Buon Anno! Happy New Year! Buon Anno! Happy New Year! Buon Anno!

Grand President’s Monthly Message
by Bob Basuino

2015? No, Really? Already? I cannot believe we are at the beginning of a New Year.
2014 was a very exciting year for the ICF and myself. Our 90th Anniversary with three wonderful Gala’s attended by many of our members. Our outstanding Strategic Planning retreat, and the first stages of the Strategic plan getting put into place.
Yes, we do have a way to go yet, but we are on the right path for success.
Our wonderful Convention in Oakland and, of course for me and my family, the birth of my fourth grandson Dean Basuino.
A big thank you, from the bottom of my heart, to all of the out-going officers of our branches and districts. All of your hard work has not gone unnoticed. Next, WELCOME to our new officers. New Officers please keep in mind that the Central Council is here to help you and we are only a phone call away. Please feel free to contact any one of us with any questions that you may have.
The other evening while I was doing some reading, I came across a very interesting quote from Bob Marley. Yes it is about the world, but I feel we as officers and members of the ICF need to keep this in mind. Marley stated, “When the power of love overcomes the love of power, the world will be a better place.” This is no different with the ICF than any other organization. We are here to serve our parishes and communities. We are not a part of the wonderful organization for the “power.” We are part of the ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION FOR THE POWER OF LOVE to everyone we come in contact with.
May 2015 bring all of you, your families, and our branches good health, prosperity, and much happiness!!
Buon Anno a Tutti !!!

Central Council Meeting Minutes
Saturday, October 18, 2014
Our Lady of Grace, Castro Valley, CA

BOLLETTINO EDITION
-The meeting was called to order at 1:00pm by Grand President Bob Basuino.
continued on page 7
Pancho and David at the Forum

Monsignor Daniel Cardelli
ICF Spiritual Director
ICFspiritDir@aol.com

Happy New Year to all ICF members... and those who wish they were! This month I want to share with you a recent experience I had as the ICF “Public Evesdropper.” “On my way to the Forum, much to my surprise, I came upon our own David Botta... doing what David does best, chatting up a fellow parishioner. In this case, it was Pancho McNiel. David: “Hi, my name is David Botta and I represent the Italian Catholic Federation. Would you like to join our group?”

Pancho McNiel: “Well, I’m not Italian.”

David: “You don’t have to be an Italian to be a member of the ICF. You just have to be a Catholic. We have a great organization. Wonderful people, wonderful outreach!”

Pancho M: “There are so many of these kinds of groups. What make the ICF so special?”

David: “Thanks for asking. The ICF was founded in 1924 to keep Italian immigrants close to their faith. That was 90 years ago, and the circumstances today are completely different. Now the ICF has evolved into an outreach group and participate in many wonderful charities. Our branches are located in Catholic dioceses California, Arizona, Nevada, and Illinois.”

Pancho M: “That’s interesting. What kind of charities? Tell me more.”

David: “Great! By joining a local branch, you will be joining a group of people who are excited about the idea of giving back. We are bonded by our faith, and our diverse heritages in many ways. We know that together we can accomplish more than one can alone. We are active in various cultural events throughout the country, support our local parishes, and provide various charities with financial and other support.”

Pancho M: “That sounds very good, but what does the ICF do specifically? Get to the point, David.”

David: “OK, OK. OK. The ICF actively promotes and fosters...”

* Cooley’s Anemia Research. This is the main charity supported by the ICF. It is called the Thalassemia/Cooley’s Anemia Program and is centered at Children’s Hospital Research Center in Oakland, CA. Since 1994, the ICF has donated $925,000 for this cause.

* College Scholarship Programs. Since 1964, the Italian Catholic Federation has awarded over $2,000,000 in scholarships to more than 6,000 high school graduates.

* The Providenza Fund. The ICF donates money to support seminarians in their formation to the priesthood.

* Gifts of Love. This is a financial assistance program that grants funds to developmentally disabled children and adults seeking to achieve greater independence in their lives.

* Organ Donor Awareness. The ICF promotes and encourages people to be organ donors.

Membership Retention -- Part 2

Forrest Price
CC Member Emeritus

The Role of the President – The President sets the tone for meetings. The President should be friendly and approachable. In the meetings, the President should be the leader, and should always treat others with respect.

The Role of Membership – The burden of having a successful branch does not fall on the shoulders of the officers alone. All members of a branch should take on the responsibility of helping to promote the ICF. Members should not forget their responsibilities as they participate in various events throughout the country.

The Role of Other Officers – The other branch officers also have an important role in the functioning of the branch. Although the performance of the 2nd Vice President, the Secretary and the Treasurer are of key importance, all of the officers, including Trustees, should communicate their duties. Secretaries need to present their minutes in a pleasant and audible voice; presenting the events of the previous meeting in a concise manner. Treasurers should also present their reports in an audible voice and in an organized manner. A pure recitation of a hodgepodge of numbers can frustrate the listener.

Also, the ideal general meeting would be followed by a meal and thereafter by a guest speaker or some form of entertainment. Also, the ideal general meeting would be followed by a meal and thereafter by a guest speaker or some form of entertainment. Also, the ideal general meeting would be followed by a meal and thereafter by a guest speaker or some form of entertainment.

The Role of Membership – The burden of having a successful branch does not fall on the shoulders of the officers alone. All members of a branch should be involved in volunteering to serve on committees, helping with special events and creating a special atmosphere at all events, including the meetings. Members should be part of a committee with others and respect and, especially making new members or prospective members feel welcome.

Members should also have contact with each other through various events and meetings throughout the year. Members should follow the “Golden Rule” in their dealings with one another.

Forrest Price, Central Council Member

Pancho M: “This is wonderful! I didn’t know the ICF was such a giving, caring organization. Your group does a lot of good.”

David: “You bet we do! We are proud of what we do for our charities. We also make sure we recognize people who make outstanding contributions to their communities. Every year, we give special awards to a select few who have made an extraordinary contribution to help others.”


David: “Well, we have quite a few.”

* Pope John XXIII Award. This is the highest award bestowed by the ICF. It goes to people who have been outstanding in their work for the ICF. The award is given to a person who has received at least 10 years of service to the ICF. The award is given to a person who has received at least 10 years of service to the ICF. The award is given to a person who has received at least 10 years of service to the ICF. The award is given to a person who has received at least 10 years of service to the ICF.

* Donor Honoree Award. This award is given to a person who has made a significant contribution to the ICF. The award is given to a person who has made a significant contribution to the ICF. The award is given to a person who has made a significant contribution to the ICF. The award is given to a person who has made a significant contribution to the ICF.

* Organ Donor Awareness. The ICF promotes and encourages people to be organ donors.

Membership Stats as of November 30, 2014:

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</table>

Forrest Price

The only email address to send things for the Bollettino is icfeditor@gmail.com.
January 2015

Mr. Cardelli continued from page 2

to a lay person of any denomination who exemplifies humanitarian service to society.

* Family of the Year Award. This award is given to an ICF family who demonstrates outstanding Christian service in their local community and parish.

* Grand President’s Award. This is bestowed on a member of the ICF for his or her commitment to furthering the ideals and aims of the organization.

* Mother Teresa Award. This award recognizes and honors a priest, nun, deacon, or brother for exemplary humanitarian work.

* Young Adult Leadership Award. This award has been established to recognize an ICF member who is 39 years old or younger and has demonstrated outstanding leadership abilities.

Pancho M: “Wow! I am really impressed. The ICF is a busy group, for sure.”

David: “Wait! There’s more! In this NEW YEAR, we are involved in a Strategic Plan. We’re taking a good, long look at ourselves to see how we can stay viable in the 21st century as the “New ICF.” We’re now a vibrant outreach Federation focused on service to our Church and our community. We’re also a fun-loving group. We celebrate everything with food, and we have our regular dinners and dances at the same time we raise funds for our charities and parishes. Everybody should know who we are and what we are doing. Pancho, the ICF is a great Federation! So, Pancho, what do you think about becoming a member?”

Pancho M: “I am amazed! I thought the ICF was just a social group for Italians. Now I see what the ICF is all about. Yes, yes, I want to be a part of this group. I want to help. How do I become a member?”

He tries to promote his idea to influential Italians in the Bay Area, but they give him little encouragement. Not one to give up easily, Luigi approaches local priests and finds an eager evangelical spirit. He teams up with Father Albert Bandini who actually provides the structure for this new organization. (more on Father Bandini in the next issue).

In 1924, Luigi and Father Bandini set themselves to work, assisted by a number of enthusiastic and dedicated priests and laypeople. On June 15, 1924, the first organizational meeting of what would become the Italian Catholic Federation takes place. Because this is to be a parochial society, the approval of the local bishop, Archbishop Edward J. Hanna, is necessary. Prior to coming to San Francisco, Archbishop Hanna had been the Bishop of Rochester, NY where he had worked with the Italian community and was well liked by them. In 1922, the King of Italy had bestowed on him the honor of Commander of the Order of the Crown of Italy for his solicitude for Italian immigrants. Archbishop Hanna is enthusiastic about this new organization, the ICF, and gives its approval in October 1924. Soon afterwards, the Italian Catholic Federation is incorporated and Branch #1 at the Immaculate Conception Church in San Francisco is formed with 300 members. The concept of the Federation quickly catches on and many more branches follow. Luigi and Father Bandini soon realize their goal of awakening a more intense Christian life among the Italian population of California.

The spirit and vitality of the organization continues to this day, not only among Italians, but many others who believe in the goals of the Italian Catholic Federation. For all of this, we are grateful to the vision of Luigi and Father Bandini.

He continues to this day.

Branching Out

by Anne Ingerrante

Branch 367, Las Vegas, Nevada offers its members an Interesting Spin on Bingo.

After business concludes at the monthly meeting, members form teams of four, two teams per table. Each team gets a deck of cards – 13 cards per person. A game caller also has one deck and shouts out numbers one by one. Players who have the called numbers, place them on the table. The first player who gets rid of their hand, wins a prize.

Members bring $1.00 wrapped gifts... nobody knows what these treasures could be until after they collect their winnings.

The game continues until the last prize is won and unwrapped. Now, another twist – there is still one more round to go and the final winner gets to steal a prize from previous winners.

This idea is definitely a crowd pleaser and encourages members to converse with each other, win prizes, and have a lot of fun in the process.

December Calendar Winners

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Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providence
Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations*

IN MEMORY OF: DONATED BY:
Nello Rossi Ms. Mary Zadra
Armandina Centurioni Officers/Members of the Central Council
Bruna Guidotti Officers/Members of Br. 45
Antonio Legarizzi Officers/Members of Br. 45
Dr. Ralph Isola Officers/Members of Br. 45
Virgil Petrocchi Officers/Members of Br. 45
William Keller Officers/Members of Br. 45
Nello Rossi David and Pat Botta
Jerry Caravelli David and Pat Botta
Armandina Centurioni David and Pat Botta
Armandina Centurioni Roselyne Jarrett
Tom Pollicita Franklyn Lopes, Jr.
Armandina Centurioni Mike and Marcie Rossi
Tom Pollicita Teresa and Cory Helfand
Tom Pollicita Giovanni and Nancy Corsi
Tom Pollicita The Kilcullen Family
Armandina Centurioni Bob and Kathy Acquistapace
Tom Pollicita Bob and Kathy Acquistapace
Albert Ranzani Officers/Members of Central Council
Nello S. Rossi Marty and Maria Cario
Fr. Frank Piro Mike and Marcie Rossi
Fr. Frank Piro David and Pat Botta
Fr. Frank Piro Joan and Jerry Delfino
Rena Valloriz Jim and Janice Jones
Fr. Frank Piro Jim and Janice Jones
Armandina Centurioni Jim and Janice Jones
Tom Pollicita Diana Petrolino
Armandina Centurioni Brenda Hughes
Fr. Frank Piro Elise, John, Steve, Michael, Patty and Mary Anne Guontoli
Fr. Frank Piro Bob and Antoinette Dal Porto and Family
Thomas Pollicita Robert and Theresa Dianda
Army Centurioni Jane Dianda
Armandina Centurioni Officers/Members of Br. 367
Nello Rossi Diana Petrillo
Armandina Centurioni Brenda Hughes
Fr. Frank Piro Elise, John, Steve, Michael, Patty and Mary Anne Guontoli
Fr. Frank Piro Bob and Antoinette Dal Porto and Family
Thomas Pollicita Robert and Theresa Dianda
Army Centurioni Jane Dianda
Armandina Centurioni Officers/Members of Los Angeles
Archdiocese District
Nello Rossi Lisa Crudo
Armandina Centurioni Lisa Crudo
Fr. Frank Piro Lisa Crudo
Albert Teglia Lisa Crudo
Albert Ranzani Lisa Crudo
Tom Pollicita Roselyne Jarrett
Nello Rossi Irene Sarubbi
Josephine Hoxon The Kilcullen Family
Fr. Frank Piro Jacquelyn Kivley
Chana Portillo Jim and Janice Jones
Chana Portillo Joe and Betty Azzuz
Fr. Frank Piro Stephanie Lucich
Louise Isola Officers/Members of Br. 290

GET WELL WISHES:
Charles Vescovitch Aline Amatisto
Kathy Acquistapace Franklin Lopes, Jr.
Dan Casagrande Franklin Lopes, Jr.
Fr. George Arama Mike and Marcie Rossi
Rev. Msgr. Joseph Milan Bob and Elaine Orsorio
Teresa Helfand Officers/Members of Br. 392
Mrs. Dianne Vatalarie Officers/Members of Br. 367

THANK YOU:
Bob Basuino, Grand President Officers/Members of Los Angeles
Archdiocese Bishop’s Banquet Committee

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR INSTALLATION AS PASTOR:
Fr. Christopher Bennett (St. Christopher Church)
Lorraine and Mike Nunziata

HAPPY 100th BIRTHDAY:
Josephine Camauro The Kilcullen Family

*Named after the co-founder of the I.C.F., the Sir Luigi and Lady Augusta Providence 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 for the priesthood in dioceses where the Italian Catholic Federation is located. A monthly Mass is offered for the intention of those listed.
The ‘Why’ We Are in Business

Jim Jones
Past Grand President, Life Member Emeritus
Apostolic Committee Member

Dear Members,

It’s been quite a while since I’ve written an article for the Bollettino. When Franklin asked me to write this one for our Apostolic/Charity Program, I immediately said, “Yes.” There are two things I love to do, write and give a speech! (Most of you know that)
The Apostolic/Charity Program of the Italian Catholic Federation is our primary purpose and cause. It is the “Why” we are in business. The Central Council Apostolic/Charity Committee exists as a tool for the branches and the districts to inspire, motivate, and encourage them to embrace spirituality and charity which is a big part of our mission statement.

