Las Vegas Convention a Success for the ICF

Michelle Feldman
Editor

What happened in Vegas isn’t going to stay in Vegas, as the results of the Italian Catholic Federation’s 85th Annual Convention are about to be revealed. This year’s Convention took place in Las Vegas, Nevada from September 3 to September 7, 2015. With the theme, “Glorify the Lord By Your Life,” the delegates and members of the ICF arrived in Las Vegas with change in the air, and ready to have some fun.

The Las Vegas area, along with Convention Director Steven Fuentes and his committee, hosted a wonderful gathering at the Westgate Las Vegas Resort and Casino. On Friday, friends and family gathered to register, play Pedro, and battle it out on the bocce courts. The Live to Give Committee also hosted the ICF’s 4th Annual Convention Blood Drive.

With so much to see and do in Las Vegas, as evening rolled around, the delegates and members returned to the hotel as it was finally time for the Convention to begin. The members gathered in the Ballroom for the official Grand Opening.

The master of ceremonies for the evening was Past Grand President and Central Council Life Member Leonard Rossi, O.L.J. ICF Spiritual Director Rev. Msgr. Daniel Cardelli welcomed everyone to the Convention and expressed his enthusiasm over the upcoming weekend.

Grand Trustee and Central Council Life Member Nina Malone sang both the Italian and National Anthems.

Branch 367 President, Frank Vatalaro, welcomed everyone to the Convention and presented Grand President Bob Basuino with a gift of appreciation.

During the Roll Call of Districts, all districts were announced and present. Grand President Basuino presented the Grand President’s Award to Russ and Louise Vento. In their acceptance speech, continued on page 8.

2015 Convention Raffle Winners

Congratulations to the following people who won a prize in the Convention Raffle.

1st Prize, $2,500 + $250 Seller’s Prize
James and Martha Cardinale-Hill, Br. 250, Diego, CA

2nd Prize, $1,500 + $150 Seller’s Prize
Sue De Carlo, Br. 395, Stockton, CA

3rd Prize, $1,500 + $100 Seller’s Prize
Catherine Janssen-Bowman, Br. 281, Bakersfield, CA

4th Prize, $1,000
James Prendergast, South Holland, IL

5th Prize, $1,000 + $100 Seller’s Prize
Jeanette T. Hudson, Br. 28, Gilroy, CA

6th Prize, $500 + $100 Seller’s Prize
Anne O’Brien, Br. 163, San Mateo, CA

7th Prize, $500 + $100 Seller’s Prize
Branch 14, Crockett, CA

Special Drawing for Branches that sold more tickets than last year: 2 prizes of $250 each.

Branch 21, Santa Cruz, CA -- $250
Branch 214, Concord, CA -- $250

continued on page 3
The Ladies Take the Spotlight... 

David Botta and Carmen Kilcullen Past Grand Presidents 

For the first sixty-nine years of the Italian Catholic Federation, only men were elected to the position of Grand President. In 1993, all that changed with the election of the first woman Grand President of the ICF. Since then, three other women have had the title. We would like to feature them in this article.

Carmen (Solarl) Kilcullen- Carmen was elected the first woman Grand President of the ICF in 1993 at the Anaheim Convention. Carmen is a first generation Italian-American, the daughter of Ambrogio and Teresa Solarl who came from the Liguria region of Italy. She attended St. Brigid elementary/high schools and graduated with a degree and teaching credential from UCLA where she majored in political science. She was elected to the Central Council in 2005 and served as Grand District. Jane was elected to the Central Council in 2005 and served as Grand President from 2011 to 2013. During her tenure of office, she started the Live to Give Blood Drive Program, of which she is justly proud. Jane continues her work with the ICF in many capacities. She says that the Federation has not only been a part of her life, but a way of life.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I thank the Central Council, the Santa Rosa District Council, the Branches of the Santa Rosa District, Branch 161 Larkspur, and the many individuals for the prayers, Masses, cards and donations to the I.C.F. funds on my behalf.

My progress is slow but day by day I am making improvement. I am not able to write, so this letter of thanks is meant for all of you.

Bob and I missed seeing all of you at the Convention. We hope you had a good time and good fellowship with one another.

May God bless all the members of the Italian Catholic Federation.

Fraternally,
Kathy Acquastopace

2014 Convention -- Great Success Glorifying The Lord By Your Life

Monsignor Daniel Cardelli ICF Spiritual Director

Great enthusiasm, filled with excitement, joy and friendship permeated the atmosphere of the convention. The Westgate Resort was just great for the convention. The meeting rooms were large and plentiful. The workshops were well attended and informative. The service was excellent. The general sessions went smoothly and there was a good feeling of camaraderie among the delegates and officers. The temperature inside of the hotel was cool and comfortable. The food was good. The Saturday banquet was excellent and the service was fabulous. What a great venue for a convention!

Bishop Joseph Pepe, Bishop of Las Vegas and Bishop Stephen Blair, Bishop of Stockton, joined us during the convention.

Both support the ICF not only at the convention but also in our purpose and quests throughout the years. We thank them for their presence and encouragement.

Congratulations to all the new officers of the ICF. We look forward to a Faith-filled leadership during their tenure.

Congratulations to all the award winners. We are proud and grateful to them for their service to God and the people of God.

“Glorifying the Lord by your life” was the theme of this year’s convention. We strive to glorify the Lord not only during the convention, but also in our daily lives. God gives us so much. We are alive in this world because of His love for us. We want to show our appreciation and gratitude every day of our lives. How? In all our daily actions, in all our dealings with our family, friends and fellow humans we want to make every effort to follow the example of the love that Jesus shows for us. In this way we GLORIFY THE LORD BY OUR LIFE.


Jane Dianda-Jane was born to Sir Robert and Theresa Dianda in Oakland on January 21, 1965. She attended Bishop O’Dowd High School and Merritt College. She obtained several credentials from H & R Block and the Intuit Lacerte for specialized certifications. Jane joined the Federation in 1981, becoming a member of Branch 91 in Oakland. She says that it seemed a natural thing to do because her family was so active in the ICF. She served as president of the branch after working her way through the chairs and did the same for the East Bay District. Jane was elected to the Central Council in 2005 and served as Grand President from 2011 to 2013. During her tenure of office, she started the Live to Give and Blood Drive Program, of which she is justly proud. Jane continues her work with the ICF in many capacities. She says that the Federation has not only been a part of her life, but a way of life.

A few months ago, we did an article on the very first ICF Scholarship winners in 1964. We were able to find three of those winners. Last month, another winner contacted us as she had been in Italy at the time of that writing. Here is her story.

Susan Audap Page-Susan graduated from Delano High School and attended UCLA where she majored in political science and Russian. She later received a teaching credential and taught in the Los Angeles schools for 19 years. Other teaching experiences included 9 years at the International Schools in Syria and Malaysia, principal of Cobb School in San Francisco, and in Oakland as a mentor for principals. Now, semi-retired, she works with teachers to improve their math teaching skills while working with special needs children. Susan is married to Richard Page and has two daughters, Natalie and Kate, and two grandchildren Lucia and Sienna. She greatly appreciated the scholarship money and said that it helped make a difference in her life. Thank you, Susan, for touching base with us.

The temperature inside of the hotel was cool and comfortable. There was a good feeling of camaraderie and the many individuals for the prayers, Masses, cards and donations to the I.C.F. funds on my behalf.

My progress is slow but day by day I am making improvement. I am not able to write, so this letter of thanks is meant for all of you.

Bob and I missed seeing all of you at the Convention. We hope you had a good time and good fellowship with one another.

May God bless all the members of the Italian Catholic Federation.

Fraternally,
Kathy Acquastopace

UPCOMING:

2015 Bishops’ Days:

Oct. 4 Fresno
Oct. 11 Santa Rosa
Oct. 18 San Jose (Santa Clara Valley)
Oct. 28 San Bernardino
Nov. 1 Las Vegas
Nov. 7 Reno
Nov. 8 Blessed Sacramento
Nov. 15 Los Angeles
Branching Out
Anne Interrante
Grand Trustee, Public Relations
Committee Member

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

Branch 368, San Jose, California has Themed Potlucks Hosted by Members.
For nine of their General Meetings, members turn as hosts for a particular month to plan the dinner, theme and decorations. Each meeting has two hosts that work together to prepare for their month. The hosts contact each member to ask them to bring certain potluck items based on the theme. Some themes have included “Soup Night,” “Taco Bar,” or “Thanksgiving Feast” to name a few. A list is kept as to what a member brings each month so they can alternate bringing an appetizer, salad, main dish or dessert. The menu always includes appetizers and these are served during a social time prior to the meeting. Members enjoy coming early to enjoy each other’s company as well as sampling the creative variety of appetizers. There is a $2 donation to cover supplies and beverages. The hosts have a fun time planning their themed evening and decorating the meeting space. Not only is this a great way to get members more involved in the monthly meetings, but it also builds community during the social time!

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<td>Jonathan Muglie</td>
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Interested in learning more about the ICF’s National Charity, Cooley’s Anemia (Thalassemia)?
If your Branch or District would like members of the Cooley’s Anemia Team at Children’s Hospital Oakland to come and speak at one of your meetings or special functions, please contact: Laurence Levine, Thalassemia Outreach Coordinator (510) 428-3889 x 5427 or email: llevine@mail cho.org

Branch 319, Claremont, California sponsors “Who’s Got the Best Sauce” Contest.
The branch advertises the “Who’s Got the Best Sauce” event in their church bulletin inviting parishioners to enter a pot of sauce in the contest and/or to participate as a judge. The contest takes place at their regularly scheduled General Meeting which is a great way to bring in parishioners to see what the ICF is all about. Contestants bring their sauce to a pre-designated area where it is tagged with a letter for anonymity of the cook (i.e. A, B, C, etc.). All attendees receive a voting sheet, bowls and slices of bread for the taste-testing. They then vote for their top three sauces.

After votes are tabulated, the top winner receives a special certificate stating they are the one with the best sauce. They are then asked to share the story of their sauce which provides the heritage profile of the sauce. Each month so they can alternate bringing an appetizer, salad, main dish or dessert. The menu always includes appetizers and these are served during a social time prior to the meeting. Members enjoy coming early to enjoy each other’s company as well as sampling the creative variety of appetizers. There is a $2 donation to cover supplies and beverages. The hosts have a fun time planning their themed evening and decorating the meeting space. Not only is this a great way to get members more involved in the monthly meetings, but it also builds community during the social time!

Congratulations to our newly elected Central Council Member Donna Raffanti from Branch 434, Tucson, Arizona.

Grand President
continued from page 1

and sounding board these past 8 years and I thank them so much from the bottom of my heart for being by my side. Unfortunately my mother, Marian couldn’t make the trip here this weekend, but I know that she has been here in spirit the whole time; she is a dedicated charter member of Branch 281 for over 42 years. It was she and my Godfather John Papasergia that set the hook into my wife and me over 25 years ago to become a part of this great organization. Then Dick and Maxine Seatena nudged us along to the next level to become District officers. My branch, number 281 Bakersfield and the Fresno District have also been there for me throughout the years. Thank you for all your support. Finally, I wish to thank Nettie Descalso-Del Nero for her friendship and support during my Central Council years. She kept me on the right track, always encouraging me to look for new ideas all while remembering our great past. Jim Jones had a vision for the future of our organization, Jane Dianda started to set it in motion and Bob Basuino was the one who kept the fire going in all of us to move forward with our Strategic Plan.

With our Strategic Plan, we have been able to have a global overview of our Federation, looking at what we have done in the past while looking towards the future, seeing our strengths and weaknesses. By knowing our strengths, we can continue to build upon them, and by addressing our weaknesses, we will shore up areas that will make us sound. Our Strategic Plan and the workshops given by the Task Force are giving the branches an insight into future leadership, membership recruiting and retention, finances and the connections that we must have with our churches and communities. All of these areas need to be healthy to have a successful Federation. All committees at the Central Council level are a vital part of who we are and what we do to help us achieve our goals as an organization. I will be challenging all committees to explore new ideas and to ask our membership for their input as to how we do things for them; this may be in the form of a survey, a personal phone call or we may ask all of you together at one of your events. Please let us know your ideas. We may not always be able to make all the changes that you wish, but we will listen and consider them with an open mind. I am currently in the process of organizing the Central Council committees. We have been using various forms of communication for our committee meetings this past year, such as conference call and a teleconference, which will make it easier for members-at-large to participate in the discussion.

By using these forms of communication, we can now have committee members from throughout the Federation be involved as if we were all in the same room while saving the travel cost.

As of this time, the following Central Council members have agreed to be a chairperson for the following: Task Force will be headed up by Vince Piro. Vince has been a vital part of this committee the last several years overseeing the creation of the Strategic Plan and beginning the implementation phase with our training workshops. He will continue his great work with the next year, focusing on membership.

To assist Vince, I am asking Andy Pappani to attend one of your events.

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Congratulations to our newly elected Central Council Member Donna Raffanti from Branch 434, Tucson, Arizona.
In Loving Memory

Report Date: 09/17/2015

ROSE D FRANKINA Branch 391
VIVIENNA M PIANO Branch 391
PETER ARANCIO Branch 036
ROSE A FERRANTE Branch 036
ROMOLO IAVARONE Branch 161
RITA TACHIS Branch 161
EUGENE BERTOLUCCI Branch 236
MARY PASCUZZI Branch 342
ELEONORA MARCHESI Branch 362

Scholarship Donations

Donations received by September 10, 2015.

Scholarship Donations - 1st Year
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dianda and Jane
Get well wishes for Kathy Acquistapace

Apostolate Charity Update

Thank you to the following Individual that sent in a donation for activities at Oakland Children’s Hospital for their Cool Kids/Lamina Patients. With this additional donation we collected a final total of $2,250.00 for 2015 and have sent the additional donation to Children’s Hospital.

Your generosity is greatly appreciated and we thank you for contributing once again and taking part in our Apostolate/Charity Program.

