



Buona
Pasqua!

BOLLETTINO

Happy
Easter!

ICF Members Reinvest in the Federation at the 2016 Officers Installations



2016 Santa Rosa District Officers: Grand 1st Vice President Andy Pappani is pictured with the 2016 Santa Rosa District Officers. President: Spence Burton, 1st VP: Bill Scinto, 2nd VP: Eleanor Berto, Rec. Sec.: Marie Canale, Fin. Sec./Treasurer: Linda Sherman, Orator: Louise Vicino, Trustees: Dante Corsetti and Glenn Sherman, Sentinel: Ken Marshall and District Deputy: Kathy Acquistapace. Not pictured: Rosemarie Melendy, Trustee.



Members of Branch 14 at the Contra Costa District Installation.



Members of the Las Vegas area at their recent installation with Grand President Leonard Zasoski, Jr. and his wife BG, and Grand Trustee Denise Antonowicz and her mom Marie.



Members of Branch 432 at the Contra Costa District Installation.



Installation of the officers for Branch 111 at the Los Angeles Archdiocese Installation.

TIME SENSITIVE: PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY!

Grand President's Monthly Message *by Leonard Zasoski, Jr.*

As we move into the Lenten season, we are reminded of the sacrifices our Lord went through for our eternal salvation. With Easter, Jesus arose from the dead and gave us the chance for everlasting life in the Kingdom of God. We must be willing to listen for His voice calling us to follow Him and do our best to remain on the right path, by bringing others along with us, just as the Apostles did so many years ago.

This is what we do in the Italian Catholic Federation; we bring members into our branches to keep that connection to their faith, along with helping others. We all have a vested interest of marketing our branch to others if we are to keep the Federation strong for the next generation.

During the next several months, we are asking all branches throughout the Federation to hold a membership drive. New members in your branch will bring a new sense of well-being for all members, if you open your arms and welcome them into all that you do within your branch.

You need to be open to new ideas when recruiting members. Applications should be available at all your events, along with a poster board with pictures from your events. Everyone likes to see pictures, and a visual connection is great. Promote what you have done in your parish and community. Your greatest strength as a branch is the local connection; give them a reason to want to be a part of what you do and be open to the new ideas that will come from those new members. The Membership

and Task Force Committees are there to help if needed. Please contact the ICF office if you need assistance with your Membership Drive.

Yes, our Federation is changing from some of the ways of the past in the more diverse ethnic backgrounds that we have today within our branches, but the core of the Italian sense of family will always remain strong. I can't think of a better Easter gift than the thought of a member joining our organization and bringing them closer to the church and Jesus.

B.G., Andrew, Joey and I wish all members of the Italian Catholic Federation a Blessed Easter.



Leonard Zasoski, Jr.
Grand President

BOLLETTINO

Official Publication of the Italian
Catholic Federation
(ISN 0745-256X)

Published Monthly
(except for Combined Aug./Sept. Issue)
by the Central Council
of the Italian Catholic Federation
8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110
Oakland, CA 94621

READERSHIP as of 10/01/15: 7,400
Subscription Rate: \$6.00 year

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Periodicals postage is paid at Oakland, CA.,
and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
BOLLETTINO, 8393 Capwell Drive,
Suite 110, Oakland, CA 94621

UPCOMING:

2016 Bishops’ Days:

- Mar. 6 Stockton
- Mar. 13 Oakland
- Apr. 3 San Francisco (San Francisco,
San Mateo & Marin)
- Jul. 31 Monterey (Central Coast)
- Oct. 16 San Jose (Santa Clara Valley)
- Nov. 6 Las Vegas
- Nov. 6 Los Angeles
- Nov. 6 San Diego

Passing of Guy Masciotra

The ICF was informed about the passing of Life Member Emeritus Guy Masciotra as the Bollettino was going to press. More information about Guy will be in the April issue or please see the “History Highlights” column from November 2015.

Membership Stats as of

January 31, 2016: 9,756

Members as of July 1, 2015:

10,074 = overall loss of 318 members

New:	454
Reinstated:	12
Transfer in/out:	38
Deceased:	-130
Cancelled:	-325
Non-payment	329

High Five!

Top four districts and areas
with increased membership:
(excluding deceased members)

Santa Barbara	+85
Blessed Sacrament	+26
Stockton	+16
Santa Clara Valley	+15

Three Days That Changed The World

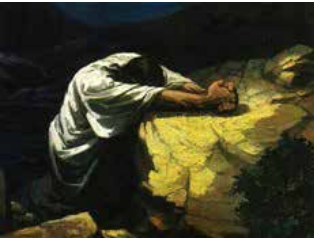
Monsignor Daniel Cardelli Spiritual Director ICF

He was very much afraid, so much so that He sweat blood. He knew what was to happen on Friday.

Thursday: The twelve found an upper room to celebrate the Passover Meal with Him. They had a great time, a great meal. They even sang hymns. During the meal He took bread, broke it and passed it around and said, “Take and eat for this is My Body...” At the end of the meal He took a chalice of wine and said, “Take and drink for this is the chalice of My Blood...” He changed bread and wine into Himself. Then He ordained His apostles as priests when He said, “Do this in memory of Me” Wow! What a Holy Communion, indeed!

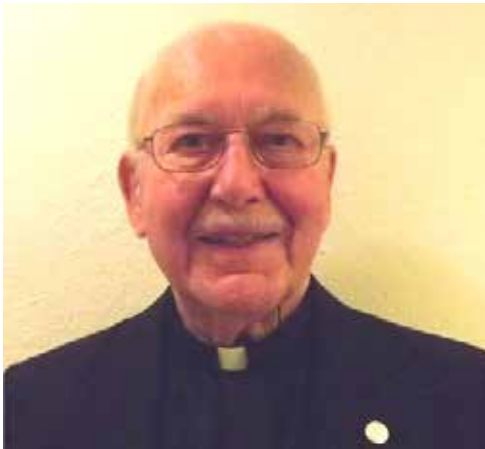
One of the twelve left the gathering.

He and the eleven went to the Garden of Gethsemane. He went a “stone’s throw away” to pray. He asked Peter, John and James to stay awake while he prayed. He then suffered deep agony.



Suddenly, a gang of soldiers entered the garden and with them was the “one who left the gathering” came up to Him and gave Him a kiss. Yes, a kiss of death. The gang dragged Him away.

Friday: He endured humiliation, judgment, ridicule, scourging, crowning with thorns, loss of blood, exhaustion. He was constrained to carry a heavy cross on his battered shoulders. The gang nailed His hands and feet to the cross and hung the cross on a hill between two thieves. He hung on the cross for several hours. Then He let out a loud cry and said, “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit and when He had said this He breathed his last breath and died.” A soldier stabbed His side with a spear. Blood and water flowed out! Friends took Him down from the cross and laid Him in the arms of His



Blessed Mother. Her grief was profound and unfathomable. They laid Him in a “tomb hewn out of a rock.” The earth shook, the temple veil ripped in half.



REJOICE -ALLELULIA, ALLELULIA, ALLELULIA!

helping with special events and creating a special atmosphere at all events, including the meetings. Members should treat one another with courtesy and respect, especially making new members or prospective members feel welcome. Members should avoid having exclusive dining groups, always trying to include everyone, particularly new members. In the formal discussions taking place during a meeting, a member should discuss his or her opinion on a subject without becoming angry or extremely emotional. Members should always remember the “Golden Rule” in their dealings with one another.

The Role of the President

Forrest Price

Central Council Member Emeritus/ Membership Committee Assistant

The Role of the President – The President sets the tone for meetings. The President should enjoy presiding at meetings, have a written outline of the meeting agenda but know the agenda well enough so that he/she would rarely have to refer to it. The President should welcome members with some light remarks and follow the prescribed format for conducting the meeting as set forth by the Central Council, be well-versed in “Robert’s Rules of Order” and always after a motion and a second, ask if there is any discussion on the motion instead of simply calling for the question. The President should allow ample discussion on serious matters and should be courteous and fair to all. He or she should be prepared to handle amendments to the motion and “calls for the question” and voting on the motions. The wise President will also thank Committee Chairpersons for their reports and praise excellent work. Also, the successful President will make the necessary telephone calls, emails and letters that are part of the job in between meetings and also make those contacts that are a necessary part of meeting preparation.

The Role of Other Officers – The other branch officers also have an important role to play in the functioning of the branch. Although the performance of the 2nd Vice President, the Secretary and the Treasurer are of key importance, all of the officers, including Trustees, should competently fulfill their duties. Secretaries need to present their minutes in a pleasant and audible voice; presenting the events of the previous meeting in a concise manner. Treasurers should also

present their reports in an audible voice and in an organized manner. A pure recitation of a hodgepodge of numbers can frustrate the listener.

Also, the ideal general meeting would be followed by a meal and thereafter by a guest speaker or some form of entertainment. Along with various reports made during the meeting, a heritage report would be nice. At the close of a meeting, it is an excellent idea to recognize birthdays, anniversaries and special occasions.

The Role of Membership – The burden of having a successful branch does not fall on the shoulders of the officers alone. All members of a branch should do their part in volunteering to serve on committees,

2016 1st Year Scholarship Program

Materials on the 1st Year Scholarship Program were sent to high schools after Thanksgiving and have now been sent to the Districts and Branches in the January mailing.

The Deadline for Donations and Applications is March 15, 2016. Please discuss participating in the program at your meetings by making a donation of a full scholarship of \$400.00, if possible, or a partial donation of any amount. Partial Donations do help to make other scholarships possible when that money is grouped together. Individual Donations are welcomed as well. Please encourage your children, grandchildren or anyone you know who is eligible to apply. These are the eligibility requirements for students:

A High School Senior, a total cumulative GPA (3 ½ years) of at least 3.2 and meets all of the

requirements in either #1 or #2: 1) Are Roman Catholic and of Italian Descent and live within the Roman Catholic Dioceses of Arizona, California, Illinois and Nevada, only where Branches of the Federation are established. or 2) Are Roman Catholic but need not be of Italian Descent or live where Branches of the Federation are established if either Roman Catholic parent, guardian or grandparent is a member of the “Italian Catholic Federation” - membership of a Roman Catholic parent, guardian or grandparent is mandatory for #2. Please visit or call your local high schools where you would like to see applicants come from and make sure that they are promoting our scholarship program and have applications available.