I would like to offer you the following ideas that have worked in other branches, districts and areas that you might try in the future to promote spirituality in your branch, district or area.

1. Contact a Seminary close to your district or area and ask them if you can visit them for a tour. At recent Bishop Days, I spoke to the Leaders of the Seminarians at St. Patrick’s in Menlo Park, Ca. and St. John’s in Camarillo, Ca. and they loved the idea of a tour through their facilities.

2. Adopt a Seminarian at your branch. Our Seminarians not only need our prayers, most could use our support. Ask them to come to your branch and give a report on their progress.

3. Schedule a Day or Night of Recollection. Ask your Chaplain or Pastor to put on a spiritual workshop and invite your entire District or Area to attend.

4. Schedule once a year a District Mass. The Santa Clara District holds an outside Mass at our Lady of Peace Church in June. Central Coast District also has an outside Mass in Chualar, Calif., a beautiful location just outside of Salinas. Have lunch after Mass.

5. Don’t forget your Quarterly Masses. This gives you the chance to attend and pray together as a branch. Make sure you prepare a script for the attending priest so that he can explain to the community that the ICF is in attendance and what we stand for. Make sure your Banner is prominently displayed in front of the church by the Altar. Arrange to have breakfast after Mass (separate checks of course) to break bread and socialize.

6. Attend the many Pilgrimages in your areas honoring our Saints, Saint Frances Cabrini, Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton and Saint Joseph on his special day.

7. Every year the San Mateo District puts on a Chaplains’ Night. This is a dinner to honor their branch Chaplains. The only hitch is that the Chaplains must work for their meal. They must either sing a song, tell a story, tell a joke, or play a musical instrument to get fed. Each branch President introduces their Chaplain and after the Chaplain works for his meal, the President gives the chaplain a small stipend in appreciation of his dedication to the branch. It is really a lot of fun.

8. Put on a special Spaghetti Feed to raise money for Cooley’s Anemia, Catholic Charities, the homeless in your communities or your branches personal charity. Make sure you publicize it in your local newspaper and Catholic Newspaper.

9. The last Charity on my list that we must all support is our Church, our Pastor, and our Catholic Faith. Please don’t take this request lightly. These are a few suggestions. Getting involved and servicing others is our purpose and our cause.

Jim Jones
Member of the Apostolic/Charity Committee

In Loving Memory

Report Date: 12/12/2014

CLORINDA ORLOVICH Branch 007
ALBERT RANZANI Branch 014
THOMAS R POLLCITA Branch 019
GENEVIEVE R VONNEGUT Branch 025
REV FRANK R PIRO Branch 039
THOMAS R POLLCITA Branch 039
JOSEPHINE HONN Branch 050
HORACE J RUSSO Branch 072
DONALD R GRANT Branch 103
LOUIS G VICINO Branch 127
ROSEMARY SIMERA Branch 145
LEO VANONI Branch 169
FRANCES MARTINEZ Branch 184
JOAN FREITAS Branch 186
CRESCENCIANA J PORTILLO Branch 191
GUADALUPE A PORTILLO Branch 191
ELSA M COOK Branch 195
DR MICHAEL KOLLER Branch 195
MARY SANTONI Branch 214
MARY L YAKAS Branch 258
ARMANDINA CENTURIONI Branch 362
BETTY B DILLANE Branch 391
RENA VALLORZ Branch 391
BETTY J HUBBARD Branch 417
JANET E SLAKEY Branch 417
GERALD CARAVELLI Branch 435

New Year

Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year.
~Ralph Waldo Emerson

Cooley’s Corner

Dear Grand President Bob Basuino, Central Council Members, ICF Staff, and ICF Members:

On behalf of the Thalassemia (Cooley’s Anemia) program at UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital Oakland, the Thalassemia Staff, and most especially the patients and families I want to express our deepest gratitude for your donations during the Christmas season. Your incredible generosity is inspiring!

I am continually amazed by the genuine care, love, and support displayed by the Italian Catholic Federation. The ICF has given so much to our patients and their families. Branches donated hundreds of toys, giftcards, and funds. I was so pleased to see a large ICF turnout at the Christmas party and I also want to extend my thanks to a couple of very dear people who made “special” appearances that evening.

Thank you for making our mission to provide comprehensive and specialized thalassemia care possible throughout the year. I would like to thank each and every branch, ICF Staff person, and ICF Member for their continued support of the Thalassemia Program.

Wishing you all a Happy, Healthy, and Peaceful New Year!

With Love and Warm Regards,
Laurice Levine, MA, CCLS
Senior Thalassemia Outreach Coordinator
Children’s Hospital Oakland
LLevine@mail.cho.org
510-428-3885, x 5427

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!

Cooley’s Anemia Donations

Donations received by December 10, 2014

Clancy and Nini Freitas
In memory of Thomas R. Pollicita
Lisa Crudo
In memory of Tom Pollicita
Angelo Benassi
In memory of Nancy Ciacco
The Bernardi Family
In memory of Thomas R. Pollicita
Mary Mencarini and Family
In memory of Merline Mencarini
In memory of Thomas R. Pollicita
Brenda Hughes
In memory of Thomas R. Pollicita
Paul and Barbara Dompe
In memory of Tom Pollicita

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In memory of Nancy Ciacco
In memory of Nello Rossi
In memory of Matt Levine
In memory of Nancy Ciacco
In memory of Nello Rossi
In memory of Matt Levine
Comelli's father, Gervasio, decides to the 1920s-1980s. It begins in Nimis, along California’s north coast from back at life as an Italian American living perfectly. Comelli remembers, “When the love they had for their new country times for Italian-Americans, torn between enemy aliens during the war, and after Italian-Americans were declared during World War II. He describes life faced by Italians and Italian-Americans this passage captures Comelli’s writing.

Board included. In the mid 1950s, the salary work on the ranch in 1953 (I was sixteen ranceri were paid two dollars a day during the 1920s and the early 1940s. According to ranceri suffered through hard times in the lack of money is also a challenge for these everyday for very little money... “The vento will blow dirt and debris in my face. Next month, the rains will come; they will these fields. I am ankle-deep in mud, all I laments his lot in life: “I work everyday in the northern coast of California laments his lot in life: “I work everyday in fields. I am ankle-deep in mud, all I...” In Friuliano or singing Italian drinking wine, and conversing in Friuliano or singing Italian songs, the other kids and I would set off exploring through the trees, playing games and just talking.” In another chapter, Comelli recounts playing games with his friends and family. “The Degli Esposti’s arriving from Italy was a very fortunate happening. Now we could really have fun playing giochi, i.e. games. In fact, we now had enough kids (just about) to play team games. We started out with the simple Cowboys and Indians and gradually advanced to playing football and basketball. In between, we played our favorite game, Rubber Guns!” The book is filled with such stories of family and friends who share good times and adventures together.

Through family and friendships, these Italian immigrant families transverse the challenges of living in a new country and become successful. Their children become leading citizens and members of the community. For example, Comelli, himself, graduates from San Jose State College, earning a bachelor’s degree in policing, and serves 30 years with the San Jose Police Department. He retired from the Police Department in 1989 with the rank of Captain.

I would like to thank Norma Dinelli Wilson from Santa Cruz Branch 21 for sharing a copy of La Nostra Costa with me. Her generosity is much appreciated.

La Nostra Costa can be purchased as a paperback, hard back or e-book from the publisher’s website at http://bookstore.authorhouse.com or from major online retailers, such as Amazon.com or Barnes and Noble.
January 2015

Ways and Means Article

Lisa Crudo
Ways & Means Committee Chair

Happy New year from the Ways and Means committee. We have several events planned in the making stages for the upcoming year. I’d like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your continued support of this wonderful organization. The sales for the 2015 calendars are going well, and we hope there will be lots of winners among our members this year.

Hopefully you’ve seen the flyer regarding our plans for the design of 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 the creation of the calendar 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.

Another exciting event is our first (hopefully of many) ICF trip. A lovely 10 day cruise to Alaska. Aboard the beautiful Golden Princess. Leaving San Francisco on May 22, 2015. If interested there is still room available. Contact Julie Graham at: (925) 997-5922 or Click here for more information on the cruise: http://www.grahamgetaways.com/sailing/10-nights-princess-cruises-golden-princess-5-22-15. This is an easy and exciting way to raise money for the Italian Catholic Federation without doing anything but enjoying yourself! I believe we have a wonderful group of at least 12 members signed up, ready to enjoy the high seas.

Look for future information about our “Night’s for the Seminarians” events, and hopefully a wonderful surprise event next fall. There are lots of opportunities to raise money for our many different charities. I encourage you to keep donating to our charities for those special occasions and in memory of loved ones.

The Ways and Means Committee wishes all of you and your families a very happy and prosperous New Year. May God continue to bless you and Bless the ICF. Thank you for your generosity now and in years past!

Lisa Crudo, Leonard Rossi and Franklyn Lopes, Jr. - Ways and Means Committee

continued on page 8
Jerry Delfino spoke of Gifts of Love and how we pride ourselves on 100% going to the charity. Deborah Rodondi reported on the effect of the proposed fee on scholarship program—the fee would take most of the partial donations made by individuals through the year, since you would not be able to take the fee out of full scholarship donations. Deborah Rodondi felt that it would put an end to partial donations and donations made in honor/memory of individuals. Carmen Kilcullen agreed.

Pat Mages withdrew the motion.

David Botta stated amendment is still on the floor. Roselynne Jarrett withdrew amendment.

**Heritage-Jim Freibiel**

Parade float building: Sept 5th Santa Rosalia Festival and Oct. 11th Columbus Day Parade in SF

Put together a heritage letter to District and Branch for name of committee chair.

Possibly will be at Sutter Creek and the Feast of San Gennero in LA next year.

Heritage video to possibly go on website.

Bob Basuino thanked Jim Freibiel for supplying trailer and trucks for parades.

**Hospitalization – Nina Malone**

Trying to build up the plan. 409 current members.

As of September 30, 2014: BofA $29,863.68, UBS $869,838.44; Dues income $9,075.00; Claims $7,335.00

Committee made motion to transfer 30k (3.4%) from the Hospitalization funds to the general fund. Pat Mages made a motion to amend to 4% which would be $34,793 second by Roselynne Jarrett. Amendment PASSED. Motion PASSED.

Membership – Nina Malone

October 1 committee had a conference call meeting and met yesterday Oct 17.

Strategic plan: biggest task is retention.

Wants to design a membership drive.

Intends to focus on the younger members.

Liv.to Give - Jane Dianda

- Unit of blood can save 6 people.
- A branch in Contra Costa is having a blood drive tomorrow so far 20 are signed up and Laurice Levine has the goodie bags.

Public Relations – Anne Interrante and Lauren Killcullen reported for Vince Piro

This year the PR committee has assigned primary areas of responsibility to each committee member. Lauren Killcullen-the Bollettino; Anne Interrante-the website; BG Zasoski-operations and procedures manual; and Nettie Descalsdo-Del Nero- Public Relations.

Bollettino

The paper is to be reviewed for revisions and updating.

- New columns will be added to the paper, including Seminarian Focus and History of ICF.
- New features will be added to the paper, including a list of Central Council committee chairs twice a year and a What’s Due to ICF Office sidebar.
- Online subscriptions starting in December. Announcements will be made in paper and on Facebook when ready.

Website

- Website has been updated with new officer and CC member information. (Personal contact info not included for privacy reasons.)
- Two web designers have applied to replace Arthur Bloch. Committee will be meeting soon to review applications and make recommendation to Executive Committee. Richard Interantse is serving as interim web designer. Website will be redesigned and updated when new web designer is hired.

New Presidents’ Portal has been added to hold Quarterly “Mailings.”

Operations and Procedures Manual

BG Zasoski has created a first draft of the Public Relations Policy/Procedures for the Bollettino and Website.

Publicity/PR

Press releases are being sent to Italian American and Diocesan newspapers and organizations.

- We are sending the paper to seminarian libraries in the areas where the federation is established.
- Dante Galeazzi brought up again about the logo for the convention book being provided for all candidates to use on gift handouts, and when using an advertisement do not use a current CC member running.

Scholarship – Deborah Rodondi

- Trying to defray cost of mailing rather than mail out to the students who do not get a scholarship will try contacting them by email. Would save about $200 in postage alone.

Task Force – Leonard Zasoiski

- Committee procedures report due by the end of the year. Will be on ICF main computer and can be updated with changes.

Strategic Plan...now in the implementation part of the plan. Vince Piro will monitor the core value committees: Finance, membership, apostolic and leadership. 3 areas: Chicago, North and Southern California. Should have set up by the end of the year and to start going to branches and districts at the beginning of the year. Deputies are our eyes and ears.

Ways and Means – Lisa Crudo

Hoping to do 3 nights for the Seminarians, funds will go to the Providence fund.

In May there are 8 people signed up for the Alaska cruise.

Asking for CC’s help to sponsor a 1-day trip in their Districts as a CC fundraiser.

Ornaments still available.

- Looking to establish online shopping for aprons, t-shirts etc.
- July 24, 2015 will be next golf tournament, Monterey again agreed to host. Monterey Branch would help with advertising in the Monterey area.

Workshop-Dante Galeazzi

- Dante Galeazzi will work with Leonard Zasoski to avoid overlap of Strategic Plan and Workshop meetings in areas.

- Will work with other committees if a District has something specific to discuss.

- Workshop is 90 minutes max, talk on up to 3 topics. Usually held at the District level.

