Branch 154
Winn and Diane Robinson
In memory of Nancy Ciacco
Pat and Louie Cordich
In memory of Nancy Ciacco
Officers/Members of Br. 438
In memory of Nancy Ciacco
Terry and Eileen Lenaghan
In memory of Nancy Ciacco
Joe and Peggy Fortino
In memory of Nancy Ciacco
Emily Paige
In memory of Nancy Ciacco
Carolyn Chiesa
In memory of Nancy Ciacco

Richard and Kathleen Frasseti
In memory of Nancy Ciacco
W. John Filice
In memory of Nancy Ciacco
Anna Barberi
In memory of Nancy Ciacco
Frank and Louise Segreto
In memory of Nancy Ciacco
Dave and Marianne Peoples
In memory of Nancy Ciacco
Trevis and Diana Berry
In memory of Nancy Ciacco
Gennaro and Kathy Filice
In memory of Nancy Ciacco
Antoinette and Angelo Pecora
In memory of Jan Butterworth
Jean and Richard Chen
In Memory of Joseph Re

Love

“First best is falling in love. Second best is being in love. Least best is falling out of love. But any of it is better than never having been in love.”

Maya Angelou

Cooley’s Corner

Thalassemia Research Update: Gene Therapy Study for Thalassemia (part 1 of a two part series on gene therapy)

Laurice Levine
MA, CCLS
Committee Member

The Thalassemia (also called Cooley’s Anemia) Program at UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital Oakland is one of 7 centers of specialty for thalassemia in North America. We provide the highest quality of care, offer psychosocial programs, conduct outreach, and participate in medical research. Over 50% of the funds that the ICF donates to thalassemia make research possible and the most exciting development yet is gene therapy. A clinical research study, called the Northstar Study, at UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital Oakland is now enrolling patients between the ages of 18 and 35 who are diagnosed with thalassemia major. The purpose of the study is to determine if a one-time investigational treatment, known as gene transfer, is safe and well-tolerated and can decrease or eliminate the need for continuous blood transfusions.

To participate in this study patients have to meet the following requirements:

- They must be blood transfusion-dependent.
- For two years prior to the gene therapy study, they must have been treated and followed in a specialized center and have detailed medical records, including transfusion history.
- Patients must not have any active bacterial, viral, fungal, or parasitic infection.
- Patients must be negative for Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, and HIV.
- Patients must not have an uncontrolled bleeding disorder.

Beta-thalassemia is caused by a malfunction in the gene that makes beta-globin, a protein necessary for normal red blood cells. The goal of the investigational treatment is for modified blood stem cells to become a permanent source of blood cells with a functioning copy of the beta-global gene.

The study involves collecting blood stem cells, transferring a functioning copy of the beta-globin gene into the collected blood stem cells in a laboratory, and then transplanting these cells back into your body, where they are expected to grow and produce new cells that will contain the functioning copy of the beta-globin gene.

Patients who are eligible and agree to participate in this gene therapy study will undergo the following procedures:

- Mobilization – patients will receive medication to make blood stem cells circulate in the bloodstream.
- Apheresis – blood stem cells will be collected from the patient’s blood

through an intravenous catheter.

- Transduction – functioning genes will be transferred into the patient’s blood stem cells in a laboratory.
- Myeloablation – the patient will be admitted to the hospital and will receive several days of treatment with chemotherapy to remove existing bone marrow stem cells to make room for the new ones, which contain the functioning gene. The treatment is intended to allow modified blood stem cells to engraft and multiply.
- Transplantation – modified stem cells will be reintroduced into the patient’s body via an infusion.
- Maintenance – the patient will recover from the procedures in the hospital and be monitored closely in the hospital by study teams for approximately four to six weeks. After they are released, they will periodically return to the hospital for check-ups to evaluate their health and the outcome of the investigational gene therapy treatment.

Participation in the Northstar Study will last for two years after treatment, and participants will be asked to take part in a separate longterm follow-up study as the long-term risks of gene therapy are unknown. All costs associated with participation in the study will be covered by Bluebird Bio, the sponsor of the Northstar Study.

bluebird bio is a biotechnology company dedicated to developing innovative gene therapies for severe genetic disorders. bluebird bio is also the sponsor of an ongoing study in France that is similar to the Northstar Study and has been used to treat three study participants with beta thalassemia. One of these participants is no longer transfusion-dependent.

To learn more about investigational gene therapy for beta-thalassemia major and the Northstar Study, or to determine participation eligibility, visit www.northstarstudy.com.

Visit www.bluebird.com to sign up to receive future updates about bluebird bio’s gene therapy program for beta-thalassemia.

Next Issue: How Gene Therapy Works



Sir Robert’s 85th Birthday Party

Seated L/R: Theresa Dianda, Sir Robert Dianda, Helen Dianda
Standing Front L/R: Michael Covione, Judy Felan, Linda Boicelli, Rina Skinner, Donna Santich
Standing Back L/R: Jane Dianda, Mario Dianda, George Dianda, David Dianda, Lou Dianda, and Joe Dianda

BOOK REVIEW

Robert Pachinger
Branch 413, Angels Camp

History of the Mass
By Robert Cabié
Translated by Lawrence J. Johnson
Pastoral Press, 151 pages

History of the Mass is a concise summary of the rite of the Mass. Beginning with the Apostolic Age, the author describes the simple and profound institution of the Eucharist. As we all know, the beginning is the Last Supper. We partake in the Last Supper and thus, the body, blood, soul, and divinity of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. There is no moment in time, starting from the Last Supper, that the Eucharist has not existed. This is central to the Mass.

Early Christians relied on the institution account, the Epistles, and tradition as they celebrated the Mass. The general structure of the Mass was already established by the second century. This structure consisted of reading the various letters from the Apostles and the Gospels and then the Eucharistic meal. This meal had the same meaning as it does today. However, instead of the host that we now use, bread donated by the members was used. It is interesting to note that there are many accounts, both Christian and non-Christian that have survived the ages, providing details of the early Mass. Many documents written by the early church fathers contain early versions of the Eucharistic Prayers. The form of the prayer has not changed in the intervening centuries. The same pattern is followed to this day. If one could hear the Eucharistic Prayer from Saint Hippolytus of Rome in 225 AD, we would recognize it. What is astounding is that at this time, the prayers were not written. Oral tradition still was the norm.

After Emperor Constantine proclaimed his toleration of Christianity, Mass was celebrated in basilicas. As these buildings were large, elements were added so that those attending could understand what was happening. The bread that would become the Eucharist continued to be donated by the members. This did not change until centuries later.

During the medieval centuries, the Mass underwent various changes. There were many reasons for these changes. Some changes occurred as a result of advances in theological thought as priests began to have a deeper understanding of the Mysteries. However, other changes occurred because of a lack of uniformity in the Mass. There were many missals promulgated with many variations. Up until that time, the custom of receiving the Eucharist was in the hand. In the 11th century, the custom of receiving the Eucharist on the tongue was started as a sign of respect. People were also encouraged to kneel while receiving the Eucharist. There were many other changes. Prior to this time, people attending Mass participated as we do today. In time, only the priest received the Eucharist. Since priests prayed quietly at the altar without the customary responses from the public, the people could tell what was occurring only by the gestures of the priest, such as elevating the Eucharist. The public was excluded from participation. At this time, many prayers recited by the priests were added. These were recited prior to the Eucharistic prayer. Although the Pope and many theologians considered some of the these practices to be abuses, there was no effective effort to gain control until the Counter Reformation and the Council of Trent in 1545.

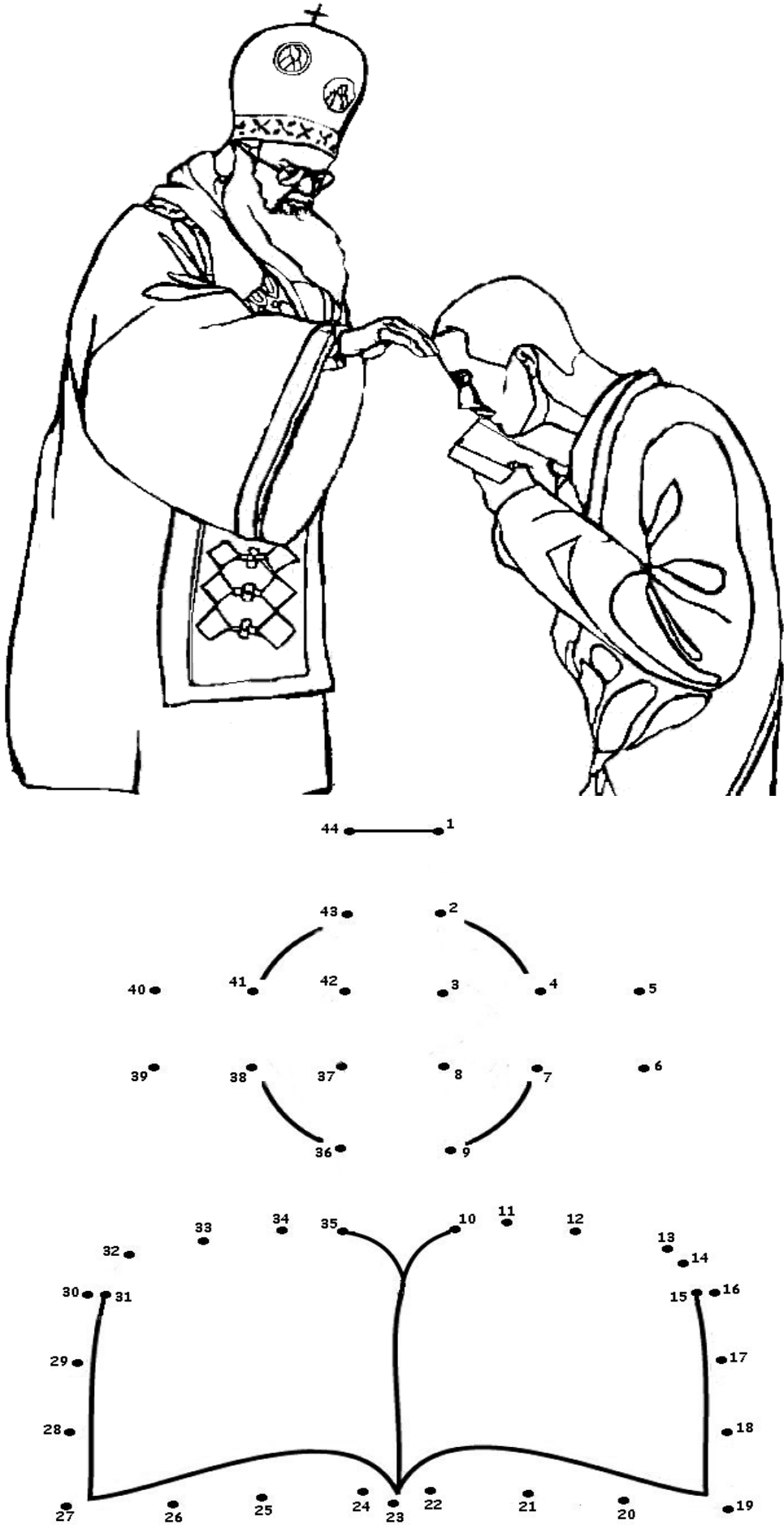
Although the Council of Trent stopped many abuses and brought about a glorious time in the Catholic Church, the passage of time and change thought culminated with the implementation of the liturgical reforms from Vatican II. A key component of this change was the reintegration of the faithful into the Mass. The faithful would not merely watch what was happening. They would be participants in the Sacrifice of the Mass.

I found the book to be sufficiently concise for an introduction. All Catholics should have some knowledge of the origin of the Mass and the meaning behind the many elements. The book has many examples from various writers throughout the centuries. One example is a commentary on the proclamation of the Gospel at Mass written by Bishop Amalarius of Metz (775 – 832) regarding the meaning behind the two candles carried before the Gospel. These represent the Law and the Prophets, in other words, the Old Testament. The elevated place where the Gospel is read from represents it’s superiority to the Law and the Prophets. After the gospel is read, the candles are extinguished since it is the Gospel that continues on.

La Celebrazione di Gioventu --
The Celebration of Youth
Lent Begins February 18

Submitted by Roselynne Jarrett
Grand Treasurer

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. At church, you will have a cross “drawn” on your forehead. The cross is made of ashes, which come from the palms that are leftover from last year’s Palm Sunday mass. The ash is mixed with olive oil.



History of Lent:

What are the origins of Lent? Did the Church always have this time before Easter?

Fr. William Saunders

Lent is a special time of prayer, penance, sacrifice and good works in preparation of the celebration of Easter. In the desire to renew the liturgical practices of the Church, The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy of Vatican Council II stated, «The two elements which are especially characteristic of Lent -- the recalling of baptism or the preparation for it, and penance -- should be given greater emphasis in the liturgy and in liturgical catechesis. It is by means of them that the Church prepares the faithful for the celebration of Easter, while they hear God's word more frequently and devote more time to prayer» (no. 109). The word Lent itself is derived from the Anglo-Saxon words lencten, meaning “Spring,” and lenctentid, which literally means not only “Springtide” but also was the word for “March,” the month in which the majority of Lent falls.