Josie Galante - in memory of Tony Galante

Again, we hope that more Districts, Branches and Individuals will be able to participate next year so that the hospital can continue these beneficial activities.

The Apostolate Charity Committee

Benvenuti Membri Nuovi

Report Date: 09/17/2015

RAYMOND A HERNANDEZ Branch 169
BENNETT BROWN Branch 025
DIANE V LUZOD Branch 025
JOANN M SULLIVAN Branch 025
THOMAS L SULLIVAN Branch 025
HELEN WILLIAMS Branch 036
JANET J PYNE Branch 047
ALEXANDRA E WOOD Branch 047
BEN J WOOD Branch 047
CATHERINE A WOOD Branch 047
ALAN WOOD Branch 047
SIBEL WOOD Branch 047
PHILIP WOOD Branch 047
BRUNO MARRONI Branch 075
MALIA L BELLOMO Branch 102
GEORGE SHIELFTT Branch 102
JOYCE ADAMS Branch 111
ROCCO GIRAFFE Branch 111
ROSE GIRAFFE Branch 111
NANCY VALDEZ Branch 154
DIANE DIANI Branch 154
EVANGELINA G HERNANDEZ Branch 169
IRMA HERNANDEZ Branch 169

Gifts of Love Convention Donations

Donations received by September 10, 2015

Pat and Louie Cordich
In honor of the 50th wedding anniversary of Russell and Terry Wolfe
Joan and Jerry Delfino
Get well wishes for Lisa Crudo
Mary Zadera
In honor of the 50th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Arnaudo
Cathy and Joe De Maria
In memory of Rose Frankina
Vic and Pat Arnaudo
In memory of Romolo Iavarone
Ed Pizzorno and Officers/Members of Br. 111
In memory of Patricia Pizzorno
Anthony and Lillian La Pense
In memory of Rose Frankina
Officers/Members of Br. 191
In memory of Louise Simonetto
Ralph and Margaret DeRango
In memory of Romolo Iavarone
Jack and Kathleen Gallizio
In memory of Anna Gallizio
Bill Billings
In memory of Rose Frankina

Grand Total: $7,379.00
**TESTIMONIAL DINNER HONORING**

**PAST GRAND PRESIDENT**

**ROBERT BASUINO**

Saturday, November 7, 2015
Cocktails (No-Host Bar) - 5:00 p.m.  Dinner - 6:00 p.m.

**FIORILLOS RESTAURANT**

638 El Camino Real, Santa Clara, CA 95050

**MENU CHOICES:**

- *Marinated Bistro Filet* - topped with mushrooms and marsala sauce served with vegetables and roasted red potatoes.
- *Chicken Italiano* – chicken breast with onions, mushrooms and artichoke hearts in a wine marinara sauce served on a bed of bowtie pasta.
- *Prawns Bordelaise* – sautéed with garlic, lemon cream and wine served over fettuccine.

**Coffee and Dessert**
Price: $45.00 per person

**RSVP By October 28, 2015 - See Attached Form**

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*PLEASE MAIL FORM AND CHECK NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 28, 2015 TO:*
Italian Catholic Federation
8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110
Oakland, California 94621

Branches will be seated together unless notified differently.

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**Cooley’s Corner**

Submitted By:  
Laurice Levine, MA, CCLS  
Senior Thalassemia Outreach Coordinator

**Dear Grand President Bob Basuino,**
Apostolate Chairman Franklyn Lopes, Members of the Central Council, Branch Presidents, Members of the Italian Catholic Federation, and ICF Staff:

It was wonderful seeing you all at the 85th Annual ICF Convention in Las Vegas! Your kindness and generosity is beyond measure and we are so grateful that you one again nominated the Thalassemia (Cooley’s Anemia) Program at UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital Oakland as your national charity. Thank you for your donation of $71,000! Also, thank you for your donation of $2,250 for our summer programs.

ICF funds go towards medical research; the provision of quality care to patients who cannot afford it; travel funds for patients who are isolated; community outreach and education; and psychosocial programs and events for patients and families. Without the help of the ICF we would not have a Thalassemia Outreach Program which currently is the only program of its kind in the United States and sets us apart from other specialty centers for thalassemia.

We are incredibly grateful for your continued support and realize how difficult fundraising is – we sincerely appreciate your endless hard work, your precious time, and the creativity that you put into all of your fundraisers for Thalassemia.

As you know, community outreach is a priority for us and an integral part of our mission. Therefore, if your branch is interested in learning more about Thalassemia and our program at UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital Oakland, I would be happy to speak at one of your meetings or events (regardless of the size – I will gladly visit 5 members or 500. Please contact Laurice Levine at (360) 860-2023, or, LLevine@mail.cho.org to make arrangements. Also, please mark your calendars for Wednesday, December 2nd from 11am-2pm for our annual Christmas Party. We hope you and your loved ones can join us for an evening of festivities.

The strong sense of community and friendship that I experience when I am surrounded by my ICF family give me tremendous strength throughout the year. Thank you again for your love, support, and generosity.

Sincerely,
Laurice Levine, MA, CCLS Senior Thalassemia Outreach Coordinator
Elliott Vichinsky, MD Director, Hematology/Oncology

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**Cooley’s Anemia Convention Donations**

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**Grand Total: $9,858.00**

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**Cooley’s Anemia Donations**

Donations received by September 10, 2015

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**BOOK REVIEW**

Don’t Sing at the Table:
Life Lessons from My Grandmothers
Adriana Trigiani

In Don’t Sing at the Table: Life Lessons from My Grandmothers, Adriana Trigiani, author of the popular Big Stone Gap series, lovingly portrays the inspirations of her popular novels, her two grandmothers, Viola and Lucia. Trigiani’s two Italian-American grandmothers were hardworking, no-nonsense women, who dealt with life’s challenges head-on, but they were also kind and caring women, who left their granddaughter with bits of wisdom on life and love.

In the first part of Don’t Sing from the Table, Trigiani writes several chapters about the lives of her grandmothers. These portraits provide us with details about their lives and illustrate the values that guided them. Trigiani leads the reader away from the stereotypes that many people have of Italian American women (especially grandmothers) and depicts two women who are complex, introspective, and independent.

For instance, of Viola, Trigiani writes, “There was a duality in her approach to life, as she ran the factory [of which she was co-owner] and her home on parallel rails. She was a powerhouse in the mill, a taskmaster boss, unyielding in her quest for perfection . . . But as driven as she was at work, she was just as insistent about being feminine: charming, interesting, socially engaging, and – the highest dream of all – elegant.” Through Trigiani’s writing, Viola emerges as a force, determined, committed, and powerful, but she is also always glamorous and graceful. She is not an Italian-American stereotype.

Trigiani’s grandmother Lucia (Lucy) is equally compelling. With a life marked by tragedy, she emerges as a survivor, who is also independent and self-sufficient. After her husband dies at a very young age, Lucia takes over their store-front business and makes a go of it. “Known in her town for “her can-do common sense and even temperament, Lucy had a place of respect in her community in matters practical and philosophical.” Rather than let tragedy break her, Lucia kept her body and soul together, running a successful business while raising a family, “put[ting] all three of her children through college.” She earned money “selling and sewing factory-made shoes, including the popular Red Goose brand.”

After the initial chapters of the book, Don’t Sing from the Table focuses on sharing the folk wisdom and advice that Trigiani’s grandmothers gave her as she was growing up. Chapters focus on such topics as “Children,” “Security,” “Sex and Marriage,” and “Belief.” Regarding one’s reputation, Lucy tells her granddaughter, “You only have one reputation. When your good reputation is gone, it’s gone.” Her grandmothers also teach her that “Self respect is the most important respect of all.” These life lessons are illustrated by Viola and Lucia’s lives as they “practice what they preach.”

As much as this book is about Trigiani’s grandmothers and their wit and wisdom, it is also about the author herself. In her description of her grandmothers we learn much about what the author values. However, she is often also more direct, relating to the reader her ideas on a variety of subjects. Her chapter on belief focuses on her religious values and represent both her traditional Catholic upbringing and a more modern sense of belief. She writes, “The development of faith and a spiritual life that sustains us is not about [organized] religion; it’s something far more personal; it’s about cultivating the ability to be still. We must nurture our souls with the same diligence with which we care for our bodies . . .” Of course, her grandmothers are never far behind. She writes later in the chapter, “I learned to be still from my grandmothers. Sometimes they were so busy caring for their families and doing their work, they had to steal a moment to be still. But they did it; they insisted! I found roast beans tucked in their pockets, and prayer cards in their wallets . . .”

Trigiani is best known for her Big Stone Gap series of novels, which follow a cast of characters who live in Big Stone Gap, Virginia. Trigiani was raised in southwest Virginia in a big Italian family. She based her debut novel on her hometown, drawing inspiration from its citizens and her family. Don’t Sing in the Kitchen gives the reader an insight into this popular author’s richest influences, her grandmothers.

**Family Recipes**

By Deborah Rodondi
Grand Treasurer

**PEACH BELLINI**

- 1 part peach nectar (found in cans in the fruit drink section of grocery store)
- ½ part vodka (optional)
- 4 parts dry sparkling wine, champagne or asti spumante (BeVo has a peach spumante)

Serve from punch bowl, garnish with frozen peaches

-Can cut with ginger ale
-For the peach nectar I use puree peaches
-If I am making for just a few people I mix ½ part peach schnapps
-For the peach nectar I puree peaches and maybe find what you are looking for.

-If I am making for just a few people I mix

Teglia. It was a hot day and the bellini had a convention, so many really enjoyed the peach bellini’s and wanted the recipe. It is a very simple beverage and tastes wonderful. I was first introduced to this drink at the wedding reception for Al and Frances Teiglia. It was a hot day and the bellini had a delightful and smooth flavor. So thank you, Frances, for sharing the recipe with me.

**HARVEY WALLBANGER CAKE**

1 Pkg. orange cake mix
1 (3 ½ oz.) instant vanilla pudding
4 eggs
½ cup cooking oil
½ cup orange juice
½ cup Galliano
2 Tbs. vodka

Glaze:
1 cup sifted powdered sugar
1 Tbs. orange juice
1 Tbs. Galliano
1 tsp. vodka

In large mixer bowl combine cake and pudding mix. Add the eggs, oil, OJ, Galliano and vodka. Beat on low speed for ½ minute, then on medium speed for 5 minutes scraping bowl frequently. Pour into greased and floured 10 inch fluted tube pan (bundt). Bake in 350 degree oven for 45 minutes.

Glaze: Combine and drizzle on cake.

**Welcome Fall**

Fall, leaves, fall, die, flowers, away,
Lengthen night and shorten day!
Every leaf speaks bliss to me,
Fluttering from the autumn tree... ~Emily Brontë
It’s that time of year to submit your branch, district, or individual Christmas Ad for the Bollettino! The deadline is November 10. Thank you. These can be sent in already designed and sized, or the text may be faxed or emailed and we will create the design. These are the choices and prices for the ads:

- 2 1/2” x 2 1/2” (one column square) $25
- 2 1/2” x 5” (vertical or horizontal) $35
- 4” x 5” (horizontal) $50
- 6 1/2” x 5” (horizontal, quarter page) $70

To place a message, please send in your ad, either finished or just the text you want, size selection, and your check made out to the I.C.F. (noted Christmas ad), to:

Italian Catholic Federation
8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110
Oakland, CA 94621
Attn: Bollettino

Please send e-mails to info@icf.org and the fax number is (510) 633-9758.

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Grand President
continued from page 3

As members we must learn from the past, live in the present and strive for the future. I have told my sons that part of what you do in life is give back and doing that requires time and effort, but in the end, it feels good to know that you have helped others. It is our duty to see that future generations have the same opportunity to give back to their church and community, along with knowing that you have made friends that will last a lifetime and that you have an extended family within the Italian Catholic Federation.

I have been praying for months to the Lord at Mass on Sunday to give me strength and guidance to oversee such a great organization. We have all heard the term “that’s just a coincidence” if something happens at the same time without planning on it happening. I don’t believe in coincidences. I believe that things happen for a reason. Take this weekend at our Convention. Our Pope St. John XXIII Award Recipient Bradley James who worked with Mother Teresa told us the story of her visiting Las Vegas, and we are in Las Vegas for our convention, coincidence? Then our Mother Teresa Award Recipient Father Dave Heney told us the story of meeting Mother Teresa in Mexico, and he received an award in her name. Coincidence? I don’t think so. Mother Teresa was here at our Convention with us through the Holy Spirit to inspire us to do the work of the Lord.

That is what we are called to do as ICF members in our branches, church and community. To do the work of the Lord, we just need to open our hearts and let him in.

May God bless the Italian Catholic Federation; give us the guidance and wisdom to move into the future.

Thank You.
Russ and Louise spoke of the importance of heritage, and the need to keep it alive. Rev. Samuel Falbo, Diocesan Chaplain of the Diocese of Las Vegas gave the closing prayer, and Nina Malone accompanied by Pat Mueller of the East Bay District performed “Noi Vogliam Dio.” All delegates were set free to meet the candidates and enjoy the rest of the evening.
With an early morning start on Saturday, September 5, the delegates were ready to attend workshops that discussed the Strategic Plan; Successful Branches, Charitable Giving to the ICF; a behind the scenes look at the operations of the ICF; an Open Forum where anything could be discussed; and delve into the soul inspiring world of spirituality.

During the business session of the day, the Credentials’ Committee announced that there were 193 delegates with 30 CC members and 223 voting delegates.

The Family of the Year Award was presented to the Zanini Family from Paso Robles. They spoke of working at the pasta dinner with an attendance of 300. “You don’t have to be Italian to love and belong to the ICF, I’m Tex-Mex.”

Grand President Basuino also presented the Young Adult Leadership award to Melissa Rodriguez. She commutes between Phoenix and Tucson to run the branch meeting. She said, “Thank you for welcoming me into your family.”

During the Treasurer’s report, Grand Treasurer Roselyne Jarrett discussed new California tax laws for religious non-profit.