**Finance Committee - Roselynne Jarrett**

- Committee moved to accept proposed donations from the Providence Fund for the Bishops Days for 2015. PASSED (2 opposed)
- Roselynne Jarrett made motion seconded by Lauren Kilcullen to have one signature for checks under $300. Steve Fuentes amended that the signer does not sign check seconded by Deborah Rodondi. PASSED (one no)

- CHANGE TO Chapter VI, Article 7B
- EXISTING STATUTE:
  - Article 7B - Two signatures are required for each check disbursed from the Central Council funds.
  - PROPOSED CHANGE:
    - Article 7B - Two signatures are required for expenditure of Central Council funds that exceed $300,000.

- RATIONALE:
  - Requiring one signature on checks for expenses that are minimal will reduce the turnaround time for items including Central Council reimbursements, calendar winners and supplies.

- Motion made by Roselynne Jarrett to add Article 7C to Chapter VI seconded by Dennis Antonowicz PASSED.
  - PROPOSED ADDITION OF Article 7C to Chapter VI, Article 7 - Signatories
    - Article 7C - Signatories must ensure that proper documentation, such as a receipt, contract or invoice verifying the total to be reimbursed, is provided.

- RATIONALE:
  - The statute addition is to serve as a reminder that the I.C.F. Central Council requires receipts to issue reimbursement. Documentation is necessary when conducting our annual review with the CPA.

- Reviewed the accounting procedures: Carmen Kilcullen stated $500 start up money for a new branch needs to be added to the procedures. Once it is corrected then all CC must sign saying they have received and understand procedures.

- 2015 budget Presented.

- Bob Acquistapace mentioned the Bollettino is a deficit of 27k needs to be studied. Roselynne Jarrett stated it is being studied and we are hoping to convert many to an online edition.

- Dante Galeazzi made a motion amending the budget to increase scholarship back up to 10k. Seconded by Deborah Rodondi...Roselynne Jarrett noted scholarship is the only charity to get money from general funds. Dante Galeazzi pointed out that this money is for 2, 3 and 4th year scholarships. Deborah Rodondi brought up the loss of $2,000 is equal to an 11% drop in the total funds for 2nd, 3rd and 4th year scholarships...Mike Cannady feels that the scholarship should not be decreased.

- Steve Fuentes called for the question on amendment. 6 votes yes, 12 opposed AMENDMENT FAILED.

- Roselynne Jarrett through committee made motion to accept the budget for 2015 as presented. PASSED (one nay)
Chicago
Calumet City
St. Victor, Br. 195
Dr. Michael Koller, a dearly loved member of Br.195, a brilliant MD Internist at Loyola Hospital, Chair and Dean at Loyola University, MD to many members of the clergy in the Chicago and Joliet Archdiocese, a multi talented musician and Director of St. Victor Choir and Music Program (when Br.195 was host to the Chicago District Mother Cabrini Celebration, Rev Charles Faneli,Chicago District Spiritual Director, commented that the rendition of Noi Vogliam Dio by the St Victor Choir and Musicians led by Dr. Koller was one of the finest he ever heard), a lifetime member of St.Victor Parish. The preceding sounds as though a super human individual is being described and one who is bigger than life itself; however, the description of Dr. Mike Koller, who passed away on November 11, 2014, has only just begun and to all he touched, he was bigger than life in an unassuming, gracious, loving manner which made him all the more impressive as a man: his heart, his kindness and generosity, his humility, his caring personality, his unique sense of humor, his love for family, friends, St. Victor the Church and St. Victor, the Choir. To say that he touched many lives and will be greatly missed is an understatement. Dr. Mike will always be our special angel looking out for us. We miss you, Mike, your indelible handprint has left your mark on all of us.
God Bless,
Jo Merlo
River Forest
St. Vincent Ferrer, Br. 358
FELICE ANNO NUOVO A TUTTI – A blessed and happy New Year to all our members and their families. May the year 2015 bring peace, happiness and good health. What a joy and delight to have a wonderful Archbishop in our Chicago diocese, Archbishop Blase Cupich. We welcome him with open arms.
January 4th is the Epiphany of our Lord and this is the day our relatives in Italy exchange their Christmas gifts and celebrate this feast. I am told by my cousins in Calabria that this will be this day as a special time during their holidays, especially the children who look forward to opening their presents and enjoying their home made cakes, cookies and candy. What a wonderful occasion.
A blessed and happy wedding anniversary to George and Pauline Nicoliello. A blessed and happy birthday to our Pastor, Fr Tom McDermott, Tito Candelario and Eugene Gillette.
Thank you Judith Schweikert, our first vice president for organizing our Christmas party at Jim & Pete’s Italian Restaurant. Please keep our members and their families in your daily prayers, especially Elaine Syrek, married and they express their desire not to leave their branch. Claudius was furious so he decided not to allow any more marriages. Young couples thought this was a cruel law so St. Valentine performed the ceremony in secret, he would whisper the vows to the couples in a secret ceremony, listening to all the while for the steps of soldiers.
One night he was caught and was thrown in jail. Fr. Valentine tried to stay cheerful and many wonderful things happened. Young people came from all over to visit him and they brought flowers and notes to his window. They wanted Fr. Valentine to know that they too believed in love.
On the day Fr. Valentine was to be released from prison he wrote a note thanking all his friends for their friendship and loyalty. He signed it “Love from your Valentine” and that day was February 14. Every year on this day people remember their loved ones and close friends with a Valentine card meaning that no one can stand in the way of love because they know love can’t be beaten. Happy Valentine’s Day to all!
Happy Birthday! Dr. James Izzo
Thayron Gillette
Dr. Santina Litturi
Diane Piccoliola
Happy Anniversary!
Cathy & Rich Neri
Amore,
Caterina Neri, Br. 358

Fresno
Los Banos
Santa Lucia, Br. 31
At our September 15th meeting we had convention reports from delegates Gary Caropreso and Terri Post. Our Branch received two certificates 1) 1st Place branch for increasing membership from 36 to 60 members 2) 100% member retention this past year. WOOHOO! 2015 Convention to be held in Las Vegas and 2016 in Fresno. We hope to have a survivor of Cooley’s Anemia speak at our branch in the near future. Plans were made to sell pasta sauce and biscotti as a fundraiser in December. ICF Calendars were sold.
At our October 20th meeting we enjoyed Panini sandwiches, salad and desserts. President Caropreso had the following announcements.

River Forest
St. Vincent Ferrer, Br. 358
There is a very interesting story on how Valentine’s Day came about – around the 3rd century there lived in Rome a priest by the name of Valentine. One of Fr. Valentine’s duties was to marry couples. Fr. Valentine really enjoyed doing this however, the Emperor Claudius passed a law that all men were to volunteer in his army but, of course as you might have guessed, not many men signed up because they had wives or were going to be married and they did not want to leave their bride. Claudius was furious so he decided not to allow any more marriages. Young couples thought this was a cruel law so St. Valentine performed the ceremony in secret, he would whisper the vows to the couples in a secret ceremony, listening to all the while for the steps of soldiers.

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January 2015
On December 6th and 7th we held a very successful spaghetti sauce and biscotti sale. Proceeds from this sale will be used for our local scholarship fund. Thanks to all who worked so hard on this fund-raiser.

Seventy members attended our Christmas Party on Saturday, December 9 at the warehouse of Rick and Terri Post. It was a wonderful festive celebration with good food and good friendship. We are grateful to the Post family for hosting our social event. Raffle tickets were sold and gifts were distributed. The proceeds will be given to our local “ANGEL TREE” project.

We were blessed with 12 new members. Our branch has truly flourished!!

Get well wishes to Paul and Cynthia Riso and to Rosemary Piccolo. May God bless them with renewed health.

Our Chicken Polenta dinner will be Saturday, February 28th. Tickets were distributed at the Christmas Party.

As the holiday draws near we pause to reflect on the birth of Jesus, and we strive to follow his teachings of love and peace.

Ciao,
Germaine Orlando

Los Banos
Santa Lucia, Br. 31

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Ciao,
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Fresno
Our Lady of Victory, Br. 32

Our Spirit of Christmas Sale was a huge success thanks to the wonderful members who donated goods, worked, and manned tables. Fresh baked muffins, ICF calendars, jellies, biscotti, chocolate chip and pizzammoni cookies, and fruit were the best sellers. We are grateful to all the parishioners who supported our efforts.

We were honored to have our administrator, Fr. Dan Avila, and Deacon Kurt attend the November meeting. Feisty Rose Caglia was on hand to supervise the turkey carving. Roasted turkey and many side dishes contributed by the members made for a delightful feast. We are happy to report Peggy Barbato is better and living in her own apartment. Larry Scott spent time in the hospital again. We extend our condolences to Larry on the loss of his younger brother. Please pray for Martha Acuna, as she cares for her very ill brother. Our dear France isn’t up to par and daughter, Gayle, can not drive France and Tony down from Friant. God Bless you, Beverly Follet, for a healthy recovery from open heart surgery. Marta Guglielmino is having difficulty being mobile. She’s such a trooper and like the energizer bunny. Ashli Quarier is worn down with strep throat, double ear infections, and high fevers. Members, take care of yourselves. Winter is upon us.

We are looking forward to a great 2015 with a new and enthusiastic board under the leadership of Claire Piching.

Happy New Year to all and peace in the world.

Bakersfield
San Luigi, Br. 33

Branch 33 held its December Christmas dinner in the St. Francis Church hall. A ham dinner complete with all the trimmings, including homemade pumpkin pie, was cooked and served by Kirt Moore. A visit from Santa Claus surprised our members and guests. Members commented that Santa bore somewhat of a resemblance to long time member, Member, Bobby Lencioni. After dinner, the meeting was called to order by President Charles Lienenbrink. It was announced that new officers will take office at the next meeting.

Planning for the annual St. Joseph’s Dinner in March is underway and will be discussed at the January meeting. Members were reminded to turn in their dues by the end of the month.

The last three calendars allotted to Branch 33 were sold at the meeting and once again Branch 33 hit the 100% mark in sales. Claudia Castro was thanked for a fine job handling the calendar sales. Remaining business was dispensed with and carried over to the January meeting. President Lienenbrink closed the meeting by thanking all who supported him during the past year and wishing all members and their families a holy and joyful Christmas and a New Year of peace and prosperity.

Buon Natale e un meglio principio a voi tutti!

Robert Cerri Teiglia

Merced
St. Cecelia, Br. 39

In December, we held our biscotti cookie sale at St. Patricks. As usual, we sold out in just a few Masses. A big thank you goes out to all those that baked, bagged and sold cookies. Your dedication and commitment to the branch is much appreciated. We also had our annual Children’s Christmas party, held in conjunction with the Italo-American Lodge. Children and adults were entertained with games, carols, Christmas stories, and a visit from Santa.

Officers for next year are as follows

President - Robyn Piro
1st V.P. - Lori Sutton
2nd V.P. - Stephanie Lucich
Treasurer - Janet Pugliese
Rec. Secretary - Gina Pugliese
Trustees - Loretta Symes, Ann Marie Bondoni, Maryellen Mazzei*
Sentinel - Nick Pugliese
Chaplain/Orator - To be filled

On a sad note, we suffered the loss of our orator, chaplain, spiritual advisor, and friend, Rev. Father Frank Piro. He will long be remembered for his dedication to and love for our branch. He befriended many of us in both good times and bad, and he reminded us that our path is the way of the Lord, Jesus Christ. We will miss him.

Bakersfield
Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Br. 250

Our annual Christmas party was held December 9. Everyone brought appetizers and a white elephant gift. Each gift could be stolen a couple of times, so the evening was a roaring success. Everyone had a good time.

A very dear member, Loretta Benedetti, passed away December 6. She and her husband, Mike, who preceded her in death, were charter members of our Branch. Also, another very active member, Ernie Dalton, passed away December 2. Ernie was 61 and just recently retired. He and his wife, Sylvia, have been members since 2003. Please pray for the repose of their souls and that God’s love may be a comfort to Sylvia and the family and to Loretta’s sons, Michael and Anthony, and daughter, Michelle, and their families.

Prayers are also requested for and Beverly Travis who is ill. We pray that she will be back with us very soon.

Birthday greetings go out to Gary Christensen (1/11), Verona DeLuna (1/6), Tony Rainaldi (1/2) and Ron Travis (1/11).

“A new year is unfolding—like a blossom with petals curled tightly concealing the beauty within.

Lord, let this year be filled with the things that are truly good—with the comfort of warmth in our relationships, with the strength to help those who need our help and the humility and openness to accept help from others.

As we make our resolutions for the year ahead, let us go forward with great hope that all things can be possible—with Your help and guidance.” (Anonymous)

We wish you all a blessed New Year!

Ciao!
LeAnne Lavagnino

Bakersfield
Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Br. 281

On December 9th, we had our annual charity meeting in which we discussed the most important aspect of our federation—the support of charities. It was a great meeting hosted at the home of Leonard and B.G. Zasoski, and our branch was blessed enough to provide significant donations to many deserving organizations, new and recurrent. As the ICF is a charitable association before anything else, it was wonderful to see many of our members at this meeting, engaging in this important discussion and demonstrating their passion for service in the ICF.

Our annual Christmas party on December 13th was a great sensation. Members and their families enjoyed a wonderful meal, festive music, as well as raffles and games for all ages. As its organizer, along with Joey Zasoski and Crystal Watts, I would like to thank all...
On December 7, 2014 ICF held its annual Mother Cabrini Mass, Pilgrimage and Luncheon at Saint Francis Xavier Church in Burbank. This year was the first time in over 30 years that members processed first to the Chapel for Mass and Benediction.

who attended and all who donated their time to ensure the party’s merry success.

Our next meeting will be held in the parish hall on January 8th. It will be a potluck, so please bring a dish to share with the branch to kick off the New Year in a delicious way.

Baci e abbracci,

St. Anthony, Br. 308

Happy “2015” to all. It seems like we were just preparing for the holidays and now they are over for 2014. Are you exhausted from all the hustle and bustle of the season? Anyway to all, I hope you had wonderful festivities going on in your life and that you enjoyed the Christmas season with all of your family. Hopefully, the spirit of the past season will hang on.