If you have any questions or applications are needed, please call the I.C.F. office toll-free at 1-888-423-1924.

Laurice and Matt Levine Welcome Baby Levine!

Benjamin Anthony Levine

February 5, 2016

11:19 pm

9 lbs., 10 oz.

21 5/8 inches long

Dear ICF,

Ben Levine is finally here! We have a birth story that goes well with our lives—a bit of a roller coaster!

Due to some end-of-delivery trauma, Baby Ben was whisked away to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), where they ruled out pneumonia and infection. Thankfully, they concluded that it was fluid in the lungs resulting from not initially crying at birth. When babies do not scream immediately, they do not take that much-needed big breath; therefore, fluid stays in the lungs. Since he was whisked away to the NICU right away, I was not able to hold him for another five hours! The moment I held him was one of the happiest in my life and one I will always cherish. It was difficult to watch our newborn get poked and prodded over a dozen times—but it was for his health, and thank God everything turned out just fine.

After waiting in Oregon for one month and four false alarms, we were thrilled to go home to Washington and have been enjoying every minute with our new bundle of joy. These times are precious, and we are all falling in love. Even our corgi, Jozz, and our birds are happy to welcome their brother, and Jozz is very sweet and protective. We include her in everything so she does not feel left out!



Proud new parents, Matt and Laurice with Baby Benjamin.

Matt and I want to extend our immense gratitude to the ICF for the outpouring of love, prayers, calls, cards, and gifts. Your friendship is something we cannot wait to share with Benjamin.

Please keep in touch; while I am away from work, you can communicate with me via my personal e-mail, LLevine430@aol.com, and I am a phone call away at (360) 860-2023.

We love you all! Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

With love and gratitude,

Laurice, Matt, Jozz, and Baby Benjamin

ICF HISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

Laura Bozzini -- A True ICF Icon!

David Botta and Carmen Kilcullen
Past Grand Presidents

We continue with our awards history which we started in the February issue. This month we discuss the Grand President’s Award. This award is given to a member of the ICF for his/her commitment in furthering the ideals and aims of the organization. The award is presented at the Friday Night Opening of the annual convention.

The first Grand President’s Award was given to Laura Bozzini of San Francisco, in 1979, by then Grand President, Robert Acquistapace. We, your authors, knew her quite well and worked with her often. Laura was a charter member of Branch #1, located at the Immaculate Conception Church in the Bernal Heights district of San Francisco. She was a dedicated member of the ICF, providing consistent support to the branches of Northern California. She contributed generously of her time and efforts to all Federation projects. She handled tickets, reservations and finances for district and branch events. For many years, she also prepared a monthly luncheon for the benefit of the Immaculate Conception School. She also was involved with visitations to hospitals and convalescent homes. In doing all of this, Laura was very reluctant to talk about her good works.

Laura was married to Agostino Bozzini, who was also a Central Council member. Agostino was present at the first meeting of the ICF, but did not join at that time. However, later, as a member of #1 and the Central Council, he served as a branch officer and also as a CC officer at various times. Laura and Agostino had three daughters: Barbara, Cathy and Carol. Laura passed away peacefully on March 1st, 2009 at the age of 100.

Convention-2015

At the 2015 convention in Las Vegas, the Grand President’s Award was presented to Russ and Louise Vento of Branch 391 in San Jose. They have held many offices in their branch and in the Santa Clara Valley District. As such, they have volunteered, hosted and chaired many events. Both are long-term members-at-large of the Central Council Heritage Committee. They have set up beautiful displays at many of the recent annual conventions. Heritage is important to them and they do all they can to promote it. Like Laura Bozzini, Russ and Louise are also true icons of the Italian Catholic Federation!

If someone has a person in mind who may fit the criteria for this award, nomination forms are available at the ICF office or on the website at icf.org.

JANUARY CALENDAR WINNERS

DAY	NAME	BR	CITY	WINS
1/1	Giulia Gallego	435	San Martin, CA	\$100
1/2	Kelli & Sean Gottlieb		Cape Girardeau, MO	\$30
1/3	Barbara Tongate	281	Bakersfield, CA	\$30
1/4	Zosima M. Aquino	118	Montebello, CA	\$30
1/5	Maria Fregosi	342	Auburn, CA	\$30
1/6	Marisa Borba	342	Auburn, CA	\$50
1/7	Glorinda Dobleman	213	Daly City, CA	\$30
1/8	Anne-Marie Bandoni	39	Merced, CA	\$30
1/9	Cheryl Simon	19	Daly City, CA	\$30
1/10	Don Lee Gaudino	102	Sun Valley, CA	\$30
1/11	Linda Teplitz	10	Oakland, CA	\$30
1/12	John & Carolyn Cardinalli	285	Pleasanton, CA	\$30
1/13	Colette Cote	442	Walnut Creek, CA	\$30
1/14	Carmine Vicino		San Francisco, CA	\$30
1/15	Donna Basilin	435	Morgan Hill, CA	\$30
1/16	Stan Morri	390	Tracy, CA	\$30
1/17	Hope Rodriguez		Merced, CA	\$30
1/18	Nilda Grimes		Tracy, CA	\$40
1/19	Steve Gouig	352	Danville, CA	\$30
1/20	Sabrina Jensen		Solvang, CA	\$30
1/21	Linda Spallino	144	Arcata, CA	\$30
1/22	Jeanette Hudson	28	Gilroy, CA	\$30
1/23	Robert Lencioni	33	Bakersfield, CA	\$30
1/24	Branch 127		Petaluma, CA	\$30
1/25	Miranda Arnold		Concord, CA	\$30
1/26	Jennifer Stephens		San Andreas, CA	\$30
1/27	Denise Bachur		Santa Clara, CA	\$50
1/28	Branch 111		Montebello, CA	\$30
1/29	Branch 70		Sanger, CA	\$30
1/30	Pat Grasso	343	Castro Valley, CA	\$30
1/31	Julie Kennedy	10	Alameda, CA	\$30

FEBRUARY CALENDAR WINNERS

DAY	NAME	BR	CITY	WINS
2/1	Barbara Bidia	209	Santa Rosa, CA	\$30
2/2	Mary Sapien		Merced, CA	\$30
2/3	Elaine Lencioni	32	Fresno, CA	\$30
2/4	Edmond J. Russ		Gardena, CA	\$30
2/5	Sugar Ray Bridges		Merced, CA	\$30
2/6	Beverly R. Andreozzi	327	Redwood City, CA	\$30
2/7	Alma Brennan	327	San Carlos, CA	\$40
2/8	Mst Rev. Randolph R. Calvo		Reno, NV	\$30
2/9	John O’Meara	27	Madera, CA	\$50
2/10	John O’Brien		San Mateo, CA	\$50
2/11	St. Peter the Apostle Church		Itasca, IL	\$30
2/12	Louise Vicino	127	Petaluma, CA	\$30
2/13	Gina D’Amico		Campbell, CA	\$30
2/14	Steven Fuentes	163	San Mateo, CA	\$100
2/15	Branch 281		Bakersfield, CA	\$30
2/16	Branch 220		Elmwood Park, IL	\$30
2/17	Trudi LeDruillenec		Alameda, CA	\$30
2/18	Frank Re	139	Manteca, CA	\$30
2/19	Neal Trost		Merced, CA	\$30
2/20	Sally Miller		Pioneer, CA	\$30
2/21	Ida Green		Sacramento, CA	\$30
2/22	Becky Fidler		Posey, CA	\$50
2/23	Fr. Roberto Vera	354	Paso Robles, CA	\$30
2/24	Miria Garfagnoli	52	Healdsburg, CA	\$30
2/25	James Jones	191	San Jose, CA	\$30
2/26	Esther Ramonda	191	San Jose, CA	\$30
2/27	Richard Goodman		Alameda, CA	\$30
2/28	Lauren Kilcullen	52	Santa Rosa, CA	\$30
2/29	Diane Daynes		San Mateo, CA	\$30

Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza
Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations*

IN MEMORY OF:

DONATED BY:

Rocco Pappapietro
Orlando Silva
Vincent Torrente
Horace Rappa
Olga Basso
Matteo Genna
Leo Francesconi
Dorothy Ann Busco
Dorothy A. Busco
Gayton DeRosa
Hanako Nelson
Annabelle Vrankovich
Gayton DeRosa
Hanako Nelson
Gaetano “Guy” Masciotra

Officers/Members of Br. 290
Officers/Members of Br. 144
Bella and Ed Leonard
Bella and Ed Leonard
Louis Basso
Al and Deanna De Nurra
Joe and Julie Bonino
Russell and Louise Vento
John and Susan Busco
Barbara Firpo
Leroy and Stella Taddei
Giovanni and Nancy Corsi
Officers/Members of Br. 327
Officers/Members of Br. 343
Officers/Members of Central Council

GET WELL WISHES:

Marie Antonowicz
Patricia Mueller
Michele Gargiulo

Jim and Janice Jones
Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Dianda and Jane
Officers/Members of Br. 161

THANK YOU FOR OUR INSTALLATION:

Leonard Zasoski, Jr.
Andy Pappani
Leonard Zasoski, Jr.

Officers/Members of Los Angeles Archdiocese District
Officers/Members of Santa Rosa District
Officers/Members of Central Coast District

IN HONOR OF:

Outgoing President Jim Spallino
Rev. Paul Rossi
Rev. Tom Martin
Rev. Martin Murili
Rev. Gerald Coleman

Officers/Members of Br. 144
Officers/Members of Br. 130
Officers/Members of Br. 130
Officers/Members of Br. 130
Officers/Members of Br. 130

HAPPY 50TH BRANCH ANNIVERSARY:

I.C.F. Br. 198

Officers/Members of Br. 145

*Named after the co-founder of the I.C.F., the Sir Luigi and Lady Augusta Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund provides I.C.F. members a lasting way to memorialize and/or extend greetings to friends, relatives, and loved ones. Members’ donations provide scholarships to seminarians studying for the priesthood in dioceses where the Italian Catholic Federation is located. A monthly Mass is offered for the intention of those listed.