Since the earliest times of the Church, there is evidence of some kind of Lenten preparation for Easter. For instance, St. Irenaeus (d. 203) wrote to Pope St. Victor I, commenting on the celebration of Easter and the differences between practices in the East and the West: “The dispute is not only about the day, but also about the actual character of the fast. Some think that they ought to fast for one day, some for two, others for still more; some make their ‘day’ last 40 hours on end. Such variation in the observance did not originate in our own day, but very much earlier, in the time of our forefathers” (Eusebius, History of the Church, V, 24). When Rufinus translated this passage from Greek into Latin, the punctuation made between “40” and “hours”

made the meaning to appear to be “40 days, twenty-four hours a day.” The importance of the passage, nevertheless, remains that since the time of “our forefathers” -- always an expression for the apostles -- a 40-day period of Lenten preparation existed. However, the actual practices and duration of Lent were still not homogenous throughout the Church.

Lent becomes more regularized after the legalization of Christianity in A.D. 313. The Council of Nicea (325), in its disciplinary canons, noted that two provincial synods should be held each year, “one before the 40 days of Lent.” St. Athanasius (d. 373) in this “Festal Letters” implored his congregation to make a 40-day fast prior to the more intense fasting of Holy Week. St. Cyril of Jerusalem (d. 386) in his Catechetical Lectures, which are the paradigm for our current RCIA programs, had 18 pre-baptismal instructions given to the catechumens during Lent. St. Cyril of Alexandria (d. 444) in his series of “Festal Letters” also noted the practices and duration of Lent, emphasizing the 40-day period of fasting. Finally, Pope St. Leo (d. 461) preached that the faithful must “fulfill with their fasts the Apostolic institution of the 40 days,” again noting the apostolic origins of Lent. One can safely conclude that by the end of the fourth century, the 40-day period of Easter preparation known as Lent existed, and that prayer and fasting constituted its primary spiritual exercises.

Of course, the number “40” has always had special spiritual significance regarding preparation. On Mount Sinai, preparing to receive the Ten Commandments, “Moses stayed there with the Lord for 40 days and 40 nights, without eating any food or drinking any water” (Ex 34:28). Elijah walked “40 days and

40 nights” to the mountain of the Lord, Mount Horeb (another name for Sinai) (1 Kgs 19:8). Most importantly, Jesus fasted and prayed for “40 days and 40 nights” in the desert before He began His public ministry (Mt 4:2).

Once the 40 days of Lent were established, the next development concerned how much fasting was to be done. In Jerusalem, for instance, people fasted for 40 days, Monday through Friday, but not on Saturday or Sunday, thereby making Lent last for eight weeks. In Rome and in the West, people fasted for six weeks, Monday through Saturday, thereby making Lent last for six weeks. Eventually, the practice prevailed of fasting for six days a week over the course of six weeks, and Ash Wednesday was instituted to bring the number of fast days before Easter to 40. The rules of fasting varied. First, some areas of the Church abstained from all forms of meat and animal products, while others made exceptions for food like fish. For example, Pope St. Gregory (d. 604), writing to St. Augustine of Canterbury, issued the following rule: “We abstain from flesh, meat, and from all things that come from flesh, as milk, cheese and eggs.”

Second, the general rule was for a person to have one meal a day, in the evening or at 3 p.m.

These Lenten fasting rules also evolved. Eventually, a smaller repast was allowed during the day to keep up one’s strength from manual labor. Eating fish was allowed, and later eating meat was also allowed through the week except on Ash Wednesday and Friday. Dispensations were given for eating dairy products if a pious work was performed, and eventually this rule was relaxed totally. (However, the abstinence from even dairy products led to the practice of blessing Easter eggs and eating pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday.)

Over the years, modifications have been made to the Lenten observances, making our practices not only simple but also easy.

Ash Wednesday still marks the beginning of Lent, which lasts for 40 days, not including Sundays. The present fasting and abstinence laws are very simple: On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, the faithful fast (having only one full meal a day and smaller snacks to keep up one’s strength) and abstain from meat; on the other Fridays of Lent, the faithful abstain from meat. People are still encouraged “to give up something” for Lent as a sacrifice. (An interesting note is that technically on Sundays and solemnities like St. Joseph’s Day (March 19) and the Annunciation (March 25), one is exempt and can partake of whatever has been offered up for Lent. Also it is good for all branches to think of Lenten Fish Frys.

Nevertheless, I was always taught, “If you gave something up for the Lord, tough it out. Don’t act like a Pharisee looking for a loophole.” Moreover, an emphasis must be placed on performing spiritual works, like attending the Stations of the Cross, attending Mass, making a weekly holy hour before the Blessed Sacrament, taking time for personal prayer and spiritual reading and most especially making a good confession and receiving sacramental absolution. Although the practices may have evolved over the centuries, the focus remains the same: to repent of sin, to renew our faith and to prepare to celebrate joyfully the mysteries of our salvation.

The Author

Father William P. Saunders is pastor of Our Lady of Hope Parish in Potomac Falls and former dean of the Notre Dame Graduate School of Christendom College. Father has been writing his weekly “Straight Answers” column for the Arlington Catholic Herald since 1993. The above article is one of those “Straight Answers” columns. Father Saunders is the author of [Straight Answers, Answers to 100 Questions about the Catholic Faith](#), a book based on 100 of his columns and published by Cathedral Press in Baltimore.

Monetary Donation Reminder

Roselynn Jarrett
Grand Treasurer

Dear Members,

When submitting donations to one of our programs (Providenza, Gifts of Love, Scholarship, Cooley's Anemia, etc). please make the check payable to ICF or Italian Catholic Federation. In the memo, indicate the fund where you would like the donation directed.

Additionally, when making donations to multiple programs, please write a separate check for each donation as there is an individual account for each fund.

Finally, we ask that all donations be made by check, cashier's check or money order. We prefer to not place cash in the depository.

These simple steps will assist our office staff in processing your donations. Thank you for your continued support to the ICF programs.

Support our Seminarians By Giving to the Providenza Fund



Is your **New Year's Resolution** to learn more about the ICF's National Charity, **Cooley's Anemia (Thalassemia)?**

If you and your branch would like members of the **Thalassemia Team at Children's Hospital Oakland** to come and speak at one of your meetings or special functions, please contact:

Laurice Levine, Thalassemia Outreach Coordinator at
(510) 428-3885, x 5427 or
email: LLevine@mail.cho.org

Happy 2015!



Chicago

Calumet City

St. Victor, Br. 195

Br.195 celebrated Christmas at Lorenzetti’s in December to end our Calendar year 2014. The Nominating Committee is still working on a slate of Officers for 2015 and we hope have an election soon. In the meantime, our wishes for a Blessed and Healthy Year in 2015, to all. No meeting scheduled in January, due to weather.

God Bless,

Jo Merlo

River Forest

St. Vincent Ferrer, Br. 358

We are looking forward to our St. Joseph Day Dinner on Sunday, March 15th, from 11am-2pm in the school gym. This is the first dinner in many years. We would like to revive this wonderful tradition. Meatless pastas and a sweet table are on the menu.

Members of the ICF provided sweets, orange juice and champagne at the monthly Mimosa Sunday at St. Vincent Ferrer Church in River Forest, Il. on Feb. 8th. Champagne, orange juice and sweets are provided once a month by a different organization in the parish after masses on Sunday. Members also serve as hosts and hostesses. Delicious Italian treats made by ICF members were served along with the usual doughnut holes.

Let’s remember to ask St. Joseph for his intercession when we pray. March 19th is his feast day. Let’s also remember to ask for the intercession of St. Patrick, especially on his feast day of March 17th. (Being half Irish, I couldn’t omit him!)

We would all like to say a big “Thank You” to our beloved Teresa Cairo for her many, many years of service to the ICF. She headed the ICF for over 40 years. God bless you, Teresa. Please pray for her good health!

Happy birthday to Divina Miceli on March 9th, and to Vincent Picciola on March 10th.

Des Plaines

St. Zachary, Br. 441

Members, guests and parishioners enjoyed a festive Christmas Party on December 13th. Food was catered and the entertainment was fabulous --- an Elvis Impersonator, Will Devine. He sang all of Elvis’ famous songs and interacted with the audience. The highlight of his performance was gifting Christmas Scarves to ladies in the audience.

The Italian Mass was celebrated by Father Feccia on Sunday, December 14th. On Sunday, December 28th, “Coffee And” was served after the 8:30am and 10:00am Masses. All parishioners are encouraged to partake of the refreshments.

As we begin 2015, may we continue the work of the ICF with the help of all of our dedicated members. Through the year, they have all contributed to the success of our fundraisers.

Rose Marie Berg

Fresno

Madera

Santissimo Crocifisso, Br. 27

Seventy members and guests enjoyed the Chicken and tri-tip brunch, Christmas cheer and raffle. We sang Christmas Carols to the delightful live accordion music played by Rick Logoluso. This year our Chaplin Sister Thomas

Marie Heavey, was absent so the honor of leading the conga line fell to Sister Anna Rosa. The conga line snaked all around the ballroom to the strains of the “Beer Barrel Polka.” Monty Pistoresi was our Master of Ceremonies and, as Father James remarked, “Monty is the best person to get a party started.” Thanks Monty for everything you do for ICF. Father James was right, you make the party special. A great big thank you to the December Committee for a wonderful afternoon: Chairmen: Ray & Louise Chiarelli; members Mike Chiarelli, Carol Chiarelli, Jack, Jennifer and Juliana Chiarelli, Bill & Elsie Bottorff, Monty & Leona Pistoresi, and Ila & Tom Schoettler. After the festivities a pick-up load of canned goods and toys, donated by the members, was delivered to the Marion Center. They will distribute the items to the needy families of Madera who need a little extra to make this a Merry Christmas. On a sad note, our long-time member, Tom Schoettler, passed away in December. We feel the void left by his passing as he did so much for ICF and the community of Madera. Please continue to pray for Ila Schoettler and her family.

Ciao,

Kerin Cavallero

Fresno

Our Lady of Victory, Br. 32

We’re off to a great start with new members, new officers, and a new chaplain. Tom Marschall organized our members for a Membership Drive Weekend in January. New administrators bring new rules. While not being able to speak to the congregation after mass, parishioners were greeted by the ICF with banners, information brochures, enticements, and excitement. Tom did an excellent job of preparing for this important event.

We are so happy to announce we have a new chaplain, Deacon Kurt N Deacon Kurt has already attended some of meetings and has agreed to the challenge of being our chaplain. Welcome aboard, Deacon.

Please pray for our country and our military, our sick and infirmed, and the future of the Italian Catholic Federation.

Merced

St. Cecelia, Br. 39

Happy New Year to everyone. This new year, may we be blessed with peace all over the world. Let it begin with our branches, listening to each other, speak kind words to each other and be good examples as we walk through our journey of life with Pope Francis.

Our branch lost two very dedicated and loyal members, our Chaplain Father Frank Piro and Thomas Pollicita. These 2 men gave of their talent, time and resources to help others. They had a wonderful sense of humor. Father Frank worked diligently to set up classes for parishioners who wanted to learn more about the church. He was available to the pastor whenever need for Masses, weddings and baptisms. He was a great listener and always answered, sharing his amazing intelligence. Tom Pollicita never met a stranger. He was very dedicated to education for young people. After retiring from the role as principal, at the Colma middle school, they named the school after him. God bless these two special people.

Our polenta dinner is scheduled for March 25th. Tickets will be distributed and we hope you make every effort to sell them. We will have our wonderful raffle again. 25 wonderful prizes all with a value of \$50 or more. Mark your calendars:

2/22/15 -- District installation

3/11/15 -- Tridium dinner with Father Andrew

3/13/15 -- ICF Soup Night at St. Patrick’s Parish.

3/15/15 -- ICF St. Joseph’s Table meal St. Patricks.

2/25/15 -- ICF Polenta dinner at the Italo American Hall.

We will invite the members of the Newman Club from UC Merced to join us for our

St. Joseph’s Day meal.

Our prayers for Carol Salmeri’s mother, Caroline Sgarletta, who passed away at the age of 92. May she rest in peace. Remember to visit our members who are in retirement centers or nursing homes. A smile or hug can go a long way to brighten a day.

Sanger

Sant’ Antonio, Br. 70

Happy New Year from Branch 70! We had a New Years party and a great dinner was served. Everyone had a good time.

In our November meeting, we held our election of officers. Our President is Kay Lopez, First Vice President - Bob Merlo, second Vice President - Lisa Quiroz, Financial Secretary - Enis Giovacchini, Treasurer - Orsolina Casella, Reporting Secretary Josie Lopez, Orator - Tencha Rubio, Apostolate - Enis Giovacchin, Heritage - rosemary Wyamenga, Trustees - Ralph Wyamenga, Michael Quiroz, and Tencha Rubio, Sentinal - Pete Lopez, Branch Deputy - Fred Di Renzio, Chaplain - Father John Bruno. our thanks to all officers for accepting their positions.

Branch 70 voted to donate \$1,000.00 to St Marys Church and \$25.00 to senior dinner.

We wish you all the best of health for the coming New Year.

God Belss,

Orsolina Casella

Clovis

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Br. 250

Our Branch celebrated the Epiphany with a potluck and white elephant gift exchange on January 6th. Madeline Conatser selected the cupcake with the Baby Jesus in it. The gift exchange was quite lively. Each gift could be stolen up to three times. Everyone went home happy.