The Hospitalization Committee has a new member. Donna Hoffman of Branch 14 was unanimously elected to the committee.

The ICF also paid tribute to George Baciagalupi, who is now a Central Council Life Member Emeritus.

The delegates and members were given a relaxing period to return to their rooms before the Saturday night cocktail party and banquet.

At the Saturday Night banquet Bishop Pepe from Las Vegas and Bishop Blaire from Stockton were in attendance and seated at the head table.

Saint Pope John XXIII Award winner Bradley James spoke and sang one of his songs written for Mother Teresa at the end of his speech.
Saturday
At the Sunday session the following Central Council Candidates were voted into the Central Council: Anne Interrante, Donna Raffante, Andy Pappani, Franklyn Lopes, Jr., Vince Piro, Lauren Kilcullen, Leonard Zasoski, Jr., Denise Antonowicz, Debbie Rodondi, Teresa Helfand, and Lisa Crudo.

Grand President Basuino presented the Mother Teresa Award to Fr. Dave Heney. He told about the time he met Mother Theresa when she was in Tijuana for an ordination. He said, he had one thought in his head – “Don’t mess it up.” When he met her, she spoke to him first and he forgot the few lines he had rehearsed. He said that she made everyone feel completely at ease.

Presentations and awards were later given out from the Apostolate/Charity Committee, Membership Committee, Scholarship Committee, Heritage Committee, and Ways and Means Committee.

Grand President Basuino also made the presentation to Dr. Elliott Vichinsky and Laurice Levine, Thalassemia Outreach Coordinator from Oakland Children’s Hospital. Grand President Basuino presented a total of $71,000 to Dr. Vichinsky and Laurice. $15,000 from the Silva Trust, $10,000 from the Joe Liotta Trust, $5,000 from the Placer Community Foundation and $41,000 from the branches. Dr. Vichinsky once again thanked the ICF for its dedication to the patients and program at Oakland Children’s Hospital. Dr. Vichinsky said that he has a “strong sense of ethical responsibility to use the funds wisely. The funds mean very much to us.”

Laurice said she was excited to meet new delegates, this year. She thanked the ICF for donating 26 units of blood at the blood drive on Friday. Laurice also said that she and her husband Matt are expecting a baby in February via surrogate. Everyone was very happy at that news.

During the remainder of the business session the following proposals were discussed:

- Increasing the number of people needed to start a new branch to 35: Passed
- Branches should hold 9 meetings per year. Branches can’t skip 2 consecutive meetings: Defeated
- Branch delegates are based on Individual memberships: Passed
- Change in the rate of fine for not sending delegates: Defeated
- Adding a due date to submit request to be excused from convention: Passed
- Adding a due date to pay the fine: Passed
- During the donations portion of the day the following amounts were donated:
  - Cooley’s: $9,850
  - Gifts of Love: $7,447.75 ($52.75 came from tips at the Fresno District Friday night party.)
  - Scholarship: $200
  - Providenza: $600 from the raffle of the cross necklace donated by Joanne Maggiora of Oakland and $100 donation.

After a busy morning, Grand President Basuino concluded the morning business session, where the current and newly elected Central Council members then retired to lunch to vote on the officers of the Central Council.

The Concelebrated Mass was very well attended and the Most Reverend Bishop Pepe of Las Vegas - was the main celebrant of the Sunday Mass.
Monday - Convention Closing

Monday

After three fun and inspirational days together, it was time for the annual Convention to come to a close.

At the prayer service, conducted by Spiritual Director Rev. Msgr. Daniel Cardelli, the new Central Council members and officers were installed. Leonard Zasoski, Jr., took the reins as the new Grand President. The new 2015-2016 face of the Central Council is:

Grand President Leonard Zasoski, Jr.
Grand 1st Vice President Andy Pappani
Grand 2nd Vice President Vince Piro
Grand Secretary Lauren Kilcullen
Grand Treasurer Deborah Rodondi
Grand Trustees Anne Interrante, Denise Antonowicz, and Dante Galeazzi
Parliamentarian David Botta
Sergeant-at-Arms Franklyn Lopes, Jr.

With one last recital of “Noi Vogliam Dio” the Convention came to a close.

Goodbyes were said and hugs exchanged until everyone can meet again at the 2016 Convention in Fresno, California.

I would like to express my thanks and gratitude to Robyn Piro, Branch 39, who in absence from this year’s Convention kindly and graciously took most of the pictures you see within these pages from the Convention. Thank you so very much Robyn!

--Michelle Feldman, Editor

Guidelines for Toy Donations

Every year the Thalassemia program at Children’s Hospital Oakland has a Christmas party for approximately 200 patients and families (and gifts are also distributed in the hospital and clinics for children who cannot attend the party). Please consider helping us for the holidays by making a donation or running a toy drive.

Due to hospital policy, fire hazard, and the prevention of infectious disease, we ask that all donations be brand new and that you please adhere to the following guidelines:

Suggested donation items:
- Infant Toys: mobiles, musical toys, rattles, teethers
- Books for all ages – hard cover preferred
- Board Games for all ages: Life, Monopoly, Clue, Sorry, Trouble, Candyland, Chess/Checkers, Uno, Chutes and Ladders, Simon, Trivial Pursuit, Jenga, Hi Ho Chee, Operation, Scrabble
- Barbie, baby dolls
- Hand held video games
- Portable CD and DVD Players
- Sports equipment
- Gift cards to: Target, Tunes, Gap, Old Navy, Forever 21, Barnes and Noble, Movie Theater Passes, Starbucks, Peet’s Coffee, Jamba Juice, See’s Candies
- Make up kits and nail polish
- Jewelry
- Art supplies including pens, crayons, coloring books, paper, glitter pens, gel pens
- Art kits/craft sets
- PlayDoh and modeling clay
- Toy cars, match box cars
- Model airplanes
- Lego sets
- Action figures
- Brio Trains

We are unable to accept the following:
- Ceramic dolls
- Clothing of any type
- Used baby blankets
- Used toys and games – including board games and puzzles
- Used books
- VHS videos

If you would like to make a donation please contact:
Laurice Levine at 510-428-3885 x 5427 or lLevine@mail.cho.org

Thank you in advance for your generosity and support!!!

Your donation is tax deductable:
Federal Tax ID Number:
Tax ID: 94-1657474

ICF Hospitalization Plan

Annual Cost – Only $25

Eligibility – ICF members who join before their 65th birthday

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

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

To apply now, visit our website www.icf.org or call 1-888-ICF-1924
## Congratulations 2015 2nd, 3rd and 4th Year Scholarship Winners!

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### 3rd Year Scholarships ($600.00)

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### Italian Studies 3rd Year Scholarship ($600.00)

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### 4th Year Scholarships ($1,000.00)

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>In Memory of In Honor of</th>
<th>Donated By</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ashley Jess</td>
<td></td>
<td>East Bay District</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clare Sorensen</td>
<td></td>
<td>Br. 438 - Roseville</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ryan Petronella</td>
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<td>Br. 425 - Green Valley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Katelyn Kriech</td>
<td></td>
<td>James P. Muglie - Br. 91, Oakland</td>
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<td>Kelsey Kriech</td>
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<td>James P. Muglie - Br. 91, Oakland</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Greene</td>
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<td>The June and Ed Rodondi Family</td>
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<td>Giulia Maletti</td>
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<td>Kylie Ferro</td>
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<td>Scholarship Fund</td>
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<td>Ashley Robertson</td>
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<td>Natalie Tomasello</td>
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### Italian Studies 4th Year Scholarship ($1,000.00)

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<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ana Hernandez</td>
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<td>Mario Cugia</td>
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*We also acknowledge the following partial donations that made some of the additional scholarships from the I.C.F. Scholarship Fund possible.*

Central Coast District: Br. 21and Br. 354; East Bay District: Br. 91, The Dianda Family (Br. 91) - In Memory of Vincent Furlong, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dianda - In Memory of Vincent Furlong; Fresno District: District, Br. 31 and Br. 70; Los Angeles Archdiocese District: Aline Amatisto (Br. 362) - In Memory of Al Millianizzo; Orange District: District; San Diego District: Br. 246; San Francisco District: Br. 258, Jan Farren - In Memory of Dina Pucinelli and Mrs. Mary Perata (Br. 258) - In Memory of Junefi Rubin; San Gabriel Valley Region: Br. 317, San Mateo District: Officers/Members of Br. 19 - In Memory of Joseph I. Teresi, Deborah Rodondi (Br. 19) - In Memory of Frank Basuino, Deborah and Robert Rodondi - In Memory of Dean De Ranieri, Deborah Rodondi and Family - In Memory of Christopher S. Plante, Deborah Rodondi - In Memory of Tom Pollicotto, Deborah Rodondi - In Memory of Nello Rossi, Deborah Rodondi - In Memory of Wayne Shriver and Deborah and Robert Rodondi - In Memory of Al Teglia; Santa Clara Valley District: District, Br. 368, Br. 391, Officers/Members of Br. 19 - In Memory of John Pavlovich, Ed and Jo Bertaccini (Br. 191) - Get Well Wishes for Emily Correll, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cowden - In Memory of Tony Pisturino, Liz Donaldson (Br. 191) - In Memory of Tony Pisturino, Aldine Grisenti (Br. 191) - Get Well Wishes for Emily Correll and Aldine Grisenti - In Memory of Tony Pisturino; Santa Rosa District: Br. 12, Br. 52 and Br. 209; Stockton District: Br. 413; Tucson: Br. 434 - In Memory of Kelli Raffanti.
Communications:

COMMUNICATION TO POPE FRANCIS

We pledge our loyalty, affection, and devotion to the Vicar of Christ on earth. We commit ourselves to living a life of faith. We pray that he has a safe and successful visit to the United States, and we pledge our prayers that God will grant him many years of his Pontificate.

COMMUNICATION TO MOST REVEREND JOSEPH A. PEPE

We express our gratitude and assurance of our prayers for his continued service to the people of the Las Vegas Diocese. We are grateful for his participation in this year’s convention, representing the Diocese of Las Vegas.

COMMUNICATION TO MSGR. CARDELLI

We wish to thank I.C.F. Spiritual Director Msgr. Cardelli for all his years of loyal service to the I.C.F. We appreciate his spiritual guidance and leadership to the Central Council and membership of the I.C.F. We look forward to many more years of his friendship and guidance.

COMMUNICATION TO ALL BISHOPS AND PRIESTS WHERE THE FEDERATION IS ESTABLISHED

We reaffirm our devotion and send affectionate greetings and heartfelt gratitude for their inspiring guidance. We ask for their blessings on the works of the Federation, that we follow in the footsteps of our founders, Sir Luigi Providenza and Father Albert Bandini. We are united in a common faith and love for Christ’s Body and the Church; and we will continue to be faithful and diligent in our message of our values: faith, family, and heritage. We continue to support the many needs of the Catholic Church, especially our seminarians and clergy.

COMMUNICATION TO DAVID BOTTA

We wish to congratulate and thank David Botta for his 50 years of continuous service on the Central Council, the longest serving member. He has been a dedicated and committed leader, whose energy and vitality are fueled by his love for the Federation.

RESOLUTIONS:

TO THE MEN AND WOMEN SERVING IN THE UNITED STATES MILITARY FORCES

As officers and members of the Italian Catholic Federation and as proud Americans, we stand united today in defending our freedom and liberty. We offer our prayers to all in the Armed Forces, praying for their well being and safe return.

TO ALL ELECTED LEADERS OF OUR UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

We offer our prayers of support to our elected leaders as they make difficult decisions and compromises to assure the well being of ALL in our United States of America and in the world.

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD WHO HAVE SUFFERED FROM NATIONAL DISASTERS AND VIOLENCE IN 2015

We offer our prayers and support to the people of the world, devastated by natural disasters and human violence in 2015. We join them in their sorrow over lost loved ones and offer our petitions to the Lord for the survivors. We pray to the Lord to protect and heal them.

TO THE CONVENTION DIRECTOR’S COMMITTEE, LOCAL COMMITTEES, AND DIOCESAN CHAPLAINS

Whereas, the preparation of the annual convention entails many months of dedicated work, time, and sacrifices on the part of many individuals; and whereas, under the direction and outstanding leadership of Steve Fuentes and the chairs of various local committees under the guidance of Frank Vatalare - President, Branch #367 - Las Vegas, the success of the convention was assured. We, as members of the Italian Catholic Federation, express our sincere thanks and heartfelt appreciation for all that you do.

TO THE OFFICE STAFF OF THE ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION

We thank them from the bottom of our hearts and commend them for their untiring work for our organization and offer our generous gratitude to Charlene Kramer, Patty Smith, Dave Rose, and Michelle Feldman, Editor of the Bollettino.

TO GRAND PRESIDENT BOB BASUINO

For his outstanding leadership these past two years as Grand President, for his time, and untiring efforts, all the officers and members of the Italian Catholic Federation congratulate and thank him.

TO MEMBERS OF THE FEDERATION WHO ARE ABSENT DUE TO ILLNESS

We miss your presence and leadership, advice and good company. Be assured of our prayers for your health and well-being. We especially miss the presence of Joe Donato, Central Council Member Emeritus, a long time resident of Las Vegas Branch 367.

TO THE DELEGATES AND NON-DELEGATES ATTENDING THE CONVENTION

We thank them for representing their branches and for their dedication in preserving and keeping the Italian Catholic Federation, a strong and vital organization in their communities. We wish them all a safe trip home.

Mister President, I move that these communications and resolutions be adopted. Thank you.
The month of October is upon us. Where did the summer go? We are in full swing at the ICF Branch 358 to get our annual bake sale underway. It comes around the middle of October and it is a big sell out at our church. We all look forward to it regardless of all the baking we do, it certainly is a labor of love.

We also get to celebrate Columbus Day on Oct. 12. Columbus discovered America in 1492 but it took a long while for the holiday to catch on but thank goodness it comes with a wonderful day of celebration with a parade, floats, and just a proud feeling especially if your Italian.

