

IN TOUCH

Italian Catholic Federation

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District Deputy Newsletter

October 2008

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ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Convention is over, your Delegates should be inspired, hopefully they have given their reports to the Branch members and now it is time to think about the Election of Officers in October.

As a Deputy, you can be very helpful during the election process. I would encourage secret ballots as opposed to a hand vote.

- Each office is nominated and voted on one at a time, starting with the highest office.
- An opportunity for nominations from the floor must be given for each office. Ask three (3) times for nominations from the floor for each of the offices.
- Nominations do not require a second.
- Contested offices must be voted on by secret ballot before continuing. This allows unsuccessful candidates to run for another office if they choose. Have ballots and pencils available. Uncontested offices should be voted by white ballot at the end of the election.
- Remember, the member must be present to be nominated and elected. If a candidate is unable to be present, a letter declaring their intention to run may be accepted.
- Candidates must be in good standing with their dues and a Presidential candidate must be a member of the I.C.F. for 6 months prior to the election.
- If a Branch is having difficulties filling the Presidential Office, there is no rule against having Co-Presidents. You can also combine Financial Secretary and Treasurer and elect one to three Trustees.
- The new officers shall assume office on January 1st.

Make sure you keep in touch with Branches to check if they are having any problems in getting a full slate of officers. Remind Branches to send a list of their new officers to the I.C.F. Office by December 1st.

I.C.F. CALENDARS

The 2009 Calendars were passed out at Convention. The recipes for Italian Pasta Sauces (Gravy) are priceless. Did you know that Fr. Dan Cardelli, our I.C.F. Spiritual Director, has his Mother's pasta sauce recipe in the Calendar? I understand this recipe is delicious. Be sure to try it. Buy the Calendars for Gifts to be given out at Christmas and other special occasions. Five dollars (\$5.00) of ever Calendar sold remains with the Branch. This can be a great fundraiser for the Branch.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Question: "Are your Branches getting involved in the Church's Youth Ministry?" Encourage them to do so.

We have a lot to offer our youth. Recommend that each Branch talk to their Church's Youth Minister to see if there is anything they can do to help the program. If the Church has a Boy's Scout or Girl's Scout Troop, support their fundraisers. Allow them to attend a meeting to talk for 5 – 10 minutes about their activities. This can be a great learning experience for these young people to speak publicly. Ask the Youth Minister if members of the Youth Group can be asked to help at fundraisers to set-up, serve and clean-up. Be role models for the youth at your Churches.

SUNSHINE CLUB

Many Branches have a Sunshine Committee to send out cards to sick members, members and families who lost loved ones, congratulatory cards and thank you cards.

Members should also consider a call to those members who are living alone or that haven't

attended a meeting for a while. I was recently told that it really helps during a difficult time.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

In the next couple of months, encourage Branches to participate in a Membership Drive. Presidents can arrange with their Pastors for time at the Masses to speak about the Italian Catholic Federation. A two minute Mass script is available that really works.

After Mass, a table should be set up at the back of the Church with I.C.F. Brochures, Italian cookies and a few members to answer questions. Take down names and then call them to invite them to the next meeting. Follow-up is very important.

We have people available to go to the Churches to speak on behalf of the Branches. You and your Branch Deputies can help or call me at (408) 970-9711 or (408) 978-7615. You can also call Membership Chairperson Roselyne Jarrett at (925) 957-0269.

WANT TO BE A DEPUTY?

Deputies are needed. Please ask your Branch and District members to encourage volunteers. It truly is a rewarding experience.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DEPUTIES TO SPEAK ON AT BRANCH MEETINGS

- Hopefully, Delegates returned to their Branches and reported on the events at the great Convention held in Garden Grove. Emphasis on the Charitable Programs is important. Our I.C.F. National Charity remains Cooley's Anemia - encourage donations.
- Encourage members to accept an office, especially new or young members, as elections are held.
- Encourage the use of a Nominating Committee to seek out qualified officers.
- New Presidents should be encouraged to try to secure Committee Chairpersons early and begin forming a yearly Calendar of Events.
- Encourage sales of the Calendars.
- Congratulate Branches on their participation in this year's Scholarship Program. Always encourage Branches to also participate in the 2nd, 3rd and 4th year programs as well, even if they can only make partial donations.
- Please urge Branches to actively recruit and retain members. Each member should bring in a new member this year.
- If a Branch does not already have a Christmas celebration, encourage them to consider holding one. Christmas is an excellent time to introduce families to the Federation.

MEMBERSHIP AS OF 9/30/08 BY DISTRICT

		Gain/Loss since 6/30/08
Santa Clara Valley	1587	- 11
Central Coast	1495	+18
Fresno	1187	+21
San Mateo	1137	+ 3
Santa Rosa	924	+ 5
Contra Costa	739	+25
Los Angeles	736	- 1
East Bay	635	+12
San Francisco	565	- 6
Blessed Sacrament	536	+14
Chicago	535	+11
San Diego	511	+12
Stockton	495	0
San Gabriel Valley	290	- 8
Marin	281	+ 5
Santa Barbara/Ventura	270	+ 3
San Bernardino	221	+ 2
Orange	213	- 9
San Fernando Valley	181	- 10
Tucson	129	+13
Las Vegas	66	0
Reno	66	0

Total membership as of 9/30/08 **12,799**

New members	242
Reinstated	0
Cancelled/Non Payment	86
Deceased	57
Delinquent 6 – 8 months	25
Delinquent 9 – 12months	607

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

If you need to contact Michelle Feldman, the I.C.F. Bollettino Editor, her e-mail address is editor@icf.org or at home amfeld131@yahoo.com.

If you need to contact Patty Smith for accounting issues her e-mail is accounting@icf.org or if you need to contact Charlene Kramer at the I.C.F. Office her e-mail is admin@icf.org or info@icf.org.

Wishing you God's blessings as the end of the year approaches.