Wes and Maxine Johnson announced that they went camping in their trailer the whole month of August. They enjoyed the deer, squirrels, chipmunks, etc. that came by their campsite every evening. They do this every year.

Frank Pimentel is going to have two great grandchildren this year—one in March and one in June. This will make eight in all.

Mark and Jessie Budd will be celebrating their second anniversary January 19. We all remember how beautiful their wedding was and how happy they both were during the reception.

Rich and Mary Zanarini celebrated Christmas with their Utah family in San Diego this year. Their oldest granddaughter celebrated her 16th birthday on December 24.

Jennie Campopiano had a wonderful time at the Rose Parade in Pasadena on New Year’s Day with her daughter and family. Jennie says everyone should see the parade in person at least once.

Happy Birthday to: Julius Abate (2/14), Sherrie Attolico (2/16), and Frank Pimentel (2/25).

“Love — a wildly misunderstood although highly desirable malfunction of the heart which weakens the brain, causes eyes to sparkle, cheeks to glow, blood pressure to rise and the lips to pucker.” (Author Unknown)

Happy Valentine’s Day!

Ciao!

LeAnne Lavagnino

SAVE THE DATES:

- February 7, 2015 - LAADC Board Meeting at St Bede the Venerable Church, La Canada from 9:30 to 11:30 am hosted by Branch 374.

- February 7, 2015 - Branch 108 12th Annual Wine Tasting Event from 6:00 to 10:00pm. Specially selected wines and local Vintners will

share their winemaking experiences with you. RSVP at 626 403-6102 or 626 372-7812.

- February 8, 2015 - Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library Open House at Saint Francis Xavier Church at 3801 Scott Road in Burbank from 9:00 am to 10:30 am hosted by the ICF LA Region. Call 626-372-7812 for more information.

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

- February 28, 2015 - LAADC General Meeting at Saint Paschal Baylon Catholic Church in Thousand Oaks from 9:30 to 11:30 am hosted by Branch 380.

Bakersfield

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Br. 281

Our January meeting found our branch planning for upcoming events. The potluck dinner was enjoyed by all; thank you to President Deborah Leary for the arrangements.

Gary Moles and his committee had a successful Pancake Breakfast and sausage sandwich lunch in January. Thanks to all members who volunteered - many hands make light work.

Our annual parish Mardi Gras will be held Sunday, February 15th, where the ICF will be hosting the Adult Games - contact Chairman George Carson to volunteer.

On Ash Wednesday, February 18th, our parish will start their annual fish fry dinners hosted by the Knights of Columbus. ICF will host adult beverages, Women’s Guild has desserts, and Boy Scouts the soft drinks. Stations of the Cross are at 5:30 p.m. with dinner following. You can enjoy a delicious dinner while visiting with friends from the parish. These dinners will continue every Friday evening during Lent. Hope to see you there!

Fresno District Installation will be held Sunday, February 22nd, at O.L.P.H. Church, here in Bakersfield, at 12:00 mass; Installation and luncheon to follow - cost of the lunch is \$20. Check your February flyer for information on reservations.

Happy Valentine’s Day to all!

BG Zasoski

Los Angeles

Archdiocese District

Los Angeles Region

Happy Valentine’s Day (Feast of Saint Valentine). On February 14th, the day of Romance (celebration of love and affection) we call Valentine’s Day, is named for a Christian Martyr Saint Valentine (Valentinus) and dates back to the 5th Century. Celebrate the day with members, families and friends.

On January 11, 2015 the Mother Cabrini Open House was hosted by the Villa Cabrini Alumni. Many Parishioners from Saint Francis Xavier Catholic Church visited the Chapel and Library.

The next Mother Cabrini Open House is scheduled on February 8, 2015 from 9:00 to 10:30 am prior to the ICF LAADC Installation



Mother Cabrini Chapel
(Above)



Mother Cabrini (Left)

at Saint Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Burbank. Contact 626 372-7812 for a copy of the 2015 Open House Schedule. All

Branches are encouraged to include the Mother Cabrini Open House in their respective Church Bulletins.

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

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

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

Carmelo Sabatella, President

Email: cas1810@aol.com

South Pasadena

Holy Family, Br. 108

Thank you members for staffing the first ICF Continental Breakfast for 2015 on January 11, 2015. Congratulations to Raffle winner Gina Baffo. The breakfast was successful in spite of the rainy weather.

The first Branch Meeting followed later in the day with a lunch social and general meeting. Congratulations to Branch President Michele Silveri, 1st VP John Maggiore, 2nd VP Patrick Grimaud, Members Ray Fratino, JD Lombardi,



Branch 108's Continental Breakfast and Breakfast crew.

Anthony Vecchio and Ariana Sabatella whose January Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries were celebrated at the meeting.

On February 7th, Branch 108 will host the 12th Annual Wine Tasting Event in the Parish Hall. RSVP at 626-372-7812.

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

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

Carmelo Sabatella, Past President

ICF Branch 108 Email: cas1810@aol.com

Montebello

St. Benedict, Br. 111

Ciao a Tutti,

Happy New Year to all in ICF-Land! Hope everyone had a wonderful and safe New year. Also, Happy Valentine's day a tutti!

Our St. Joseph's Table will be held on March 21st and 22nd. Please mark your calendars. We

would like everyone's support to make this a successful event.

Happy birthday to all our January birthdays: Anthony DeLorenzo, Rose Mercuri, Cettina Mauro, Joey Wadzinski, Frank Gomez, Frank Salomone, Rita Estrada, and Carmelo Divincenzo who celebrate their birthdays last month. Come join us for cake.. Buon Compleanno a tutti!

This month's I leave you with a quote from Abraham Lincoln – "In the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years." Always Believe.

Thank you and God Bless,

Giuseppe Veneziano

San Pedro

St. John Joseph of the Cross, Br. 115

What a wonderful time our members and friends had in Las Vegas last month. Special thanks to Pauline Iacono, Neal and Ana Dileva for all their hard work in making this a successful trip.

Our next meeting on Feb 19th will be our Potluck meeting. Please plan on attending. Call Carmela Gioiello at 310 8320953 to let her know what tasty dish you plan on bringing.

At this meeting we will be discussing our plans for our upcoming Mass and Crab dinner dance. Festivities will begin with 8am Mass on March 5th. Refreshments to follow on the patio. Our dinner dance commemorating the 281st anniversary of the death of San Giovan Guisepee della Croce will be held on March 7th and will take place in the Mary Star of the Sea auditorium. Menu includes Antipasto, salad, linguine with clams, shrimp, crab, rolls and butter, spumoni ice cream, coffee and wine. Music will be provided by Tony Ciaramitaro Band. Donation \$40.00/person. For reservations please call Neal DiLeva 310 433 1044.

We will also be discussing our upcoming Lenten meal that will be served on March 13th.

These are two of our major fundraiser for the



Branch 111 Christmas Party Special Guest, Santa, with Children at the party.



Branch 108's Continental Breakfast and Breakfast crew.



Branch 111 members serving at the Annual Branch Christmas Party.



Branch 115 Christmas Party attended by Mary Star of the Sea priests. (Front) Branch Chaplain Fr. Manuel Bravo. (Back L-R) Fr. Freddie Chua, Fr. Kaspar Udumala, Branch 115 president Neal Di Leva and visiting seminarian. All had a great time hitting the piñata and enjoying the evening dinner and program.

year. Please call Neal DiLeva if you might be able to volunteer and help out.

March 15th is the deadline for graduating seniors to apply for the ICF scholarship. Our branch will be providing 2 scholarships. Call Neal DiLeva for applications 310 433 1044

Happy Valentine's Day to all our members and Special Birthday wishes go out to our President Neal Dileva

Please keep all our sick and deceased members in your prayers.

Anita Gioiello

Trujillo Treasurer

Gardena

St. Anthony, Br. 237

Hope this finds that all enjoyed the holidays with family and friends and well wishes for a great new year!

We tallied up our Christmas giving this year and topped \$3500 not bad for our little group!

Our goal this year is to add one new member each month, This is necessary for our branch to continue as many of our members have passed on and have not been replaced. We are outreaching to neighboring parishes as we are

the only branch in this area. We have a lot of work ahead and are looking forward to this challenge

Upcoming events include a trip to Pala Casino later this month and hosting coffee and donuts for our parish next month. As we continue on this year we have more events on the schedule with our 46th annual Columbus Day Dinner Dance slated for October 10,2015, save the date.

“May our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, who has loved us and giving us everlasting encouragement and good hope through His grace, encourage your hearts and strengthen them in every good deed and word” 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

Respectfully,

Micheal Roa

San Gabriel Valley Region

Arcadia

Holy Angels, Br. 218

Happy New Year!!!

We ended 2014 on a high note, with our 2nd annual New York New Years Eve Party. Once again our members came through to make it



Br. 362 Past President Charlene Drobeck passes the gavel to their incoming President Perry Shurko. Congratulations Perry!

a great success. Thank you Matt Luchetta for chairing the event.

A few weeks before that, we had our annual Branch Christmas Party. Thank you to Kraig Keeler for preparing the kids for their roles in the Holy Family. Also, hats off

to Santa for coming and surprising the kids. They had a blast.

Upcoming Events

A Sausage, Meatball and membership drive will be held on February 8th, and preparation for St. Joseph's table has begun.

Thank You.

Kerri DiMcihina

Heritage Chair

Diamond Bar

St. Denis, Br. 317

02/13 – Valentine Day Dinner and General Meeting

03/01 – ICF Donut Sunday at St. Denis

The Installation of Officers for the Los Angeles Archdiocese of the Italian Catholic Federation will take place at St. Francis Xavier Church in Burbank on February 8th, 2015. Mass will be at 10:30AM with a luncheon to follow at 12:00 PM. The cost will be \$25.00 per person. If you plan to go, please make a reservation by February 1st.

We welcome 2 new board Members to our branch at St. Denis. They are: Gerry Hughes



Branch 218 New Year's Eve Party.



Trustee and Barbara Northam Trustee. Romina Anderson will assume a new board position as Trustee. Pattie Lasko will assume positions of 1st and 2nd Vice President

It is with great enthusiasm we look forward once again, to a successful fund raising year and love for ICF 2015 with our generous members.

More details in the February newsletter



Br. 362 Elves(Laura Boehme, Cookie Jeffcoat, Florence Herrera & Steve Drobeck) getting ready to deliver 200 gift bags to Rancho Los Amigos Hospital in Downey.



CST#2056526
a PROTRAVEL INTERNATIONAL affiliate



MERANO TOURS & CRUISES

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

Call **Giancarlo Fadin**
Giancarlo.fadin@protravelinc.com

6345 Balboa Boulevard, Suite 325
Encino, California 91316

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

HOTEL
ACCOMODATIONS



MEDITERRANEAN
CRUISES



CAR RENTAL





regarding the dinner menu for Valentine’s Day on February 13th.

Thank you to Bea for chairing the January pizza dinner meeting and her committee of Julia, Pamela, Clarisa, Barbara and Roxanne. Grazie! it was a great beginning.

God Bless.
Roxanne Perry, President

Temple City

St. Luke, Br. 326

Happy Valentine’s Day to all of our members!
There will be a Bunco Party on Friday, February 13th in the Parish Hall from 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The cost is \$6.00 per person and homemade desserts will be served. For more information contact Ann Baziak.

Our next General Meeting will be held on February 25, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. Dessert and coffee will be served at 6:30 p.m.

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

Branch 218 New Year’s Eve Party.

Vera Montemayor, Mae Rosenkranz, and Ann Primising. And, let’s not forget to pray for our deceased members.

Happy February Birthday: Inez Bonura, Mina Murillo, Ann Primising, and Lucy Hernandez.

Happy Anniversary to: Andy and Frances Bonura 63 years and Jim and Mary Ann Law 56 years.

“Everything is possible if we truly believe. There are miracles and blessings that we can receive. ...Faith is an internal fountain that flows through our veins;...Everything is possible if we truly believe.” (Clay Harrison)

God Bless,
Jo Anne Disney

**Santa Barbara/
Ventura Region**

Thousand Oaks

St. Paschal Baylon, Br. 380

Our branch had an exciting December celebrating Christmas at our annual Family Christmas Party. Over 200 people enjoyed a wonderful Italian dinner, raffle prizes and crafts for the kids. Santa visited and showered all the children with gifts! Thank you for all the volunteers who made this event possible!

Our January meeting is our annual member appreciation dinner . We hope to see all of our members in attendance.

We look forward to an exciting year with a lot of new faces on our executive board. It takes everyone’s participation to create the fun times at at branch 380! There are many ways you can participate in the club that are not board positions so please consider helping out on one of our committees such as, Gifts of Love, Heritage or Hospitality. We are always looking for new ideas for heritage presentations at our meetings. If you have good ideas to share we would love to hear about them, and possible use them in one of our upcoming meetings!

Wishing everyone a wonderful New Year.