Cooley’s Anemia Donations

Donations received by February 10, 2016

Ernest and Norma Anderson
In memory of Anthony J. Vecchio
Jerry and Joan Brascia
In memory of Anthony Vecchio

Mr. and Mrs. Roland Codiga
In memory of Jack Robasciotti
Officers/Members of Br. 28
In memory of Jack Robasciotti
Officers/Members of LA Archdiocese District
In memory of Ines Sabatella

Scholarship Donations

Donations received by February 10, 2016.

Scholarship Donations - 1st Year

Evelyn Taravella
In memory of Steve W. Taravella

Gifts of Love Donations

Donations Received By February 10, 2016

Bianca Caserza
In memory of Mary Pierce
Clarice M. Dominge
In memory of Gayton DeRosa
Officers/Members of Br. 291
In memory of Livia Seim
Officers/Members of Br. 291
In memory of Sharon Reed
Officers/Members of Br. 163
In memory of Margaret Perri
Louie and Pat Cordich
In memory of Jack Robasciotti
Triant Varellas
In memory of Carol Klatt

Triant Varellas
In memory of John Shubunka
Triant Varellas
In memory of Dan Cadigan
Officers/Members of Br. 291
In memory of Sister Carol Carter
Officers/Members of Br. 291
In memory of Hazel Landini
Mr. and Mrs. Roland Codiga
In memory of Aliene Crispino
Adolfo and Carla Del Carlo
In memory of Bruno Fatica
Joanna Van Blaricom
In memory of Earl Van Blaricom

The Ways and Means Committee announces the Theme for the 2017 Fundraiser “Daily Raffle”as:
“ Italian Catholic Federation Branch and District Heritages ”

The Ways and Means Committee will be planning and designing the 2017 Calendar. Included in the calendar will be your pictures, biographies and anecdotes about your Branches and Districts

We invite you to participate in several ways: First, share special stories or anecdotes about the history and heritage of your branch, your members and your districts. Please send any pictures that you would like to share.

We also invite you to participate in the listing of not only birthdays (your own, your children, grandchildren, parish priests and chaplains, or even friends) but also anniversaries (weddings, Branch founding, Priest’s ordinations, etc.) You may include your branch and district events as well.

The price schedule will be as follows:

\$10.00 for one name/event; \$15.00 for 2 names/events; and \$20.00 for four names/events. Other numbers will be a combination of prices; for example, 5 names/events will be \$30.00 (\$20.00 + \$10.00), but keep in mind that 8 names/events would be \$40.00.

The deadline for the names and payments will be May 1, 2016
Please mail your information with a check payable to the I.C.F. to:
Italian Catholic Federation
8393 Capwell Dr., Suite 110
Oakland, CA 94621

The Committee thanks you for your continued support!
Chairperson: Lisa Crudo
Members: Franklyn Lopes Jr., and Leonard Rossi, O.L.J.
For questions, please call the I.C.F office at (510) 633-9058 or Lisa Crudo (510) 861-983

IRS AND STATE OF CALIFORNIA FRANCHISE TAX BOARD

As you are aware, the IRS and Franchise Tax Board for the State of California require annual tax returns to be filed by our Districts and Branches.

It is important to remember that all Districts and Branches now have two numbers - a Federal Tax ID Number for any forms filed with the IRS and a State Tax ID Number for any forms filed with the State

The IRS limit for the tax year ending 2015 is the following:

Branches or Districts with Gross Receipts of more than \$50,000.00 will be required to file IRS Form 990 EZ or 990.

Branches or Districts with Gross Receipts of \$50,000.00 or less will be required to electronically file IRS Form 990-N which is an e-Postcard.

The State limit for the tax year ending 2015 is the following:

Branches or Districts in California with Gross Receipts of more than \$50,000.00 will be required to file State Form 199.

Branches or Districts in California with Gross Receipts of \$50,000.00 or less will be required to electronically file State Form 199-N which is an e-Postcard.

THIS IS IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND MUST BE STRICTLY FOLLOWED

Both Forms must be filed no later than May 15, 2016. The IRS and State strictly adhere to this date, so please take this process seriously.

Any District or Branch who does not file for 3 consecutive years will lose its tax exempt status with the IRS and the State. If you lose your tax exempt status you will have to file paperwork and pay a fine in order to regain your tax exempt status.

Included in the Financial Secretaries’ packet are materials that the District and Branch Financial Secretaries will need to help them with this process. District and Branch Presidents - please work with your Financial Secretary to go over the information when it is received and see that the appropriate forms are filed by the due date.

Please make sure all District or Branch finances are in order and that Bank Statements are reconciled through December 31, 2015. Remember that the Gross Receipts are total amounts received without subtracting any costs or expenses. These amounts include, but are not limited to, Membership and Hospitalization Dues, Dinners, Fundraisers, Raffle Tickets, Income from Convention Raffle Tickets and Calendar Sales, Interest from all Bank Accounts, Monetary Donations, etc.

If you have any questions, or need help filing, please call the I.C.F. Office at 1-888-423-1924.

Thank You,
Deborah Rodondi, Grand Treasurer

In Loving Memory

Report Date: 02/11/2016		GLORIA F BRACKEN	Branch 173
RENI FELICE	Branch 005	EZIO J MANGIANTINI	Branch 198
MARIE G COLOMBO	Branch 014	EDWARD M MOSKAL	Branch 220
MARIO LUCIDO	Branch 026	JEANNE R HOUGARDY	Branch 227
TREVIS R BERRY	Branch 028	GARY G CHRISTENSEN	Branch 250
HORACE J RAPPA	Branch 036	IRENE CRESCIO	Branch 258
FRANCES M RUSSO	Branch 036	SR CAROL CARTER	Branch 291
REV AUSTIN CONTERNO	Branch 038	HAZEL LANDINI	Branch 291
MARY LAVIN	Branch 038	SHARON REED	Branch 291
INES MASSETANI	Branch 038	LIVIA SEIM	Branch 291
ADA FRANCO	Branch 040	O LOUIS ROSSI	Branch 319
CELESTINE M TRAVERSO	Branch 047	ELIZABETH M GRIFFITH	Branch 343
GAETANO MASCIOTRA	Branch 067	REV KEVIN GAFFEY	Branch 351
LIBERA COLONNA	Branch 115	LAWRENCE P JOHNSTON	Branch 351
ANNA DI LEVA	Branch 115	ALICE MASTAGNI	Branch 354
EMILY A LO GRANDE	Branch 115	DOROTHY M RUSSO	Branch 367
MARIO PACE	Branch 115	STANLEY PASTULA	Branch 380
MARGARET PERRI	Branch 163		

Benvenuti Membri Nuovi

Report Date: 02/12/2016		MOLLY WILSON	Branch 047
LORRAINE BELLESI	Branch 007	PATRICK WILSON	Branch 047
JUNE L STURM	Branch 007	SHANNON WILSON	Branch 047
KENNETH DORRANCE	Branch 010	THOMAS WILSON	Branch 047
HARRY W GREER	Branch 010	KASEN M CAMERON	Branch 072
JAMES THAM	Branch 010	MARILYN A SYLVESTRI	Branch 103
WILLIAM OCCHIPINTI	Branch 018	BARBARA G WEST	Branch 115
ANTOINETTE M CASSELBERRY	Branch 021	GEORGE E GAMBONINI	Branch 127
GARY G CASTIGLIONI	Branch 021	MARGARET GAMBONINI	Branch 127
MARIA LOIACONO	Branch 021	LARRY C FLOCCHINI	Branch 191
ALVERDA ORLANDO	Branch 021	CHARLIE R SCHENCK	Branch 191
PATRICIA (PAT) CARAVELLI	Branch 026	RICHARD D'OLIVA	Branch 198
MICHAEL PERA	Branch 026	VIOLET D'OLIVA	Branch 198
RICHARD E PUCCINELLI	Branch 026	DIANA J PHILLIPS	Branch 209
DON F GAGE	Branch 028	JIM WHIRLOW	Branch 214
JEANNE L GAGE	Branch 028	KATHY WHIRLOW	Branch 214
FAYE DAWDY	Branch 036	JANNELL BARTOLO	Branch 285
ELAINE R GIAMPIETRO	Branch 036	SHIRLEY M KOENIG	Branch 285
ALBERT R GROSNICK	Branch 036	MORENO NAVARINI	Branch 285
ARMINDA G GROSNICK	Branch 036	NANCY NAVARINI	Branch 285
VICTORIA TORCOLINI	Branch 036	BRIAN R MC LEAN	Branch 291
CECILIA GLORIA VALENTINO	Branch 036	CAMILLE E MC LEAN	Branch 291
REV ALBERT MENGON	Branch 038	DANIEL N MC LEAN	Branch 291
ALFREDO ORTEGA II	Branch 039	NATHANIEL S MC LEAN	Branch 291
MIREYA ORTEGA	Branch 039	PATRICK K MC LEAN	Branch 291
ROCIO ORTEGA	Branch 039	PAULA J MC LEAN	Branch 291
MOLLY A GRADER	Branch 040	STACI L MC LEAN	Branch 291
ALICIA MUSCARDIN	Branch 040	ANDREA LINN	Branch 317
EVITA MUSCARDIN	Branch 040	ALBON G ATHEARN	Branch 343
RICHARD MUSCARDIN	Branch 040	IRENE M ATHEARN	Branch 343
BEN NAVARRA	Branch 040	JEFF STONE	Branch 343
ROBERT L PETRI	Branch 040	RAUL ACEVEDO	Branch 374
BILL G BORUFF	Branch 045	CARLA B FALCONE	Branch 380
SANDY M BORUFF	Branch 045	MARCELLO FALCONE	Branch 380
GAIL A DAVIS	Branch 045	MICHAEL J FALCONE	Branch 380
GINA DEVITO	Branch 045	DAWN M SWEASEY	Branch 380
VERONA M DEVITO	Branch 045	ELSA RODRIGUEZ	Branch 382
DESMOND F DUMONCHELLE	Branch 045	GEORGE P DELUCCHI	Branch 391
JANET V DUMONCHELLE	Branch 045	PAUL ANTHONY ROBLES	Branch 391
DANIEL G MAZZA	Branch 045	LYNDA J VALLORZ	Branch 391
DANTE G MAZZA	Branch 045	ANITA C WATSON	Branch 416
ROBIN K MAZZA	Branch 045	ETHEL MEYER	Branch 417
SIENA G MAZZA	Branch 045	JERRY J CENNAMO	Branch 423
ELAINE MYERS	Branch 045	WENDY M CENNAMO	Branch 423
ALEXA M JOHNSON	Branch 047	BARBARA E MOORE	Branch 423
CHRISTOPHER J JOHNSON	Branch 047	ESTHER WILTCHIK	Branch 423
EVIE S JOHNSON	Branch 047	TOM E CAMENISCH	Branch 434
GHAZAL S JOHNSON	Branch 047	ANN B NEWPORT	Branch 434
ASSAL S TRIOLO	Branch 047	JOHN F NEWPORT	Branch 434
ELIJAH A TRIOLO	Branch 047	PATRICIA PRECIADO	Branch 434
NOAH A TRIOLO	Branch 047	RICARDO D PRECIADO	Branch 434
READE A TRIOLO	Branch 047		

