

IN TOUCH

Italian Catholic Federation

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District Deputy Newsletter

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LET'S KEEP OUR MEMBERS

The primary concern of every Branch should be to renew everyone's membership in their respective Branches. We must continue to attract new members, but keeping those that we have is an equally important goal. As time marches on, it gets harder and harder to renew delinquent members, and they ultimately become cancellations. I ask every Branch Deputy to speak on member retention and to suggest ways in which the members can be approached. This is not easy, but it is the most pressing problem that we have been facing for the past 10 years. Let's make every branch's goal to keep all of its members and to show an increase in membership.

I.C.F. CALENDARS

A big thank you to all those Deputies who encouraged members to sell the I.C.F. Calendars. As you know, everyone profits with the sale of each calendar. On behalf of the Central Council, I want to extend our appreciation for promoting this program. If you have any ideas for the Future Calendar, please let me know.

WORKSHOPS

Deputy Workshop - Please contact me if you would like to schedule a Deputy Workshop for the Deputies in your District. It is a great way to build camaraderie with your Deputies and to help answer their questions about the Deputy Program.

District Workshop - The Workshop Committee is available to conduct a Workshop for your District members. The general topic of the Workshops is

Membership. If your District is interested, please contact the Workshop Chairperson Jim Jones at (408) 978-7615 or contact the I.C.F. office to forward a message to Jim.

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. So, if you notice a person who enjoys the Federation, approach him/her about becoming a Deputy. You may be surprised when the answer is YES!!!

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Encourage Branches to participate in this year's Membership Drive. The top four Branches in each of four categories receive a cash award of \$100.00. The Branches placing 2nd and 3rd each receive \$50.00. The top Individual Recruiter will receive \$200.00. Every member that recruits 10 or more members will receive \$25.00. The Branch recruiting the most New Family Memberships will receive \$100.00. The District with the highest net gain will receive a plaque.

RV TRAVELERS GROUP

Did you know that several I.C.F. members get together in the Spring and Fall for RV rallies? The next rally is planned for Chula Vista, CA from April 26 - 29, 2006. If you know members who may be interested in RV fun, please have them contact Al Bernardi in Green Valley, AZ at (520) 648-0282.

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DEPUTIES
TO SPEAK ON AT
BRANCH MEETINGS**

Membership Retention and Payment of Dues.

Make sure that a list of the newly elected 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. Deputies should speak on this important program and encourage Branches to contribute at least one full scholarship but partial donations are also accepted and encouraged. Encourage members who have children or grandchildren who are seniors and meet the criteria to apply. March 15th is the deadline for donations and applications.

Encourage the members to make contributions to the Providenza Seminary Fund, Cooley's Anemia and Gifts of Love Programs. They can use the donation cards that 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 12/31/05
BY DISTRICT**

		Gain/Loss since 6/30/05
Santa Clara Valley	1583	+32
Central Coast	1467	+28
San Mateo	1185	+12
Fresno	1141	- 19
Santa Rosa	968	0
Los Angeles	785	- 2
Contra Costa	714	+ 6
San Francisco	707	- 11
East Bay	690	- 20
Blessed Sacrament	617	- 45
San Diego	595	+ 1
Stockton	501	+ 6
Chicago	463	- 6
San Gabriel Valley	323	+16
San Fernando Valley	310	- 7
Marin	296	+12
Santa Barbara/Ventura	292	+ 6
Orange	258	- 12
San Bernardino	247	0
Reno	83	- 3
Las Vegas	71	+ 3
Tucson	41	0

Total membership as of 12/31/05 **13,337**

New members	369
Reinstated	10
Cancelled/Non Payment	307
Deceased	119
Delinquent 6 – 8 months	42
Delinquent 9 – 12 months	339

Let's try to retain some of those delinquent members. Please make every effort to see that the Branches contact these members so that they can remain in the I.C.F. Family.

PRAY FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE.

BUON ANNO