

IN TOUCH

Italian Catholic Federation

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District Deputy Newsletter

January 2009

Jim Jones, Deputy Program Director (408) 970-9711 jim@custompad.com

A MESSAGE TO ALL DEPUTIES

It is my wish that you have a wonderful New Year. 2009 should be an exciting year for the Federation and I want to thank you for the time you spend working with the Districts and Branches.

As a Deputy, you hold the important job of being a Mentor. You are someone who has seen it all before and you can share hard-won experience and teach valuable lessons.

You can help the Presidents and their officers conduct business smoothly and efficiently.

Give your Deputy Report but also spend time, one on one, with the President. Make suggestions that have worked for you and been successful at the District and Branch levels.

Mentoring is a great skill and can be an enjoyable experience.

BY-LAWS AND RITUALS

Your By-Laws and Ritual Committee, chaired by Richard Valli, C.L.J., is asking the Branches if the Italian Catholic Federation Rituals should be changed.

We have heard opinions on both sides of the question. We are looking at the Opening Ceremony, the Initiation of New Members and the Installation of Officers.

We would like to know how the membership feels about this. Please discuss this with your President at your next meeting.

SPECIAL EVENTS INSURANCE

If a District or Branch is sponsoring a special event where you anticipate an attendance of more than 500 people or it will last for more than 5 days, special event insurance coverage will need to be obtained. This does not apply if you are taking part in an event that is hosted by another organization.

Please call the I.C.F. office if you are in need of such coverage or want more information.

BISHOPS' DAYS 2009

This year I want to encourage all Districts and Branches to start early preparing for their Bishop's Day.

Plan special fundraisers to increase the Bishop's Burse donations from the Branches. Your Bishop's Burse is a win-win situation in your Diocese. We need more priests to do our Lord's work and the donations really help.

Start early to encourage more members to attend Bishop's Day. Our presence shows our Bishops respect, support and appreciation.

If you start early, I guarantee that more members will show up at your Bishop's Day.

Please pray for our Seminarians. They need our prayers to complete their work. I have one more request. Invite Seminarians to your Bishop's Day.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The Public Relations Committee is asking that the Branches start early to submit names for the 5 Awards to be given out at Convention: Pope John XXIII, Grand President's, Family of the Year, Mother Teresa and Young Adult Leadership Awards.

The deadline is May 1, 2009. When you receive the application forms, please read them completely. The Central Council Public Relations Committee has made a few changes in the forms.

We are also asking those members that write the article for the Bollettino to send them in by e-mail. This will help to speed things up, save expense of having to re-write the articles and allows the Editor to communicate earlier with the

P.R. person in the Branch if she has a question. We realize that some Branches do not have a P.R. person with a computer or computer skills. Write your article as you usually do and ask a friend to send the article in using their computer. That way you visit a friend and at the same time help the Bollettino Editor.

Michelle Feldman's home phone is (925) 693-0471, home office and fax number (925) 693-0472. E-mail at home - amfeld131@yahoo.com. E-mail at I.C.F. office - editor@icf.org.

Michelle is also asking for copies of District or Branch cookbooks to put recipes in the Bollettino.

I.C.F. CALENDARS

Please encourage the Branches to continue selling calendars. Branches should return unsold calendars immediately to the office, so they can be distributed to Branches that can sell them.

WORKSHOPS

Please contact me if you would like to schedule a Deputy Workshop for the Deputies in your District.

WANT TO BE A DEPUTY?

Please keep an eye out for individuals who can serve as a Branch Deputy. Many members will not come forward and volunteer to be a Deputy. However, I have noticed that when a member is asked to serve as a Deputy he/she more than likely accepts the invitation.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DEPUTIES TO SPEAK ON AT BRANCH MEETINGS

- Membership Retention and Payment of Dues.
- Make sure that a list of the newly elected District/Branch Officers is sent to the I.C.F. office.
- Make sure each Branch has a published yearly calendar of events that has been given to every member and encourage each President to have Chairpersons for all Branch Committees.
- Encourage all Branch members to attend the District Installation of Officers. Insist that all Officers, or a Representative, attend the District Installation of Officers' Ceremony.
- Information on our Scholarship Program has been mailed to all of the high schools where the Federation is located. Encourage Branches to contribute at least one full scholarship if they have the means. Partial scholarship donations are also accepted and encouraged. Encourage members who have children or grandchildren who are high school seniors and meet the criteria to apply. March 15th is the deadline for donations and applications.

•Encourage Branches to increase donations to the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Year and Italian Studies Scholarships this year. The need is great for our advanced Scholarship Program.

•Encourage members to make contributions to the Providenza Seminary Fund, Cooley's Anemia, Gifts of Love and Scholarship Programs. Donation cards are available through the I.C.F. office or printed in the Bollettino.

•Remind Branches to: pay the Per Capita Tax when the bill is received. Consider now how to have sufficient funds (try fundraisers) to send their Delegates to the Convention this year over Labor Day Weekend.

MEMBERSHIP AS OF 12/31/08 BY DISTRICT

Gain/Loss since 6/30/08

Santa Clara Valley	1604	+ 6
Central Coast	1477	0
Fresno	1196	+30
San Mateo	1131	- 3
Santa Rosa	918	- 1
Contra Costa	738	+24
Los Angeles	730	- 7
East Bay	645	+22
San Francisco	559	-12
Chicago	525	+ 1
Blessed Sacrament	521	- 1
San Diego	507	+ 8
Stockton	484	-11
San Gabriel Valley	290	- 8
Marin	282	+ 6
Santa Barbara/Ventura	256	-11
San Bernardino	228	+ 9
Orange	214	- 8
San Fernando Valley	162	-29
Tucson	127	+11
Las Vegas	66	0
Reno	67	+ 1

Total membership as of 12/31/08 **12,727**

New members	397
Reinstated	2
Cancelled/Non Payment	257
Deceased	115
Delinquent 6 – 8 months	32
Delinquent 9 – 12 months	361