By the time you read this, we had on Wednesday, December 10th our Christmas Dinner Party, which was held at Pardini’s Banquet Room. The festivities started at 6:00 p.m. with all of the members seated at lovely white, red, and green tables of ten and beautifully decorated Christmas trees. Each member brought an unwrapped Christmas gift/boy for patients at the Children’s Hospital so a big “THANK - YOU” to all 60 of you. Members enjoyed a delicious five course meal served by terrific waiters. We had a wonderful time with our dear friends and new members, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Di Cecco at our table. Great Fellowship and good cheer were had by all. Among our invited guests were Monsignor Rob Wenzinger and Father Bert Mello.

Save traditions for those members, (especially those going to New Jersey and New York) that are traveling for the holidays.

Continual prayers for all of our members and friends that are ill (Jim Watson who has cancer and is undergoing treatment, E. Tony Edwards, who broke her neck and had to have staples/stitches on her head and the left side of her face, and Genevieve Ochinero) and especially for those who care for them. Birthday wishes go out to Ann Scaroni (Dec. 8), Sister Flor Azevedo (Dec. 9), our friend in New York, Pasquale Giacobbe (Dec. 16), Kathy Gambbero (Dec. 22), Tom Ryno (Dec. 24), Deanna Leon (Dec.30), and Deanne Hannart (Dec. 31).

May your New Year be filled with joy, special moments, good health and many, many blessings in the New Year!

Happy New Year,

Maria E. Juarez–Garcia

Rec. Secretary

Los Angeles

Archdiocese District

Los Angeles Region

ICF Los Angeles Archdiocese District Council President Carmelo Sabatella and wife ICF Branch 108 Board Member Linda Sabatella joined Federated Italo Americans of Southern California at a Welcome Reception in Casa Italiana, downtown Los Angeles on December 10th for the Honorable Antonio Verde, Consul General of Italy in Los Angeles.

Please remember our brothers and sisters of the ICF Los Angeles Archdiocese District Council President Carmelo Sabatella and wife ICF Branch 108 Board Member Linda Sabatella joined Federated Italo Americans of Southern California at a Welcome Reception in Casa Italiana, downtown Los Angeles on December 10th for the Honorable Antonio Verde, Consul General of Italy in Los Angeles.

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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 making the ICF Christmas Party on December 14th, ICF Christmas Party a success again this year. Special thanks to Branch 108 Staff for making this a beautiful event. Thank you also to Santa and Mrs. Claus for visiting Holy Family and spreading Christmas cheer.

Thank you ICF Members Tad and Theresa Shaw, Linda Sabatella and Diana Plescia for volunteering your time to help distribute meals to over 700 hungry visitors in the Parish Hall. Holy Family Church welcomed Our Lady of Guadalupe to Holy Family Parish on December 11, 2014 with food, period music and dancing. Archbishop Jose Gomez blessed the painting of Our Lady of Guadalupe assisted by Bishop Sartoris and Father Jose Paranhanel.

Thank you members for making the ICF Christmas Party on December 14th, ICF Christmas Party a success again this year. Special thanks to Branch 108 Staff for making this a beautiful event. Thank you also to Santa and Mrs. Claus for visiting Holy Family and spreading Christmas cheer.

May God bless and keep you healthy “per cento anni!”

Carmelo Sabatella, Past President

ICF Branch 108 Email: cas1810@aol.com

Save The Dates:

- January 11, 2014 - Branch Bocce Practice Tournament (1:00 pm to 2:30 pm), Lunch Social and General Meeting (3:00 pm to 5:00 pm) in the Parish Hall.

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- January 11, 2014 - Branch Bocce Practice Tournament (1:00 pm to 2:30 pm), Lunch Social and General Meeting (3:00 pm to 5:00 pm) in the Parish Hall.
February 8, 2014 - Mother Cabrini Open House from 9:00 am to 10:30 am and after Installation and Luncheon on request. Call 626 372-7812 for more information.

Montibello
St. Benedict, Br. 111

Ciao a Tutti,
Happy New year ICF-World! hope everyone had a wonderful and safe Holiday Season.

Branch 111 attended the annual Bishop Banquet held on 11/09/14 at St. John’s Seminary and also Mother Cabrini held on 12/06/14. Both were great events that support our cause.

Branch 111’s Christmas Party was held on Saturday, December 13th. We had a surprise guest stop by and present gifts for the children in attendance. It was fun getting together with family and friends enjoying great food.

Happy birthday to all our November birthdays Rene Mata, David Estrada, Giselda Arenas, Joe Canzonieri, Thomas Enrico, Patrina Pizzorno and our December birthdays to Armando Arenas, Mario Mauro, Sal Franco, Domenica Orofino, David Tarazon, Yanira Vanegas. Buon Compleanno a tutti!

This year’s branch 111’s St. Joseph Table is scheduled for March 21 & 22, 2015. Please plan to attend and participate. Let’s make this year’s St Joseph’s table a successful event.

This month’s I leave you with a quote from Bruce Lee – “If you love life, don’t waste time, for time is what life is made up of.”
Always Believe.
Thank you and God Bless,
Giuseppe Veneziano

San Pedro
St. John Joseph of the Cross, Br. 115
Happy New Year to all! It is hard to believe that the Holiday Season is behind us.

I would like to thank all who attended my Viejas Casino fundraiser. With your help we raised $960.00 which will be donated to the American Cancer Society Relay for Life.

In addition our branch donated over $1650.00 to various charities. A warm and heartfelt thank you to all our members who make these donations possible.

Our Christmas Party held on Dec. 6th was a huge success and enjoyed by all. We enjoyed a wonderful dinner and were visited by Santa Claus. Thanks to all contributed their time and talents for another great event.

We had a wonderful turnout and great weather for our annual pilgrimage to Burbank to honor Mother Cabrini. A beautiful Mass was celebrated outdoors and a great lunch was enjoyed by all.

There is still time to join us on our Las Vegas trip. We will staying at the Golden Nugget Jan. 26 to the 28th. Price $135.00 double occupancy $185.00 per single occupancy. Call Pauline Iacono for reservations (310) 832 0563.

Please plan to attend our 1st meeting of the year on Jan 11th at 730pm. We will be discussing our upcoming Crab dinner which will be held on March 7th. Music will be provided by Tony Ciaramitaro. Tickets will be $40.00. Please call Neal DiLeva for tickets (310) 433-1044

Potluck meeting will be held on Feb. 19th. Please call Carmela Gioiello to let her know what tasty dish you will be bringing.

Please remember our ill and deceased members in your prayers
Ciao,

Anita Gioiello, Treasurer

Gardena
St. Anthony of Padua, Br. 237

Happy New Year!

Our Branch had a great Christmas Celebration with Santa and the children of all ages.

Central Council member Anne Interrante of Branch 380 Thousand Oaks and her husband joined us as well. Thanks Anne for your support and encouragement!

As we looked over last year’s charity work we were surprised to see that $5000 in donations to scholarships and other major groups were made possible by a very small but mighty group of loyal members.

Our goal this year is to add one new member
La Canada Flintridge
St. Bede the Venerable, Br. 374

Los Angeles Archdiocese District Council President Carmello Sabatella welcomed Mark Mannarelli as new incoming president of Branch 374 at St. Bede the Venerable Roman Catholic Church in La Canada Flintridge, California at the branch Christmas party last month.

Pictured is our president, Connie Bohannon with Bishop Wilkerson at the annual Bishop’s Day Celebration at St. John’s Seminary in November. Also pictured are members Rose and John Moore with Connie and husband Don and Sean Morales in his first year of religious studies. It was a very eventful day.

We have a couple of Trips (turn-a-rounds) scheduled in the next few months and our annual trip to Laughlin in April. Dates will be finalized soon. Stay tuned.

Al Restivo, long time member and leader of the Italian Catholic Federation, Branch 374 at St. Bede the Venerable Roman Catholic Church in La Canada Flintridge, said his farewell to members of the branch at the organization’s annual Christmas party this past week. He served as president for the past two years. He had previously served in the same role in 1988-1989. The past president, pictured here on the right, was presented with a sterling silver crucifix by incoming President Mannarelli.

Dr. Restivo will now assume the role of Regional Vice President of the Los Angeles Region of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles District Council. In his role he will be responsible for the oversight and leadership of the nine of the branches in the Los Angeles region. As regional vice president he and three other regional leaders (San Gabriel, San Fernando, and Santa Barbara) will report to Carmelo Sabatella, LA Archdiocesan District Council President.

Happy New Year to all of our members! Our Annual Christmas Party was held on December 14th and it was fantastic! Everyone had a good time sharing each other’s company. The food was delicious! Thank you to Francis Scorsone for setting up and decorating the tables. I am sure the Friends of Foster Children enjoyed all of their gifts that members donated.

Our next General Meeting will be held on January 28, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. Food 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, and Ann Primising. And, let’s not forget to pray for our deceased members.

Happy January Birthday: Andrea Scorsone, Jo Anne Disney and Gail Rector.

May the New Year bring us all health and happiness.

“Friendship is a special jewel that you choose to wear each day; it gives out a shine and sparkle in the things you do and say. Friendship is the little pebble that you found along the shore, that was different from the others, but you treasure evermore. Just as both the moon and stars are the friends of God above, friendship here on earth is precious for He blesses it with love.” (Edna Fontaine)

God Bless,
Jo Anne Disney
San Fernando Valley Region

Burbank
St. Maria Goretti, Br. 102

Happy New Year!

May the New Year bring good health, happiness and prosperity to each of us.

A warm welcome to our new members, Louisa Darin, Michael Shifflitt, Melanie Bellomo, Lucila Caro, and Angelo Bellomo.

We’re so happy to have you. It was so gratifying to see so many members and friends at our annual remembrance Mass honoring our departed members, and sadly, including Joy Juhl. Thank you so much; you made it a fun event. We had really fun pie eating contest and a pie eating contest!!

Our branch had an excellent meeting in Cabrini Hall at 12 Noon on January 13th. We meet the first Tuesday of each month at 12 Noon. At this event, we install our officers (adult and youth) from all branches in the Los Angeles District. We are looking forward to a great year with a lot of new faces on our board.

Boun Natale Tutti!
Jean Fontana Bridges
Corresponding Secretary

Monterey

Santa Cruz
Branch 21

Happy New Year, One and All. We hope that you had a beautiful and inspirational Christmas. Though Christmas is past, I’d love to share with you the wonderful time everyone had at the ICF Branch 21 Christmas Dinner on December 5th. Holy Cross Hall was packed with parents, grandparents, and children; the atmosphere was filled with happy chatter and laughter. After dinner, Sister Noella led all in song and at the sound of “Jingle Bells”, Santa and Mrs. Claus (Don Giudici and Joanne Juhl) surprised everyone when they walked in bearing gifts for the children. There are so many to thank for helping make this evening such a success from those who set up the beautifully decorated tables, to the cooks and bakers, to those who brought raffle gifts and sold raffle tickets, to the servers and cleanup crew. Thank you so much; you made it a fun time for everyone.

In 2015, we plan more celebrations and dinners. In January, we hope to initiate the many new members who have joined our Branch this past year. On March 15th, our Branch has the honor of hosting the District Meeting. In May, we will have our annual Mother’s Day dinner Dance. So stay tuned for e-mails or snail mail announcements as each event unfolds.

Remember, our meetings are friendly and positive comments about the meal, and the Californian wrote a wonderful article about the event. We served over 560 meals. Thanks to all of you who helped make it a success. It is time to collect dues for 2015. Dues are now $40 per member. Checks made out to ICF Branch 25 can be mailed to PO Box 2797, Salinas, CA, 93902. Better yet, bring them to the meeting January 13th. We meet at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 270 Rianda Circle at Noon.

And talking about New Year’s resolutions, how about this one? A New Year’s Resolution is something that goes into one year and out the other. Author Unknown. No? How about, May all your troubles last as long as your New Year’s resolutions.” Finally, we wish you a blessed and safe New Year 2015.
Patty Morelli
Secretary Branch 21

Salinas

Nostra Signora Del Sasso, Br. 25

At this writing, the Christmas Party had not yet been held. However, knowing the location and the preparation that has gone into past parties, it’s certain this one, too, was a big success. And so, another Christmas has passed and it is time to look to the new year.

Our council has been asked to host the District Installation on February 21, 2015. We will need volunteers, so please help if you can. Details will be provided at the next branch meeting on January 13th.

The polenta luncheon was a definite success; thanks to all who volunteered to prepare and serve the polenta. There were a number of

Armandina “Army” Centurioni passed away peacefully on November 10, 2014, in Alta Loma, CA.

Army was a longtime member of the ICF. She was one of 15 children born to Jesus and Refugio Navarro. She attended Malabar Street School, Belvedere Jr. High, and Sacred Heart High School, graduating in 1944. Following high school, she attended Frank Wiggins School of Business and then worked for Nelson’s Women’s Apparel on 4th and Broadway in Los Angeles. She served as a clerk in the 6th Army Transportation Corps, and then later worked at Mode-O-Day. She married former Central Council Member, Alexander Centurioni, in 1948. They raised 6 children together. Thereafter, Army was employed at El Monte High School as an Administrative Assistant/PBX Receptionist.

Her favorite part was being able to talk to the students and have them share their stories with her. She retired from El Monte High after 26 years of service.

She was devoted to her faith, family, and friends. Army is predeceased by her husband, Alexander, and son, Stephen. She was a loving mother of Daniel (Victoria), Elaine (Patrick), David, Therese (Chuck), Jacqueline and her daughter-in-law Agnes; “Noni” to 21 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren, and 1 great-grandchild. Army enjoyed going to daily mass at St. Peter & Paul and enjoyed watching the “Price is Right” every day. She will be greatly missed. – Submitted with love by her first grandson, Danny Centurioni, Branch 367 Las Vegas.

Our branch is looking forward to the upcoming holiday festivities including our annual Christmas. Though Christmas is past, I’d love to share with you the wonderful time everyone had at the ICF Branch 21 Christmas Dinner on December 5th. Holy Cross Hall was packed with parents, grandparents, and children; the atmosphere was filled with happy chatter and laughter. After dinner, Sister Noella led all in song and at the sound of “Jingle Bells”, Santa and Mrs. Claus (Don Giudici and Joanne Juhl) surprised everyone when they walked in bearing gifts for the children. There are so many to thank for helping make this evening such a success from those who set up the beautifully decorated tables, to the cooks and bakers, to those who brought raffle gifts and sold raffle tickets, to the servers and cleanup crew. Thank you so much; you made it a fun time for everyone.