Jean Fontana Bridges
Corresponding Secretary

Monterey

**Santa Cruz
N.S. Del Soccorso, Br. 21**

The Holiday Season has come and gone and Branch 21 is gearing up for a year of great events. Our January General Meeting on January 6th was a resounding success as we celebrated the transition of retiring board members moving out of their positions and new board members moving in. In appreciation of two years of hard work, everyone joined in to honor retiring President Roseann Costabile with accolades and gifts of love. Also, because our meeting night fell on Epiphany, we were surprised by a visit from La Befana of Italian folklore! The old ‘witch’ was played beautifully by Alverda Orlando, who presented all who were ‘good’ with an orange and all who were ‘bad’ with a lump of coal (represented by a Snack-sized Snickers...) It was a wonderful evening of fun and good food. For future reference, the new Board is as follows: Richard Puccinelli, President; Richard Vote, 1st Vice President; Eugene Ghio, Second Vice President; Patty Morelli, Secretary; Norma Wilson, Financial Secretary; Rosa Radicchi, Treasurer; Valerie Vote, Orator; Trustees, Mary Jo Belli, Cynthia Schuette, and Larry Tartaglino; Sentinel, Madeline Crews; Branch Deputy, Vicky Howell; and Chaplain, Father Joe Occhiuto.

We’re very proud to share the names of our Branch’s newest members for year 2014 and 2015. They are Sal and Teresa Basile; Ronald and Dusty Bellangero; Ronald Bellangero; Donald and Bernadine Dodson; Louisa Henry; Peggy Mansfield; Heidi Morgan; Kathy Paolino; Rod and Linda Seigle; Peter Sunzeri; Jimmy Sunzeri, and Salvatore Sunzeri. Welcome, welcome, welcome! Stay tuned, one and all, for the announcement of a new member initiation celebration coming soon.

On February 13th, we have planned a Valentine’s Dinner Dance with the “Danceland Band’ playing their great music. On March 15th, Branch 21 will host the District Meeting; on March 22nd, we will have our annual St. Joseph’s Day Dinner.....and on and on. How quickly time flies; how soon we begin planning another year of events; yet how wonderful it is to have another chance to reaffirm friendships and to share our generosity at these annual gatherings. It wouldn’t be as much fun without you. Finally, we hope to see you at our General meetings which are always held at Holy Cross Hall at 5pm on the first Tuesday of the month. May God Bless you.

Patty Morelli
Secretary, Branch 21

Salinas

Nostra Signora Del Sasso, Br. 25

The Officers list for this year has changed slightly. Officers are: Chaplain Fr Ignacio; President Julie Richards; 1st Vice President Don Stoffey; 2nd Vice President Thelma Frontani; Recording Secretary Roy Frontani; Financial Secretary/Treasurer Gia Ussery; Orator Joanne Cristofano; Trustees Linda Hoffman, Olga Mazgai and Rita Dominy; Sentinel Ralph Cristofano; Branch Deputy Cheri Huntley.

The Christmas Party was wonderful; thanks to Julie and Joe for hosting the party once again. Christmas carols were sung, the Christmas table was a sight to behold, the food was wonderful and one could feel the camaraderie in the air. We were pleased to have Andy and Syd Pappani, 2nd Grand Vice President of the Central Council attend.

Installation of officers is scheduled for February 28, 2015. Our Branch has been asked to host the installation at Sacred Heart Church and Hall, Salinas. This is the first time we have been asked to hold an installation, and we will need volunteers for both the luncheon and installation. Please help if you can by calling Julie Richards at 679-0213.

Everyone should have received notification from our financial secretary, Gia Ussery, that dues are now “due”. Membership is \$40 each. Checks should be made out to ICF Branch 25 and mailed to PO Box 2797, Salinas CA 93902.

We already have a date for the Branch Picnic at J&M Ranch. It will be held on August 2, 2015. Bishop Garcia and Father Ignacio have expressed interest in attending.

It is with a sad heart that we report the death of Emil Mirandette, one of our most active and respected members. Emil was a member of ICF for almost 30 years and actively supported the Branch all that time. He was always the voice of caution and reason in our deliberations and his guidance and experience will be sorely missed. God bless him. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Lorraine.

Hope your New Year has started well and continues with good health and prosperity.

Ciao,
Roy Frontani

Monterey

Santa Rosalia, Br. 36

Lenten dinners are here, our volunteers are always here (Thank God and them),

wonderful to see all who support us, those who bring desserts, seeing old friends

and making new ones, and we miss everyone when Lent is over.

CALENDAR

**Pierce Brothers
Turner & Stevens Mortuary**

❖ Pre-arrangements Available
❖ Cremations & Burial Plans ❖ Serving all Faiths

1136 E. Las Tunas Drive San Gabriel, CA 91776
Phone (626) 287-0595 Fax (626) 287-3393
Se habla Español FD-995

Dignity
MEMORIAL

SERVICE BEYOND EXPECTATION

A Great Place to Stay in Monterey

**VOTED MONTEREY PENINSULA TRAVEL
PLANNER BEST VALUE**

Lone Oak Lodge

www.loneoaklodge.com

800-283-5663

Members of ICF Branch 36, Monterey, California

Feb. 5 - Dinner Meeting
Feb. 20 - 1st Lenten dinner
Feb. 27 - 2nd Lenten dinner
Mar. 6 - 3rd Lenten dinner
Mar. 8 - St. Joseph’s Celebration
Mar. 13 - 4th Lenten dinner
Mar. 20 - 5th Lenten dinner
Mar. 27 - 6th Lenten dinner
Mar. 28 - REST!

Deepest sympathy to Josephine Schielke and Patricia Quaglia on the death of their beautiful mother, Mary Chelini. Mary was a long time member and volunteer, she will be missed by all who knew her, especially her family and friends.

Don’t write your name in sand, waves will wash it away, Don’t write your name in the sky, wind will blow it away, Write your name in the hearts of people you come in contact with, That is where it will stay. Mary wrote her name in my heart.

Happy Valentine’s Day,
Bettye Sollecito

Castroville
Santa Caterina da Siena, Br. 51
Happy Valentine’s Day!

Our board members along with our Fundraiser chairperson, Ashley Stefani, met at the beginning of January to go over our plans for the annual fundraiser which will be held on Sunday, March 1st. The menu is Polenta & Stew, salad, bread, dessert and coffee. It will be held at La Scuola from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Take outs will be available and there will be raffle prizes. Local branches please keep an eye out for our event flyer with more information.

Our chefs have dusted off and starched their chef’s hats (and of course D.L. has his western chef’s hat ready to go). Seriously, Paul, Dave, D.L. and Jeff work hard at preparing this delicious meal and we are so fortunate to have such a great team. Two of our younger members Kevin and Gino are the chefs in training. (Paul is Kevin’s father and D.L. is Gino’s father). They are learning from the Masters of Cooking.

The general meeting/dinner was held in late January and we discussed the fundraiser set up, member participation and sign ups. We all know how important it is for all members to participate in order for the event to be successful.

Lord, as we begin our Lenten Journey may we be compassionate and always ready to reach out to others.

Ciao,
Leonora Barlow

Pacific Grove
St. Angela Merici, Br. 206

Everyone enjoyed our delicious Christmas potluck dinner. It was a small group, but everyone had a good time visiting with one another.

At our January meeting, we all enjoyed seeing Marjorie’s two cousins from Hugo and Cambridge, Minnesota. Last year they were visiting when we hosted the Installation luncheon.

The new Slate of Officers for 2015 are as follows: President, Sarah Jane Amoroso; First Vice President, Joseph Cicero; 2nd Vice President, Michael Maiorana; Recording Secretary, Marjorie McClure; Treasurer and Financial Secretary, Dolores Kaelin; Orator: Jeannette Rose; Trustees: Frances Francis, Tony DeCarlo, Virginia SanPaolo, Sentinel: Bill Langford; and Branch Deputy Vinnie Patalano. The Central Coast District Installation will be held at Sacred Heart Church in Salinas on Saturday, February 28, and they are looking for volunteer cooks

from around the District.
Wishing everyone a very Happy New Year!
Sarah Jane Amoroso, President
Marjorie McClure, Recording Secretary

Capitola
St. Joseph, Br. 227

Many thanks to Linda Calciano and crew for cooking her wonderful lasagna at the January meeting. Our outgoing President, Franklyn Lopes, was presented with a plaque of appreciation for his years of service.

Trustee Ron Castle will be sending out meeting notices, so he is attempting to get everyone’s correct e-mail address. Please respond when Ron contacts you. Those who do not use e-mail will get a phone call from Barbara Jayet.

Otto Ambiel, who was a 43 year member of Branch 227, passed away on January 12. Sincere condolences to Heidi and the Ambiel family.

Our member George Bergna also passed away in January. He belonged to our branch for the last six years.

Get well wishes and prayers to Tom McNamara and Patrick Smith, who are under the weather.

It’s that time of year again—please get your dues to Financial Secretary Jane Kotila as soon as possible.

Applications for the Perlino Scholarship awards are now available from Andy Armanino. Deadline for turning them in is April 15.

Fish Fry Coordinator Ellen Pauly is signing up volunteers for the dinners that start on February 20 and go on through Lent. This is our main fund raiser and is where we have signed up several of our new members. If you can’t help by cooking, serving, bringing a dessert, or cleaning up, you can support our branch by coming to eat.

Deanna Musler, Secretary

Arroyo Grande
St. Patrick, Br. 291

Lenten Fish Frys are here! Branch 291 is gearing up for a busy Lenten season with 5 fish frys planned beginning on Friday, February 20th and running through March 27th. (We will not have a fish fry on March 13th due to our church’s annual St. Patrick’s celebration.) Teams have been formed for all the various duties and we thank all the members who signed up at our January meeting to fill the teams so everything runs efficiently each week. If you’re in the area, please join us for one or all of our fish frys this season!

We would like to wish our member, Dori Desiato, a very happy 95th Birthday! Dori celebrated her birthday in January and we send her our blessings for a healthy and happy year ahead!

Please continue to keep in prayer Sr. Carol Carter, Dianne Clees, Zorka Draeger, Annette Grimaud, Stevie Hall, Jean & Emil Minicucci, Joe Slavin, Lorraine Spargo, Sonia & Jens Wagner, Delfina Zarate, Mary Ann Zogata and all members of ICF and their families who may be experiencing pain or heartache.

Happy Valentine’s Day!
Keely Sanchez
Recording Secretary

Oakland
East Bay
District Council

It was nice to meet and greet all the newly elected officers installed at the Fratellanza Club in January. We hope to see many of you at our

district meetings usually held the 4th Monday of the month at Our Lady of Grace parish in Castro Valley. The officers and delegates are the connection between the district and the branches, so attending the meetings is important.

Hopefully many of you will be supporting the District Crab Feed, Friday, February 6th at St. Philip Neri parish in Alameda. This is a major fund raiser and needs your support. Tickets go fast for this event so branch presidents should have their money collected early, no later than January 30th. Each branch is asked to supply hors d’oeuvres and raffle baskets.

Lent will be starting in mid February, but first we can all celebrate with our sweethearts a Happy Valentine’s Day.

XXXs and OOOs.

Alameda
Nostra Signora Delle Grazie, Br. 10

We spent our January planning and hosting a number of functions.

First was our attendance at the District Installation held on Sunday, January 18 in the Fratellanza Club in northwest Oakland. The event began with Mass, which was followed by the Installation, which was followed by dinner. Since, for the first time in four years, the San Francisco Forty-Niners were not playing in the NFC championship game, the attendees were more quiet than they had been in the recent past and were able to focus on ICF matters.

The next event was our own annual Polenta Dinner, held this year on Saturday, January 31. Members Ken and Peggy Dorrance again operated the no-host bar. Chef duties were performed by Ben Ratto, who also belongs to Branch 10. Second vice-president Peggy Lubeck organized the raffle.

The Polenta Dinner was followed closely on Friday evening, February 6 by the Oakland-East Bay District Crab Feed in Monsignor O’Brien Hall in Alameda. Branch 10’s responsibilities included reservations, set-up on the previous afternoon, appetizers and a raffle with a \$75.00 basket as the prize.

We are about to start our Lenten Friday Fish Fry’s , which will follow Stations of the Cross in Saint Philip Neri Church, High and Van Buren Streets, Alameda. The first of the weekly events is scheduled for the first Friday of Lent, February 20. Stations of the Cross begin at 6:30 p.m. Guilano Lupetti will resume his role as one of our chefs and will prepare the pasta portion of the dinner. We will also offer baked fish fillets, salad and a bar. For further information, including cost, please contact John Zugnoni, (510) 523-8005.

We are already warming up for the very popular Irish (Saint Patrick’s Day) Social, which will be held this year on Saturday evening, March 14. Jeanette Zugnoni is in charge and will take reservations. The telephone number is the same as for John Zugnoni.

Treasurer JoAnn Dorn reported at our meeting of January 8 that she is slowly but steadily receiving annual dues. Branch 10 members who read this article but have not paid yet are asked to help to keep the branch on its firm financial footing.

We have been praying for the repose of the souls of two members who died suddenly in December. Larry Branchaud and Rudy Falkner had both belonged to Branch 10 for many years. Larry had “assisted” Santa Claus at our Christmas Party on several occasions, including the party of this past December 5.

All are welcome to cross a bridge or drive through the Webster Tube and enjoy the activities of our dynamic branch.

Livermore
St. Filomena, Br. 285

Our new year began with a wonderful New Board / Old Board dinner and meeting, January 7th, at the home of Elaine and Chuck Meier (Elaine is our President for 2015.) We discussed new ideas for getting our branch known in our parishes, for outings and meetings, and new ways of serving God and our fellowman.

Our next meeting, at 6:30 p.m., Friday, February 20, at St. Michael’s Hall, will be a meatless potluck with a Valentine theme, hosted by Phyl and Joe Buonsante. We will be preparing the hall for the Bingo Bash on the next evening.