We must preserve and keep our heritage going and the ICF is a perfect place to show our love for our heritage not only for the sake of our families but out of respect for our ancestors to keep the Italian culture alive and thriving.

We are committed at Branch 358 to recruit as many new members as possible as well as keep our current members interested and involved.

Happy Columbus Day to all!

Cathy Neri

Happy Birthday to:

Frank Cairo – 10/29
Kay Comisky – 10/29
Leonora Gillette – 10/13
Pauline Nicoletti-Trombetta – 10/28

The August 11th meeting was a potluck and about 40 members enjoyed sampling all the different and delicious dishes. Thanks to committee chairman Emily and Adolph Mayorga, and the committee members: Rick and Janet Fairnelli, Dorothy Farinelli, Nathan Zonini. Plans are underway for the annual Parish Harvest Festival coming up soon. Unfortunately, we had to say good-bye to our Chaplin, Sister Thomas Marie Heavey, since she was reassigned to Washington, D.C. We did, however, give her a ‘going away’ party complete with cake and good wishes. We will miss you sister! On a sad note, Past President Ada Cavallero past away in July. Even at 90 years old she was a valuable member to the club and a champion ticket seller. Please continue to pray for Ada’s son, Gary, and our other Past President Marge Avellar who recently had heart surgery.

Ciao,

Kerin Cavallero

Sister Thomas Marie of Branch 27 is getting ready to cut her ‘good-bye’ cake.

Fresno

Madera

Santissimo Crocifisso, Br. 27

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Ciao,

Kerin Cavallero

Josie Karr of Branch 358 celebrated her 90 Birthday with a party on August 29, 2015.
**Merced**

**St. Cecelia, Br. 39**

We are proud of our two Fresno District members, Leonard Zasoski and Vince Piro, also a Branch 39 member, for getting elected to the Central Council and on being named Grand President and 2nd Grand Vice-President. We also want to congratulate Andy Pappani, who has helped our branch with several Polenta dinners, for being named 1st Grand Vice-President.

We had a wonderful and hearty dinner at our September meeting. Thank you Mary Ellen and Loretta for all their hard work. At this meeting, Sarah Lim, the curator of the Merced Historical Society Courthouse Museum, was our guest speaker to get us excited about the upcoming Italians in Merced County exhibit scheduled for Spring 2017. Her presentation received an enthusiastic response. We are excited to be a part of this important future exhibit. Our delegates also reported on the convention. Carol Salmieri has calendars for sale. Our next meeting is on October 14 at 6 PM at the Iulio-American Lodge.

**Bakersfield**

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Br. 281**

The September meeting was a lovely evening of delicious food and Convention recognition at the house of Cynthia and Dana Munn. Thanks so much to our hosts!

Also, thanks to the delegates and all who attended the Las Vegas Convention. It was a great weekend, and especially delightful for our branch, since long-time member Leonard Zasoski was elected as Grand President of our nation-wide organization. Congratulations, Lenny!

Fall is always a wonderful season for our branch, filled with fun activities and events building up to the Christmas season.

The October meeting is Wednesday, October 7th, taking place in our parish hall. It will be a potluck, and our membership never fail to impress with their variety of dishes and desserts!

Our Annual Nite at the Races is October 10th. This is one of our parish’s most enjoyable events, uniting all ICF members and non-members alike, and demonstrating another level of the value our organization brings to OLPH Church. Come on out and have some fun with us!

The November meeting is especially important for several reasons: not only is it our exciting Turkey Bingo event, but Laurice Levine from Children’s Hospital Oakland will be there to discuss our national charity and raise awareness for Cooley’s Anemia. Additionally, Kristen Watts and Joey Zasoski will also be rallying the troops to help make our Christmas party a success once again. Be sure to mark your calendars for November 12th!

**Baci e abbracci,**

**Kristen Watts**

---

**Los Angeles**

**Archdiocese District Council**

What a fun Convention this year. The Workshops on Strategic Planning (membership and community), Building Successful Branches and Spirituality of Parisioners in a Changing Church were very informative and well done. Thank you to Grand President Bob Basuino for your leadership and guidance these past two years. Congratulations to the newly elected and returning Central Council Members and our new Grand President Leonard Zasoski. The next two years will be challenging and rewarding as the Strategic Plan continues to bring in new ideas and new energy in reinventing the ICF for the present and future generations.

We at the District have been busy working to represent the ICF at various Cultural Events throughout the Los Angeles Archdiocese. Developing awareness of our organization while networking with other Italian American Organizations at Church and Community events and helping to get the word out on our organization; that the ICF is based on Faith, Family and Friendship.

As part of the overall ICF Strategic Planning Initiative, the District is working to expand the number of Branches in each of its four Regions by opening new and expanding existing Branches. On November 6th the newest ICF Branch No. 443 in the Santa Barbara/Ventura Region will be installed at St. Rose of Lima Church in Simi Valley bringing the total number of Branches in the District to 19 Branches.

One existing Branch was recently discovered to be culturally significant not only to Italians and Americans of Italian Ancestry.
but also to the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. To this end, several District Board Members have joined the Branch 67 Board to help reorganize and maintain Branch 67 at Saint Peter’s Catholic Church in Los Angeles. Saint Peter’s is ranked as an Italian National Church and the District is making a major effort to support this significant historical and cultural facility. The Italian American Museum in Los Angeles is set to open in the near future and recognizes past contributions of Italians and Italian Americans in Southern California and the USA. Saint Peter’s Church and Casa Italiana give us the opportunity to recognize and develop the present and future generations of Italians and Italian Americans in the former Little Italy Section of Los Angeles. ICF Branches and/or Members are welcome to help in this effort by joining Branch 67 as a sign of solidarity and respect for traditions of the Italian Culture for all generations to enjoy. Please join Branch 67 now and help us develop this Branch together. Also as part of our faith and heritage commitment, the District maintains the Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library in Burbank. Support from ICF Members, Affiliated Mother Cabrini Groups and Friends of Mother Cabrini, is growing. A Monthly Madness Raffle is underway and continues to bring in necessary funds for the repair and replacement of the existing doors and frames of the Chapel and Library. A $1.00 donation per member has also been recommended as a way to bring necessary funds for the rehabilitation of the Chapel and Library. Please bring this recommendation to your Branch and encourage your members to help the Mother Cabrini Project by collecting $1.00 per member at your next branch meeting. Your support will be greatly appreciated. If I could ask anything of all ICF Members it would be to help support the above efforts by keeping the Los Angeles Archdiocese District in your prayers as we continue this journey to reorganize ICF for future generations to enjoy.

Thank you for being a leader in ICF, Carmelo A. Sabatella AIA
President ICF/LAADC
T. 626 372-7812
E. cas1810@aol.com

Your help is greatly appreciated.
Carmelo Sabatella AIA
President Branch 67
Italian Catholic Federation
T. 626 372-7812
E. cas1810@aol.com

South Pasadena Holy Family, Br. 108
Thank you Members for making the Annual ICF Convention in Las Vegas a fun and memorable event. Congratulations to Diana Plescia (1st Place Team) and Theresa Shaw (2nd Place Team) winners on the Annual Bocce Tournament in the Westgate Hotel in Las Vegas. The Workshops were informative and reported on the status of the Strategic Planning Process (Membership and Community Connections), presented how they developed Successful Branches and the Spirituality of the Parishioner in a Changing Church.

ICF Members visiting the Los Angeles Area are invited to join Branch 108 in a game of Bocce and to come enjoy lunch and visit with members at the General Meeting. All Branch meetings are on the first Sunday of each month. Call 626 372-7812 for more information.

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

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

Carmelo Sabatella, Past President
ICF Branch 108 Email: cas1810@aol.com

San Pedro
St. John Joseph of the Cross, Br. 115
On August 22 our branch celebrated the feast day of our Patron St. John Joseph of the Cross. The Main celebrant for the 9am mass was Father Harrigan and the Predicatore was Father Patalano. The Lauro family had the honor of the carrying the statue while branch members walked behind accompanied by the always beautiful voice of Cantor Augie Castagnola. After mass we proceeded to our Lady’s Grotto where traditional hymns were
and have requested that these funds be put towards protecting the stain glass window.

We are grateful to member Joseph Scot-ti. Thanks to his generous donation of $50,000.00 a beautiful mosaic picture of Ma-

At our August meeting we welcomed our new Chaplain Father Cassian DiRocco. We are blessed to have him lead us spiritually as he is San Pedro born and raised and has insight into our close knit community.

Our delegates Neal and Anna DiLeva, Frank Colonna and Nancy Donato are back from the Las Vegas Convention. They reported that they had a wonderful time and that the ICF is moving forward with innovative plans for the future.

Our September Pothuck meeting was well attended. Thank you to all who helped and organized this event. The food was delicious and no one went hungry.

At this meeting we learned that we are be-
ing asked to contribute $4,000.00 towards protecting the stain glass window that the branch originally provided the church. In lute of recent vandalism we should take care of this precious window. Let’s preserve this window for future generations. With pro-
cceeds made from the August dinner dance fundraiser we were able to donate $1000.00 and have requested that these funds be put toward protecting the stain glass window.

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We are grateful to member Joseph Scot-ti. Thanks to his generous donation of $50,000.00 a beautiful mosaic picture of Ma-donna Dell Arco is being fabricated in Italy. When finished the artwork will be placed in the St. John Joseph of the Cross altar.

Please support our upcoming fundraisers Las Vegas Trip Nov 8 – 10th. 2 nites 3 days Treasure Island hotel $150.00/person double occupancy $205.00 single occupancy member will receive $5.00 discount Call Pauline Iacono for reservations 310 832 0563 California Coastal 7 Day Cruise on the Crown Princess April 23 -30 Leaving from San Pedro Please call Maria Letizia Chap-arro for information 310 820140

Please remember our ill and deceased mem-
ers in your prayers

Anita Gioiello Trujillo Treasurer

San Gabriel Valley Region

Arcadia Holy Angels, Br. 218

We are fast approaching our fall agenda and the holidays will soon be upon us. October 11 is our general meeting with election of office-

members and voting on by-law changes. They also enjoyed the experience of networking with other ICF members at social gatherings. Fr. Antonio also attended all of the weekend events; we are very apprecia-
tive of his support to our branch and the Los Angeles Archdiocese District.

At our September meeting, Al gave a power point presentation to our members on the highlights of the convention. We also heard from our guest, LA County Attorney, Debra Archuleta, who spoke about crime in Los Angeles.

We hope you all had a restful and refreshing summer and are ready to participate actively in our branch activities. See you at the next meeting.

Diane Restivo

Bollettino
October 2015

President Roxanne Perry

God Bless, Branch 317.

We shall hold the nominations for the Board meeting.

Future Events:

10/19 Board meeting at 10:00 AM at the church. The hostess will be announced at the meeting.

The convention in Las Vegas was a huge success and well organized.

Future Events:

Details of Breakfast with Santa will also be announced at the meeting.

We shall hold the nominations for the Board Positions at the October meeting. Join in and be a part of the planning for 2016. Our 40th year Anniversary at St Denis Church and Branch 317.

Our membership has grown recently with the addition of Diane Luzo, Emilia Quaglia, Thomas and Joanne Sullivan, and Bennet Brown. We wish you welcome and invite you to take part, not only in our social affairs, but our charitable activities as well.

Our branch was asked to support the Sacred Heart Festival September 20, 2014. Although too early to be included in this issue, I feel confident that we “manned” our posts with dedication and enthusiasm; especially so as we were assigned to the pizza booth, which was located next to the Knights of Columbus beer booth. Can’t ask for a better setup. The polenta luncheon remains scheduled for November 4th. Preparation of the food and the hall will be done on November 3rd. Come and have lunch with us and bring your family and friends; November is the perfect time for polenta. This is our major fundraiser that supports our charitable donations.

The deadline for this issue occurred before our delegate, President Julie Richards, returned from Las Vegas. Convention issues of interest will be included in next month’s publication.

As indicated last month, our Annual Picnic was a success and enjoyed by all. Bishop Garcia has accepted an invitation to attend our next Annual Picnic on July 31, 2016. Not too early to mark your calendars.

The next District meeting will be held at Arroyo Grande on November 4th. The Annual Christmas Party will be at the J&M Ranch in December; date to be determined.

Ciao, Jean Fontana Bridges

---

**Mass Together at Branch 374**

Members of Branch 374 gather touchy in the Music Room of the Flintridge home of Sandra Richardson for the branches annual Home Mass. It was celebrated by Los Angeles Articloanean Director and Branch Chaplain Monsignor Antonio Caccialupi, assisted by Master of Ceremonies Al Retsivo. The Mass was followed by a BBQ on the estate. ICF Photo by Penny Baisely

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**Monterey Santa Rosalia, Br. 36**

A huge thank you to Br. 25 and especially to Julie and Joe for hosting Central Coast District Bishop’s Day and Central Coast Annual District Picnic at their JM Ranch, always great fun, always a lot to do, and the two of them are wonderful hosts.

Most Reverend Bishop Richard J. Garcia celebrated Mass, he was gracious, funny, and what a pleasure it was to have him with us. Thank you to all of our members who bought their raffle tickets, I really appreciate it.

Our delegates at the convention as I write this, we had an alternate, Bella Leonard, attended in place of our President Liz Grammato.

Our deepest sympathy to the families of Rose Ferrante and Peter Arancho who passed away. Rose volunteered for years at our Branch #36 and any other place that needed her, Peter came to everything we had and supported St. Joseph’s Day in donations and flowers and Santa Rosalia Festival with flowers for family members who are no longer with us. When you miss someone who has passed away, think of it as a blessing that you had this kind of bond.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR:**

November 1 - All Soul’s Day
November 5 - Monthly Dinner-Meeting
December 5 - Adult Christmas Dinner Dance
December 13 - Children Christmas Party

Life is here today, gone tomorrow, so sow the right seeds, you will be eating from your own garden.

Barbara Pippins

---

**Castroville Santa Caterina de Siena, Br. 51**

Happy Autumn to everyone!