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Patty Morelli
Secretary Branch 21

Ciao,
Roy Frontani
January 2015

Mar. 8 - St. Joseph’s Celebration
Feb. 27 - 2nd Lenten Dinner
Jan. 22 - Thank you Volunteer Dinner
Jan. 8 - Monthly meeting

Calendar:
our branch.
year out. You volunteers are the backbone of
bless you for all that you do, year end and
with the group you volunteer with, and God
a great meal you will have a short meeting
before they begin our Thank You Volunteer
Dinner will be January 22, (2015). After
Lenten dinners are coming fast, however,
you Antonia and June, you two had a won-
nated all of the money to our Br, #36. Thank
-2-2-
ators, which already has our mouth’s
their menu, which already has our mouth’s
watering, (I wonder what new surprises they
have for us). The fundraiser will be held at
La Scuola.
Another event will be the St. Patrick’s
Dinner and hopefully a barbeque sometime
in the year. We plan to celebrate our Branch’s
80th Anniversary later this year.
The Board is also looking into perhaps
making some changes in the dues and other
areas.
We pray for all our members that are ill and
those that are recovering.
Lord, as we turn another page and begin a
new chapter on our journey, our prayer is
that we all have good health, peace in the
world and thank God for our blessings.
Ciao,
Leonora Barlow

Pacific Grove
St. Angela Merici, Br. 206
Everyone enjoyed a tasty potluck dinner, and
afterwards we had a brief meeting. Our annual
Christmas party and meeting will begin at 3:00
PM on December 12, 2014, and we will try to
get everyone out early enough so they do not
have to drive home in the dark. We decided on
this time so that more of our members will
be able to attend. The number of attendees
has been low lately, and we would love to get
those numbers up again.
The Members are asked to pray for all the
Members and their families who are ill.
Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year!
Sarah Jane Amoroso, President
Marjorie McClure, Recording Secretary

Capitola
St. Joseph, Br. 227
Congratulations to the new officers for 2015:
President – Bob Montanye
1st Vice-President – Ellen Pauley
2nd Vice-President – Richard Kotila
Secretary – Deanna Musler
Financial Secretary – Jane Kotila
Treasurer – Jim Smith
Orator – Bruce Dunn
Trustees – Ron Castle, Bob Martellini and
Vicky Howell
Sentinel – Mary Harrison
Get well wishes go to Gene Pauly who is at
home after open heart surgery.
Welcome to new members Marilyn Beck, Joni
Samson, and Rita Ferreri
A big thank you to Ed Lavarone and his crew
for preparing the ham dinner for 160 members
and guests at our Christmas party. This year
members of the Catholics in Commerce (CIC)
joined us for the festivities, which featured
the traditional Tom and Jerrys.
Congratulations to Father Wayne Dawson on
his incensation and installation as pastor of
St. Joseph’s on January 10. He was honored at
a reception in which our branch participated.
We joined with CIC to serve meatballs and
Italian sausage.
The Fish Fry’s begin on February 20. Ellen
Pauly has agreed to serve as coordinator again
this year, and she will have sign-up sheets at
the January and February meetings. It takes
lot of help to put on these dinners, so please
be generous with your time.

Arroyo Grande
St. Patrick, Br. 291
Branch 291 celebrated the Christmas season
with a fun and festive luncheon at the Madonna Inn on Dec. 7th. Members and guests
enjoyed a delicious luncheon, which was
entertained by the Pacific Horizon Chorus and lots and lots of great raffle prizes! Jeanne Van Blaricom, Kristine Sullivan and Sylvia Nogdlin did a
wonderful job putting together our luncheon
and we thank them for all their hard work!
As our President, Pete Gallagher, reminded
us at the Christmas luncheon, Easter is right
around the corner, which means it’s time to
start planning our Lenten Fish Fries. Our first
fish fry will be on Feb. 20th, so we hope to see
you all there!
Our Branch would like to congratulate our
former member, Christina Muscarella, and
her husband, Robert Light, on their recent
wedding. They were married at the Cathedral
Basilica in St. Augustine, FL on Nov. 8, 2014.
We wish them many years of happiness and
blessings!
Please continue to keep in prayer Sr. Carol
Carter, Diane Clees, our newest member
Zorza Drenger, Annette Grimaud, Stevie Hall,
Jean & Emil Miniacuti, Joe Slavin, Lorraine
Spargo, Sonia & Jens Wagner, Delfina Zarate,
Mary Ann Zogota and all members of ICF and
their families who may be experiencing pain
or heartache.
We wish you all a very healthy and happy
2015!
Keely Sanchez
Recording Secretary

Paso Robles
St. Rose of Lima, Br. 354
Our branch has had a full plate of events
during this holiday season beginning with
our November meeting honoring the Armed
Forces’ members. President Irina and husband
David provided hot dogs and apple pie a
la mode. World War II veteran Hud Banks
recalled having rescued a one year old child
floating in a local swimming pool, lost touch
with her, and 72 years later, they were
reunited-such a heartwarming story for the
occasion. Deputy Pete Gallagher w/ wife Abby
reminded us their branch has been busy with
their school registration project raising money
with three pasta & meatball dinners. Father
Marc closed with a beautiful prayer.
Our semi-annual pasta dinner far exceeded
our expectations. Loyal branch members,
together with assistance from dedicated
volunteers, served almost 500 dinners.
Thanks parishioners, friends, St. Rose School
servers, and Father Roberto, our top ticket
seller. We are now able to repair and replace

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Members of ICF Branch 36, Monterey, California

The wonderful volunteers for Branch 21’s ICF’s 90th Anniversary.

Lone Oak Lodge
www.loneoaklodge.com
800-283-5663
Members of ICF Branch 36, Monterey, California

ICF 90th Anniversary Celebration: Branch 21 Nonagenarians (90 years and older): Seated:
Left to Right: Marie Medina, Aureilia Bozzo, Virginia Stagnaro, Ezzio Mazzei, Dina Vaggoli, Lena Silva, Erma Debiesio, Rosalie Campisi, Standing: Left to Right: Josephine Pista, Lina Geminiano, Lido Marietti, Ermino Orlando, Giovannina Orlando, Paul Quilico

Santa Rosalia, Br. 36
Happy New Year!
Our Christmas Dinner Dance was so much
fun and absolutely filled
with members, guests, and the following
from Central Council: Jim and Mary Ann
Friebel, Marco and Diane Galeazzi, Dante
Galeazzi, Andy and Siria Pappani, Michael
and Donna Cannady, we always are grateful
for their constant support.
Besides delicious food, U.S. Express Band,
Antonia Ilnot and JuneSerrano bought and
donated a Christmas tree with lights, deco-
 rated it with ornaments, raffled it off and
donated all of the money to our Br, #36. Thank
you Antonia and June, you too had a won-
derful “money maker”.

Lenten dinners are coming fast, however,
before they begin our Thank You Volunteer
Dinner will be January 22, (2015). After
a great meal you will have a short meeting
with the group you volunteer with, and God
bless you for all that you do, year end and
year out. You volunteers are the backbone of
our branch.
Calendar:
Jan. 8 - Monthly meeting
Jan. 22 - Thank you Volunteer Dinner
Feb. 5 - Monthly 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!
Our deepest sympathy to Lorrie Canepa on
the loss of her daughter, Susan Marie Saun-
ders, may she rest in peace with no more pain.
Never save something for a special occasion,
everyday in your life is a special occasion.
E-mail from George Mika.
Peace be with you and we can thank God for
a new year, make it count.
Betty Sollecito

Castroville
Santa Caterina de Siena, Br. 51
Happy New Year!
Our Christmas Party was another magical
fun filled evening. I think the magic is
created by this holy and wonderful time of
the year. Also, the gathering of friends and
family helps us enjoy this togetherness and
our burdens and cares seem to disappear
for a few hours. There was plenty of food,
laughter, the gift exchange and more food
(Branch #51 enjoys good food) we are truly
blessed.
As we begin this New Year our board is busy
planning events for this coming year. First
on the agenda is our annual fundraiser which
is tentatively scheduled for March 1st. Our
chefs Paul, Dave, D.L. and Jeff are planning
their menu, which already has our mouth’s
watering, (I wonder what new surprises they

Santa Catalina de Siena, Br. 51
Happy New Year!
Our Christmas Party was another magical
fun filled evening. I think the magic is
created by this holy and wonderful time of
the year. Also, the gathering of friends and
family helps us enjoy this togetherness and
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Oakland
East Bay
District Council

Hopefully your holidays were Merry and Bright and that your New Year’s resolutions included time for ICF.

Thank you to all who ran for district office and were elected and welcome to Al Raineri, who will be replacing Giovanni Corsi who moved away, as a new delegate. This leads me to our first official function in 2015, installation of new and returning officers on Sunday, Jan. 18th. We will begin with Mass @ 3 P.M. at the Fratellanza Club, followed by installation and then dinner. What a positive way to begin the new year and a fresh start for all branches.

Plans for the Crab Feed to be held Friday, Feb. 6, 2015 at St. Philip Neri are under way. We will once again be asking the branches for their help in making this a successful fund raiser. We will need both hors d’oeuvre trays and raffle baskets, and might I add a B-I-G thank you in advance.

Looking forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming functions.

Oakland
Santa Rita, Br. 40

Wishing you and your family a very Happy New Year. Dues for the year are due. You can send your check in the amount of $36, made out to ICF Branch 40. Please mail it to Catherine Kapper, 20700 Tuxedo Ct., Castro Valley, CA 94552. Any questions call 881-0616.

Upcoming
January 18 – Installation of officers, 3pm Mass, Installation 4pm. Dinner 5pm.
January 20 – Monthly meeting, 6pm.
February 18 – Monthly meeting, 6pm.

Happy birthday to Mary Devincenzi, Deanna Denurra, Catherine Kapper, and David Rose.

God Bless you all. Remember in your prayers the sick and the convalescing.

Thought, there can be no peace with out love.

Ciao,
M.A. Francis, L. Francis

Fremont
St. Francis of Assisi, Br. 215

Our branch Christmas dinner held on 12/09/2014 was quite a success. We had 50 people in attendance! Thank you to Scott and Judy Schiebel, Jack and Carolyn Navarra and Joan Lampe for all your hard work making sure a good time was had by all. We were especially pleased to have our chaplain, Father Sergio Lopez, join us along with a seminarian, Javier Ramirez. Thank you also to those members who provided canned goods for the Christmas baskets prepared by the St. Vincent De Paul Society of Corpus Christi Church.

The next important date to mark on your calendar is the installation of Officers. This will be held on 1/18/2015 at the Fratellanza Club in Oakland. Branch 215 is the host branch this year. Mass will begin at 3:00 p.m. with Installation at 4:00 p.m. and dinner at 5:30 p.m. Branch officers will have half of their dinners paid by Branch 215. Our own Genevieve Vanek will be the Mistress of Ceremonies. Joan Lampe will be providing the center piece. Price of the dinner is $40.00 and make your checks payable to the Fratellanza Club. Branch 215.

Next we will need your creative cooking skills to help make our Super Bowl Sunday Bake sale another big success. And still along those lines the district will need us to not only attend the Crab Feed @ St. Philip Neri on Feb. 6, 2015, they will also need raffle baskets and plates of hors d oeuvres. Plenty of time to plan ahead, (an other resolution). Time to get on those running shoes so we can all help and stay ahead of the game.

Here’s to a healthy and happy 2015!

Maggiora Jewelry
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415.362.4412 jdjon@pacbell.net www.donivanandmaggiora.com
New Membership Jewelry available NOW!!!
20% of proceeds go to ICF charities ICF Member, Branch 91
Happy 2015 Everyone! May this New Year event. Come join the fun!

Our branch ends January on the 30th, with church.

January 25th is our branch communion and meeting, our February 7th Polenta Dinner.

We finished the year with a Christmas party on Dec 14. We had a great dinner, raffle and a lot of fun. We also gave thank you gifts to our hostess Josie Leontini and deputy Peggy Aiello Hagerthy. We presented a special thank you gift to Joann Thilgen. For many years all funds come from the bus trips that Joann chairs. Joann also donates her own money to make the bus trip proceeds higher. Our branch no longer has fundraiser’s because of low ticket sales. If we did not have Joann’s bus trips the branch would have zero funds.

Our newly nominated officers are looking forward to the Installation of officers for the district will be held on February 15 at the 11:15 am Mass at St. Thomas More parish.

Tom and Peggy Farrell hosted our annual Christmas party on December 7. Members brought hearty appetizers and desserts. Afterwards, we participated in a gift exchange game.

We were delighted to welcome 50 members and guests to our annual Bishops Dinner on Sunday evening, December 7. This dinner gives us an occasion to honor our Bishop and to present our annual scholarship gifts. The event was a great success, and we received positive feedback from all attendees.

Please be sure to look at the calendar for upcoming events:

- **Sunday Jan. 11:** Branch meeting and News Years party at 2:PM
- **Saturday Jan 17:** District Installation of officers. Mass and Installation at 10:AM at St. Agnes church in Concord. Lunch to follow at La Veranda Restaurant in Clayton. You will receive menu choices. Mail your check made out to ICF Br. 72 and mail it to treasurer Helen Politakes by Jan. 6. Lunch donation is $30.00. It was voted by the members to have the officers pay $25.00. All officers should attend the Mass and Installation but the event is open to all.
- **Thursday Jan 29—District meeting in Danville at 7:30 PM.
- **Sunday Jan 29—District meeting in Danville at 7:30 PM.
- **Monday Jan. 31—Branch meeting and News Years party at 2:PM
- **Lorraine Acuña

# Contra Costa

**District Council**

The Contra Costa District held their Christmas Party on Dec. 11th at the Old Spaghetti Factory in Concord. Everyone had a good time!

Our District Installation of officers for 2015 will be held on Sat. Jan. 17. The Mass and installation will take place at St. Agnes Church in Concord at 10:00AM It will be followed by a luncheon at La Veranda Restaurant in Clayton. Lunch is $30.00 per person. Ask your branch president for the deadline to pay for your lunch. Each branch will then give one headcount and payment to our district treasurer. All officers should attend and everyone else is welcome as well.