Things to Ponder

“Spring passes and one remembers one’s innocence.
Summer passes and one remembers one’s exuberance.
Autumn passes and one remembers one’s reverence.
Winter passes and one remembers one’s perseverance.”

Yoko Ono

La Celebrazione di Gioventu -- The Celebration of Youth Celebrate St. Joseph’s Day on March 19

Submitted by Roselynne Jarrett
Central Council Life Member

St. Joseph’s Day is a big Feast for Italians because in the Middle Ages, God, through St. Joseph’s prayers, saved the Sicilians from a very serious drought. In his honor, the custom is for all to wear red, in the same way that green is worn on St. Patrick’s Day.

Traditionally, to celebrate St. Joseph’s Day, a big altar (“la tavola di San Giuse” or “St. Joseph’s Table”) is filled with food contributed by everyone. Different Italian regions celebrate this day differently, but all involve special meatless foods: minestrone, pasta with breadcrumbs (the breadcrumbs symbolize the sawdust that would have covered St. Joseph’s floor – he was a carpenter), seafood, desserts, and fava beans, which are considered “lucky” because during the drought, the fava thrived while other crops failed.

The table -- which is always blessed by a priest -- will be in three tiers, symbolizing the Most Holy Trinity. The top tier will hold a statue of St. Joseph surrounded by flowers

and greenery. The other tiers might hold, in addition to the food: flowers (especially lilies); candles; figurines and symbolic breads and pastries shaped like chalices, fishes, doves, baskets, St. Joseph’s staff, lilies, carpentry tools, etc.; 12 fishes symbolizing the 12 Apostles; wine symbolizing the miracle at Cana; pineapple symbolizing hospitality; and lemons for “luck,”

When the eating is done, three children dressed as the Holy Family will knock on three doors, asking for shelter. They will be refused at the first two, and welcomed at the third, in memory of the Holy Family’s seeking of hospitality just before Christ was born. This re-enactment is called “Tupa Tupa,” meaning “Knock Knock.”

The day ends with each participant taking home a bag that might be filled with bread, fruit, pastries, cookies, a medal of St. Joseph, a Holy Card and/or a blessed fava bean. Keep your “lucky bean,” and let it remind you to pray to St. Joseph.



To make your own 3-D version of a St. Joseph’s Table , visit our website, www.icf.org, for a template.

Color St. Joseph.



St. Joseph

Family Recipes

By Deborah Rodondi
CC Grand Treasurer

Last June, the first recipe I shared with you was my QUICK MINESTRONE. Being meatless it is a great soup for the Lenten Season. This time of the year many branches have a soup night. In our Branch it has been the custom to have a soup night and the proceeds have gone to a children's charity. Many years ago, this was the passion of the late Louise Trevizo. Today it is her daughter, Kathleen Trevizo Heckman, that keeps the tradition going in Branch 19. Here are some recipes we have used.

Mushroom, Barley and Beef Soup

½ cup dried porcini mushrooms (about ¼ oz.) 1 cup boiling water
3 ½ cups sliced cremini mushrooms (8 ozs.)
1 ½ cups onions, chopped (1 med)
½ cup finely chopped carrots (1 medium)
½ cup chopped celery
½ cup finely chopped parsnip (1 small)
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 Tbls. olive oil
6 cups less sodium beef broth
12 ozs. lean beef stew meet, cut into bite size pieces
2 cups water
½ tsp. salt
¼ tsp. pepper
2 thyme sprigs
1 cup uncooked barley
2 Tbls. chopped parsley

1. Place the porcini mushrooms in a medium bowl, cover with boiling water. Cover and let stand for 30 minutes or until tender. Drain mushrooms in a colander over a bowl, reserving liquid. Chop mushrooms, set aside.
2. Heat a dutch oven over high heat. Coat pan with cooking spray. Add cremini mushrooms and chopped onions, sauté 10 minutes or until lightly browned. Spoon onion mixture into a medium bowl. Recoat pan with cooking spray. Add chopped carrots, celery, parsnip and garlic, sauté 4 minutes or until lightly browned. Add carrot mixture to onion mixture in bowl.
3. Heat oil in pan over medium-high heat. Add beef; cook 3 minutes, browning on all sides. Add one cup broth to pan, scraping pan to loosen brown bits. Add remaining 5 cups broth, chopped porcini, porcini liquid, onion mixture, 2 cups water, salt, pepper and

thyme. Bring to a boil, cover, reduce meat to medium-low, and simmer for one hour or until meat is tender.

4. Discard thyme sprigs. Stir in barley, cover and cook 30 minutes or until barley is al dente. Uncover and cook an additional 15 minutes. Remove from heat and sprinkle with parsley.

6 servings 1½ cups each

Try using hulled barley which provides more fiber and iron, but pearl barley works just fine.

Clam Chowder Quick and Easy

Who does not like clam chowder? This one came from my Great Aunt Roma (I have mentioned her before, from Livermore,CA). This is so simple and delicious. I always have minced clams in the pantry, so I can have this anytime I want something delicious and ready in less than 20 minutes.

1/3 cube butter
1 onion, diced
2 cups water
2 large potatoes (3 cups), cubed
1 can cream of mushroom soup
1 cup milk
2 cans minced or chopped clams

Melt butter in pot, sauté onions. When browned add 2 cups water. When it comes to a boil add potatoes. When potatoes are cooked add soup, milk and clams. Heat through; add pepper and salt to taste.

Hoping you might like to share some of your specialties or the family recipes that have been handed down with the members of the ICF. Send them to me at drodondi@comcast.net or mail to the ICF office include a story if any. If you have questions send them also, I may not be able to answer them but we can put them out there for our readers and maybe find what you are looking for.

Next month will be in answer to a request; but first I am going to experiment with a few recipes to come up with the best one. Here is to wonderful adventures in the kitchen.

Buon Appetito!

Heritage

I Remember...

Patti Phillips
Branch 4

I Remember

Our Ancestors created our heritage and now we are responsible for passing that heritage to the future generations.

How often I wish I had asked my grandparents more questions about immigrating and building a new life in a new land.

Several years ago, I decided to give blank pages with photos of my now deceased relatives to people who knew them well and asked them to write down what they "Remember" about my family.

The things they wrote were amazing! It almost brought them back to life and made me realize how much they had influenced me and the way I make decisions today.

At our February ICF Branch #4 meeting we decided to do this same "I Remember" proj-

ect. I chose five very active, now deceased, members and put photos of them on separate sheets which I distributed to members. Everyone was really enthusiastic about this plan and many took their pages home to continue reminiscing and writing their stories. Some of our recent members never knew these people and it was exciting to hear stories about all the great things they did.

We have many photos of our members and including personal remembrances of them will make their stories "come alive."

We plan to put all these great "remembrance pages" in a scrapbook to share with the world. I feel this is a great way to connect with the people who made ICF Branch #4 what it is today!

*Submitted by request of Heritage
Chairperson Denise Antonowicz.*

DONATION REMINDER

When writing a check out for any of our charities make the check out to Italian Catholic Federation or ICF and in the memo line put the name of the charity. DO NOT combine charities in one check, as they are all deposited into different accounts.



DATE:

Italian Catholic Federation Sixteenth Annual

GOLF TOURNAMENT

FRIDAY, JULY 22, 2016

COURSE:

**Laguna Seca Golf Course
10520 York Road, Monterey, CA 93940**

FORMAT:

Four Person Scramble

START:

Breakfast: 7:00 A.M. / Shotgun tee off: 8:45 A.M.

BANQUET

2:00 –

**San Carlos Church Hall
500 Church Street, Monterey, CA 93940
No-host Cocktails**

3:00 –

Sumptuous Four Course Dinner

RAFFLE:

There will be a raffle with stupendous prizes!

PRICE:

Golfers: \$165 (includes hot buffet breakfast, 18 holes of golf with cart and banquet.) After July 15th, the price per golfer is \$180. Banquet only: \$45.

RESERVATION DEADLINE: JULY 15, 2016

If an individual brings in 3 teammates, that individual golfs for free!

SIGN UP:

Name _____	Handicap _____
Name _____	Handicap _____
Name _____	Handicap _____
Name _____	Handicap _____

Banquet only



Make check for total amount (\$165 per player plus \$45 per banquet guest), payable to the I.C.F. Golf Tournament, and send to the address below before the July 15th deadline.

Remember: \$180 per player after July 15th.

The Central Council and Tournament Committee are very excited about this event and hope to see all of you (golfers and non-golfers) there!



ICF, 8303 Copeland Drive, # 110, Oakland, CA 94621 - 888-423-1824 - FAX: (510) 833-0758 - Web Site: icf.org - E-mail: info@icf.org

ICF Is Going Green!