The District Picnic/Bishop’s Day was a beautiful day at the JM Ranch. It was truly a picturesque setting and Julie and Joe were the perfect hosts. (Thank you Julie!) Well I attended my first I.C.F. Convention (Las Vegas is very Hot). I want to thank Las Vegas Branch 367 and convention chairman

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**Santa Barbara/ Ventura Region**

**Thousand Oaks**

St. Paschal Baylon, Br. 380

It was an exciting time at this years annual convention. Former St. Paschal Baylon Pastor, Father Dave Henney was awarded the Mother Teresa Award. Our own branch member Anne Interante was voted in as Central Council Trustee. Cathy and Dave Lawrence were new delegates for our branch this year.

Our next branch meeting will be on October 9th. We will be having officer elections. Please consider participating in the branch activities by volunteering on the board this year.

St. Paschal Baylon will be having the annual parish festival on October 23-25. Volunteers are needed to staff our ICF food booth. Please sign-up for a shift and come and enjoy the fun!!

Bishop’s Day will be held on November 15th at St. Peter’s Church in Los Angeles this year. This will be a really fun event so plan to buy your tickets early to attend.

Ciao,

Roy Frontoni

---

**Temple City**

St. Luke, Br. 326

Our next General Meeting will be held on October 28, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. Dessert and coffee will be served at 6:30 p.m.

Please continue to keep all of our ill members in your prayers, especially: Roberta Nangelog, Mary Jacobs, Eva Arrigio, Pat Buccola, Herminia Saez, Josie Basile, Pete Costa, Mary Girillo, Annette Tomblrollo, John Perfetto, and Ann Premising. And, let’s not forget to pray for our deceased members.

Happy October Birthday to: Pat Buccola, Eleanor Cuneo, Mary Jacobs, Jim Law, and Fred Pertore.

"The little things that mean so much…a note…a special touch can make the day apart…But grateful still for special friends whose caring never…never ends!” (Anna M. Matthews)

God Bless,

Jo Anne Disney

---

**Santa Cruz**

Nostra Signora del Soccorso, Br. 21

American author Hal Borland said: “Of all the seasons, autumn offers the most to man, and requires the least of him.” So come and relax at these up-coming Branch 21 events.

On Friday, October 23rd, we have our Pentecost. On Saturday, October 24th, our Branch will be part of the Holy Cross Cultural Diversity Event; on Sunday, November 1st, we celebrate the Memorial Mass at Holy Cross with a breakfast to follow; and on Friday, December 4th, we have our Christmas Dinner. So mark these dates on your calendar and look for flyers and/or e-mails to remind you of each affair.

In retrospect, we want to thank all those who worked so hard to make the August 16th, Summer Picnic such a fun time. The air-conditioned Holy Cross Hall made for a perfect place to have a picnic (senza formiche) and to celebrate our older members. Altogether, our branch has 21 members who are 90+ years old and that’s including newly added 90 year olds Tony Franceschini, Linda Rossi, Dorothy Sunzleri and Charles Boccone. Congratulations!

Our 2015 ICF Convention Branch delegates, Richard Puccinelli, Gene Ghio and Rosa Radichci, have returned from Las Vegas to report on the progressive energy of the Convention. Come to our next General Meeting to hear about the positive contributions that you as members have helped make to the Catholic Community and the world.

In closing, we urge those members who cannot attend our meetings/functions due to the lack of transportation to call Patty Morelli or Norma Wilson and we will do our best to get you there….because “Alone we can do so little, but together we can do so much.” — Helen Keller

God bless us one and all.

Patty Morelli

Secretary Branch 21

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**Salinas**

Nostra Signora Del Sasso, Br. 25

Our membership has grown recently with the addition of Diane Luzo, Emilia Quaglia, Thomas and Joanne Sullivan, and Bennet Brown. We wish you welcome and invite you to take part, not only in our social affairs, but our charitable activities as well.

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**Diamond Bar**

St. Denis, Br. 317

10/09 - The Octoberfest Meeting will be hosted by Toni Welley and Terry Calzcano. It will be the traditional Sausage, sauerkraut, potato dinner with rye bread, desserts, coffee wine and soft drinks. More details in the Newsletter.

10/19 Board meeting at 10:00 AM at the church. The hostess will be announced at the meeting.

The convention in Las Vegas was a huge success and well organized.

Future Events:

Details of Breakfast with Santa will also be announced at the meeting.

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God Bless,

Roxanne Perry

President

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**former St. Paschal Baylon Pastor Dave Henney won the Mother Teresa Award. He is seen here with Branch 380’s Central Council Members Pat Mages and Anne Interante.**

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**Monterey**

Santa Rosa, Br. 36

A huge thank you to Br. 25 and especially to Julie and Joe for hosting Central Coast District Bishop’s Day and Central Coast Annual District Picnic at their JM Ranch, always great fun, always a lot to do, and the two of them are wonderful hosts.

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Barbara Pippins

---

**Peace be with you,**

Bette Sollecito

---

**Santa Barbara/ Ventura Region**

**Thousand Oaks**

St. Paschal Baylon, Br. 380

It was an exciting time at this years annual convention. Former St. Paschal Baylon Pastor, Father Dave Henney was awarded the Mother Teresa Award. Our own branch member Anne Interante was voted in as Central Council Trustee. Cathy and Dave Law-
Because of a conflict with our annual Parish Prayers, the next meeting will be October 9, and we hope we did not have a meeting in September. Our Ciao,

Remember each day is a gift.

It is with a heavy heart that we send condolences to Dall) Amerison, Diane Ausonio, Wilma Curran, who was won the “Family of the Year” award. President David Zanini and his family on receiving the “Family of the Year” award.

Happy September Birthdays- James (Ran- dol) Marjorie McClure, Recording Secretary

Grazie tante to Gary Podeste and his crew for preparing BBQ pork tenderloin with apri- cot/jalapeno sauce at our September meet- ing. We can always count on Gary to cook something sumptuous.

A belated welcome aboard to Rita Law. Rita is a long-time member of St. Joseph’s parish who joined our branch in June. At the Sep- tember meeting we welcomed new members Janis and Ann Radjani.

Get well wishes go to Cecilia Sellers, who is recovering at home after a hospital stay, to Mary Montanye and Jim Musler, who both underwent replacement procedures, and to Patrick Smith.

There will be an opening on the Board next year. If you are approached by the Nominat- ing Committee, please consider serving as a Trustee.

Ellen Pauly would like to take a break from serving as Coordinator of our annual Fish Fry dinners. We’re looking for someone to step up to the plate for this important event.

Many congratulations this month: Our Past President, Franklyn Lopes was elected as Sergeant of Arms at the Las Vegas convention. Carl and Barbara Schara-Schmidt celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary, and Marie Mungai was a July calendar winner and is $30 richer.

In honor of his visit to the U.S., we’d like to pass along these words from Pope Francis:

Although the life of a person is in a land full of thorns and weeds, there is always a space in which the good seed can grow. You have to trust God.

Deanna Musler, Secretary

Arroyo Grande

St. Patrick, Br. 291

Our first Registration Assistance Fundraiser Dinner was a huge success! Even though it was a very hot August afternoon and eve- ning, we served nearly 250 spaghetti dinners to patrons from our parish, St. Patrick School and local community. We are so thankful for the tremendous support from our members who worked (and sweat) so hard that day to make this first dinner so profitable! Our next fundraising dinner will be held on Oct. 17th, and we plan to change the menu up a bit and serve a tri tip dinner. All net proceeds from our three fundraising dinners each fall go towards our Catholic School Registration Assistance Program.

At our September General Meeting we en- joyed a full convention recap from our del- egates. As we reminded them, when it comes to the ICF Convention, “What happens in Vegas does not stay in Vegas!”

Br. 291 is excited to be co-hosting the Cen- tral Coast District Meeting on October 4th here in Arroyo Grande, along with Br. 354 from Paso Robles. Our Branch is busy pre- paring for the festivities and plans to serve a delicious lunch of pulled pork sandwich- beans, coleslaw and dessert! We look forward to seeing many members from the Central Coast district at the October meeting here at St. Patrick’s Church!

Please keep the following ICF members from Br. 291 in your thoughts and prayers: Barbara Badasci, Sr. Carol Carter, Dianne Cotter, Barbara Badasci, Sr. Carol Carter, Dianne Cotter, Homer Cles, Jack and Kathleen Gallizio, Stevie Hall, Gayle Quinn, Sharon Reed, Lorraine Spargo, Helen Summerfield, Joanna Van Blaricoum, Sonia Wagner and Jens Wagner.

Ciao!

Keely Sanchez

Recording Secretary

Oakland

East Bay

District Council

Between our last meeting and today we have been busy with the convention and getting ready for district and Federation activities. Well the convention is over and here’s hop- ing that we are all re-energized with renewed ideas to carry out the Strategic Plan. This will be something for those running for office to think about. Elections are upon us.

Congratulations to Lisa Crudo on her re- election to Central Council in spite of her surgery and complications that prevented her from attending the convention. Way to go Lisa!

The quarterly district Communion will be celebrated at the district picnic this year. A big Grazie to Al and Deanna DeNurra for again hosting the affair.

Time to buy those tickets for Late Night Catechesis to be held at Holy Names Uni- versity Regent’s Theatre on Oct. 25th @ 2 P.M. Contact either brown paper tickets @ 1-800-838-3006 x 1, or online at http://ital- iancatholicfederationinc.brownpapertickets. com. Sister is waiting for you.

Plans are being finalized for the district Christmas party Dec. 5th, save the date.

Remember to mark your calendars, for the J2 meeting in January, that is installation day.

Suggestions are welcome on where to have Bishop’s day.

Guess that will keep us busy for awhile.

Happy All Saints Day and All Souls Day.

Alameda

Nostra Signora Delle Grazie, Br. 10

Our annual and very popular Ravish! Dinner is scheduled for Saturday night, October 24, in Monsignor O’Brien Hall at High and Van Buren Streets in Alameda. Prices are $8.00 for children under 12 and $20.00 for other young people and adults. For reservations contact JoAnn Dorn, (510) 710-6959. The 6 o’clock social hour starts the festivities and will be followed by a dinner. Chef Ben Ratto will again cook the meal and will be assisted by Rich Caua.

We have presented a retirement gift to a very important friend of the branch, Mary Ann Bachman. Mary Ann has served as the secretary of Saint Philip Neri-Saint Albert the Great Parish for the last 15 years. We could always count on Mary Ann to pub- lish Branch 10 events in the weekly parish bulletin.

Branch 10 first vice-president Gina Foster and her husband Josh Foster have welcomed their first child. Frederick Anthony Foster was born on August 23 in Alta Bates Hos- pital in Berkeley. Gina’s family has been active in Branch 10 activities for several de- cades. Gina’s own baby picture appeared in the Bolletino a few editions ago. As the August-September Bolletino report- ed, past District Council president Fran La Torre of Branch 343 has been appointed dep- uty to Branch 10. Fran attended our August 6 meeting and gave a preview of upcoming

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District events. Fran also serves as president of her own branch.

Also at our August 6 meeting, second vice-president Peggy Lubeck reported that 25 "high rollers" attended our first-ever Bunco dice party on Sunday, June 28. Many attendees brought baby gifts for Birthright of San Lorenzo, a local organization for homeless pregnant women.

You might have noticed in the convention issue of the Bollottie that four members, a couple (John and Pat Kennedy) associated with the branch and the branch itself, combined for six calendar pages in August. Another winner was the Rising Star School of Alameda, a Montessori school located two blocks from Saint Philip Neri Church. We appreciate member Sheila Doan for her continued and successful efforts in selling ICF calendars.

As this article is being written we await the conventioneers session and just talking with her fellow convention delegates. She is hopeful that Br. 215 will use the Gifts of Love Program to introduce the ICF to all four of the Catholic parishes in Fremont.

Once again Carolyn Navarra chaired a successful Bingo/Salad Luncheon on 9/17/15. Thanks to Carolyn and all the members who worked so hard by donating money even though you weren’t able to come, preparing salads, donating bingo prizes, creating raffle baskets, selling raffle tickets, helping in the kitchen, helping in the bingo, etc. Thanks to those who made this fund raiser and our April Bingo/Salad luncheon continues to help Br. 215 donate a first year college scholarship as well as money to Cooley’s Anemia, to the East Bay District Seminary Burse, to Corpus Christi Church’s parish festival, to all four Catholic parishes in Fremont.

On 9/19/15 Br. 215 joined the St. John Zugnoni Parish for their Parish Festival. vampo -to- p375@l700.net 6:00 pm, at St. Elizabeth Seton Church in Pleasanton, will have an Octoberfest theme and will be hosted by Phyll and Joe Buonsante. Juanita Focha, a retired teacher from Las Positas College, will speak on how our Christian Faith can motivate our lives. Our election of branch officers will also take place, Joe Buonsante, head of the nominating committee, has been contacting members for nominees. Please consider serving in a board position next year.

November’s Mass of Remembrance will be held November 20, 6:00 pm, at St. Elizabeth Seton Church in Pleasanton, with Father Leonard Marrujo speaking about our abundance and gifts of time and talent to help others.

Our meeting and dinner on October 16, 6:00 pm, at St. Elizabeth Seton Church in Pleasanton, will have an Octoberfest theme and will be hosted by Phyll and Joe Buonsante. Juanita Focha, a retired teacher from Las Positas College, will speak on how our Christian Faith can motivate our lives. Our election of branch officers will also take place, Joe Buonsante, head of the nominating committee, has been contacting members for nominees. Please consider serving in a board position next year.

Members from Branch 14 Crockett Having fun at a tailgate party at a A’s Ball game.

October 2015
Branch 14 Crockett at the Convention in Las Vegas.

Branch 14 Crockett at Louise De Tomas’s house enjoying a great BBQ together.

Contact Donna, 799-2336, for additional information.