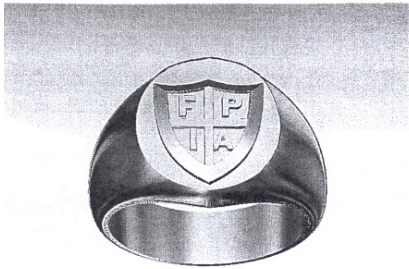
We hope to see you all at our 2015, “Bingo Bash” fundraiser for Children’s Hospital-Cooley’s Anemia, on Saturday, February 21st, at St. Michael’s Hall, 372 Maple St. Livermore. Cost is \$10.00 per person (which includes one bingo packet of ten games.) Pizza, snacks and beverages will be available for purchase. Prizes, raffle, dancing, and music by our DJ Joe Buonsante. For reservations, call: Helen Wirtenson, 925-462-3798. Deadline is February 16. Donations from anyone who cannot attend would be appreciated and may be mailed to ICF c/o D. Wellbeloved, 529 Malbec Ct. Pleasanton, Ca. 94566.

Our branch congratulates two couples who celebrated milestone Wedding Anniversaries in January: Gail and Ed Rocca, who were both born in St. Luke’s Hosp. in San Francisco, completed 60 years of wedded bliss on January 29. They have three children, three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Judy and Carl Bates, who met on a blind date, were married 55 years on January 23. They have 4 children and nine grandchildren.

Happy St. Valentine’s Day !
Mary Merucci

Castro Valley
Our Lady of Grace, Br. 343

Well we finally did it! A belated Christmas party was held at our meeting on Jan. 8th, no wind and



Maggiora Jewelry
Jo-Ann Maggiora Donivan, Owner
833 Market Street, Suite 521, San Francisco, CA 94103
415 362-4412 jjdon@pacbell.net www.donivanandmaggiora.com
New Membership Jewelry available NOW!!!
20% of proceeds go to ICF charities ICF Member, Branch 91



Members and grandchildren of Branch 14, Crockett, enjoying Santa’s visit.

rain to stop us this time. Great food prepared by Lisa and crew, with cookies, for dessert, baked by branch members. We were also able to make our donation of baby clothes and layette items to Birthright. Thanks to all for your kind giving.

Let’s keep those baking skills handy, our Super Bowl bake sale is coming up on Sunday, Feb.1,2015. This will be our 1st fund raiser of the new year.

This is followed closely by the district crab feed on Friday, Feb. 5th. Please make your reservation early as this is always a sell out. The branch will be donating hors d’oeuvres and raffle baskets. Lets help make this a big success.

Lent begins mid February, so we will be getting out the old soup pots for the parish’s Lenten soup meals.

And finally, a Happy Valentine’s Day to All.

Contra Costa

District Council

Wow 2015. Did you ever feel like you are going to waste and then Jesus comes along and recycles you for another year? That happened to me this year and I want to thank all the members for your prayers.

The Contra Costa District had there Installation of Officers at St. Agnes in Concord. We wish to thank them for hosting the event, Congratulations to all the officers, and thank you also for all that you do for the Italian Catholic Federation

Bishops Day is scheduled to be held at Saint Isidores Church in Danville either March 1st or March 8th, depending on the Bishops availability, and the availability of the church. It will be hosted by Branch 352 We will let you know the date as soon as we know.

The Feb. District meeting will be held Thursday, February 26 at Saint Isidore’s in Danville It is very important for each branch to send its delegates to the District meetings in order to vote on the motions brought before the floor.

Martinez

San Martino, Br. 13

Happy St. Valentine’s Day! February is the month of love. Think about the unity and kinship we all share as we celebrate our love of God in this annual month of love. The ICF anthem “Noi Vogliam Dio” translated into English means “We Love God.”

Being an English-speaking second generation Italian-American, I often feel left out when ICF members raise their voices singing the official song of the ICF. To know me is to know that I enjoy singing at home, in church, in the car, walking the dog, basically whenever the mood strikes. My children are aware, as I often tell them in tune, that there is a song for everything. “Last Night’s Pizza in My Breakfast Bowl” is a favorite as is “Do Small Things With Great Love,” a song based on the teachings of Mother Teresa. Notwithstanding the Italian tradition imbedded in the Federation, it appears that the majority of the ICF membership uses English as a first language. I would imagine that similar to multi-lingual masses and presentations, the ICF would continue to encourage unifying its members and begin singing stanzas of the Federation anthem in both languages. The ICF website lists both versions. Here are the words to:

WE LOVE GOD (Noi Vogliam Dio)

O we want our God to protect us,/And to guide us in the best way.

If in the struggle He will aid us,/From evil shall we win the fray.

Rise up all you faithful,/Uphold the Faith and sing:

O we want God Who is our Father;/O we want God Who is our King.

In this Land of strength and freedom /We gave our vigor from the start;

Quick to defend, O noble people, /The name of Christ that’s in our heart.



Members from Branch 14, Crockett Celebrating the Christmas Season.

Rise up all you faithful,/Uphold the Faith and sing:

O we want God Who is our Father;/O we want God Who is our King.

How beautiful a sentiment to ask God to protect and guide us and our loved ones during this month that love is celebrated.

Ciao for now,

Mary Cook

Crockett

San Carlo, Br. 14

Although I am writing this before the February 7th Polenta and Sausage Dinner, I can assure you it will have been its usual success. Thanks to the many energetic workers who help make it such a profitable fundraiser.

Our regular meeting is on Tuesday, February 10th. Mass begins at 5:30. We are pleased to see more members attending mass prior to the meeting. Dinner is served at 6:30, and the meeting, which is never long or boring, begins at 7:30. Rodeo Chef Lisa Yama will prepare a delicious Tuscan Chicken Dinner, as only Lisa can do. After the meeting, the March 14th Corned Beef Dinner tickets will go on sale. Adult tickets are \$18. and children’s tickets, \$7.00.

Thanks to Lena McCrossen for sending get well cards to Flora Orsi, Vince Ramos, Ace and Marilyn Canetta and Dee Carone, as well as sympathy cards to the family of Albert Ranzani and to Marie and Roxene Colombo on the passing of Duane Colombo.

We ended January with a Bingo Night, and we will end February with a Pedro and Card Night. Join the fun on February 27th at 7:00 P.M. Light refreshments will be served.

Can’t close without reminding everyone that February 14th is Valentine’s Day. Take advantage of the nights out our Branch is offering... February 7th, February 10th and February 27th, but don’t think that means you shouldn’t do something special on February 14th!

Ciao,

Diane Bottini Thomas

Pittsburg

San Domenico, Br. 72

We started out the year with our New Years party. We enjoyed food, favors, horns, hats and a free raffle followed by our meeting.

The district Installation of officers and Mass was celebrated at St. Agnes church in Concord followed by a reception at La Veranda Café. We thank the Concord Todos Santos branch for hosting as well as anyone who helped make this a special day. One of those people was our member Roselynne who took care of many details.

I would like to thank Roselynne for making our 2015 calendar. A calendar and dues ship

was mailed to each member. Please mail dues to treasurer Helen Politakes at 953 Veterans Dr. Martinez, Calif. 94553. Note that in our calendar we did not list our branch Masses because we were still working on those dates.

Upcoming:

Sunday Feb.15---Valentine Party and sweets potluck followed by meeting and raffle at 2:PM

Thurs. Feb. 26---District Meeting in Danville at 7: 30 PM

Sunday March 8--Bishops day Mass at 12:15 PM at St. Isidore church and reception following. This will be hosted by the Danville branch. Contact Patty at 925-228-0810 for details and tickets before March 1.

Due to Bishops day being held on March 8 we will reschedule our March 8 meeting. Notice with new date and information for our St. Joseph’s table and St. Patrick’s day party will be mailed.

Our sunshine chairperson is Jane Russo. Please let her know of anyone who should receive a card.

Until next time

Sempre Avanti

Patty Jarrett

Concord

Todos Santos, Br. 214

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

Our first meeting of the year reminded us our group is growing. Our Chaplain Fr. Johnson was also in attendance.

We hosted this years Installation; Fr. Larry (District Chalain),said mass; after our ceremony a luncheon was held at La Veranda, in Clayton.

We thank all who attended.

Prayers for our Elders and Sick, and always remembering our Military.

God’s Blessing and Happy Valentine’s Day.

Christina,

correspondence secretary

Brentwood

Immaculate Heart of Mary, Br. 432

Hoping that everyone had a wonderful Christmas. Our branch is looking forward to a good turnout for our installation of officers. It will be held at St. Agnes church in Concord on Sat. January 17Th. Our first meeting of 2015 will be held at Mountain Mikes pizza pallor on Mon. January 26Th at 6 p.m. We will be approving our 2015 budget & calendar. Our branch is hosting the Immaculate Heart of Mary pancake breakfast on Sunday February 1st from 6.30 to 12.30. We are presently looking for volunteers for kitchen

help,set up and take down.

Until next month.

Ciao.

Marilyn Simonetti.

Pleasant Hill

Christ the King, Br. 442

It’s time to renew your ICF membership! We’re so proud and thankful for the 147 members who joined our branch in its first year, making us among the largest in the district, and hope you all will join us for another year. If you haven’t already, please fill out our branch survey to provide feedback on our first year and offer your suggestions for activities and events for 2015. The survey can be found at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CL3LZ8B> After filling out the survey, hop on over to our new Facebook page. It can be found by searching ICF Branch 442 from Facebook. Please “like” it and join the conversation.

A special thanks to all the branch volunteers who organized and led our fall events: the Columbus Day anniversary fundraiser dinner; our Thanksgiving potluck; and Christmas Party. Also thanks to Pieology Pizzeria for hosting a branch “pizza night” fundraiser.

Branch 442 is delighted to announce that our new pastor, Father Paulson, has been appointed as chaplain to the branch. We look forward to welcoming Father at our festivities and providing him our support.

This spring, enjoy an ICF Afternoon Tea Party. The event is open to 104 guests and will be held Saturday, April 25, at 12 p.m. Planned for the menu are scones, fruit, tea sandwiches, homemade lemon curd, homemade cream jam and tea blended by our chairperson Carole Delucchi-Padlo. Stay tuned for more information.

Know of a family member, friend or fellow parishioner who is interested in joining? Please call 957-0269 or email icfplesanthill@aol.com Membership applications are available at www.icf.org and are on hand at each branch meting.

Ciao!

Orange

Irvine

St. Thomas More, Br. 423

Elections were held in November and our current officers were unanimously voted in for their seats. Our officers are as follows: Mary Ann Profeta, President; Donna Stahl, Vice President; Tony Gonzalez, 2nd Vice President; Tom Farrell, Treasurer; Maureen Melvold, Secretary; Lynn Goldstrom, Sentinel; Lupe Montejano, Orator; Don Gibson, Frank Gianantonio, and Mina Brooks, are Trustees.

Kelly De Leo will be planning a Lenten retreat. More details to come. She has also invited a bishop from New York to visit our branch.

Sign-up sheets were passed around in the January meeting for various committees. All members were encouraged to participate this year.

Installation of officers for the district will be held on February 15 at the 11:15 am mass at St. Thomas More parish.

Bishop Dinner will be held on March 7. The district is still in the planning stages for this event. More details to come.

Next meeting will be February 20, unless otherwise noted.

Ciao,

Miranda Gibson

Reno

Reno

St. Albert, Br. 135

Our first regular meeting of the New Year was held on Sunday, January 4 at St. Albert’s Hall at 6:00pm. 16 members braved a chilly evening to enjoy a delightful potluck dinner where the branch furnished baked ham and spiced pecan cake for dessert, with attending members providing their favorite side dishes and salads. Many thanks to everyone for providing such tasty food.

President Carolyn reported that about 150 pounds of food was collected at the Bishop’s Dinner in December and given to St. Vincent’s pantry. Father Mike Mahone, Nancy Telliano, Maggie Marino, and Joyce Kowatch were reported as being ill. We pray for God’s healing touch for all those members who are sick.

Bob Ferrari gave the financial report of the Polenta Dinner held in November. He reported an excellent profit, the largest we have ever had. Nearly 400 dinners were served. Members voted to give the Boy’s and Girl’s Club a donation of \$1,000.00 for the use of their facilities. The members also voted to give a number of scholarships for this year: a) five - \$500.00 tuition scholarships for students entering Bishop Manogue Catholic High School from any 8th grade; b) three - \$500.00 tuition scholarships for continuing education at Bishop Manogue High School; c) three - \$250.00 tuition scholarships for continuing education at the three Catholic Elementary Schools in Reno; and d) two - \$400.00 first year scholarships selected by Central Council for a Reno area high school senior going to college.

It was voted to give \$300.00 to Cooley’s Anemia.

At the meeting, a flyer was handed out with meeting dates for the rest of the year, as follows: February 8; March 8; April 12; May 17; June 14; September 20 (picnic); October 18; November and December (Bishop’s Dinner) TBA.

Ciao,

Charlyne Pacini

Sacramento

Sacramento

St. Mary, Br. 45

Greetings from Branch 45.

February finds us planning the calendar for 2015. We hope to have news of the year’s dinners and events by the March issue.

St. Mary’s will host the Blessed Sacrament District Meeting on Sunday, Feb. 8th, at Espanol Restaurant at 12:30 p.m. We will order off the menu. Make your reservation with Janine at 916-508-1199; hope to see you there.