If you prefer to read the Bollettino online and like the idea of saving a tree while helping the ICF save on printing costs, please send an email to newsonline@icf.org to sign up. Please include your full name, branch number and email address.

Live to Give

The History of Blood and the ICF

By the Live to Give Committee

ICF Past Grand President Al Teglia promoted blood donation among ICF Members and Richard Valli promoted organ donation. They both did a phenomenal job at increasing awareness for both causes. ICF Past Grand President Jane Dianda revived the blood donation program by starting the Live to Give Committee which is still going strong.

Years ago, Irwin and Peninsula Blood Banks, now Blood Centers of the Pacific (BCP), did specific blood banking for organizations outside of official blood banks like American Red Cross (ARC) and Blood Centers of the Pacific. Now with managed healthcare, banking is not a process used to fill the need for blood. The process of blood banking for organizations such as the ICF is not approved by the FDA.

While many ICF Members have asked if they could specifically donate blood for Thalassemia/Cooley's Anemia, designating a donation for a specific individual/disease is problematic and it costs a fortune. More information can be found at:

<http://www.bloodcenters.org/hospitals-physicians/directed-designated-donation/>

The following are reasons why blood banking is not done and why designated donors are not practical:

- It is a tracking nightmare.
- Blood gets lost.
- It is inefficient.
- If it is not used for the designee, the unit of blood cannot go back into the general

blood supply so it is thrown away and wasted. If you donate blood to yourself for a surgery and do not use it, the blood also gets thrown away.

- Another example – If an ICF member donates blood for an ICF blood bank, but no one in that area or region needs it, it is difficult to transfer it to another region – let's say for a Chicago ICF member. Different regions have different blood banks. And if no one in the ICF needs blood before their unit expires then it will get thrown away.

We have discussed a credit system. This is being phased out and most places do not participate in the credit system. One blood bank in Florida, The Indian River Blood Bank, does do credits. More information can be found at:

<http://www.indianriverbloodbank.com/IndianRivercredits.htm>

Things Live to Give can and does do:

- Promotes awareness and encourages members to donate blood and plan blood drives.
- Pay it forward – meaning to give blood just to replace blood used up and to replenish the supply.
- Give blood in honor of someone, something, or a disease such as Thalassemia or Cancer.

- In doing this, blood will not be lost or wasted. And giving blood does not cost a dime. Every drop counts!

We created the ICF Post Card for this reason – to give blood in honor of or in memory of someone or to celebrate an occasion.

Results for Prizes as of February 9, 2016

Top Selling Branches in each of 3 categories receive Five (5) 2016 Calendars

Branches placing 2nd and 3rd in each of 3 categories receive One (1) 2016 Calendar

Top Selling Individual receives Five (5) 2016 Calendars

Individuals placing 2nd and 3rd receive One (1) 2016 Calendar

Category 1: 1 – 99 Members

1 st Place:	Branch 33, Bakersfield	Sold 50 calendars
2 nd Place:	Branch 91, Oakland	Sold 48 calendars
3 rd Place:	Branch 343, Castro Valley	Sold 40 calendars

Category 2: 100 – 199 Members

1 st Place:	Branch 281, Bakersfield	Sold 76 calendars
2 nd Place:	Branch 28, Gilroy	Sold 61 calendars
3 rd Place:	Branch 10, Alameda	Sold 57 calendars

Category 3: 200+ Members

1 st Place:	Branch 39, Merced	Sold 96 calendars
2 nd Place:	Branch 14, Crockett	Sold 78 calendars
3 rd Place:	Branch 391, San Jose	Sold 31 calendars

Individuals

1 st Place:	Carol Salmeri – Br. 39 – Merced	Sold 87 calendars
2 nd Place:	Louise DeTomaso – Br. 14 – Crockett	Sold 78 calendars
3 rd Place:	B.G. Zasoski – Br. 281 – Bakersfield	Sold 76 calendars

Buona Pasqua!



Leonard Zasoski, Jr.
Vice President Construction Operations
Director of Safety



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Sunday, May 22, 2016
10 AM – 6 PM

The Lodi Grape Festival and Harvest Fairgrounds

More Info:
209.242.9970



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And of course AWESOME LOCAL ITALIAN FOOD!



*I gave the
gift of life!*

I, _____
[NAME]

donated _____ unit/s of blood or platelets.
(NUMBER) (CIRCLE ONE)

☐ In honor of
☐ In memory of
☐ As an anniversary gift to
☐ As a birthday gift to
☐ As a get well wish to

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Special message _____

(PLEASE FILL OUT
THE NAME AND
ADDRESS ON THE RIGHT
AND WE WILL SEND
AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
TO THE RECIPIENT.)

BLOOD BANK REPRESENTATIVE _____

DATE _____





Members of Branch 439 at its Annual Live Nativity Mass.



Chicago

River Forest

St. Vincent Ferrer, Br. 358

The great writer, T.S. Eliot wrote that “April is the cruellest month”, in his poem the ‘The Waste Land’. Personally,

I’ve always felt that way about the month of March. Biting winds, snow and ice can be elements of weather one day, with balmy weather on others. Whether March comes in like a lion or a lamb, it’s unpredictable day to day. Occasionally, we may see the tips of crocus’ in the snow. It gives us hope that spring will soon arrive.

March does bring us the wonderful feast days of two saints, Patrick and Joseph, on the 17th and 19th of the month. Let us pray to them to intercede for us and our intentions this month. As part of the ICF, we pledge our fidelity to the United States and honor to the countries of our origins. Pray for Italy and Ireland and the countries of your ancestors. The whole world needs prayers. It bothers me greatly that the pundits can go on for hours about how to solve the world’s problems and never mention praying. We need to keep reminding them. Pray to Our Lady for peace.

Branch 358 in River Forest, Illinois, St. Vincent Ferrer Parish, will hopefully present a St. Joseph Day Table in March. You will hear more about it in next month’s news.

We had a district Christmas party which was fun and well attended. The food was great and prizes were given out. It was a great way to enjoy the holidays.

February included our Mimosa Sunday on Valentine’s Day. The ICF sponsors it twice a year. Other organizations sponsor it each month during the year.

Please be sure to vote in the Presidential Primary Election on Tuesday, March 15th. Make your voice is heard! It is more important than ever to participate. We have so many issues facing our country that we need to make sure we take part in

determining the direction our country takes. Some people don’t like to participate in the primary election because in Illinois, we must ask for the ballot of our party of choice. That is such a poor excuse for not voting. Voting is one of the the most important processes in our democracy. VOTE! Please make sure you are registered, especially if you have moved recently. You can register on line.

I can’t resist. Beware the Ides of March!

Happy birthday to Divina Miceli on March 9th.

Judith Schweickert

Chicago

Our Lady Mother of the Church, Br. 439

On December 18h, ICF Branch 439 held its 4th Annual Live Nativity Mass at Our Lady Mother of the Church, which was celebrated by Father Britto Berchmans. The mass was followed by a reception with dinner and music in the church hall. It was a very beautiful and well attended event. During the Lenten season, ICF branch 439 is planning a trip to the Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Notre Dame, Indiana, where members will attend mass and tour the museum and grounds of the Basilica. Preparations are also currently underway for the annual St. Joseph Day Mass and Table. Members and their families and friends are looking forward to celebrating this special day.

Anna Tamburello

President, ICF Branch 439

Itasca

St. Peter the Apostle, Br. 418

Spring is definitely in the air, we just saw our first red robin and heard him singing merrily outside our kitchen window. It also brings ideas to mind of scheduling branch events for this year.

Member, Gina White, has joined our Entertainment/ Social committee, and along with Mike Favia and Rose Anderson, will be looking into many activities for our branch. Thank you, Gina, for



Members of Branch 439 at its Annual Live Nativity Mass.

bringing your abundant talent to us, and it is sure to be a fun year for us all.

A list of events will be mailed out as soon as they are all confirmed.

The officers and members of branch 418 would like to wish everyone in the I.C.F., and all our families and friends, a Happy St. Patrick’s Day, a Happy St. Joseph’s Day and a Holy and Blessed Easter season.

Happy Easter to all and may God bless each and every one.

Rita

Fresno

Madera

Santissimo Crocifisso, Br. 27

The January 12th meeting found us all well for the first dinner meeting of the year. Many thanks to the January committee: Chairman, Marilyn Rowe; and the committee members; Rosemary Dockery, Mary Contreras, Julian Rosales, Arthur Berryman, and Sally and Jim Bompreszi. The tamale pie, salad, rice, beans and chips was the perfect combination of comfort food for the cold January night. On January 23rd, 12 members and friends cleaned and bagged over 4,000 pounds of oranges to be sold the next day. On Sunday the 24th, 8 brave members faced the early morning and cold to sell the 200 bags of oranges. They did such a good job they sold out after only 3 masses! The money from the sale was donated to St. Joachim Church. Members are busy preparing for the installation of officers to be held in Merced. Please remember to pray for our sick or injured members. Especially Ray Chiarelli who is recovering from heart surgery.

Ciao,

Kerin Cavallero



Gary Cavallero and Carol Espinola of Branch 27 sell oranges outside of Church on Sunday.

Fresno

Our Lady of Victory, Br. 32

Our Lady of Victory, Branch 32, Fresno, would like to Thank everyone who attended our 85th anniversary. Everyone had an enjoyable time. The food was delicious and we Thank, Elaine Lencioni, and her crew for making it possible. We also Thank, Evelyn Nieto, for chairing the decorating of the Hall for this occasion. Several members shared historical highlights.

Our Membership Drive began with a mass in honor of our 85th anniversary. It was held the weekend of Feb. 13 and 14. Business cards were distributed with information for joining. We welcome two new members, Paulette Volpa and Beverly Magana.

Installation of officers was held in Merced. Everything was delightful and delicious. Well Done!

We are saddened by the passing of Mary Lomax who was a member of Br. 32 for over 69 and 1/2 years. Our condolences to member, Paulette Volpa, and her extended family.

Ciao,

Patricia Vivenzi



From left: Jim Espinola, Marcia Valorosi and Jennifer Valorosi work hard selling oranges after mass for Branch 27.