Halloween costumes are encouraged at our October 13th meeting. Costumes allow us to be anyone we want for one night, so let's have some fun with it. As Fr. Leo will be away, there will be no mass prior to the 6:30 dinner. After an “Italian Comfort Food” dinner of spaghetti and meatballs, we will elect new officers. If you can spare a dime, please bring canned goods for the Food Drive, for those less fortunate.

Hope to see you at our Polenta, Chicken and Sausage Dinner on October 24th. The festive camaraderie is a good way to begin the quickly approaching holiday season.

With October comes the crispness of autumn (will hopefully the cooling rains), but may your heart and home remain warm, joyful and loving.

Ciao,
Diane Bottini Thomas

Pittsburg
San Domenico, Br. 72

We just returned from the convention which was held in Las Vegas. A big thanks to Steve and his committee for planning a wonderful event. We all definitely enjoyed the tasty pasta & meatballs he prepared for us. And a big “Thank You,” also, to member Domeneque Yancey, who treated us to her homemade tiramisu – a new recipe. We definitely eat well at this ICF Branch – no one leaves hungry! The membership also learned of the numerous thank you wishes we received from our recent end-of-year charitable donations – all of the organizations were most appreciative.

On a sad note, please remember our long-time branch members, Larry Thompson, who recently passed away, and his family are in our thoughts and prayers.

Mark your calendar!! Our Fabulous Fall Fundraiser will be held on Saturday, October 24th at the Monsignor Cardelli Center Gymnasium. You Parish is looking to raise funds for our Annual Chicken and Polenta Dinner, complete with raffle and silent auction. Join us for Cocktails at 5pm. Dinner at 6pm. Entertainment follows, featuring world-class musicians, Wallin & Barretta’s “Tribute to Italian Singers,” performed in the spirit and style of a Las Vegas headliner show of the ’50’s. They have been one of the most requested acts paying tribute to Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Tony Bennett, Perry Como, Louis Prima and many others. If you haven’t seen them perform, you’re in for a real treat! They’re bringing their entire group for us! Be ready to laugh, sing along – and dance! A great night out for all! Please make your reservations Early, as seating is limited – and this event will sell out (this band has a following). Through Oct. 16th, Individual tickets are $40 each, and tables of eight may be reserved for $300. On Oct. 17th, the ticket price increases to $45 each – and will be $50 at the door on the night of the event. So, ICF members, as this event is open to the public, please reserve ASAP to save your seats! For additional information, please contact Marianne at marbo2000@yahoo.com or 925.202.5508. Let’s pack the gym, raise lots of funds for our charities, and – rock the night away!

Ciao,
Marianne Bordogna
Recording Secretary

Concord
Todos Santos, Br. 214

Including St. Agnes, St. Bonaventure, Queen of All Saints & St. Francis of Assisi Parishes.

President Roberta Healy and members Ed & Allison McGrath went to Convention. It was Ed & Allison’s first time in attendance; they quoted, “Attending the ICF Conference for the first time and seeing the commitment that ICF has to both its continued growth & to gifts of charity, has truly energized and inspired us!” It was truly a wonderful experience. They shared much of their experience & learned information with members, we look forward to incorporating some of these ideas into our branch.

Happy Anniversary to John & Lillian Whalen, celebrating their 70th wedding Anniversay in August. Prayers for Our sick & elderly; also our condolences to our Chaplain, Fr. Johnson in the passing of his mom.

Ciao for now,
Christina - correspondence secty.

Danville
St. Isidore, Br. 352

Our August dinner meeting of Danville Branch 352 found Chef Angelo back in the kitchen! We all definitely enjoyed the tasty pasta & meatballs he prepared for us. And a big “Thank You,” also, to member Domeneque Yancey, who treated us to her home-made tiramisu – a new recipe. We definitely eat well at this ICF Branch – no one leaves hungry! The membership also learned of the numerous thank you wishes we received from our recent end-of-year charitable donations – all of the organizations were most appreciative.

At Branch 423’s Annual Bocce Tournament the team of Joann Jordan and Randy Profeta were crowned champions.

We enjoyed our annual branch picnic in July which saw everyone bring side dishes and desserts to add to our usual hot dogs and hamburgers. The annual bocce tournament saw teams vying for the coveted championship cup. The finals were highly competitive and in the end the team of Joann Jordan and Randy Profeta were crowned champions. Thanks to Donna Stahl and all the volunteers who helped make the picnic another great success. No meeting in August, we’ll see you in September!

Miranda Gibson

St. Thomas More, Br. 423

Orange
Sacramento
St. Mary, Br. 45

Greetings and Happy October! St. Mary’s Branch 45 of the ICF invites you to join them in Giovanni Hall for their last dinner of 2015. Chicken and Polenta will again be on the menu for Sunday, November 8. If you are not a fan of polenta, you can substitute pasta; let us know when you make your reservation. Cost is $14.00 for members and $17.00 for non-members and guests. Times for the event are branch meeting at 4:30pm (election of officers) and dinner at 6pm. Make your reservation by November 3; call Janine at 508-1199. All members are welcome at the meeting; we appreciate your input and suggestions.

Our branch will host its annual Christmas Party at the Espanol on December 13. Mark your calendar and plan on coming!
San Diego
District Council
On Sunday, August 2, 2015, the San Diego District of the Italian Catholic Federation, held its annual picnic and bocce tournament at the Allied Gardens Park. Events commenced with a 9:00 A.M. open air mass celebrated by Father Bill Stevenson who was aided by Sacristan, Juan Orozco and Alter server, Josie Oliver. The mass was a beautiful event and opened and closed with songs led by C.C. Life Member Emeritus, Jody Balestrieri. Father Bill’s homily was outstanding. Mass was followed by our bocce tournament. The bocce tournament concluded after an interruption for lunch held under the trees on the South side of the park. Following the tournament, 1st place trophies were presented to the branch 416 (Santa Sophia) team of Sam Caeti and Dennis Bauer. Second place trophies also went to a Santa Sophia team, Felippo Tarantino and Lorenzo Pecoraro. Third place trophies went to Jim Cardinale-Hill and Pietro Vela of Branch 230 (Our Lady of the Rosary). Anthony Scipione and Mario Ambroz of St. Rose of Lima took 4th place. Following the bocce tournament and the awards presentation, a raffle was held in which prizes were awarded. The raffle was handled by Maria Tollefson our district secretary. The picnic was co-sponsored by Forrest Price, C.C emeritus and District Deputy, and Richard Barker, District President. Many district members remained to socialize after the events and to enjoy the cool breeze wafting through the park.

Chula Vista
St. Rose of Lima, Br. 229
We thank our first time delegate to the Convention, Anthony Scipione, for representing Branch 229. We look forward to hearing his report at the October General Meeting.
Fr. Alex De Paulis is Branch 229’s new chaplain! Welcome, Fr. Alex!!

The next General Meeting is scheduled for October 25, 2015 at 11:30 a.m. A free lunch of pasta with red sauce and salad will be served. See you there!!

The Board is busy planning for the Branch Christmas party. Details to follow.

Please pray for our deceased members, for those who are sick, for the unemployed, for the military personnel, 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
District Council
The San Francisco District Council will meet on October 8, 2015. Taraval Police Station 6 P.M. Election of officers.
Host branch – St. Cecilia’s. 365. No meetings in November and December.
Ann Bassino, Secretary

San Francisco
Maria S.S. Immacolata, Br. 1
Dear Members: Please note the following convention dates:
Oct. 25 Branch Mass I. C. C. 10:30 am
Nov. 4 Spuntino and Raffle 6:30 pm Cost $15.00 Chairperson: Vic Arnaudo (650) 755-1369 Please bring a raffle prize.
Prayers and get-well wishes to Jeanne Macchello recuperating from back surgery.
Congratulations to Pres. Vic Arnaudo and wife Pat on their recent 50th Wedding Anniversary!
Stay Healthy!
Ciao!
Toni Morsello


San Diego
Our Lady of the Rosary, Br. 230
Again, hats off to the Las Vegas District for the excellent and informative 2015 Convention. Congratulations to the Central Council members elected to positions of leadership. Thank you Bob Banano for your tenure as Central Council Grand President.
The San Diego District was honored to have the newly elected Grand President Leonard Zasoksi and his wife BG and CC member Anne Interrante attending the September 27th Bishop’s Day hosed by Branch 416, Santa Sophia. Christine Murphy and her committee out did themselves in organizing the luncheon that followed the 11:00 Mass celebrated by Fr. Devdas Masilamony, Pastor of Santa Sophia.

Upcoming events for Branch 230 include working with other parish ministries on the OLAF Festa to be held on Sunday, October 4, at Arnici Park. The general ICF meeting for October is scheduled for Friday, October 16. The upcoming very popular OLR Annual Spaghetti Dinner is planned for Saturday, November 7, beginning at 4:00 p.m.

God bless,
Maria Tollefson

Our Augtust meeting was a mixture of fun and sadness. Our Hawaiian luncheon was a success. Donna cooked the ham and yams at home, Dora cooked the green beans at her house, and Mara prepared and brought the Pineapple-Pattachino yellow-mold. I’m afraid our PC does not have a stove and now the refrigerator is out of order, too. HELP! We couldn’t refrigerate anything so we had hot pineapple juice, hot everything! Dora Veracchi brought her Hawaiian music and Maria Gloria gave us each a large beautiful paper Lei, a cup full of Aloha Macadamia Nuts like Kisses, and 2 Hawaiian Host Candy Bars... Yum! Thank you dear members for all your help and thoughtfulness!

By August 15, we sent our convention raffle tickets stubs/money to the Central Office and hopefully someone from our branch will win! We’re sorry none of our members from Br. 38 could attend the ICF Convention in Las Vegas this year. We pray, we will be excused from attending. The members attending our meetings, after the deaths of Ines Masetta and Mary Lavin (and Mary’s caregiver Ellen no longer comes) are down to 9 active members! Of these 9, 5 members are in their 90’s! While our members are still full of pep and energy, age has slowed us all down a little bit, and staring at our 3 vacant empty chairs of our recently deceased members, is depressing! Sadly, our Br.38 membership is dwindling down! However, we hope all the branch delegates who did attend the Convention enjoyed the experience and had a wonderful & memorable time.

Another sad announcement at our meeting.

October 2015

San Francisco
Sts. Peter and Paul, Br. 38
Our August meeting was a mixture of fun and sadness. Our Hawaiian luncheon was a success. Donna cooked the ham and yams at home, Dora cooked the green beans at her house, and Mara prepared and brought the Pineapple-Pattachino yellow-mold. I’m afraid our PC does not have a stove and now the refrigerator is out of order, too. HELP! We couldn’t refrigerate anything so we had hot pineapple juice, hot everything! Dora Veracchi brought her Hawaiian music and Maria Gloria gave us each a large beautiful paper Lei, a cup full of Aloha Macadamia Nuts like Kisses, and 2 Hawaiian Host Candy Bars... Yum! Thank you dear members for all your help and thoughtfulness!

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Another sad announcement at our meeting.
Mara Amato
Ci Vediamo il 17 di Ottobre at 11:30 AM!
Ciao,
for lunch, ’cause we won’t tell!
(due to the Columbus celebration at SSPP we’ll get our meeting organized very soon!
patient Chaplin and a friend to all! I promise, plain. Don’t give up on us! You are a very
ments and our interruptions you never com-
Between your Saturday wedding commit-
Fr. Al Mengon…You have been wonderful!
our Italian Heritage.
news, and at the same time, reminding us of
many Italians took to come to our wonderful
the restaurant business. A familiar voyage
as a teenager from Lucca to join his uncle in

#161 member and Bay Area Italian Ameri-
can who died recently. She told us he arrived

#161 member and Bay Area Italian Ameri-
can who died recently. She told us he arrived

Instead of his birthday, it turned out to be
our Pot Luck lunch pictures in the Bollettino.
bers in your prayers.
Please remember our ill and deceased mem-
ness and Good Health.
Birthdays: Josephine Di Monica, Nov 2nd;

Cari Amici,
Con un forte abbraccio a tutti.

Br. 258 members pictured with Fr. Charto Suan, Pastor of St. Elizabeth Church and Br. 258 Chaplain, at a parish reception celebrating his 30th Anniversary as a Priest on June 21, 2015

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San Francisco
Corpus Christi, Br. 290
Cari Amici,
Looking forward to seeing everyone at the October 15th meeting, which will follow
the pizza lunch at 12:00 noon. Guests are welcome for $5.00. Please call Mary Rowe
(415) 333-7939 and let her know if you will be attending.

As we look ahead to the November 19th meeting, please remember that a Mass for
our deceased members will be celebrated in the Hall at 12:00 noon, before lunch and our
meeting.

Kindly keep in your prayers members who are not feeling well.

Happy Columbus Day and Happy Hallowe-
een to all!
Ciao,
Jeannette

San Francisco
St. Elizabeth, Br. 258
Our trip to Mission San Juan Baptista was very nice. Our guide was very informative.
It took nine years to build the Mission. Done all by hand; there were no fancy tools when
it was built, June 24, 1797. We also saw the Plaza Hotel, built in 1814. The saloon was
opened by an Italian, Angelo Zenetta, who leased the building. Nice trip. Lunch at the
Crow’s Nest restaurant was delicious.