Buon Compleanno to Giuseppe Schettini, Marlene Oehler, Katherine Stefani, Ted Georguson, Manuel Cazares, Nives Schettini, Olivia Ebert, Emily Rossi, Arlene Gianatasio, Dorothy Heick, our February Birthday celebrants.

We are again saddened by the passing of another branch member, Mary Anne Almeida. Mary Anne was an avid fan of the chicken and polenta dinners, always gathering a host of friends to join her table. Condolences to her family and friends; she will be sorely missed.

Don’t forget Ash Wednesday; Lent begins February 18th.

Ciao and appy aedntine’s 1/11/15Happy Valentine’s Day

Auburn

St. Joseph, Br. 342

Congratulations to our newly installed 2015 Board members: President- MaryAnn Mikles, Vice President - Maria Fregosi, Secretary - Pam Andersen, Treasurer - Marisa Borba, Financial Secretary - Trish Putkey, Orator- Colleen Andersen, Sentinal - Josephine Andersen, Trustees - Barbara O’Rourke, Ida Granada, and Flo Mooneyham. Also installed to the Board of the Blessed Sacrament District are First Vice President - Pam Andersen, Second Vice President- Maria Fregosi, and Trustees Ida Granada, Flo Mooneyham, and MaryAnn Mikles.

A big thank you goes out to all who helped make our annual Polenta Dinner a huge success. Thank you to Chef Rico and crew for preparing such a delicious meal, those who helped with set-up and clean-up, everyone who helped with the raffle, and all who helped in the bar. We could not have done it with you!

Pam Andersen

Bollettino Contributor

San Bernardino

Fontana

St. Joseph, Br. 210

We started the New Year right off with our monthly meeting the second Sunday and our Installation the next Saturday. Many of us were down with a flu bug, but recouped for the activities. Second Vice President, Andy Pappini and newly elected Council Member, Anne Interrante did the honors of installing

our District and Branch Members after the celebration of Mass. Thank you both for taking the time to come down and perform our ritual. Our condolences to Central Council Member, Pat Mages, who had to go back East to bury her dad, and was unable to attend. We missed you and Lou Thanks to our District Chaplain, Reverend Jerome Ochetti, for celebrating Mass. Our Branch, 210 hosted the dinner and the activities after Installation. Thanks to all those who helped plan our event, especially the Conformation kids that served the meal. With the New Year, we will all be a year older which makes the average age of our members increase. One way to lower that average is to bring in some young members with school aged children. It won’t make us any younger but it will lower the average age of our membership. It sounds good anyway! It will also insure the continuation of our Branch. Happy New Year and good health and Gods Blessing throughout the Year.

Ciao,

Jack Grisafe

San Diego

San Diego

St. Therese, Br. 261

A Branch officer – Tony Anthony has been on a mission with the Mount Soledad Cross Association to preserve the cross from the attacks of an atheist group wanting to remove the monument.. It has been a 25 year struggle...Congress recently signed legislation awarding the monument to the Mount Soledad Association.. We trust that this ends the litigation..but many think that there will be more law suits..



The Italian Catholic Federation Branch 217
presents:
Bradley James



March 19, 2015
St. Joseph’s Day Gala Dinner
The Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Community – Olive Hall
115 West Olive Avenue, Redlands, CA 92373
6:00 p.m. – Italian Dinner
5:30 p.m. - Gift Basket Raffle Opens
Tickets - \$15/person, in advance or at the door
Wine will be available for an additional charge.
Day Care will not be provided; Families are welcome.
* * *

Bradley James, composer and performer, will share his experiences working closely with Mother Teresa (now St. Teresa of Calcutta) for over a decade. Mother Teresa gave Bradley exclusive worldwide rights to write and record music to her words and prayers (his CDs also contain Mother Teresa’s voice). Blessed with musical gifts and a heart formed by serving with Mother and her Missionaries of Charity in orphanages and AIDS care homes in Calcutta, Mexico, San Quentin, and the South Bronx, Bradley beautifully shares Mother Teresa’s message of compassionate love with the world.

Bring your friends for an evening of hearty food and unforgettable music.

Please bring a sealed jar of pasta sauce and/or a package of dried pasta to further ICF’s *Donare la Pasta* program to feed the hungry children of Redlands. *Grazi!*
For advanced ticket sales or information, please contact ICF:
909.790.1553 or 909.794.2244

4815-2245-8401.1



Branch 261 chefs relax after dinner... Forrest Price '15 President; Don Chmiel '14 President..

Our Annual Christmas Dinner Party was a financial success. Assisting our ICF was the Parish's Knights of Columbus... Our cooks prepared a Parmesan Chicken dinner...The proceeds of the event will go update audio systems in the church and Social Center..

Our thanks to the outgoing 2014 ICF officers... Our slate for 2015: President – Forrest Price; 1st VP – Tony Anthony; 2nd VP Bob Tallarida; Secretary – Prudence Price; Corresponding Secretary – Vic Tallarida; Treasurer – Pamela Carrico Talalrida; Orator – Vera Covitt; Trustees – Bob Fischer – Betty Montoya – Vickie Striebel; Sentinel – Robin Fielding.... Our members thank you for your service to the ICF and St Therese Parish....

Our Heritage Committee Chairwoman Irene Zenns presented a dossier on the life of Louis Zamperini... Louis lived in Torrance CA and attended USC on an athletic scholarship. His story of survival is told in the movie “Unbroken.” The details of his days as a prisoner of the Japanese are brutal.....Louis survived to live into his 90's....Another survival of Japanese imprisonment was our ICF member – Carlos Montoya.. Eyes watered when Carlos recounted the terror of the Bataan Death March.. This was truly a sad chapter in USA history.

Vic Tallarida

Branch 261 captions:

Vera Covitt - our Orator; and Rose Tallarida - Financial Secretary

enjoy our picnic and Bocce Tournament..

Vic Tallarida,,,, Br 261 --- San Diego

San Francisco

San Francisco

SS Immacolata, Br. 1

Dear Members: Our recent Installation and lunch was enjoyed by all.

Upcoming : February = No Meeting .

Feb 22 -- Monthly Mass, ICC 10:30 am

March 4 -- Spuntino and Raffle, 6:30pm, Cost \$15:00. Reservations : Vic Arnauo (650) 755-1369. Please bring a Raffle Prize.

Happy Valentines Day!

Ciao,

Toni Morsello

San Francisco

Sts. Peter and Paul, Br. 38

HAPPY NEW YEARS everybody! Here we are, Branch #38 is ready to start our 2015 branch activities, but as I stated in last month's Bollettino, we are not able to have our January meeting this month because the Salesian B & G Club need the Parish Center for their Marshall Arts Program. Patience, we'll get back to our agenda on February 14!

Our December Short Meeting and fun Holiday Party was a huge success. First, I must thank Dora Varacchi for organizing the day's activities. What can I do alone without our members being so cooperative and helpful? After our short meeting, Dora split the afternoon into two parts. In the 1st part we celebrated Christmas. We had a delicious lunch catered by the SFIAC, had a yummy lemon cream cake for dessert, and a lot of other goodies to munch on. Cosmo picked

the food up promptly at 12:30 a.m. Thank you Cosmo for always being able to count on you. Santa and his elves could not attend this year because they were busy, busy, busy getting ready at the North Pole, however, Santa sent in his place his greatest most famous Reindeer of all. He sent, you are right, Rudolph! Even though Rudolph's antlers were on backwards, he jingled merrily and his nose glowed brightly, maybe with a little help by our party's Asti Spumonte! Anyway, Rudolph did a fantastic job, with a little help by our members to help pass out the gifts to all our members and guests. We sang a lot of Christmas Carols, led by Dora, of course. Our singing sounded louder and better this year...much improved over 2014! In the 2nd half of the day, we celebrated New Years Day. We toasted 2015 with a glass of Asti Spumante while we sang “Old Lang Syne.” It was a very nicely planned day.

Special thanks to Fr. Al Mengon for being our new Chaplin this year, and a member of our team ICF Br. #38. I want to also thank our members/guests in attendance: Dora, her sisters Norma Tealdi & Lottie Peradotto, Mary Lavin & her caregiver Ellen, Eva Belloni, Ines Massetani and her caregiver Mary Bell. I also want to thank our guests who also help us so much Fred & Susan Tealdi, and Lottie's daughter Judy Fontana. When you attend our meetings, we truly appreciate what you do for us.

To Madeline Torre, our Financial Treasurer, ...who works on our dues, No Bake Sale, and Raffles from home, and those branch members who are unable to attend: sick, homebound, or live far away, we wish you all, a healthy, healthy, and healthy 2015.

P.S. Please don't forget to pay your 2015 Membership Dues!

Your “Branch #38 “Monthly Activities Calendar” will be sent with your dues notice.

Ci vediamo sabato, il 14 di febbraio!

11:30am meeting in the PC. 12:30am
Lunch: “Valentine's Day Party,” details by phone.

Ciao!

Mara Amato

San Francisco

St. Elizabeth, Br. 258

Felice Anno Nuovo to all our members and their families.

We hope the New Year will be good to all of us!

It was nice to see Bev at our Christmas lunch. Stay well Bev.

On January 8th the San Francisco District will have our Pot Luck dinner at 6:00 PM. Please try to attend.

Our Installation of Officers will be at the Italian American Social Club on January 11th. Price is \$42.00. Please try to make this installation. Menu is Salad with cold cuts; Pasta (sauce &

Pesto); Tri Tip, Calamari. Checks must be in by December 29th.

Please remember our ill and deceased members in your prayers.

Please remember these dates:

Officers Meeting: February 2nd

Mass: February 22nd

Meeting: February 23rd

Ciao

Eva Perata, President

San Francisco

Corpus Christi, Br. 290

Dear Friends,

Our February meeting will be held on Thursday, February 19th at 12:00 noon. Hope to see everyone there.

Save the date! March 3rd is the date of our first Champagne-Bingo luncheon of 2015. Doors open at 11:00 AM, followed by lunch at 12:00 noon. Price of the event is \$25.00. Please call Mary Rowe (415) 333-7939 or Joyce Nuti (415)586-7879) for reservations.

We ask prayers for all our members who are not feeling well.

Wishing everyone a Happy Valentine's Day!

Ciao,

Jeannette

San Francisco

St. Cecilia, Br. 365

An important reminder. Our February meeting will be held on Saturday, the 21st, in the Green Room. We will have our meeting at 11:30, with lunch following. The menu will include spaghetti and meatballs, salad, antipasti, wine, dessert & coffee. The cost is \$10.00 per person. Please mail your check to our treasurer, Florence O'Malley, 520 Vicente, San Francisco, Ca. 94116. Your guests are always welcome.

March 11th, Serra Room, 6 PM. St. Joseph's Table will be potluck, as usual.

At each of these meetings, help is needed to set up tables, etc. Please do your best to arrive 20, or so, minutes early.

God Bless,

Ann Basuino

San Mateo

District Council

Congratulations again to the District Officers for 2015. Cannot report on the Installaion until next month since it has not taken place yet as of this writing. Branch 163 delegates too the San Mateo District still are as follows: Anne O'Brien, Rose Marie Sickle and Marie D'Asaro.

Valente Marini Perata
& Company FD-100

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

4840 Mission Street

San Francisco, CA 94112

(415) 333-0161

www.vmpandco.com



Sonia Alioto

Italian Estates & Inheritances
Proprietà ed Eredità

**UPDATE TITLE TO FAMILY
PROPERTY IN ITALY**

Find Unclaimed Property

www.italianlaw.net
(415) 382-6171

Alternate Frank Venturelli.

Mark your calendars:

Saturday, February 28, 2015, Branch 19 Champagne Bingo, Holy Angels Hall, 107 San Pedro Road, Colma. Opens at 1:30 p.m., lunch at 2:30 with Bingo following. Chicken, Pasta, Champagne and (1) Bingo card \$16.00. Reservations call Deborah Rodondi 650.583.0805.

Sunday, April 12, Bishop’s Day. San Mateo District hosting.

Hosts for 2015 Events are as follows:

Lenten Night of Recollection -- Branch 19

1st Semi annual Mass Branch 6

2nd Semi annual Mass Branch 7

Dates and more info to be announced later. Call our Sunshine person Carole Gianuario if you know of anyone who needs a Sympathy, Get Well or Thinking of You greeting. 650.593.5681.

Remember Father Frank Murray in your thoughts and prayers. Better yet send him a card, call or visit him. His address is 2087 Isabelle Avenue, San Mateo 94403 and phone is 650.548.9946.

Happy Valentines Day!

Anne O'Brien

South San Francisco

Sacro Cuore, Br. 7

Where has the time gone? Can you believe we are already into the second month of 2015? As we begin the second month of the year, our business dinner meeting will be on February 4th. That’s also about the time we all start thinking about Valentines Day and the ones we love. So don’t forget to bring your Valentine to the February 21st Crab Cioppino Dinner Fundraiser. Chicken is available upon request. Remember, a Valentine is not just about your wife, husband or sweetheart. A Valentine is about people you care about and love...so bring all the people you love to this fun event! Call Norma at 650-583-3643 for reservations.

Just a friendly reminder, all Branch 7 yearly dues are now past due. If you have already paid yours in the month of January, we extend a big “Thank you”! If you have not, we appreciate your attention to this a.s.a.p.