Members cleaning and bagging oranges for sale the next day.



Branch 39 had such a nice time at its recent meeting, and these members shown received a certificate spanning from 15 years to 75 years of membership. They call the presentation: “We Love Our Members”!

Merced

St. Cecelia, Br. 39

February was a busy month for our branch as we celebrated our first: “We Love Our Members” event, recognizing long term members or those celebrating their membership in 5 year increments. We also celebrated Ash Wednesday with Deacon Charles Reyburn distributing ashes at our regular dinner meeting. On February 21, our branch hosted the Fresno District Installation with a luncheon following. We invited 30 of the University of Merced and Merced College students as our guests.

On Sunday, March 6, after the 1 PM mass, our members will gather to celebrate St. Joseph’s Table at St. Patrick’s Parish Hall. At our March meeting on Wednesday, March 9, we will celebrate a Triduum Mass at 5:15 PM at the Italo American Lodge. On Friday, March 11, our branch hosts Soup Night at the parish hall, followed with Stations of the Cross at St. Patrick’s Church. Then to top off the month, our branch is hosting our fundraiser Polenta Dinner on Wednesday, March 23rd 5:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M. Please contact any of our officers for tickets.

What a busy month March is for our branch. The board appreciates all the many members who participate, support, and help out with all these activities. Our next dinner meeting is Wednesday, April 13th.

Cari Saluti,

Robyn Piro

Clovis

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Br. 250

February 21 we drove to Merced for Installation of Officers. Installation went well and we had a very nice dinner afterward. It was good to get together



Branch 281, Bakersfield, had a successful installation of members on February 11th, which included new friends as well as familiar faces who had not yet experienced a formal installation. Welcome to the ICF!



with our District and Central Council friends again.

We had good attendance at our mass for the living and deceased members March 6. The group breakfast that followed was well attended.

We ask for prayers for Jenny Campopiano, her mother and family in the loss of her father, Dean Eaton. Mr. Eaton was a veteran of WWII.

Please continue to pray for Kathy Christensen and her family. In September Kathy’s husband passed away, and last month she had open heart surgery. She is doing well, but still needs lots of prayer.

Deputy Flora DePasquale traveled to Seattle on March 1 to see her 12-year-old great granddaughter sing in a national singing competition. She was one of two selected from the State of Idaho to compete.

Anita Dupras’ grandniece is attending the University at Istanbul, Turkey. She is there for one semester continuing medical instruction and hands-on experience in DNA studies. She attends Georgetown University.

March birthdays are: Mark Budd (3/3), Kathy Christensen (3/15), Anita Dupras (3/26), Nicole Lang (3/14), and Elizabeth Weatherly (3/15). Happy Birthday to you all!

“This is the one time where television really fails to capture the true excitement of a large squirrel predicting the weather.” (Author Unknown)

Ciao!

LeAnne Lavagnino

Bakersfield

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Br. 281

Easter is approaching quickly! Through the Lenten season, as we have been sacrificing for God and seeking to better ourselves for His arrival, it is also a good time to seek to better our branch as a whole.



Congratulations to the newly installed officers of Branch 367, Las Vegas!

Can you bring a friend to the next meeting? What ideas or efforts can you contribute to our branch to enhance the ICF’s mission and services?

On February 7th, our Parish was blessed with a new leader—Father Bert Mello. We welcome his enthusiasm and energy, and look forward to his unique perspective guiding our parish and branch for years to come!

Although the Annual Parish Mardi Gras event was at the end of January, a proper “thank you” is in order! The weather was rainy but our spirits were sunny! Thanks very much to George Carson for organizing the ICF games of chance and bingo; I think I speak for everyone who volunteered when I say it was as much fun to run the games as it was to play! And of course, Deborah Leary is deserving of our gratitude for chairing the wonderful event and representing our branch within the parish community.

The Fresno District Installation was held on February 21st in Merced—special thanks to our branch members who attended and showed their enthusiasm and devotion to our organization.

Our March meeting, on the 10th, will be the 43rd Anniversary of Branch 281 serving Our Lady of Perpetual Help. Steak dinners will be served at this special meeting.

Be sure to come by the weekly Fish Fry held by The Knights of Columbus and mingle with all parishioners—The Women’s Guild, Boy Scouts, and Branch 281 all contribute to make it a great start to the weekend. And of course, don’t forget our Annual Pasta Dinner on Palm Sunday, March 20th—you won’t want to miss it!

Baci e abbracci,

Kristen Watts

Las Vegas

Las Vegas

St. Francis de Sales, Br. 367

Fat Tuesday happened to be our meeting night, as well as our Installation of Officers. Grand President Leonard Zasoski and wife, Betty, Trustee, Denise Antonowicz and mother Marie, and Lou Mages were here for the occasion. I certainly want to thank them for coming to Las Vegas to make this an eventful night for us. After opening ceremonies,

Grand President, Leonard installed Frank Vatalare, President, Philomena Consiglio, 1st VP, Kelly Lange, Recording Secretary, Jackie Donato, Financial Secretary, Dianne Vatalare, Treasurer, Manny Valle, Orator, Christine Lange and Vee Speziale, Trustees, and Gloria Diliddo Sentinel.

After the installation, we had our monthly birthday cake, and then Leonard gave his presentation on the Strategic Plan. He also talked about ways to get new members, and offered the services of any of the Central Council members to come and help us with membership drives, or special events. Jackie said she would see if we could get a free booth at an Italian Festival here in Las Vegas, and Denise very eagerly volunteered to come to Las Vegas to man the booth with us. We also had a prospective new member with us, and two names that answered our add in all the church bulletins last Sunday. So..... things might be looking up.

Unfortunately, Gloria Dillido couldn’t be present since she is currently in the hospital fighting for her life after what was supposed to be a routine surgery. Another one of our members, Jim Pechacek, is also in the hospital fighting for his life with an infection. Please keep them in your prayers.

All of us at Branch 367 certainly hope all of you have a blessed Easter.

Buona Pasqua! Jackie Donato

Los Angeles

Archdiocese District

District Council

The LAADistrict Council wishes all a Happy and Blessed Easter!

The LAAD Family is saddened by the passing of six it members in the past two months. During this season of Easter please include these families in your prayers and thoughts: Mary Louise Vidrio (long time member of Br. 67 & more recently Br. 108); Ines Sabatella (long time member of Br. 108); Angelo Capriotti (member of Br. 319); Gaetano ‘Guy’ Masciotra (CC Life Member Emeritus & most recently member of Br. 67); Stan Pastula (long time member of Br. 380); and Mary Dragotto (also, long time member of Br. 380). These members who contributed much to their Branches, District and ICF, will be greatly missed!



LA District ICF Installation of Officers for 2016 in St. Peter’s Church.



Los Angeles District LAADC District Deputies for 2016.



Congratulations to the District LAADC OFFICERS for 2016.

As the saying goes ‘Our Loss is Heaven’s Gain’.

Pat Mages

District President

Los Angeles

St. Peter, Br. 67

Branch 67 continues to work with Saint Peter’s Church and the Casa Italiana Cultural Center reaching out to all ICF Members, the Italian Community and those who are interested in continuing an ICF presence at this beautiful Italian National Church. Interested members are asked to call 626 372-7812 for membership in or a position on the Branch 67 Board.

Congratulations to Branch 67 Board Members who were installed in Saint Peters Church on January 17th along with Officers from the 19 Branches



in the Los Angeles Archdiocese District. All celebrated with lunch in Casa Italiana.

Each of the four ICF LAADC Regions will host a Communion Sunday on the following dates in the Casa Italiana basement and all ICF Branch Members and Parishioners are invited to attend; please RSVP to 626 372-7812:

- May 22, 2016 - ICF LAADC Communion Sunday Mass 11:00 am (Church) and Lunch 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm in Casa Italiana Basement (host Los Angeles Region).

- August 28, 2016 - ICF LAADC Communion Sunday Mass 11:00 (Church) and Lunch 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm in Casa Italiana Basement (host Santa Barbara/Ventura Region).

- November 28, 2016 - ICF LAADC Communion Sunday Mass 11:00 am (Church) and Lunch 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm in Casa Italiana Basement (host San



Installation of the Br 380 Youth Officers for 2016 at the LA Archdiocese Installation.

Fernando Region).

Please spread the word to friends, families and members that the Italian Catholic Federation Branch 67 and Padre Pio Society will attend the 11:00 am (Italian) mass and host a Brunch at the Casa Italiana lunch room on the fourth Sunday of each Month this year. Please call 626 372-7812 to RSVP.

Please let me know how you can help us keep the future alive for the next generations at Branch 67 in Los Angeles. We are asking for your ideas, prayers and support.

Your help is greatly appreciated.

Carmelo Sabatella AIA

President Branch 67

Italian Catholic Federation

South Pasadena

Holy Family, Br. 108

Thank you members and parishioners for making the 13th Annual Wine Tasting Event “Carnevale” on February 6th a success and to Branch President John Maggiora for preparing dinner with his grandfather’s “special sauce”. Thankyou also to all members who staffed the event including the Vintners, Vendors and to Parishioners who enjoyed the locally made wines, the special Wine Pairing venue. Congratulations to the many Raffle Winners for their dedication.

The next annual Branch 108 Lunch Meeting at San Antonio Winery is scheduled for March 6th from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm in the Heritage Room. Members and guests are encouraged to RSVP in advance to assure a “seat at the table”.

Thank you Members, families and friends for your support of ICF and its related events. Prayers go out to the families who passed away earlier this year and to all Members who have gone to their

Installation of LA District and Branch 67 officers.



eternal reward including Ines Sabatella, Maria Vidrio and Anthony del Vecchio who recently passed away and to sick members, family and friends 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

Montebello

St. Benedict, Br. 111

Ciao a Tutti. A warm hello to everyone. Our March General Meeting will be on Thursday, March 10, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Augustine House, 200 N. 12th Street, (corner of Cleveland Ave.) in Montebello. Join us for refreshments and cake as we celebrate the Birthdays of the following members who have birthdays this month: Tony De Lorenzo, Estera Veneziano, Margaret Valdez-Gallardo, Tanina Sergi, and Carlos De Los Santos. Congratulations and Happy Birthday to everyone!! Buon Compleanno a tutti!!