Our next district meeting will be held on Thursday Jan 29 in Danville at our regular conference room at 7:30 PM. All branches should be represented.

Here we are so blessed to welcome in 2015. This year its best to try to look at others through the eyes of God. The best way to do this is by attending Mass. Here we are so blessed to welcome in 2015. We begin on January 13th, with Mass at 5:30. Our branch is blessed to have the lovely Helen Politakes who has been instrumental in taking care of our district.

Please send a warm hug to all the members of the district.

Happy New Year to all.

# Crockett

**San Carlo, Br. 14**

Happy 2015 Everyone! May this New Year bring good health, goodwill and much happiness to our members, and peace and harmony, at long last, to this troubled world.

We bid a fond farewell to Albion Ranzon. Al has continuously been a member of our branch since June 4, 1940, even though he lived in Terre Linda for many years. Al was a Past Grand Sentinel of the Central Council. We send sincere condolences to his daughter, Elaine, on the passing of our dear friend.

What does the New Year have to offer? Well, we begin on January 13th, with Mass at 5:30. Wouldn’t attending Mass be a good way to begin this year? At 6:30 dinner, a delicious piping hot soup and a tasty salad will be served, followed by our once-a-year Tom and Jerry treat with panetone! After the 7:30 meeting, our February 7th Polenta Dinner tickets will be sold.

January 25th is our branch communion and continental breakfast after the 9:00 Mass. It’s free to members; all we ask is that we all sit together as a group at the center front of the church.

Our branch ends January on the 30th, with our famous Bingo and Hot Dog Night. This has become a much looked-forward-to social event. Come join the fun!

Again, a very Happy New Year (Felice Anno Nuovo) to all!

Ciao, 
Diane Bottini Thomas

# Pittsburg

**San Domenico, Br. 72**

We finished the year with a Christmas party on Dec 14. We had a great dinner, raffle and a lot of fun. We also gave thank you gifts to our hostess Josie Leontini and deputy Peggy Aiello Hagerthy. We presented a special thank you gift to Joann Thilgen. For many years all funds come from the bus trips that Joann chairs. Joann also donates her own money to make the bus trip proceeds higher. Our branch no longer has fundraiser’s because of low ticket sales. If we did not have Joann’s bus trips the branch would have zero funds.

Our branch has lost one of its own. Member Dizi Russo passed away. We gave the ICF farewell salute at his funeral. Please pray for his wife Jane Russo and her family during this sad time.

Upcoming events:

- **Sunday Jan. 11— Branch meeting and News Years party at 2:PM**
- **Saturday Jan 17— District Installation of officers. Mass and Installation at 10:AM at St. Agnes church in Concord. Lunch to follow at La Veranda Restaurant in Clayton. You will receive menu choices. Mail your check made out to ICF Br. 72 and mail it to treasurer Helen Politakes by Jan. 6. Lunch donation is $30.00. It was voted by the members to have the officers pay $25.00. All officers should attend the Mass and Installation but the event is open to all.
- **Thursday Jan 29—District meeting in Danville at 7:30 PM.**
- **You should have received your dues ship for 2015. Please mail your dues check to Treasurer Helen Politakes at 953 Veterans Drive Martinez, Ca. 94553**
- **Happy New Year.**
- **Sempre Avanti,**
- **Patty Jarrett**

# Richmond

**St. Raymond, Br. 154**

The meeting opened with a scrumptious polenta dinner. Thanks to Walter Costa and Toni Reeder for a delicious meal and thanks to everyone who contributed their help to make this a festive holiday meal. Special thanks to Terry and Dick Ventin for the wonderful handmade raffle gifts.

Father Mora from St. Cornelius Church has given us the name of a family in need. They are contributing clothing, toys and food to make this an extra special holiday for our “adopted” family.

The following are the newly elected officers for 2015.

- **President: Lorraine Acuña**
- **First Vice-president: Michael Cannady**
- **Second Vice-president: Carole Jobes**
- **Recording Secretary: Dee Rosier**
- **Financial Treasurer: Lori Framstad**
- **Treasurer: Toni Reeder**
- **Trustees: Domenica Yontke, Gino Martinucci, Julian Acuña**
- **Sentinel: Diana De Simoni**
- **Orator: Alan Paolini**

Please pick up a calendar for the coming year if you have not done so already. The next scheduled meeting is January 6/2015. Pizza and salad will be served. Eggmog and Spirits to follow the meeting!

Don’t forget your dues are payable at the next meeting. Annual dues are $35.00 and Hospitalization is $25.00. Make your check payable to the ICF and give your check to Lori Framstad.

Installation of officers is January 17th, 2015, hosted by the Concord Branch 214. Mass at 10:00 am, Installation and lunch to follow. Reserve with Walter Costa $10-385-9953.

Lorraine Acuña

# Orange

**St. Thomas More, Br. 423**

Happy New Year!! Here are the happenings from Branch 423:

Our branch hosted the Mother Cabrini Mass on November 15. Frank Gianantonio read the first reading in Italian. Bob, Randy, Roberto, Hal, David, and Tony carried the baldacchino inside the church before the members went in.

We had a scrumptious Thanksgiving dinner at our November 21 meeting. We dined on roast turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, broccoli and brussels sprouts gratin, salads, and assorted desserts. Big thank you to Mary Ann, Mina, and Lupe for making the delicious meal!

Cris Gianantonio read about the history of the baldacchino and Mother Cabrini for the heritage report. In addition to being the patron saint of the ICF, Mother Cabrini is also the patron saint of crops. She also reported that there is a Mother Cabrini Shrine in Los Angeles, California. A pilgrimage is held on the first Sunday in December.

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.

Tom and Peggy Farrell hosted our annual Christmas party on December 7. Members brought hearty appetizers and desserts. Afterwards, we participated in a gift exchange game.

Ciao, Miranda Gibson

# Reno

**St. Albert, Br. 135**

We were delighted to welcome 50 members and guests to our annual Bishops Dinner on Sunday evening, December 7. This dinner gives us an occasion to honor our Bishop and to present our annual scholarship gifts. The event was a great success, and we received positive feedback from all attendees.

Please be sure to look at the calendar for upcoming events:

- **No December meeting. Members celebrated with a Christmas brunch at a restaurant in Clayton, which was absolutely wonderful. November - Election of Officers, most of the Board remained the same. We have a new Treasurer Janine Judge; & Veronica Peery will be in charge of Newsletter. We thank our past board member Barbara Faircloth for her great service on the Board.**
- **We welcome new member JoAnn Lee. Thank you JoAnn for helping our branch grow.**
- **Prayers for our sick, elders and one another in the New Year.**
- **God Is Blessing in Our Lives.**
- **Happy New Year to One and All!**
- **Christina, correspondence secy.**

# Danville

**St. Isidore, Br. 352**

Our newly nominated officers are looking forward to the Installation of officers taking place January 17, 2015, 10:00 AM. Mass at St. Agnes Church, Concord, CA. Luncheon will follow at LaVeranda Restaurant, Clayton, CA. ($30 per person).

Happy Birthday to all our January birthday members.

Ciao, Madeline A. Cefalo
Sacramento
St. Mary, Br. 45
GOODBYE 2014 – HELLO 2015 and HAPPY NEW YEAR
As we say goodbye to 2014, we want to thank all our members and friends for their outstanding support of Branch 45 through their attendance at our dinners and other activities this past year. We look forward to seeing all of you in 2015.
Joint Installation of Officers will be on January 24th at St. Clare (Branch 438) in Roseville. Branch 45 officers elected for 2015 are President, Janine Orsi; 1st Vice President, Tina Tallman; 2nd Vice President, Ted Georville. Branch 45 members are happy to be provided support of our chicken and polenta dinners, always hosting a table full of friends. We extend our condolences to her family.
Buon Compleanno to January Birthday celebrants, Barbara Davidson, Matthew Ebert, Alvine Waldron, Steven Robison and Eric Bush. Best wishes for many more years.
CALENDARS are still available, please contact Janine at 916-506-1199 to purchase one.
Up coming next month is the District Meeting on February 8th, hosted by Branch 45.
Ciao and Happy New Year!

Auburn
St. Joseph, Br. 342
Thank you so much to all those who worked so hard to make our annual Christmas party a great success! A big thank you to chefs Lynne and Lisa for preparing a wonderful pasta dinner, those who helped decorate and set-up, Marisa for preparing the raffle baskets, and those who helped at the event. A special thank you goes out to Santa for making time in his schedule to come and visit us. At the dinner, we were able to collect donations for the Auburn Food Closet and give checks to the youth groups, religious education programs, and St. Vincent de Paul Societies at St. Theresa’s and St. Joseph’s Parishes. A wonderful evening indeed!
Our next big event will be our Polenta Dinner on January 17, 2015. Please note that this is a Saturday evening. Once again, Chef Rico and his crew will prepare and serve a delicious polenta, chicken, and sausage dinner. This dinner is always a sell-out, so please get your tickets from Dolores (530-823-9125) or Trish (530-878-6814) as soon as possible.
Branch 342 would like to wish their fellow ICF members a new year filled with health and happiness.
Ciao!
Pam Andersen, Bollittino Contributor

San Diego
Chula Vista
St. Rose of Lima, Br. 229
Wishing all of you a Happy and healthy 2015!!
Mark your calendars for the Super Bowl Meal bowl Sausage Sandwich Sale scheduled for February 1, 2015 after the morning Masses. Cannoli will also be sold.
Also, St. Joseph’s Day Table is scheduled for March 15, 2015.
Please pray for our deceased members, for those who are sick, for the unemployed, and for those in need.
When you see a man or woman in uniform, please thank them for their service to our country! God bless our military! God bless America! God bless the ICF!!
Ciao!
Karen Judson
Recording & Corresponding Secretary

San Francisco
San Francisco SS Immaculata, Br. 1
Dear Members:
Our recent Christmas Party was enjoyed by all!
Upcoming events:
January = No meeting
details by phone, and Bingo Games!
Ciao!
Ci vediamo il 14 di febbraio!
Mara Amato
San Francisco
St. Elizabeth, Br. 258
Our Christmas lunch, December 12th, was another huge success. Everyone enjoyed their Turkey lunch and visiting with their friends.
It is with great sadness that we report the death of our dear member Mary Yakes. Mary was a member of Br. 258 for 31 years. Mary was a very generous member. She always made sure we had enough prizes for all our raffles. Mary, you will be greatly missed by all our members. May God and the Blessed Mother keep you in their care.
Please keep our ill and deceased members in your prayers.
Our sincere sympathy to Rose Moisant and her family on the death of her son, Ernie. May God keep you in his care.
Happy Holidays to all our members and their families. We hope the New Year will be good to all of us.
Anguiri di un Buon Santo Natale e Felicitissimo Anno Nuovo
Remember these dates:
Jan 5th: Off. Meeting
Jan 25th: Mass
Jan 26th: Meeting
Ciao,
Eva Perata, President

San Francisco
Corpus Christi, Br. 290
Branch 290 mourns the death of Louise Isola, a charter member of Branch 290. Louise will be remembered as a loyal and supportive member of our Branch. She will be greatly missed, especially at our Champagne-Bingo luncheons. May she rest peacefully in the arms of the Lord.
Our January meeting will be on the 15th of the month at 12:00 noon. The meeting will follow lunch.
SAVE THE DATE! Branch 290’s annual Crab Feed will be held on Saturday, February 7th in the Parish Hall. Doors will open at 6:00 PM, and the Crab Feed will begin at 6:30pm. Price of this event to be determined.
Happy New Year to all. May 2015 be filled with many blessings for all our members.
Ciao,
Jeanette

San Francisco
St. Francis, Br. 428
Our Christmas lunch, December 12th, was another huge success. Everyone enjoyed their Turkey lunch and visiting with their friends.
As we say goodbye to 2014, we want to thank all our members and friends for their outstanding support of Branch 45 through their attendance at our dinners and other activities this past year. We look forward to seeing all of you in 2015.
Joint Installation of Officers will be on January 24th at St. Clare (Branch 438) in Roseville. Branch 45 officers elected for 2015 are President, Janine Orsi; 1st Vice President, Tina Tallman; 2nd Vice President, Ted Georville. Branch 45 members are happy to be provided support of our chicken and polenta dinners, always hosting a table full of friends. We extend our condolences to her family.
Buon Compleanno to January Birthday celebrants, Barbara Davidson, Matthew Ebert, Alvine Waldron, Steven Robison and Eric Bush. Best wishes for many more years.
CALENDARS are still available, please contact Janine at 916-506-1199 to purchase one.
Up coming next month is the District Meeting on February 8th, hosted by Branch 45.
Ciao and Happy New Year!

Auburn
St. Joseph, Br. 342
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Branch 342 would like to wish their fellow ICF members a new year filled with health and happiness.
Ciao!
Pam Andersen, Bollittino Contributor

San Francisco
San Francisco SS Immaculata, Br. 1
Dear Members:
Our recent Christmas Party was enjoyed by all!
Upcoming events:
January = No meeting
Branch 438, St. Clare Bakers Dozen help ICF Parish Bake Sale.
January 2015

San Mateo
District Council

Welcome to the New Year 2015. Hope everyone had a joyous Christmas. Wishing you all many blessings. Many thanks to Branch 163 St. Matthew’s, San Mateo for hosting the Annual District Christmas party at our Lady Of Angels, Burlingame, on December 18. Thanks also to the Branches for donating the delicious food. A great time was had by all who attended.

Mark your calendars:
A Reminder: Saturday, January 17, San Mateo District Installation of Officers. Hosted by Branch 403 10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Dunstan’s Church, Millbrae. All officers should arrive at 10:00 a.m. Lunch to follow at the Terrace Cafe, El Rancho Motel, El Camino Real, Millbrae. Price $36.00 Reservations to Dan Capodonna, 325 San Jose Avenue, Millbrae, CA 94030. Reservation Deadline Janu- ary 12, 2015.