Scholarship applications for high school seniors have been sent to all local schools. Any Roman Catholic student interested in obtaining an application, with all requirements, may get them from their school student counselor. The deadline to submit the application is March 2015.

So, until next time...a few thoughts to ponder for Valentines, “A perfect marriage is just two imperfect people who refuse to give up on each other” and “Love puts the fun in together, the sad in apart and the joy in your heart!”

“Happy Valentines Day”!

Sempre Avanti

Laurie Masetti

**Bilingual Staff
Information • Referrals
Social Service Coordination**

**ITALIAN-AMERICAN
COMMUNITY
SERVICES AGENCY**

**providing services to the
Italian-American
community since 1916**

CASA FUGAZI

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

San Mateo

St. Matthew, Br. 163

Congratulations and many thanks to the officers for accepting re-election and the commitment to our Branch for another year. I will report on their installation along with our January dinner meeting next month.

Many thanks to our members for their participation in our events this past year.

Thanks to all who attended our Christmas Dinner and enjoyed the food prepared by our fabulous chef Steve Fuentes and the raffle that was held. The raffle winners were: Norma Ludlow (Bay Watch Coupons); Robert DeVincenzi (Ripley’s Believe It or Not tickets); Joshua LaCore (Hillbarn Theatre tickets); Lena Venturelli (Landmark theatre tickets); Pat Kraemer (Spaghetti Factory certificate); Dea Mattei (“Three” restaurant certificate); Silvana DaDalt (Jeremiah Ship tour); Gloria Burr (Sneaker’s Pub certificate); Anita Meister (Sneaker’s Pub certificate); Anne O’Brien (Build a Bear); Arlene Nunziati (Amici’s Pizza certificate); Virginia Fuentes (\$100). Thank to all who bought tickets and donated prizes.

Our sympathies: To Jim Loman and family on the loss of his mother; to Lois Merlo on the loss of her daughter.

Mark your calendars:

Thursday, February 12, 2015 – Pot luck dinner meeting.

Thursday, March 12, 2015 – Soup Night and meeting.

Sunday, April 12, 2015 – Bishop’s Day hosted by the San Mateo District.

Happy Valentines Day.

Anne O'Brien

Burlingame

Our Lady of Angels, Br. 173

Our first meeting of the New Year began with an excellent Lasagna dinner prepared by Sandra Bennett. Many compliments to Sandra as all we heard was how great it was.

We have many activities planned for the year and listed below are some of them:

1-17-15:Installation for San Mateo District/ Mass 10:30 AM St.Dunstans Millbrae Lunch:Terrace Café

2-12-15:Branch Meeting Pizza, Salad Bingo - more info to follow Contact:Maria Camicia 650-343-4417

3-8-15 SPRING FLING - Pasta, Meatballs Fundraiser- more info to follow.

3-12-15 6:30 PM St. Joseph’s Table - Dorene Campanile/signup sheet for food will be at the February meeting

3-22 Sunday, 8:30 AM Mass and Brunch with Millbrae Branch #403 Lunch @Terrace Café

If any members have items to donate for our raffles, please let one of the officer’s know.

Please keep in your prayers Maria Camacia, Bonnie Joy Giusti on the death of Lido, and Linda Mustachia who is recovering from hip surgery.

God Bless,

Rosalind C. Emery

Millbrae

St. Dunstan, Br. 403

The San Mateo District Installation of all Branch Officers was held at the 10:30 Mass at St. Dunstan Church on Saturday, January 17 followed by lunch at the Terrace Cafe in Millbrae.

March 8 - Our Branch 24th Anniversary Dinner Celebration will be held in the Parish Center. A gourmet chicken dinner will be served, which will include antipasto, salad, chicken and vegetable, bread, wine and dessert for \$25 per person. No host cocktails at 4:00PM, dinner at 5:00PM. Reservations to be sent to Dan Capodanno, 325 San Jose Ave., Millbrae, CA 94030, by March 2nd.

Rose Marie Morando

Correspondent Secretary

Marin

Larkspur

St. James, Br. 161

Everyone enjoyed a wonderful crab dinner on Saturday, January 24, at St. Patrick’s Hall. Thanks to Debbie Ghiringhelli Catering for doing the dinner. It was enjoyed by all. Also thanks to everyone who donated money for the basket raffle. At our next meeting Nora Thompson from Matrix will come to talk to us. Our next meeting will be February 17. Our get well wishes for a speedy recovery to all of you who aren’t feeling well. Wishing everyone a Happy Valentines Day.

See you next month,

Ciao,

Anna Biggio

San Jose

Santa Clara Valley

District Council

Denise Antonowiz gaveled the SCV District meeting to order and became only the second female president (Elaine Osorio being the first) to do so. Our host branch 47 Mountain View prepared the meeting room and served up refreshments.

District Deputy reported a full slate of branch deputies and would welcomed anyone interested in becoming a deputy to let him know. Emily Corral gave a brief overview of the Scholarship program and said March 15 was the deadline for applications and donations. Some of the branches reported brisk Calendar sales. Denise asked for all branches to submit event calendars, Officer lists with e-mail addresses, and district delegate designees.

Branch 5 is going to celebrate 90 years, details to follow. Branch 391 is again having their Valentines Dinner Dance, Feb. 7. Branch 47 is preparing for their Crab Dinner – Feb. 28. Branch 191 starts-up with their Lenten Soup Nights on Feb 14. Branch 184 Polenta Dinner, March 21. Branch 4 Mardi Gras, March 4.

Our Lady of Peace Mass – 11 am, June 14

Mike Nunziata

San Jose

Holy Cross, Br. 4

Here we are in another year. Hard to believe 2014 went so quickly. The new officers for 2015 were installed on January 10th and are ready to get to work.

It would be great if some of our members would offer to help on our functions. January soup night was a great treat on a cold night. Sorry more members didn’t attend.

You should have received your notice of dues and the calendar of events for 2015. Keep it handy.

Feb 4- dinner meeting

Feb 8- Ash Wednesday

Mar 4- fundraiser open to the public. Donation \$25.00. Pasta Bar, salad bar, dessert, wine and



Branch 28 Franca Filice with Santa and Mrs. Claus at our branch Christmas Party.

coffee. Let’s make this a success.

To all of our sick members our prayers are with you.

“A faithful friend is a sturdy shelter. He who finds one finds a treasure”

Blessings for a Happy,Healthy New Year.

God Bless,

Ann Fitzgerald

Santa Clara

N.S. Assunta, Br. 5

Please come and enjoy the Br.5 monthly dinners and meetings. Invite friends and family to come and enjoy. Let them see what ICF is all about. If you have ideas or suggestions to help make the meetings and events more enjoyable, please let us know.

In January, officers worked on activities and menus for dinners, along with dates and costs. You should have the information by now. If not, call Larry Marsalli and/or come to the meeting. Watch for the monthly newsletter.

Dues are still being collected and may be mailed or given to the Financial Secretary at the meeting.

Happy Valentine’s Day to you.

Ciao,

Marlene J. Rotolo

Gilroy

Santa Maria Ausiliatrice, Br. 28

Happy Valentine’s Day.

Remember our dinner meeting this month will be on the 4th Monday of the Month, February 26.

Ash Wednesday is on February 18.

Our Polenta Dinner will be on March 7. We will need servers, and we will again have a raffle so we will also need raffle prizes. Chris Andrade will be the chairperson of the raffle, so contact her if you have anything to donate at 831-634-1994, Tickets will be available through Diana Berry at 408 842-6376 or Louise Segreto at 408 846-4505. Get your tickets early as they go fast. Urge your families and friends to join us in a very traditional and tasty meal. Take out will be available at 5:30 PM, but you must bring your own containers.

A message from the calling committee. We need to have a very correct number of people attending our dinner meetings especially when our dinners are catered. Our Christmas party grew and grew way past our deadline. Thank the good Lord that our caterer, Dave Bozzo was able to increase the food we needed that evening or we would have run out. Please cooperate with your caller and let them know who is

coming. We would hate to run out of food, or have nothing for the cooks to eat after they have spent all day preparing our meal. If we have too much food, members can always buy an extra meal to bring home after everyone is fed. Also we could use some cooks for our monthly meetings. Think about volunteering, or forming a group that could cook.

Always keep our sick and homebound members in our prayers.

Ciao,

Anna Barberi

Los Gatos

St. Mary, Br. 184

Our new slate of officers was installed after Mass at St. Martin of Tours Church. As usual, it was a beautiful and moving Mass and ceremony. Our President Denise is ready to start the New Year and thanks members for their help and dedication. Also, she welcomes the John Miano family, transferring here from Castro Valley.

The theme for our next dinner dance will be Italian Trattoria. Compare e Comare, come eat polenta with chicken alla cacciatore and dance to the live music of Reno di Bono. Date: Saturday March 21, 2015. Details to follow.

Our regular meetings are the second Thursday of the month, 7 P.M. sharp. Members are encouraged to attend and get an idea of what is accomplished. Come meet us in the Parish Lounge.

If you have a child or grandchild in High School, now is the time to call Rose Arnaudo, our scholarship chairwoman. Her phone # is 354 4017, and she has all the information you will need.

Wishing you and yours a Happy Valentine's Day.

Pace,

Lucy Amico

San Jose

St. Frances Cabrini, Br. 191

Board members Josephine Bertaccini-President, Jim Jones-1st Vice; Liz Donaldson-2nd Vice, Janice Jones-Recording Secretary, Camille Orlando-Financial Secretary, Aldine Grisenti-Treasure, Marie Antonowicz-Orator, Gloria Garcia- Sentinel, and Trustees Debbie Piro, June Sohn and Rosemary Janis were installed on January 10th at St. Martin of Tours in San Jose. As part of the ceremony, an award was presented to the Deputy who fulfilled their duties in an exceptional way. This year's recipient was Aldine Grisenti from Branch 191. Congratulations Aldine!

ICF members joined other SFC organizations on January 11th after the 9:30 A.M. Mass to welcome new parishioners. Member Frieda Flocchini spoke to those who had gathered in the hall for breakfast informing them about the ICF and the different charities the ICF supports through its events such as the dinner dances.

January 28th was the first general meeting of 2015. Members were treated to a dinner of spaghetti and meat balls provided by the board members. The main discussion of the evening was the upcoming polenta dinner dance to be held on March 7th. Debbie Piro, chairperson for the event, chose a circus theme "Under the Big Top". The attire is to be clown costumes or bright colored clothing. There will be carnival games and face painting for the children. Anyone interested in attending should contact Liz Donaldson 408-266-3833.

June 28th is the date of our branch's 50th anniversary. Mass will be at 11:30 A.M. Lunch is to be at the Three Flames. More details to come.

God Bless,

Rosemary Janis

San Jose

St. Martin of Tours, Br. 391

Dinner was a warm and delicious bowl of minestrone soup, salad and rustic bread. It was a healthy way to start the new year after a bountiful Christmas Season.

Our new branch President, Russ Vento, lead the meeting. Congratulations Russ and all of our new and current officers!

Mike Rossi, our past Central Council President and life member, presented the Heritage Report on his trip to the Holy Land with Marcie Rossi, Father George, and other Catholics from various parishes. It was a spiritual and thoughtful presentation.

Jessie Romero updated us on our Valentine's Fundraiser on Feb. 7th. It is our major fundraiser that will fund several charities that we support. We hope to see you there!

Ciao,

Bianca

Sunnyvale

Resurrection, Br. 408

Please remember to mail in your dues statements for 2015. More than half of our Members have already mailed in their dues – Thank you – only a few more to go.

Installation of 2015 Br 408 Officers was held at Saint Martin of Tours on Jan 10th in a beautiful Mass Presided by Fr. George Arahna. A very nice Luncheon was held at the Three Flames Restuarant on Meriden. (Remember next year Br 408 hosts the three district events – Installation, Bishop's Day and the District Christmas Party).

Branch 408 will host it first Quartely Communion Breakfast at the 8:30 AM Mass on January 18th. The 8:30 AM Mass Intention will be held for Alice Fritsch – a long time member and supporter.

Our next ICF Blood drive will be held on the 8th of February. Please pray for donors.

Branch 408 will kick off the Parish Lenten Soup on Friday 20 February – We will need 10 soups for distribution to the Parish after the Stations of the Cross.

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

Morgan Hill

Santa Caterina D'Alessandria, Br. 435

A new year has started and we are all hoping for a happy, healthy, and blessed year in the months to come.

We are diligently trying to keep our faithful members happy and would love to welcome more members to Branch 435.

Don't be shy, invite friends, relatives, children etc. to come to our delicious, reasonably priced dinners every 3rd Thursday of the month.

Our next dinner meeting will be held Jan.15th. We will be serving Polenta with many more goodies. We are also making plans for the St Joseph table which we have done in the past Possible date is March 21st. More information will follow. Please keep Nancy Morabito in your prayers. Let's hope she continues improving every day.

God bless,

Donna Basilin



(Above) Branch 18 Christmas lunch.

(Right) Frank and Edith Regan at the Christmas lunch.