Our 44th Anniversary luncheon on September
11th was another success.
It is always nice to visit with wonderful friends. Thanks to those who attended.
October 23rd we have a trip planned to go to
Cache Creek Casino. It has been some time
since we went to this Casino.
The Beach Blanket Babylon show was fasci-
tastic!! The costumes were out of this world.
Some headpieces were so large and heavy,
you wonder how they can wear them.
Birthdays: Josephine Di Monica, Nov 2nd;
Florencia Mangion, Nov. 16th; Happy Birth-
day and many more years of much Happi-
ness and Good Health.
Please remember our ill and deceased mem-
bers in your prayers.
Michelle, thank you very much for putting
our Pot Luck lunch pictures in the Bollettino.
It is very much appreciated.
Remember these dates:
Meeting: October 26th
Mass: October 25th
Ciao,
Eva Perata. President

San Francisco
St. Cecilia, Br. 365
Thanks to Mary Fe’ for doing a super job on
our Convention raffle tickets. Mary has been
very kind in accepting the responsibility for
planning our District Convention.
We just returned from the Convention in Las
Vegas. And I have attended our Federa-
tions for many years, at which one of us has usually been a delegate. I am always in awe of the recipients of the ICF awards. They are all so giving of themselves in every way. Hearing about their many accomplish-
ments and good deeds fills me with admiration. May God continue to bless them.
Our treasurer, Florence O’Malley, informed
us that some members have not yet paid their
taxes. The problem with paying so late in the
year is that many of you become confused as to
where you stand. All dues should be paid within the first quarter, March 31st, except
those that joined mid-year. Speaking of join-
ing, Branch 365 needs more members. Give
it a try and ask a friend or relative to join our
branch.
Please keep Lois Maher in your prayers as
she is not well. Also, prayers and get well wishes for Constance Mertz.
Our next meeting will be Saturday, October
10th at 12 Noon, in the Serra Room. Nomi-
ation and election of officers, followed by a
pizza, green salad, soda & beer party. Please
plan to attend.
Con un forte abbraccio a tutti.
Ann Bassino

San Mateo
District Council
Salutations! A warm welcome back to our delegates from the Las Vegas Convention.
Hope they enjoyed the convention and have brought back many new and enlightening ideas to share with us.

Mark your calendars:
Saturday, September 19, San Mateo Dis-
trict’s 50th Anniversary celebration. Mass
2:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Angels, 1721 Hill-
side Blvd., Burlingame. Our dear friend
Bishop William Justice will be the principal celebrant. Dinner to follow at St. Dunstan’s
Hall, 1133 Broadway, Millbrae. Hope to see
you all there for a great celebration.
Sunday, October 18, Branch 163, St. Mat-
thew’s 53rd Anniversary polenta chicken
and sausage dinner celebration at San Mateo
Elks’ Club, 2:00 p.m. Come and join the fun.
Saturday, October 24, Branch 7, All Souls, So.
San Francisco, 90th Anniversary cele-
boration with Western BBQ Night. This is a
major milestone so come celebrate.
Monday, October 26, Branch 19, Holy Ang-
els, Colma 87th Anniversary, Ravioli din-
ner, 7:00 p.m.
Remember in our thoughts and prayers: Fa-
er Frank Murray, Marc and Kelly Teglia on
the loss of her Father and to the Family of
Lucia Basso.

South San Francisco
Sacro Cuore, Br. 7
Our August meeting was cancelled and our
September meeting was on the 2nd. We
would like to thank Lola Migliore and all her
helpers for the wonderful chicken dinner. We
were fortunate to have students from SFHHS to serve the dinner and do the clean-
up. We also thank our members for their
generosity by always providing “Tips” to the
students for their school club projects.
Our President, Kelly Teglia, her husband
Marc, and Lola Migliore, were our delegates
to the ICF 85th Annual Convention. A report
was given at our October meeting on all the
information they received.
The October business/dinner meeting will be
on the 14th. Election of our new officers for
the year will be on the agenda, so please plan
to attend.
October 24th is our Western BBQ Dinner
Dance, so dust off your cowboy hats and your
boots and join us for a mighty good time and
help us celebrate the 90th anniver-
sary of our ICF Branch 7. Reservations
are required so contact Lola for more informa-
tion at 650-589-8269.
We will be having a Pedro Tournament on
November 7th. If you are interested, please
call Donna Smith at 650-796-9466.

The business meeting for November will be
on the 4th and, of course, we will serve a
Turkey dinner. Just to round out the year, our
Holiday Dinner will be on December 2nd. Please plan to attend these fun events!
So, until next time…another thought to pon-
der. As time goes by, and friends and family
go to be with our Heavenly Father, I found a
poem that I thought was lovely and very true.
The author is unknown. “Grief never ends…
but it changes. It is a passage, not a place
to stay. Grief is not weakness, nor a lack of
faith…it is the price of LOVE!”

Sempre Avanti,
Laurie Masetti

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Colma
San Vincenzo De Paulo, Br. 19
Hello Everyone!
Welcome back everyone from your vacations and holidays! Hoping everyone had a great and fun filled time. You have come back to some really warm weather here in Colma. We are glad to welcome back our representatives from ICF National Convention in Las Vegas. Looking forward to their reports and information they obtained from it.

Don’t forget to bring any “treasures” you may have for the annual Spring Garage Sale. One person’s unwanted item(s) may be another one’s treasure.

Branch Schedule:
September 26: Champagne Bingo – opens at 1:30 p.m. 2:30 p.m. Lunch – with bingo following. Chicken, pasta, champagne and 1 bingo card. Reservations call Debroh Rodondi (650) 583-0805. Chairperson: Kathy Trevizo
September 28: 7:00 p.m. - Monday, Meeting/ Social hosted by Annette Novi
October 12: 7:00 p.m. - Monday, meeting/social/favors. Hosted by Cheryl Simon

San Mateo
St. Matthew, Br. 163
Greetings! Welcome back from the Convention our delegates Harold and Virginia Fuentes. Hope they enjoyed the Convention and have a lot of new ideas to enhance our Branch.
At this writing our September Pesto Dinner has not occurred, nonetheless many thanks to Lena Venturilli and Aurora Bini who will be cooking this and it will be good.
Mark your calendars:
Saturday, September 19 – San Mateo District’s 50th Anniversary celebration. 2 p.m. Mass at Our Lady of Angels Church, Burlingame. Dinner following at St. Dunstan’s church, Millbrae. Try to attend; it will be a great celebration with Bishop Justice concelebrating.
Thursday, October 8 – Our Enchilada Casse- role Dinner meeting with great chefs Jim and Michele Loman cooking. Come and enjoy.
Sunday, October 18 – Our Branch’s 53rd Anniversary luncheon at the San Mateo Elks Club at 2 p.m. Frank Venturilli will regale us with his magic act. Raffle will follow the luncheon. Please join us and bring your friends. Price $36.00. Send checks to Lena Venturilli, 33 13th Avenue, San Mateo, CA 94402. Cut off date is October 13th.
Remember in our thoughts and Prayers: Father Frank Murray, Barbara Firpo, Anna Nanna and the family of Lucia Basso, a Branch Charter Member.
Happy Halloween! God Bless! Anne O’Brien

Burlingame
Our Lady of Angels, Br. 173
As an attendee at the Convention it was spiritually very rewarding for me. We will hear more about the seminars, and new president etc. from our delegates Dorene Campanile and Michael Camacho at our September meeting. Next year’s convention will be held in Fresno.
Special thanks to Dorene Campanile, Bea Tommasello and Mary Ann Camacho for helping OLA Ministries after the early Sunday Masses on 8-23-15 and have recruited two new members to join us.
It is hard to believe summer is over with our hot weather but we have a long list of events for fall. Starting with the following:
September 19th San Mateo District 50th Anniversary chaired by Dorene Campanile with her earth angels assisting. Details listed previously in our newsletter.
October 17th - Pedro Tournament to raise money for Scholarships and other Charities. Luncheon: O.L.A. 1:30 PM tournament begins $35.00 call Dorene Campanile 650-644-7870 before October 11, 2015.
November 21, 2015 Anniversary Dinner Plans are currently being made and more details to be announced.
Keep Jackie Sontag and any other members who are in need of our prayers.
God Bless,
Rosalind C. Emery

South San Francisco
St. Augustine, Br. 213
Our September 8 meeting was hosted by Glorinda, Jackie, and Roberta, who provided sandwiches, salads, and dessert. It was a perfect meal for the hot weather we were having. Our delegate, President Barbara Gabriel, gave a report on the Las Vegas convention. This was Barbara’s first convention and she did a great job, picked up lots of new information and met many new people. It was one of the nicest conventions that I attended.
The 50th Anniversary of the San Mateo District held on September 19 was a very nice affair. Chairlady Dorene Campanile did a wonderful job putting everything together with the help of the committees. Great job, Dorene.
We are all looking forward to our Graton Casino Bus Trip on October 21, hosted by Jackie Smith. Hope you all have made your reservations.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Our member, Mary Rose Favuzzi, celebrated her 90th birthday on August 29th, with a Mass at St. Peter’s Church in Pacifica, followed by cake and goodies. Congratulations, Mary Rose!
Sunshine: We were saddened to hear of the death of the daughter (Florrie) of our members John and Fran Cannon. We send our heartfelt condolences to the Cannons and their family.
Our October 13 meeting will be hosted by Donna Devoe and Barbara Gabriel. Hope to see you all there! Our next meeting will be October 20th. See you then.

San Carlos
St. Charles, Br. 327
Our August meeting was a big success even though our annual BBQ dinner could not be served due to illness. Last minute the Colina menu through and we had barbecued dinners from KFC which everyone seemed to enjoy.

The ICF convention in Las Vegas was a memorable event. The workshops were interesting and informative as reported by President Tom at our September meeting.
Our next meeting will be Tuesday, October 20 and the dinner will have a World Series theme. Mark you calendars.
Upcoming events in our San Mateo District:
Oct. 18 - Branch 163, St. Matthews, San Mateo, 53rd Anniversary - Chicken polenta and followed by home- baked desserts.
Oct. 24 - Branch 7, All Souls, SSF, 90th Anniv- ersary - Western BBQ night
Oct. 26 - Branch 19, Holy Angels, Colma, 87th Anniversary - Ravioli dinner
Ciao,
Virginia Malaspina

Millbrae
St. Dunstan, Br. 403
The 50th Anniversary of our ICF San Mateo District was a wonderful event, starting with Mass at Our Lady of Angels at 2:00PM, followed by dinner at St. Dunstan Parish Center. Thank you to all committee members for organizing such a celebration.
Our monthly October meeting started with a pasta dinner prepared by our past president Carla Del Carlo. It was delicious! Our popular Polenta Dinner will take place on Sunday, October 25th, in the Parish Center, with no-host cocktails at 4:00PM and dinner at 5:00PM. The dinner will include salad, antipasto, polenta with chicken and sausage, bread, wine and dessert for $25 per person. Get your group together and make plans to attend this fundraiser. For reservations send check payable to ICF #403, to Dan Capodanno, 325 San Jose, Millbrae, CA 94030. Reservations due by October 19th.
Rose Marie Morando
Corresponding Secretary

Marin
Larkspur
St. James, Br. 161
Our President Marlene Farber and Margaret DeRango attended the Convention in Las Vegas. They will give a report at our next meeting.
Marlene Farber has thirty-five 2016 calendars with they make great hospitality, birthday or Christmas gifts. The theme for the year is “Famous Italian Americans and their Contributions to this Great Country”. Daily raffle winners range from $30 to $100, quite a bargain for $25 and the branch gets to keep $5 for each calendar. Call Marlene if you would like to buy one.
Our deepest condolences to the family of Rita Tachis, Romano Dell’Antonia who recently passed away. Also to the family of our dear friend and long- time member Romolo Lavorane who recently passed away. Romolo never, ever missed a meeting and was always supporting us. His cheerful smile will be never, ever missed. Our dear friend and long- time member Romolo Lavorane who recently passed away. Romolo never, ever missed a meeting and was always supporting us. His cheerful smile will be never, ever missed.
Our next meeting will be October 20th. See you then.
Happy Halloween! See you next month, Ciao,
Anna Biggio

Novato
Our Lady of Loretto, Br. 332
Sunday September 13th, marked a GALA ITALIAN PICNIC for the 80+ members of Branch 332.
At creek side in Novato at Miwok Park colorful red checkered tablecloths were a prelude to what was to follow.
Festivities included a picnic lunch of cheese- burgers, sausages, salad, beans, watermelon, all preceded by an array of shared antipasti and followed by home- baked desserts. All prepared by members of our Branch.
On this sunny Sunday these Italians (and would-be Italians) enjoyed God’s gift of the outdoors, community, and friendship.
More Highlights:
Accordinco music provided by Dave Garo- binico. Bocce ball on two finely manicured courts compliments of Tom Brawley. An exciting fun game of “Tombola” under the direction of Karen Raccanelli.
Joe Bondanza
Greg Erigero

San Jose
Santa Clara Valley
District Council
Meeting for the last time prior to convention, Denise Antonowicz took care of remaining business items. One hot topic was the recent District BBQ and some problems that came up – specifically “Running out of food”. After some discussion, Denise said she would discuss the problem with the district board and develop ways to avoid future occurrences. Larry Marsalli underscored the importance of the Mass held at the BBQ.
This is Bob Basuino’s final month as Grand President serving two grand terms. Now our job is to get Andy Papanni and Denise elected.
Eileen Fritsch probed the members with questions about the Organ Donor Awareness program. Joan Delfino gave the following Gifts of Love report. Of 22 applications, 16 were awarded gifts totaling some $26,000. Steve Shimshock (Ric’s son) received a wheelchair.
Russ Vento reminded all branch presidents about the protocol to follow for Bishop’s Day. Mabel and Bishop’s Nurse donation submitting a Spiritual Bouquet and sponsoring a Seminarian. As an aside he also told us to wear yellow shirts and white pants for the prepared to make a presentation.

- Santa Clara Valley District – Day at the Rac- es-October 16
- Bishop’s Day – October 18, 2015 – St. Martin of Tours Church in San Jose - 11:30AM Mass. Lunch to follow at Three Flames on Meridian Avenue. Contact branch treasurer
Santa Teresa de Avila, Br. 368

We extend our thanks to Lorraine and Mike Nunziata, to their buddy Judy, to all those who came early to help set up for our meeting for their years of service organizing trips to various casinos, Ron Sanchez presented them with a plaque of a bus. Thank you, John and Judy!

Also, Ed Wendell does a beautiful job of giving us a spiritual reflection every meeting.

Last night’s story left us with a bit of wisdom: “The only attitude is gratitude.” Please accept our gratitude, Ed.