Please send the name of your Marshall fo the Installation ceremony to Deborah Rodondi. Entree choices: London Broil, Fillet of Sole and Stuffed Chicken Breast.

In our thoughts and prayers: Father Frank Murray, Family of Al Teglia, Family of Mary Elizabeth Ghiorso (Mother of our San Francisco Diocesan Chaplain Father David Ghiorso.) If you have a moment, send Father Frank Murray a card or call him. He would love to hear from you.

Peace and Love,
Anne O’Brien

South San Francisco
Sacro Cuore, Br. 7

Our first business meeting for the year will be January7, 2015. We hope you all had a peaceful and holy holiday season. It is time to begin again. But first a quick look back to the entire kitchen team for the wonderful holiday dinner they prepared on December 3rd and also thank everyone who donated to “A Very Special Toy Box!”

We also want to thank the many “Unsung Hero’s” who make and bring raffle items, our bartenders, who set up, serve and clean up, our lovely ladies, who sell tickets…raffle, drink, and dinner tickets and all the individuals that volunteer every month to cook our dinners. We would not be so successful if it were not for all of you!

Congratulations all of our newly elected officers for the year 2015. They are: President, Kelly J. Teglia; 1st Vice President, Marc Teglia; 3rd Vice President, Diana Ferrari; Recording/Corresponding Secretary, Jeanne Acosta; Financial Secretary Dean Balesiteri; Treasurer, Donna Smith; Orator, Leonore Armanino; Sentinel, Jeanette Acosta; Trustees, Marie Pariani, Carol Tassan, Barbara Demattei, and Phyllis Feudale.

San Jose
District Council

The district Annual Christmas celebration was hosted by Noreen Gillio’s Branch 368 And was an enjoyable evening. Fr. George presided over the opening Mass and afterwards all members sat down for an abbreviated meeting.

President-Elect Denise Antonwicz presented three-term president John Gillio with a gift and acknowledged his three years of successful leadership of the district. District Deputy, Jerry Delfino announced branch deputy reassignments.

All members then enjoyed an excellent dinner catered by Diane and Al Vallorz (Tony & Albas). Afterwards, Jim Jones read a poignant story of a Highway Patrolman and various encounters he had during his Christmas Eve shift. Then Jim passed out song sheets he had prepared with popular Christmas Carols.

Accompanied by Fr. George on guitar all members joined in singing the carols. Key Dates: Officer Installation – St. Martins, January 10, 2015 and Next District Meeting at Branch 47 Sunnyvale Church, January 12.

Mark your calendars for our future fundraising event. We will have a Crab Cioppino Dinner on February 21st. For more information contact Norma at 650-583-3643.

We would like to offer our condolences to the Clorinda Orlich’s Family. Clorinda joined Branch 7 in 1969.

Branch 7 would like to welcome our new member Jeanne Acosta. (Lovely daughter of Jeanette Acosta)

So, until next time... a thought to ponder… “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!”

Sempre Avanti,
Lorene Masetti

Burlingame
Our Lady of Angels, Br. 173

Our Christmas potluck dinner party will be held on 12-11-14 and our Financial Secretary, Jean Watterson and her husband John will again do the honors of chairing this event. This year it will be held in the gym and we are asking for food for the needy as well as food to share.

We have a lot of earth angels in our club who work hard to make our dinners interesting and a special thanks to all. We can’t forget our chefs, Bob Tomaszello Gaye Wernicke and our servers Beva Tomaszello, Brenda Wemiz, and Sandra Bennett along with Mariano and Emiliano who lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

To all of the officers a huge thank you for all of your efforts and we all look forward to making 2015 an even better year!

Please keep the Giusti family in your prayers as we lost Lido recently. Also, I would like to please keep the Giusti family in your prayers, cards and Masses for my son, David, who recently passed away.

God Bless,
Rosalind C. Emery

Millbrae
St. Dunstan, Br. 403

The San Mateo District Installation of Branch Officers will take place on Saturday, January 17, 2015 at St. Dunstan Church in Millbrae at the 10:30 Mass. Lunch reception will follow at the Terrace Cafe at the El Rancho Inn in Millbrae. The cost is $36 per person. Lunch choices are: London Broil, Red Snapper or Chicken Breast. Reservations are due by January 12, 2015. Please make check payable to ICF San Mateo District, indicate your lunch choice and mail year. Dan Capodanno, 325 San Jose Ave, Millbrae, CA 94030.

Our Christmas Luncheon with Mr. & Mrs. Santa was very nice and well attended. The food was delicious and the room looked wonderful. People had a great time catching up with friends. The children had a wonderful time sitting on Santa’s lap and telling him what they would like for Christmas. We thank the two co-chairs, Lucia Della Santina and Jeanne Asdourian for putting it together.

We also thank everyone who helped to set up and to clean up, and everyone who donated money for the basket raffle. Thank you for all of your support. Mark your calendars for a crab dinner on January 24 at St. Patrick’s. There will also be a basket raffle. It will be catered by Debbie Giringhelli Catering. Call Lorraine Lavaron for reservations.

Our next meeting will be January 20 with installation of officers.

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

Wishing you and your families a very Happy New Year.
Ciao,
Anna Biggio

San Clara Valley
District Council

Congratulations to all ICF Officers for 2015. The installation is on January 10, 2015. New ideas are welcome in the planning of the new year.

Membership dues are currently due for 2015. Cost: $38.40 per member.

Please mail in your payment as soon as possible, or bring it to the January Meeting.

When you get your handout for 2015, please mark your calendars for the year, so that you will not miss out on the many events sponsored by the ICF. Guests and prospective members are always welcome. Speaking of calendars, it is not too late to purchase the wonderful ICF calendars, which provide great recipes and a chance to win money every month.

New Year’s resolution: More New Members. Happy Birthday to all those who will be celebrating during this first month of the new year.
Ciao,
Marlene J. Rotolo

San Mateo
District Council

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San Jose
Holy Cross, Br. 4

The Christmas party was enjoyed by all that attended. The “Old Lady of Christmas” read stories to the children.

Thanks to all who brought toys for Oakland Children’s hospital. I’m sure much joy was brought to the Children.

The officers for the 2015 year are : President Anna Greco, 1st Vice Marie Greco, 2nd Vice Chuck Guilo, Recording Secretary Ann Fitzgerald, Financial Secretary Connie Bar- retta, Treasurer Bill Greco, Trustees Melanie Lara Ho and Kathy Breymer. Orator Walter Phillips and Sentinel James Ho. Let’s get be- hind the officers to help out for dinners and other events.

It would be greatly appreciated if all mem- bers could take a turn helping out.

Jan 7 - dinner meeting
Feb 4 - fundraiser, more later
The program for the year will be mailed to you soon.

Get well wishes to our sick members. Hope you all have a happy, healthy New Year!

Until Next time,
Ann Fitzgerald
Thank you to Santa and Mrs. Clause for dropping in at our December Christmas Party. We enjoyed the delightful visit with Santa and Mrs. Clause.

Sunnyvale

Resurrection, Br. 408

Dio ci benedica nel nuovo anno!

We pray for God’s Blessings in the coming New Year!

The Stanford Blood Bank Congratulates Br. 408 for hosting the collection of over 150 units of Blood in past year of 2014. This effort has more than doubled the number of useable units provided to the local Community from our Parish Community.

Please remember to mail in your dues statements for 2015.

Installation of 2015 Br 408 Officers was held at St. Martin of Tours on Jan 10th in a beautiful Mass Presided by Fr. George Aranha.

Branch 408 will host its first Quartely Communion Breakfast at the 8:30 AM Mass on January 25th.

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

Please remember to include our sick members in your prayers – especially for Monsignor Milan, Fr. George, Edith Novak, Al’s wife Syd, Carolyn O’Connor, John Parker’s wife Barbara, Susie Quaglia, and Aldo Lucaratti.

Morgan Hill

Santa Caterina D’Alessandria, Br. 435

It is with a heavy heart I have to announce the passing of our beloved president Jerry Carravelli. Our branch has lost a wonderful, caring and hard working gentleman. Out of respect for Jerry and his family we did not have an October dinner meeting. A special memorial service was held at St. Catherine’s church with father Mark paying tribute to Jerry along with his family sharing stories about their dad.

Santa Rosa

Santa Rosa, Br. 18

We enjoyed a record turnout at the November 22nd Festa D’AUTUNNO dinner dance, good food by Randy Apel, great dance music by Show Case. It is always an uplifting experience to help with the gift wrapping at Resurrection Altar Society. The donated gifts are plentiful, They are delivered to local care homes. We have been helping with this event for at least thirty years. Our heartfelt sympathy and prayers to our President, Lynn Stiornetta Green on the recent passing of her dear mother, Jeanne Ballatore of Valley Ford. She was one hundred and three years old. We also send prayers and appreciation to our Branch Deputy, Louise Vicino. Her husband, Lou, Past Santa Rosa District Council President passed away December 4th. Get well prayers for our ever-faithful First Vice President and Orator, Martha Rusake. We are looking forward to a year of new members, successfull and most enjoyable fund-raising events. Stay well and join in the fun.

Marie Canale, Buon Capo d’Anno

Santa Rosa, Br. 408

Our new officers for the 2015 year are:

Chaplain= Rev. Mark Arzen
President= Andy Pappani
First Vice President=
Second Vice President=Ken Ravizza
Recording Secretary=Glòria Subocz
Correspondent=Glòria Subocz
Financial Secretary=Giulia Gallego
Treasurer= Giulia Gallego
Orator= Loretta Wilson
Trustees= George Gugliemo, Sylvia Ritchie, Chris Monahan, Helga Brooks

Santa Rosa

San Giuseppe, Br. 12

Our Branch celebrated our Christmas Party at Fume Restaurant on December 8th. There were 16 members who enjoyed a delicious dinner and friendship.

We are looking forward to the District Christmas Party on the 14th.

Brother Paul McCarthy has joined our Branch and is our new Chaplain. We are so pleased to have him at our meetings. He also is interested in working towards new members, in particular to Cub Scouting. A very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to one and all.

Ciao,
Julian

Branch 191 Caption: Tony Spagnola Branch 191’s Recognition Award recipient for 2014.
Healdsburg
St. Frances de Sales, Br. 52

On December 5, we had our Christmas party with over 160 people in attendance. The festive evening was enjoyed by all, especially by the children who enjoyed a visit from Santa. Thank you to Cheryl Rettig and crew for cooking the wonderful pasta dinner. We presented Christmas donations of $4000 to St. John’s Church, $1000 to the school, $2000 to St. Vincent DePaul Society and $10,000 to the St. John School Endowment Fund. Fr. Sean is most appreciative of our donations and the hard work the of the ICF members. Thank you to everyone who came and supported the Golf Tournament, dinners and raffles throughout 2014. Without members support, Br. 52 could not support St. John’s Parish, School and ICF charities, like we do.

Upcoming Events:
Jan. 17: Polenta Dinner. Bar: 5:45 PM. Dinner: 6:30 PM. Price: $15.00 members, $18.00 non-members. This is the second and last polenta dinner of the season. For tickets, call Karla Lippincott: 237-1308 or Mary Madden: 431-0438. Deadline: Jan. 12. Wear your crazy hat for the crazy hat contest! We will also initiate new members.
Jan. 31: Santa Rosa District Installation at St. Peter’s Church in Cloverdale.10 AM Mass with instruction and lunch following. Price: $20.00. For tickets, call Carmen or Lauren: 577-7304
Feb. 3: General Meeting in the Rectory. 7:00pm
March 27: First Annual Lenten Fish Fry. Mark your calendars for this first time event.

Happy New Year!
Lauren Kilcullen

Cloverdale
L’Annunciata, Br. 75

With Christmas just a couple of weeks away, we’re looking forward to our December Christmas Party at which we will dine extraordinarily well, enjoy one another’s company, and bring some relief to others by donating gifts to The Wallace House, Cloverdale’s local shelter and outreach to the needy in our community. Our Youth Group has already held a diaper drive for this facility so we hope to add other needed items such as blankets, sleeping bags and coats. A few days prior to this, several of us will attend The District Christmas Party/Meeting at St. Eunogenes in Santa Rosa.
Gearing up for the New Year, in addition to our regular third Thursday meeting on January 15, at which Cooley’s Anceria, spokesperson, Laurie Lavine, will speak, we will also host The District Installation of Officers on Saturday, January 31st, which begins with Mass and is followed by hors d’oeuvres, a no-host-bar and a Chicken Cordon Bleu luncheon. Please contact your Branch President for tickets!

Members of Branch 391 enjoying a festive Christmas dinner.

Our branch wishes your branch a happy, holy, Christmas and a prosperous, fulfilling, New Year!!!

Sonoma
St. Sebastian, Br. 103

President Margo Kosta has taken the helm as President of Branch 103, together with a great staff of officers. After a most enjoyable Christmas party, the members are ready for a prosperous year in 2015. The branch will be discussing fund raisers and is looking forward to attracting many new members.

Chef Klauber continues to present tasty and exciting menus, so members are encouraged to make reservations for the January dinner by calling Lila Boragno at (707) 996-3448.
Felice Nuovo Anno a tutti,
Marie-Therese Denning

Petaluma
St. Vincent, Br. 127

Greetings from Petaluma!

By the time you read this article, the holidays will be over. I hope that you had a wonderful Christmas and now I wish you a very blessed and a wonderful New Year!

Congratulations to last years Officers of Branch 127 for a job well done. The following are the new officers for 2015, congratulations to all of them with wishes for a successful year to come: President Bruno Fosami, 1st VP Spence Burton, 2nd VP Lucy Spingola, Recording Secy. Sharon Cresci, Financial Secy., Sharon Hromek, Treasurer Eileen Griffith, Orator Rita Boynton, Sentinel Mary Ellen Higgins, Trustees: Mary Ann Ciabattari, Denise DiGirolamo, Louise Vicino, Chaplain Father Michael Calligan and Branch Deputty Ken Marshall. Plan to attend our meetings and functions this year and support your President and your Branch.

The Christmas Party this year was a success. Anyone who attended enjoyed themselves. Thank you Kathleen for making all the arrangements.

Jan. 12th will be the first meeting of the year. At that time we will have our Soup/Dessert Night to be held in the Church Hall. This notice may be too late in getting to you, however, a report on it will be given at the next meeting.