This year we will be commemorating our 19th annual Feast of St. Joseph at St. Benedict Church Parish Hall located at 1022 W. Cleveland Avenue, in the City of Montebello, on Saturday, March 19th, from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Sunday,



Celebrating January and February birthdays at Branch 111.





Members of Branch 108.



Vendors at the Branch 108 Wine Tasting event.



Chef John Maggiora of Branch 108.



March 20th, from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. There will be a Free pasta meal on both days to everyone attending the special event !

The Feast will start on Saturday, March 19th at 12:00 PM, with the Holy Family, depicted by the Montebello youth and wearing garments common to those biblical times, seeking asylum and upon entering the Parish Hall they will take their place at the shrine and table, at which time the shrine, table and its contents will be blessed by St. Benedict's Pastor, Rev. Francisco Sandoval, O.A.R. Open house will follow the noon ceremony and everyone attending will receive a free plate of pasta, with a salad and ro

Traditional Italian foods, Italian sausage sandwiches, cannoli, and other desserts will also be available for purchase. Also available for purchase at nominal prices will be homemade breads, cookies, bottles of wine, fresh fruits, fresh vegetables, fresh flowers, and various blooming 1-gallon and 5-gallon nursery plants.

We need everyone's support to make this a

successful event. The monies we will raise at this event will allow us to support our parish, offer scholarships to St. Benedict School graduating students, support our clergy and Seminarians, scholarships to graduating high school students, Cooley's Anemia, and other worthwhile charities. Thank you for all you do for the ICF. May St. Joseph and God Bless you abundantly.

We pray for our sick members and those in need; keep them in our thoughts and prayers. Finally, I leave you with the following quote: "Friendship improves happiness and abates misery, by the doubling of our joy and the dividing of our grief", by Marcus Tullius Cicero

God Bless!

Frank Salomone



Branch 115 officers attending the installation of the 2016 officers at Casa Italiana in Los Angeles on January 17.

San Pedro

St. John Joseph of the Cross, Br. 115

Thank you to all who attended our potluck meeting on Feb 18th. Our branch has so many good cooks! Thanks to Carmela Gioiello for organizing the menu.

On March 5th we celebrated the Feast of St. John Joseph of the Cross with our annual fish Dinner. We all enjoyed a delicious BBQ swordfish dinner. The evening was spent dancing, singing and many guest walked away as raffle winners! This special evening wouldn't be possible without our wonderful volunteers. Special thanks to our kitchen and serving crew.

On March 11th we were in the kitchen again. Our branch hosted the Lenten meal. We served a poor man's meal of Pasta and Fagioli. Thanks again to our amazing kitchen crew and volunteers. These meals are not possible without the hard work of our members.

After all this hard work it's time for some fun!

Upcoming events

March 17th Monthly Meeting 730pm If dues have not been paid please bring check to meeting

April 9th Day trip to Ronald Reagan Library which is a fundraiser benefiting San Pedro Relay for Life \$50.00 includes admission bus ride to museum with guided tour and entrance to the Vatican Splendors exhibition. Bus will leave from the Boys and Girls club at 9am. Please call Anita Trujillo 310 8327186 for information and reservations.

April 14th Turnaround trip to Harrah's Casino \$23.00/ person Members receive \$3.00 discount Call Pauline for reservations 310 832 0563.

April 17th Dedication of the Mosaic of La Madonna Del Arco Mass will include a procession and special dedications. Please bring flowers to present on altar. Following mass there will be a luncheon in the auditorium \$20.00 for adults \$10.00 for children Please call Neal for ticket 310 433 1044.

Scholarship applications are now available and can be found on line at www.icf.org or from High School counselor Deadline for applications is March 15th.

April 23 California Coastal Cruise there is still time to join Please call Maria Chaperro for reservations 310 832 0140.

Happy Easter to all!! Please keep all our sick and deceased members in your prayers.

Anita Gioiello Trujillo

Treasurer



New mosaic of the Madonna dell'Arco was recently installed in the Mary Star of the Sea Church. It was fabricated in Italy and was paid for by branch member Giuseppe Scotti. Branch 115 president Neal Di Leva coordinated the entire project. The dedication will take place on April 17, 2016 at Mary Star noon mass followed by a luncheon.

La Cañada Flintridge

St. Bede the Venerable, Br. 374

The year 2016 got off to a great start with branch members attending the Annual District Installation at Casa Italiana. Our newest family members were there to witness the installation of our new Financial Secretary Andrew Meli. Joining us were Andrew's family, wife Jenny, and daughter Norah 3, and son Sebastian 5, all members of the branch. Also attending were Joe Vinci, Mary Mancuso, President Mark Mannarelli, and his wife Emy.

At the end of January the branch hosted the members of the board of directors of the Los Angeles Archdiocese District Council for it's meeting in our beautiful Mother Theresa Room. This was the first meeting of the district for 2016 and our new district president Patricia Mages led it.

In February we celebrated the life of our late member, Jack Kojimoto with a special pictorial presentation by Jack's son, noted professional photographer David. Jack was a long time member and board member who in his lifetime served our country as an agent of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). He was a Japanese American born in San Francisco. He served the CIA in Japan after World War II, in Hong Kong, and later in the CIA Headquarters in Langley, Virginia. Jack was a convert to Catholicism at age 80.

February 20th also marked the date of our branch board's strategic visioning session. It was designed to establish direction in keeping with ICF's Central Council Strategic Planning initiative. The branch is seeking to establish a vision and objectives for the next 5 years. The desire is to plan to achieve long-term growth goals.

March 13th is our annual St. Joseph fund raising event and volunteers are needed to work at the event. We need to seek out donations from local



Members of Branch 374 at the LA Archdiocese installation. Seated L to R: Mary Mancuso; Joe Vinci’ Jenny Meli, and Andrew Meli; Sabastian and Noah Meli. Standing Lto R: Diane: Restivo an ;Al Restivo; Carmelo Sabatella, Branch Deputy; Emy and Marrk Mannarelli;, and David Capurso.

businesses that we frequent. This is very critical as this event is our major fundraising program. We need all members to pitch in to make this a success. We can do this by reaching out to the community for donations and by providing home cooked foods that can be sold from the table.

Many blessings for every branch member and their families during this Holy Season of Lent.

Al Restivo,
Branch Orator and Los Angeles Region Vice President

San Gabriel Valley Region

Arcadia

Holy Angels, Br. 218

Our St Joseph’s Table is right around the corner. Set up will be on Friday, March 18, event is on both Saturday and Sunday. The Table will be blessed after the 5:00 mass on Saturday. This is our largest fundraiser for the year and, as usual, we are counting on everyone to help out in some capacity. We need your baked goods which should be brought to the hall on either Saturday or early Sunday. If you do not have a job assignment, please see Jerry and he will assign one to you.

Our next meeting is March 13. The April meeting is on the 10th. A donut sale is on April 24 There will be a special Mass said for JoAnn in March. Watch for Jeane’s newsletter.

At our last meeting it was announced that last year our branch donated over \$10,000 which we all should be very proud of. Hope to see everyone at our next meeting. Lolly M

Diamond Bar

St. Denis, Br. 317

March 5th -Pastor,s Leadership Awards Dinner Dance

March 6 - I.C.F. Presale - Holy Cannolis

March 13 - Quarterly Mass and Cannolis Distribution

March 11- I.C.F. Dinner/general Meeting

March 20 - I.C.F. Donut Sunday March 21 - Board Meeting

March 27 - Happy Easter

We thank all our dear members for all their hard work with our Holy Cannolis fundraiser and their donations and persale Sundays More information in the next Bollentino. Once again St. Denis Branch 317 shines!

Our General Meeting/Dinner will be featuring Pasta dishes,sslad, deserts, etc. on March 11th. The theme will be St. Patrick,s and honoring St Joseph for all the blessings of our Holy Cannolis.

Happy Blessed Easter to our I.C.F. members family and friends. God bless,

Roxanne Perry-President

Claremont

Our Lady of Assumption, Br. 319

Half way through Lent and getting ready for a glorious Easter. March 6 we will have our annual St. Joseph table. This year the table will be from 8am to 3pm. We will have the pasta dinner in the fall. Many of the member have been I’ll or having surgery so we postponed it. We will have a wide variety of different pastry items,canollis, a sfingi demonstration. Added will be good day Italian music .

Please come and join us for the day.

Please pray for the sick members

Andrea Linn

Temple City

St. Luke, Br. 326

Happy Saint Patrick’s Day to all of our members!

A big thank you to Ann Baziak for organizing the



Members of Branch 380 supporting the Nun Run.

successful Bunco Party that was held on Feb. 18th. Also, thank you to all of our bakers for providing the delicious desserts.

Our next General Meeting will be held on March 26, 2016 at 3:30 p.m. Dessert and coffee will be served. Please note changes in our meeting day, time and location: Our meetings will be held on the 4th Saturday of the month at 3:30p.m. in the church library.

We will be hosting hospitality on March 20th after the masses.

There will be no April meeting due to St. Luke’s Fiesta.

Please continue to keep all of our ill members in your prayers, especially: Mary Lou Lemoine, Roberta Nangelo, Mary Jacobs, Eva Arrighi, Herminia Saez, and Ann Primising. And, let’s not forget to pray for our deceased members.

Happy March Birthday: Salma Bishara and John Perfetto.

Happy Anniversary to: Frances and Frank Scorsone (44 years).

“I choose to walk friendship’s path with those who know me best, for we share life’s precious moments, and everyone is blessed. We celebrate the happy days and dry each other’s tears, as the road keeps winding upward throughout the passing years. Every life is a stepping stone for those who come behind, For when we need that special hug, It’s never hard to find. (Clay Harrison)

God Bless,

Jo Anne Disney

San Fernando Region

Burbank

St. Maria Goretti, Br. 102

Congratulations to our new president, Lou Darin, we look forward to your leadership.