Santa Rosa

Santa Rosa,

Santa Rosa, Br. 18

We have a 2015 Calendar of events; a mix of good works, good food and people of good will, an unbeatable combination. As an excellent start to the year we are welcoming three new members with more to come. Hooray Branch 18 !. Please pray for our Branch Deputy Louise Vicino's son-in-law who recently suffered a serious auto accident. Our get-well prayers are also offered for Carmella Hanson, Assunta Brunamonti and Doreen O'Rourke's brother, John Kennedy who has served as our faithful bartender for our Dinner Dances. Congratulations Doreen O'Rourke, winner of our District President's award. The other winner, Ken Marshall, Branch 12. Both winners are outstanding in their community service. Congratulations to Edie and Frank Regan, recently celebrating their 70th wedding anniversary. Thank you for setting a fine example for all.

Healdsburg

St. Frances de Sales, Br. 52

Congratulations to Olivia Lippincott who won our raffle for the Nativity Scene! Thank you to everyone who bought tickets.

Thank you to Richard Passalacqua and his crew for cooking the delicious Polenta Dinner on January 17. Photos from the Crazy Hat Contest will be in the March Bollettino. This was our last Polenta Dinner of the season. You'll have to wait until November, for the next one.

Upcoming Events:

Feb. 10: Branch meeting, 7 PM at the Rectory. (note change of date)

March 3: Branch Meeting, 7 PM at the Rectory.

March 27: Our 1st Annual Fish Fry. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending. More details, next month. Price: \$20.00 for adults. \$10.00 for children 6 – 12, under 5, free. Reservations a must by calling Mary Madden 431-0438, Nancy Seppi 433-4708, or Karla Lippincott 237-1308.

If you haven't paid your 2015 dues, yet, please send them to Susan Matheny. We'd like to have all members paid in full by the end of March. As of February, 85% of our members have paid their dues. Thank you! Our members range in age from Josephine Camaur, who recently celebrated her 100th birthday, to Valentina Saini, 2 months old.



Please remember Frances Gaddini in your prayers, as she recovers from a knee injury.

Happy Valentine's Day!

Lauren Kilcullen

Cloverdale

L'Annunciata, Br. 75

Our Parish Hall was flooded in December, but thanks to Father Fergal and a great parish management team, we were high and dry in time for our Christmas party at which time we gathered items for Wallace House, our local homeless shelter. Wallace House board member, Robert Bauer, graced us with his presence and Robert Aquistapace led us in a special prayer to bless both the donated gift items and the lives of those to whom these gifts would go.

Happy New Year to all!

Special Christmas gifts came to our Branch in the form of Raul and Kathy Arreguin and Celeste Fernandez who joined our ranks at the last meeting. Celeste will be bringing in some special "kid power" through her association with the youth group that her daughter, Ariana, has started in our parish. They will be making napkin rings for our January 31st Officer's Installation Mass/Luncheon and have volunteered to serve and clean-up.

You are always welcome to join us at our regular Dinner/Meeting the third Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m.. This Thursday, January 15th, Laurice Levine, the Thalassemia Outreach Coordinator from Children's Hospital, will be our guest. Many of you have met this vibrant young woman whose prognosis was to not live very far into her teens. Now, strong and active in her early forties, I cannot wait to introduce



Branch 390 President Lucy Orsi surrounded by Mr. and Mrs. Claus at Branch 390 Christmas dinner.

8:00 am at the Maze Blvd. Church

Coming up:

Feb 11 – 7:00 pm - Meeting St. Stanislaus Hall 7 & K Streets Modesto

Feb 15 – District meeting – Tracy

Mar 11 - 7:00 pm - Meeting St. Stanislaus Hall 7 & K Streets Modesto

Mar 15 – 2:00 pm St. Joseph’s Table Stanislaus Hall 7 & K Streets Modesto

Mar 28 - Bishop’s Dinner Mass 1200 Maze Blvd – Dinner Community Center

Cecelia McGhee

Manteca

N.S. Del Buon Viaggio, Br. 139

The Holidays are over and we are back to normal. The Installation of our officers in Modesto went quite well. We had 10 Central Council members present. We would like to thank them for coming and participating in the ceremony. We felt very honored to have so many of them there. We realize that some, if not all, come a long way. Thank you so much! We want to thank Cecelia McGhee for taking care of all the necessary procedures such as; securing the Church and reception hall, decorating the hall and having a great caterer serve us the meal. Everything was so well organized.

Our club will be preparing the Lenten Soup Supper on Monday, February 23rd. We will need volunteers to cut up the vegetables for the Minestrone Soup.

The Tracy Branch will host the Stockton District of the ICF meeting on Sunday, February 15th, at St. Bernard’s in Tracy. Our members should try to attend. It is very informative and they serve a delicious lunch.

Our meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 24th, at 6:30 pm in the school cafeteria. Dinner will be served as usual for a modest fee of \$6.00. Please try to attend and support our new officers. We will be discussing the fundraiser, All you can eat Shrimp Dinner. It will be held on May 2, 2015 in the Gym. So save the date and start thinking about raffle prizes. Hope to see you all there. Let’s have another great year!

Let us all prayer for peace. Remember our dearly departed and pray for speedy recovery to all our sick members.

Ida Queirolo

Stockton

St. Bernard, Br. 390

Members greeted the New Year 2015 with a trip to Modesto for the Stockton District Installation of Officers. Branch 390 officers are: President Lucy Orsi, 1st VP Joe Bacchetti, 2nd VP Alena Chappell, Record Secretary Anita Ridolfi, Orator and Correspondence Secretary Betty Hollars, Financial Secretary Annette Elissagaray, Treasurer Serena Martocchio, Trustees Rita Baretta, Letty Fornasero, Mary Gualco, Sentinel Al Trabini, Branch Deputy Marilyn Amoral, District Deputy Karen Rosson. Next date on the busy calendar was the January 29th monthly dinner meeting. Members and their guests feasted on the ever-popular polenta with chicken cacciatore, vegetables, tossed green salad and a wide selection of desserts. All new members were initiated at this meeting and greeters welcomed them with fun conversation. A raffle followed with wonderful prizes and everyone left fully satisfied. At a later date committee positions were designated: Steve Ridolfi will head up Heritage, Annette Elissagaray will run Scholarship, Pat Reeves will be in charge of “Sunshine” notes. We have also named district delegates as Joe Bacchetti, Pat Reeves and Betty Hollars. Serena Martocchio has joined the district as an officer.

On Sunday, February 15, Tracy Branch 390 will host the Stockton District meeting at 1:00 in Father Fleming Hall at St. Bernard’s Church. The menu selected is going to be Italian breaded chicken, penne pasta Alfredo, asparagus, tossed green salad, bread and butter. A wide assortment of deserts will finish off this gourmet meal.

Plans and meetings are now underway for the biggest fundraiser at St. Bernard’s which is the annual Gala celebration. ICF members are the largest volunteer group every year, giving their time, talents and artistic creativity to this beautiful event, preparing food, decorating and creating a room with a beautiful theme: God Bless America - a very timely selection.

Sadly, on January 4, Branch 390 lost another charter member. Gilda Emhoff, 93, who was born on September 18, 1921 in Samolaco, Italy, died surrounded by her family. She lived in Tracy for 65 years, was married to her husband Albert for 63 years and, in 1991, they were named Tracy Family of the Year. As noted here in a previous issue, her husband died on October 8, 2014 at the age of 100. We send our heartfelt condolences to her family and thank them for their loyalty and service to ICF.

Ciao for now,

Betty Hollars

Stockton

Church of the Presentation, Br. 395

We hope everyone had a very Merry and Blessed Christmas. Our December meeting was our annual Christmas Luncheon. We enjoyed a delicious lunch of raviolis, baked chicken, salad, bread, wine and an array of delicious desserts made by members. It was well attended. 15 of our officers/members went to the Stockton District Installation of Officers on January 4, hosted by Branch 48 at St. Stanislaus Church in Modesto. Branch 395 is now very busy planning our annual Polenta/Chicken Cacciatore Dinner to be held on Thursday, February 12. Get your tickets early by contacting Josephine Weber, Branch President. This is a sell-out event every year.

Upcoming events:

February 12- Thursday Polenta Dinner – Community Center - 5:00

February 15 Sunday - District Meeting – Tracy hosting

March 12 – Branch meeting - 6:00 pm

March 29 – Saturday – Bishop’s Burse – Modesto hosting

May 3 Sunday – District meeting – Our branch to host, 1:30 Guadalupe Hall

We wish you a healthy new year and your branches a productive 2015.

Josephine Weber, President

Branch 395, Stockton, CA

Angels Camp

St. Patrick, Br. 413

Hello from the foothills! Our branch is putting on a Prime Rib Dinner for St. Valentine’s Day. Dancing to live music is also allowed with the ticket. The meal is \$25 per person, and children 12 and under get in free for a delicious hot dog meal. There will be a no host bar, but don’t worry, dessert is free with your paid dinner. Bring your sweetheart to this festive evening, and treat her/him to a wonderful meal and a fun evening with the members of Branch 413. If you don’t like to drive in the dark, there are some very nice hotels with reasonable prices in City of Angels Camp. We hope to see you here!

February will also bring our Lenten Soup/Pasta Suppers. Father Rolli or Father John Paul will lead us in the Stations of the Cross after the meal. We will make these meals every Friday through Lent, until Good Friday. These keep our members busy, and get us closer to our Parish friends.

Right now, the grass here is a beautiful green, and it covers the hills like a soft blanket. May God continue to bless our state with rain, so that in the dry summer days we will not suffer through another drought.

We pray for all our ICF Families and friends. Please keep Ron and Amy Schmid in your prayers, as they are dealing with serious illness. God bless.

Ciao,

Annette Pachinger for

Robert Pachinger, Correspondence Secretary

Tucson

Green Valley

Our Lady of the Valley, Br. 425

Our Jan. 8 Potluck Dinner meeting was called to order by incoming President JoAnne Sapp. We were led in a special meeting prayer by Marianne Falconer. Three new members were inducted, Jeanne Gibeau and Carol and Bill Gill. Last month, there were five new members inducted. Br. 425’s recruiting drive is producing results.

Meeting focus shifted to organizing for our major fundraiser, a sit-down or take-out Lasagna Dinner scheduled for Saturday, February 7th. Last year more than 400 dinners were served... roughly equally divided. That’s more than fifty trays of Lasagna.

Bishop’s Day is February 21st. Branch 425 is hosting the gathering...members are encouraged to participate in this early evening event with Bishop Kincanis.

Membership are encouraged to support Branch 434’s Annual fundraiser dinner on January 31st. The event benefits the 8th graders at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

Barbara Barton, reporting

ICF Hospitalization Plan

Annual Cost – Only \$25

Eligibility – ICF members who join before their 65th birthday

Benefits

- \$75 per use of operating room in hospital or surgical center
- \$50-1st day, \$25-2nd day, \$10 each day thereafter per hospital stay
- \$500 per calendar year/\$500 per illness

Features

- Membership continues beyond the age of 65 yrs. old
- Payments are made directly to you
- No medical examination is required to join
- Claims are accepted up to 1 year after hospital stay and/or surgical procedure

To apply now, visit our website www.icf.org or call

1-888-ICF-1924

The Ways and Means Committee announces
the Theme for the 2016 Fundraiser Calendar as:

“ Famous and Infamous Italian Americans Who Have Contributed to the Shaping of America”

The Ways and Means Committee will be planning and
designing the 2016 Calendar.

Included in the calendar will be pictures, biographies and
anecdotes about famous, (and infamous), Italian Americans.

We invite you to participate in several ways: First, share
special stories or biographies of your favorite Italian
American in history. You can research and provide
information and pictures if you wish, or just submit a name,
and we'll do the research! We will pick the most popular 12
names submitted.

We also invite you to participate in the listing of not only
birthdays

(yourself, your children, grandchildren, parish priests and
chaplains, or even friends) but also anniversaries (weddings,
Branch founding, Priest's ordinations, etc.) You may include
your branch and district events as well.

The price schedule will be as follows:

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

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

*The deadline for the names and payments will be
May 1, 2015*

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

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

The Committee thanks you for your continued support!

Chairperson: Lisa Crudo

and Members: Franklyn Lopes Jr., and Leonard Rossi

For questions, please call the I.C.F office at (510) 633-9058 or Lisa
Crudo (510) 861-9835

College Scholarship Deadlines are March 15!

Be sure to have any 2015
high school graduate in your
life fill out the application.

This Ad Space Could Be Yours!

Find out how to
place your
business
advertisement
here by calling the
ICF
Office:
888-ICF-1924

Important Announcement!

You Might NOT Qualify for a Reverse Mortgage after March 2, 2015!

Starting March 2, 2015, HUD, the governmental body that regulates Home
Equity Conversion Mortgage (HECM) also known as a Reverse Mortgage
insured loan, will require a Financial Assessment of all applicants.
This will include a review and analysis of your income and credit status.
This Financial Assessment could result in less cash available at closing
or possibly not qualifying at all.

Currently, a HECM has minimal income and credit qualifications.
The basics require you to be at least 62 years of age, own and occupy
the home as your primary residence.

Qualify for a Reverse Mortgage before March 2, 2015

Call me today at 408-297-0000 before the new Financial
Assessment requirement takes effect. I can answer all your
questions about a Home Equity Conversion Mortgage (HECM),
these new requirements, and assist you with the application
process. There's no obligation, just the opportunity to unlock the
equity in your home and make the most of your life.

Dan Casagrande
Local Reverse Mortgage Expert

NMLS#561104 NMLS#107636

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



CALL ME Today
408-297-0000

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

ICF # 227 - Member