Jan. 17th - Spaghetti Dinner - St. James Church Hall - 6:15pm. O’erderves, 7:00 p.m. Salad, spaghetti, dessert and Wine.
Coffee - Cost $16 Adults $5 Children under 12 yrs. Denise DiGirolamo is the Chairperson in charge. Make reservations with Spence - 763-9082 or Louise - 769-7389.
Jan. 31 - Installation of Officers. Plan to attend, it is being held in Cloverdale Branch.

Keep the date of February 21st open, there will be an all you can eat crabfeed, Menu: o’erderves, crab, garlic bread, dessert, wine. $40 Adults $10 Children under 12 yrs. Reservations should be made with Spence 763-9082 or Louise 769-7389.

We will be charging a few dollars more for our dinners, as the price of everything has risen on everything we purchase.

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers and cards sent to my husband, Louis who passed away on December 7th. I truly appreciate all your phone calls and cards as well. He loved the ICF as much as I do and he was proud to be President of the Branch for three years and proud to serve as President to the Santa Rosa District of the ICF. He also served as Deputy for the Cotati Branch.

Please continue to keep Frank Cresci in your prayers. Also get well wishes to our First Lady Judi Fosami and to anyone else who is ill.

Wishes to anyone celebrating a birthday or an anniversary this month. Also Happy Valentine’s Day in February.

Ciao,
Louise Vicino

Eureka
St. Ambrose, Br. 145

Our December 10th meeting was a delicious potluck dinner. Everyone who attended had a great time enjoying each others’ company. Thank you to Lora Canzonieri for her beautiful decorations, everything was so festive! After dinner we all had desserts, and good conversation with each other.

During our November 11th meeting President Joe Bonino gave us an updated report on the proceeds from our October spaghetti dinner. We did very well with the help of so many people, members and non members who volunteered their time. Thank you all for giving of yourself to our cause of helping young people who are preparing for their first year of college.

Marian Griffin reported that Betty Chinn is still in great need of peanut butter and jelly. We will be planning a drive for her need in coordination with Super Bowl Sunday, however no need to wait until then. You may make your donations now as well. Contact Marian or Joe Bonino for more details.

New dates for your calendar are the installations of officers, and support your President and your Branch.

Br. 52: In the first photo, our youngest members serenade the grownups with “Jingle Bells”, as the children wait for Santa Claus at Br. 52’s Christmas Party. In the second photo, Br. Pres. Nancy Seppi presents Fr. Sean Rogers with a check for $10,000 for the new St. John’s School Endowment Fund. This was one of the many donations, we made at the Christmas Party. 

Br. 52: Happy 100th Birthday! Josephine Camaur recently celebrated her 100th Birthday. Pictured with Josephine are Br. 52 members, Richard Passalacqua, Miria Garfagnoli, Mary Del Monte, John Del Monte and Carmen Kilcullen. Also picture is Josephine’s granddaughter. Congratulations, Josephine!
We continued to enjoy this festive season at our December 9th social meeting with members furnishing appetizers/finger food. Homemade Tom & Jerry's were prepared by Lona Bertoli and served by our bartender, Gene Vannetti. Lona & Gene were “supervised” by Lorraine Vannetti who is recovering from ankle surgery. Santa arrived to distribute gifts and candy canes. Many thanks to our “Santa” Corbin Goin, 2nd Vice President; Lillian Sanchietti for taking on the role of Santa on such short notice. Our longtime Santa, Jerry Sanchietti, was ill and unable to attend. Lucky members who were winners in our Christmas attendance drawing were: May Gregori, $100; Louise Becchi, 2015 dues paid; Pete Peters, 2015 ICF Calendar.

The following members were elected as 2015 officers: President: Mike Falvey, 1st Vice President: Pam Mclaualin, 2nd Vice President: Yvonne Watson; Recording Secretary: Lona Bertoli; Financial Secretary: Gerrie Goin; Treasurer: Lorraine Vannetti; Orator: Jackie Corsetti; Trustees: Bud Polley, Pete Peters & Corbin Goin. Sentinel: Debbie Falvey. Branch #209 would like to thank Barbara Bida, who has served as our Branch President for the last three years. Outstanding job, Barbara – we love you!!

Upcoming:
January 13 -- Regular Meeting
January 31 -- District Installation of Officers - Cloverdale
Best wishes to everyone for a Happy & Healthy 2015!!
Lona Bertoli

Happy New Year to Everyone.
Lorraine Castelli

Sebastopol
St. Michael, Br. 209
On December 6th, Branch 209 celebrated its 48th Anniversary with a Ravioli Dinner. Thanks to all who attended and, also, thanks to everyone who helped make the event a success!!

Christmas Cheer, Branch 103
Celebrating table, Branch 103

28, 2015 starting with Mass at 12:00 noon at the new church at 1200 Maze Blvd. A social hour and dinner will follow Mass at the community center next door. Please save the date. Bring your family and friends. More Mass for our deceased members will be Sunday January 4, and February 1, 2015 at the 8:00 am at the Maze Blvd. Church

Happy New Year!!!

Coming up:
Feb 11 – 7:00 pm - Meeting St. Stanislaus Hall & K Streets Modesto
Feb 15 – District meeting – Tracy
Mar 11 - 7:00 pm - Meeting St. Stanislaus Hall & K Streets Modesto
Mar 15 – 2:00 pm St. Joseph’s Table Stanislaus Hall & K Streets Modesto
Mass 28 - Bishop’s Dinner Mass 1200 Maze Blvd – Dinner Community Center
Cecelia McGhee

Stockton
District Council
Happy New Year to all of you! By the time you read this the Christmas tree will be in the box or in the gutter and we’ll all be on a diet. Here’s hoping your holiday season was filled with love.

The new District officers have been elected and installed. Our first District meeting will be February 15, 2015 (Sunday) hosted by Br. 390 Tracy, Fr. Fleming Hall, St. Bernard Church, 163 E. Eaton Ave., Tracy. 1:30 p.m. 8 person Presidents, call Ida Queirolo with a count of attendance and send your payment to:
Ida Queirolo, 18424 Quetreo Road, Latrobe, CA 95330

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: Branch 43, St. Stanislaus Church Modesto, is busy finalizing the Bishop’s Bursa Mass and dinner to be held on March 28, 2015 (Saturday). Bishop Blaire will be the guest of honor to receive the bursa and spiritual bouquet for this annual event. A potluck dinner will follow Mass. More details in next month’s Bollittino.
Karen Rossen

Modesto
St. Stanislaus, Br. 48
The members that came to our Christmas potluck enjoyed some great food. We had a nice visit and a short meeting to make sure we were ready for the installation.

The Stockton District Installation will be Sunday January 4, 2015 at old church at 709 J Street. Mass will be at 1:00 pm with the installation to follow. Dinner will be at approximately 2:45 pm the menu will be Chicken Cacciatore, Polenta, Green Salad, Mixed Vegetables and bread and Dessert. The cost is $15.00.
Branch 48 will be hosting The Bishop’s Bursa for Stockton District Saturday March
Tucson

Our Lady of the Valley, Br. 425

Our November meeting was highlighted with the introduction of thirteen dinner guests, prospective new members all. We hope that these guests observed the vitality of our ICF community, sensed the opportunity to be of service and will soon become new members.

The November meeting was further treated to a presentation by the Amado Youth Group on coping with drug abuse in their community. With assistance of counselors, they have developed a seven point plan to avoid drug use which they share with others. They have integrated this issue and other youth concerns into a mural that is on display at their community building. It is encouraging to witness our modest financial support in action. We will keep them in our prayers.

In December we held another successful cookie sale. These funds, plus the proceeds from last month’s “take out” Lasagna Dinner will be allocated in our Christmas sharing tradition at the December meeting.

We (45 strong) made our annual pilgrimage to the Tucson Gaslight Theater to discover how, once again, good triumphs over the forces of evil in The Secret Santa melodrama. Most of us proceeded from the theater to the Macaroni Grill for a group dinner. Branch 425 members wish you and yours a happy, holy holiday season.

Barbara Barton, reporting

Tucson

Father Eusebio Kino, Br. 433

We hope everyone enjoyed their Christmas holidays. We wrapped up the 2014 year by electing our 2015 officers. Current president Melissa Rodriguez was reelected to serve another year as president, Debby Gomez-Rasadore was reelected as 1st vice, Larry Masi as acting 2nd vice, Henry Fleischmann was reelected as treasurer, Frances DeChaine, Mary Pellegrino and Mary Andersono were elected as branch trustees and Gail Masi-Moreno as orator. Our long time branch deputy, Jim Actelli will be stepping down from his office and we want to thank him for all of his hard work and service he has given to our branch. We had a productive officers meeting following elections, where we planned out our 2015 calendar, including our February 21 Bishop’s Day being hosted by branch 425 in Green Valley as well as monthly outings and outreach for our parish and the Tucson community. The branch had an amazing annual bake sale, selling all of our parishioners favorite Italian sweets. On December 7, we had our annual Christmas party at The Macaroni Grill and were honored by our pastor, Father Crino’s presence as well as a guest from Italy.

Our upcoming dates to remember are:

Bishop Day February 21 in Green Valley. We supply dessert.

St. Joseph Table on March 22, planning on that.

Let’s make 2015 a safe enjoyable year.

Melissa Rodriguez and Henry J. Fleischmann

Tucson

Elizabeth Ann Seton, Br. 434

ICF Branch 434 participated in the first St Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish Ministry Fair was held October 26, in the parish hall. The event was very well attended. It was inspiring to learn about other parish ministries.

ICF Members baked cookies, set up and staffed our information tables, and distributed ICF literature.

Many parishioners expressed interest in ICF. We decided to invite those who were interested to our next meeting, the last one of the current year. In spite of the very short time we had to prepare for our potluck dinner/meeting November 19, the evening was a great success. The food was delicious and conversation was lively. We gained four new members. We anticipate more new members when we resume meetings in January.

We were delighted that our friends from Branch 425, Green Valley joined us. It was wonderful to see Al Bernardi, who brought ICF to Arizona, looking so well.

Our pre-Thanksgiving bake sale was held on Sunday, November 22. We are pleased to note that our Christmas dinner party will be held at Carrabba’s restaurant. We plan to relax and enjoy the evening, thanking God for blessing our branch with wonderful people who work together, play together, and pray together.

We wish all our ICF family a blessed Christmas and a peaceful, happy new year. I am deeply grateful to all who helped and supported me during my terms as branch president. I pray that our newly elected officers will have a healthy, successful year.

Sincerely,
Kathy Gatto
San Diego Bishop’s Day

to Father Pedro Rivera. District President, Richard Barker presented the branch and district contribution to Father Rivera. The branch presidents also presented spiritual bouquets to Father Rivera. The Master of Ceremonies was Richard Barker, President of the San Diego District I.C.F. Catering was handled by Mario Maruca and Spinelli Catering. Maria Tollefson was in charge of decorating and Patricia Postal prepared the program. C.C. representatives present besides Grand President Bob were Pat Mages and her husband Lou Mages, C.C. Life Member Emeritus Jody Balestrieri and Ed Mendoza, C.C. Member Emeritus Forrest Price and his wife, Prudence Price and C.C. Member Emeritus Mary Alesi and her husband, Jim Alesi. Jody Balestrieri closed the event by leading the group in singing the Federation hymn. The Banquet was dedicated to the Memory of Bishop Cirilo Flores, the recently deceased Bishop of San Diego.

Santa Rosa Bishop’s Day

The Spiritual Bouquet was presented by District President Dante Corsetti. The Seminary Burse from the District was presented by Sharon Hromeck. The seminary burse totaled $2,240. The Providenza Donation was presented by Grand First Vice President Leonard Zasoski, Jr., and totaled $2,000.

Central Council members in attendance included Grand Trustee Lisa Crudo and her mother, Rosalind, Anne Interrante, Lauren Kilcullen, Past Grand President Robert Acquistapace and District Deputy Kathy Acquistapace and Past Grand President Carmen Kilcullen and her husband, Larry. Betty Zasoski accompanied her husband, Leonard.

Sacramento Bishop’s Day

Las Vegas

made by Branch 367 members Manny and Tina Valle. Grand President Bob Bassino made the Providenza donation to Bishop Pepe.

Bob Bassino, Grand President from Branch 191, Santa Clara, CA; Denise Antonowicz, newly elected Central Council member from Branch 184, Los Gatos, CA and her sister, Michelle; Lisa Crudo, Grand Trustee of Central Council from Branch 343, Castro Valley, CA, and her mother Rosalind; Pat Mages, Central Council member from Branch 380, Thousand Oaks, CA and her husband Lou; Charles and Diane Lamon from Loma Linda, CA; Bishop Joseph A. Pepe, Bishop of Las Vegas; Fr. Gerry Grupzinski, Pastor of Our Lady of Las Vegas Church; Fr. Rich Philiposki, Parochial Vicar of St. Joan of Arc Church; Fr. Samuel Martinez, Parochial Vicar of St. Joseph, Husband of Mary Church; Fr. William Ortiz, Parochial Vicar of Prince of Peace Church; Fr. Sam Falbo, retired Chaplain of ICF Branch 367; and Deacon Al Paduano, MC assisting Bishop Pepe.

Los Angeles Bishop’s Day

Thank you members for making the ICF Bishop’s Day and Chaplain’s Recognition Mass and Luncheon at St. John’s Seminary in Camarillo on November 9th a success. Over 110 members representing 23 Branches including 10 Central Council Members joined over 65 Seminarians and three Clergy for lunch in the Dining Hall. Thank you to Regional VP Pat Mages for Chairing this event and to ICF and St. John Seminary staff for their help in making this event a success. Thank you also to CC Member Franklyn Lopes, Jr. who did an excellent job as Master of Ceremonies and to Auxiliary of the San Fernando Pastoral Region Bishop Gerald E. Wilkerson, St. John’s Seminary President Marc Trudeau and Director of Human Formation and Evaluations Reverend Leon Hutton for making this a very special day. Reverend Hutton also thanked ICF for donations totaling more than $180,000 from ICF to St. John’s Seminary in support of Seminarians over the years.