We have two new members to celebrate: Davud Pinto and Rudolph DeZordo. Welcome, welcome!

Joyce Robba, Mike Nunciata, Noreen Gilgio, and Father George Aranha gave excellent reports on their Convention experiences.

Among other things, such as the fun they had, they spoke of the mentoring program for new members, ideas from the Strategic Plan Committee, charitable donations from the ICF, ways the Church can use technology, and the considerable cost of producing a convention.

Our president Noreen, in Connie and Tony Cavaliero’s name, represented Father Aranha with a check for $5,000 for the new parish hall. The money is from our fund-raisers.

Blessings,

Judy Zahn

San Jose

St. Martin of Tours, Br. 391

Congratulations to Russ and Louise Vento-Branch #391’s President and Secretary- for receiving the Grand President’s Award at the 89th ICF Convention! For many many years Russ and Louise have shown a strong commitment and passion for the ICF, and we are excited for their recognition!

Branch #391 made $370 from the SJ Giants game. Thank you to all who came; it was a fun evening.

At the September meeting, Mike Rossi presented several proposals to amend ICF rules and regulations, which were going to be voted on by our delegates at the ICF Convention. At the October meeting, our delegates will report on the outcomes of the proposals. Also at the September meeting, Louise presented a cute and funny heritage report about growing older.

Next year, Russ Vento will be stepping down as branch President. Please contact Russ if you are interested in the position.

The November meeting will have a special guest speaker. Laura Leone has thalassemia and thanks to medical advancements, she has far exceeded the life expectancy the doctors gave her as a child. Thalassemia is common in people from Mediterranean descent, and as such, the ICF has set-up a yearly fund to support the Thalassemia Association, which is conducted at the Oakland Children’s Hospital.

Ciao for now,

Bianca Vallorz

Sunnyvale

Resurrection, Br. 408

Calling all candidates for Branch 408 Officers! Elections are nearly upon us and we will need fill our slate for the October Elections. Please consider serving the Branch as an officer in the coming year.

Our Fall ICF Blood Drive was held on September 13th was successful. We hosted over 46 donors. Thanks to all who have prayed for the success of these Blood drives – and a special thanks once again to CC member Jane Dianda who supplied ICF Tote bags to all Donors- courtesy of CC.

A Pancake Breakfast was held Sunday 27th September in the Farana Cour in conjunction with support of Tuition assistance of the Parish School.

Please remember to include our sick members in your prayers – especially for Mary- Jo DiMuccio, Anne Lopez, Dori Blefari, Edith Novak, Al’s wife SY, and Carolyn O’Connor

Morgan Hill

Santa Caterina D’Alessandria, Br. 435

The month of July was a busy one for our branch. We were happy to host the District ICF meeting at St. Catherine’s. We had a wonderful turnout from all branches and a yummy assortment of desserts. Many interesting topics were discussed and we were informed about the other branches activities.

Another wonderful day was spent at the annual District picnic held at St. Clare’s. It began with a special Mass outdoors said by Father Paulo. It was such a great ambiance, shade by the trees, and the weather could not have been better. We all enjoyed a wonderful lunch and we especially loved the “quarter” game that not only the children enjoyed, but the adults did also.

There was an awesome basket raffle which Fran Seulo was so kind to make for our branch. It was beautifully made, she put a lot of time and thought into it. It was the Cadillac of baskets.

Please keep Joe Morbito, Joe Tacci, and Marilynn Tobias, our former secretary for our branch in your prayers.

Peace and God bless.

Donna Baslini

Santa Rosa

Healdsburg

St. Frances de Sales, Br. 52

Br. 52 had a wonderful potluck / meeting on Sept 15. Over 40 members enjoyed tasting the delectable creations from their fellow branch members. Our Convention delegates gave their reports. All 4 delegates enjoyed the Convention and found it to be a spiritual and fun event and our branch won an award for the most family memberships!

We also participated in Back-to-School Night on Sept. 16. Alicia, Karla and Teri distributed information about the ICF to parents, students and teachers.

Upcoming Events:

Oct. 6: Regular Meeting. 7pm in the rectory.


Nov. 7: Polenta Dinner. For tickets, call Mary Del Monte: 433-4372 or Mary Mad- den 431-0438. Scott Cavolo will be doing the cooking. This is our first polenta dinner of the season!


Santa Rosa, Br. 18, Marie Canale with the branch’s scholarship winner Victoria Dobbins. The other two winners who grace Forrest & Emily Seeley.

We will start the raffle ticket sales for the Nativity set at the November Polenta Dinner. The raffle will be held at the Christmas Eve Mass.

Happy Halloween! Lauren Kilclend

Sonoma

St. Sebastian, Br. 103

Branch 103 is back at Father Roberts’ Hall for its meetings and dinners after a wonder- ful summer. Chef Klauber prepared an out- standing barbecue for the occasion and the wine flowed freely.

The branch looks forward to Bishop’s Day on October 11 and our election of officers on October 13. Chef Klauber is again expected to deliver a delicious meal for the October 11 meeting. For this month only, reservations will be taken by President Kosta at (707) 938-2066.

Eureka

St. Ambrose, Br. 145

Our Mezzo Agosto picnic was much fun. The food was great especially the delicious pork roast prepared by Betty and Gene Senestra. Thank you both, and thank you to all who provided salads and desserts. The rest of the day was spent visiting with each other and playing bocce.

During our September 5th meeting we dis- cussed the fund raiser at Applebee’s Restau- rant to be held on September 28th from 5 p.m. to closing time. We will hand out coupons to customers that will provide a 15% return of their total bill to our lodge. Joe will distribute these coupons to us before the event. There will also be an informational table available to customers learn about the credit card. We are and also provide the opportunity to give them a coupon to present when they pay. We will report the results of our next meeting.

Jerry Colivas gave his heritage report about the life and travels of Marco Polo that actu- ally lasted 24 years and a total of 6500 miles. Thank you Jerry!

Our scholarship spaghetti dinner will be on October11th from five to seven. Prices are ten dollars for adults, five dollars for children twelve and under, or twenty-five for a family ticket. We will need a lot of help. We will set up at 9 a.m. Please consider helping.

Our next meeting will be on October 13 and will be a potluck dinner.

Please pray for all of our members and their
Branch 103 President Kosta preparing for the September meeting.

(Below) Branch 103 Chef Klauber and Assistant Klauber preparing dinner.

families especially Anita Pera, Kathy Aquistapace, and my little grandson Tristan.

Many blessings to all,
Nancy Paoli

Santa Rosa
St. Eugene, Br. 198
Dear Brothers and Sisters
The start of Fall means the end of another I.C.F. year. Branch 198 is finishing our 50th year and we will celebrate with a Mass at 4:30 p.m. in the Cathedral on Saturday, January 9, 2016. We will then go to the Villa Restaurant for cocktails and dinner. Branch 198 members will pay $10.00 dollars and guests will pay $20.00 for this special event.
President Bob Acquistapace has asked Lorraine Castelli to handle all dinner reservations and she will get the information to you by Nov. 1st.
Please pray for Kathy Aquistapace, Frank Castelli, Vic Torchio Sr., Cara Vittalini, Eizo & Julie Mangiantini and any others members that you know are in need.
Our next meeting will be in the Brinker Room. Randy will prepare spaghetti and meatballs for dinner at 6:00 p.m. with a meeting to follow on Monday, November 2nd. The cost is $7.00 per person and you are reminded to bring canned goods for St Vincent de Paul.
Fraternally,
Lorraine Castelli

Sebastopol
St. Michael, Br. 209
This month (September) we enjoyed many tasty dishes provided by our members for our “End of Summer” Potluck. Our members are the best cooks!! For dessert, we had enjoying some vacation time.
Our member, Dante Corsetti, who is also Santa Rosa District’s President, gave a glowing report of the recent ICF Convention in Las Vegas. One of the awards received was for Heritage. Tia Polley is in charge of Heritage and has been complimented on her thorough and outstanding work for this cause. Don Becchetti and Lorraine Vannetti were “First Place” winners in the Bocce Tournament. Gene Vannetti was “Third Place” winner. Dante further reported that all of the workshops were attended and that the convention was “terrific.”

Upcoming:
October 11: Bishop’s Day – Bishop Vasa will celebrate the 10 am Mass at St. Sebastian’s.
October 24: Chicken & Polenta Dinner. For ticket Information-Call Lona Bertoli-707-527-1021
Ciao,
Lona Bertoli

Stockton
Stockton District Council
The 85th Annual Convention in Las Vegas was a huge success. The festivities began with dinner at Our Lady of Las Vegas. Friday’s opening included the Grand President’s Award presentation to Russ and Louise Veneto and introduction of the Central Council candidates. Saturday offered a variety of workshops, Memorial Mass for deceased members, general session, and evening banquet. Bishop Blaire concelebrated Sunday’s mass and the session concluded on Monday with installation of officers. We all look forward to next year’s convention in Fresno.
The next District Meeting will be at Tony and Ida’s Kitchen on Sunday, October 4, at 1:30 p.m. Menu: Polenta, chicken cacciatore, and all the trimmings for $8. Attendance is important as we will be electing a new slate of officers for 2016. Presidents: Make your reservations with Ida Guerriolo by Sept. 27 at (209) 982-5710 and bring a raffle prize.
CONGRATULATIONS to our own Cecelia McGhee, Br. 48, Modesto, who will be honored on October 17th at the 14th Annual Bishop’s Awards for her Lifetime Service to the Church.
Sunday, October 25, Late Nite Catechism, Holy Names University Regents Theatre, Oakland, 2 p.m., $50, Call Brown Paper Tickets at 1-800-583-3006 or online at http://italiancatholicfederation.brownpapertickets.com. This Central Council fundraiser is a raucous, rollicking international hit comedy about an irrepresible Sister who teaches an adult catechism class to a roomful of students (the audience).
Saturday, November 7, Testimonial Dinner Honoring Past Grand President Bob Basui, Fiorillo’s Restaurant, Santa Clara, 5 p.m., $45/person.
Karen Rosson

Modesto
St. Stanislaus, Br. 48
At the Ministry’s Fair we had a couple sigh up that will be joining us in October. They were unable to come to the meeting in September due to other commitments.
We had forty seven family and friends from Branch 48 join us for the Stockton District Picnic. It was a very nice day and we enjoyed the company, the good food and the games.
As we finish the Fall Festival we will be getting ready for the Bake Sale. It takes a lot of work from our members to have a successful bake sale and their hard work is very much appreciated. They make the best biscotti, cakes, breads, cookies and pies.
Several of us will be attending the district meeting in Manteca at Tony’s Kitchen. That is always the greatest place to have a meeting.
We will be holding our annual mass and breakfast October 25, 2015. We will be attending the 8:00 am mass at the Maze Blvd. Church with breakfast to follow.
Mass for our deceased members will be Sunday, October 14, 2015 and November 8, 2015 at the 8:00 am at the Maze Blvd. Church.
Our bank night winner was Linda Isola. The refreshments for the October 14, 2015 meeting will be furnished by Cecelia McGhee.

Cecilia McGhee

Coming up:
Oct 3-4 Bake sale after all the masses
Oct 14 7:00 pm – Meeting – St. Stanislaus Hall 7 & K Streets
Oct 25 8:00 am mass – Annual Mass & Breakfast
Cecilia McGhee

Stockton
Church of the Presentation, Br. 395
Happy Fall to All! Even though Branch 395 has had a break in July and August, we have still had a very busy summer. On June 30 many of our branch members along with the other 4 branches attended “Baseball Night at the Ports” at Banner Island Ballpark in Stockton. A great time was had by all and we hope to make this an annual event. Several of our members attended the Strategic plan workshop on July 18 at the home of District President Annette Elissagary and her husband Roger. It was very informative in a wonderful environment. On August 16 the Stockton District picnic was held at Escalon Community Park in Escalon. It was well attended by all branches and members enjoyed a wonderful barbecued steak dinner with all the trimmings. The children in attendance enjoyed games where they competed for prizes. Karen Rosson and Mary Ann Piana Chapman were our delegates to the Annual Convention and will be reporting to our branch at our September 10 meeting.
28 - BOLLETTINO

But I heard it was a wonderful convention. Branch 395 will have a booth at the Church of the Presentation annual Fall Fest to be held September 18-20. We will be selling Pizza and Italian sodas and promoting the ICF! We also plan to have an information booth at the Olive Oil Festival to be held at St. Mary’s High School on September 27. It is with deep sorrow that we announce the death of our dear member Pat Sorini on September 3. Pat was our Orator for the last several years and always had a unique and meaningful prayer to share. She was a long time member of the Church of the Presentation and served in a number of ministries. She will be missed. Upcoming events:
October 4 - Stockton District Meeting
October 15 Branch Meeting
November 12 - Branch Meeting
December 5 - Christmas Luncheon

Josephine Weber, President, Branch 395

Tucson

Our Lady of the Valley, Br. 425

Our Sonoran Deserts searing heat has yielded to the Monsoon season. Outdoor life is doable once again. Our migratory ICF members are returning...some to make ready for the Convention...others to resume their active retirement lifestyle. Our Branch will be fully activated with our October meeting as we plan...to solicit additional members...enhance our fundraising efforts...and explore ways to be of service to our Green Valley community. Above all...we are family.

Barbara Barton reporting

Bollettino Christmas Ads

It’s that time of year to submit your branch, district, or individual Christmas Ad for the Bollettino!

The deadline is November 10. Thank you.

These can be sent in already designed and sized, or the text may be faxed or emailed and we will create the design. These are the choices and prices for the ads:

- 2 1/2” x 2 1/2” (one column square) $25
- 2 1/2” x 5” (vertical or horizontal) $35
- 4” x 5” (horizontal) $50
- 6 1/2” x 5” (horizontal, quarter page) $70

To place a message, please send in your ad, either finished or just the text you want, size selection, and your check made out to the I.C.F. (noted Christmas ad), to:

Italian Catholic Federation
8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110
Oakland, CA 94621
Attn: Bollettino

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