Thank you Bert Gallagher for your strength and loyalty as president these last years.

We are looking forward to our young members for inspiration and we will do our best not to disappoint them.

Our Pizza Party held in February was well attended and everyone had a great time.

Remember our next meeting, March 12 in the Sunburst room.

Sadly, we mourn the passing of Teresa DiRobertis. May her soul and the souls of all our departed members rest in peace.

Dina Tomei

Santa Barbara/Ventura Region

Thousand Oaks

St. Paschal Baylon, Br. 380

Our branch had a fun January meeting celebrating

the 30 year anniversary of our branch! Some members shared stories of their family histories and heritage.

In January we had the installation of our new board members in Los Angeles. We are grateful for the members who are on our board this year. St. Joeseph day celebration is on March 13.

We we are looking for volunteers for the planning and execution of St. Joeseph Day. Our Branch had an ICF Branch 380 Team that ran the 2nd Annual Nun Run 5K Race. All who ran had a good time raising funds for the Sisters of Notre Dame!

There will be a branch 380 garage sale fundraiser on Saturday March 19! Come and bring your unneeded items to sell!

Our next general meeting is February 12.

Ciao,

Jean Fontana Bridges

Monterey

Santa Cruz

N.S. Del Socorso, Br. 21

Ciao, Tutti! We have been busy enjoying the rain along with great events at Branch 21.

On January 10th, Bishop Garcia visited our parish to rededicate the refurbished Holy Cross School Building. He celebrated mass and then blessed the building, giving it the new name of Holy Cross Pastoral Center. Our Branch hosted a lovely brunch following the ceremony.

On January 15th, Branch 21 held a Calamari Dinner that many members and guests attended. The delicious food and good company resulted in a fun evening.

On January 30th, Branch 21 hosted the Central Coast District Installation of new officers. Father Occhuito celebrated mass which was followed by the installation ceremony and then a sumptuous lunch. Holy Cross Hall looked resplendent with white table cloths and beautiful floral center pieces created by our own Maria Reames.

On February, 10th, besides holding our general meeting we celebrated Mardi Gras with a traditional New Orleans-style dinner. Everyone wore gaudy beads, sang Jambalaya, and had a smackin’ good time.

Year in and year out, Branch 21 hosts many wonderful events and we want to thank all those who help. Without their constancy, our Branch activities wouldn’t happen so well. There are the usual suspects, but also lots of new faces that show up to assist. It’s hard work, it’s for a good cause, but also, it’s fun. So thank you one and all: from those who chair the events, to the table setters and decorators, to the cooks and servers, to the ticket takers, to the raffle prize donars, to those who bring appetizers and desserts, to those folks in the back ground who make the calls and run the errands, and finally, to those individuals who stay and clean up. And we cannot forget those members who attend our events and bring their family and friends. You



Members of Branch 36 at the District Installation.

help make our festivities the wonderful success that they are, too. Thank you all so very much.

Ash Wednesday sets off the No Bake Sale this year; you should be getting your donation envelopes soon. Please call Valerie Vote with your questions. Also, St. Joseph's Brunch is coming up on March 20th so stay tuned for more info.

Sadly, we must report the passing of two well-loved, long time Branch 21 members; Ilde Brunni and John Orlando. We cherish the memories we have of them and send our condolences to their families.

Until next time, God Bless us One and All and have a beautiful Lenten Season.

Patty Morelli

Secretary Branch 21

Salinas

Nostra Signora Del Sasso, Br. 25

The Installation held at Holy Cross Church, Santa Cruz, was wonderful. Branch 21, as usual, did a great job as host. Thanks for all they did to make it a memorable day.

We will be well into the Lenten Fish Fries by the time this Bollettino is published. A number of our branch members are active in preparing and serving meals for this annual event. The dinners have grown in popularity and last year generated about \$16,500 each for Sacred Heart and Madonna Del Sasso. Come and enjoy a great meal.

Our branch provided a number of scholarships including two \$400 scholarships for Sacred Heart tuition assistance. In addition, contributions were given to Dorothy's Kitchen, St. Vincent DePaul and Martha's Helpers. We also donated the first ten pizzas and supplies in the amount of \$120 for the pizza booth at our recent Festival.

Our annual picnic will be held on July 31, 2016 and should be a memorable affair. It has been decided to hold not only Bishop's Day on that date, but we will also celebrate the District's 50th anniversary. More on this later, but keep that date free if you can.

Linda Hoffman made a motion that our branch once again donate a food basket for the St Patrick's Day Dance auction to be held at Sacred Heart on March 12, 2016. That motion passed and \$50 was allocated for basket supplies .

There are still calendars available for purchase. Also, we encourage you to pay your dues if you have not yet done so.

Finally, noted recently: "There are always some churchgoers whom the Priest doesn't remember from one Easter to the next." I'm sure that does not apply to anyone reading this Bollettino.

Ciao,

Roy

Monterey

Santa Rosalia, Br. 36

We had a dinner for our motivated volunteers and they are ready to work Lenten dinners, and all of the other events we have going. We are so blessed to have everyone of them.

March 13 (Sunday) - St. Joseph's Celebration Mass at San Carlos Cathedral at 2:00 PM, then to San Carlos Parish Hall for a dinner-dance. Music by the Anthony Lane Band, tickets must be pre-paid by March 6th, \$25.00 per adult, \$10.00 children 6 - 12. For tickets and information please call (831)375-2009 or (831) 649-3216.

April 7th - Our 85th Anniversary/Initiation Dinner, free to our paid-up members and new members being initiated.

Thank you to Santa Cruz Br. 21 for hosting the Central Coast Installation of Officers. Our members who went had a wonderful day and said the food was delicious.

Our deepest sympathy to the family of Frances Russo who passed away, Frances was a long time member of our branch and loved coming to everything and seeing everyone, she was a classic beauty, and to Sannie and Frank Sollecito on the death of Sannie's mother, also a beautiful whose name was also Sannie, she was the sweetest woman with such a beautiful smile.

To the family of Rose Mercurio who passed away, Rose came to every event and really enjoyed her friends at the ICF.

Three beautiful ladies have left this world for eternal life and to join their loved ones.

Peace be with you,

Bettye Sollecito

Castroville

Santa Caterina de Siena, Br. 51

Happy St. Patrick's and St. Joseph's Days!

Our annual St. Patrick's Dinner is coming up. Yes, it's that time of year when Italians become a little Irish. The date and time of the dinner are forthcoming. Don't forget to wear your green because the leprechauns will be watching. (Sometimes those leprechauns hide in Paul's kitchen because they know Paul is cooking up something special or is it because of the bottle that's underneath the chef's hat).

By the time you get the Bollettino our Polenta and Stew Fundraiser will have passed. I'm sure it will be a success, the ticket sales in the middle of February surpassed the ticket sales for last year.

If any members have not paid their dues please send them in ASAP. Thank you.

A reminder that our Branch will host the April 16th District meeting. An informational flyer will be sent to all Branches in the District.

Happy Birthday wishes to our January, February and March members. Leonora Barlow, Carlo Cortopassi, Bruna Del Chiaro, Gregory Stefani, D.L. Grier, Dennis Hibbs, Franca Rossi, Ron Stefani, Carl Armento, Nate Cortopassi, Frank Rossi and Jesse Soliven.

Please keep in our prayers Carl Armento and Alice Soliven, wish you could make it to one of our functions.

Hi Thelma—hope you are doing well.

As we go through our Lenten journey, it isn't just about giving up sweets, etc....make it about helping a family member, a friend and yes even a stranger. Take time to give of yourself.

Let us rejoice in the risen Lord! Hallelujah!!

Happy Easter.

Ciao,

Leonora Barlow

Capitola

St. Joseph, Br. 227

Our Lenten Fish Fry dinners are off to a rousing start. Dinner is served every Friday during Lent from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., and take-outs are available. The cost is \$12 for adults, \$5 for children 12 and under, and children under 5 eat free. You have your choice of calamari or fish, baked or fried. Side dishes vary from week to week--either scalloped potatoes, rice pilaf or pasta. Desserts and beverages are available. This year marks 30 years that our branch has been putting on the dinners. The idea originated with Father Larry Betrozoff and Dolores McCartney and the first dinner was served on Ash Wednesday in 1986. We hope you will come and join us—it's always a fun time.

Applications for Perlino scholarships are now available from Andy Armanino. Also this year we will be awarding four \$400 memorial scholarships in honor of several members who are no longer with us.

Thanks to Heidi Ambiel and her crew for hosting our Mexican Fiesta dinner at the February meeting.

January 28 was the 48-year anniversary of the founding of Branch 227. You can look forward to a special celebration in 2018!

Thanks also to Mike and Liz Rios who have again agreed to take charge of serving coffee and donuts after mass when it is ICF's turn to do so this year.

Remember to jot down June 18 as the date of our Wine Tasting. Let Ron Castle know if you are willing to help out on this event.

Deanna Musler, Secretary

Arroyo Grande

St. Patrick, Br. 291

Branch 291's Lenten Fish Fry Dinners are in full swing! We've already served over 1500 dinners on three Fridays in February and have two more dinners this month on March 4th and 18th. Our dedicated and hard-working members continue to make our annual fish fry fundraisers a huge success in our community, and we cannot thank them

enough for all their time, talent and effort! Thank you everyone!!

At our February General Meeting we enjoyed a guest speaker, Meteorologist John Lindsay, who gave us an update on El Niño. John is a Marine Meteorologist for PG&E at Diablo Canyon. He has worked for PG&E for more than seven years and has forecasted weather and oceanographic conditions along the Central Coast for over 25 years. We always enjoy having John as our guest speaker since he is very knowledgeable on the weather patterns here on the Central Coast!

Branch 291 recently lost some dear members. Sister Carol Carter passed away on Jan. 13th and we will miss her smile and cheerful personality tremendously. We also lost longtime member, Livia Seim, who joined our Branch a few months after it was founded in 1974, and Sharon Reed, who was also a longtime member. May these dear ladies rest in peace and may their families find comfort knowing that their loved ones are no longer suffering. Please continue to keep the following members from Br. 291 in your thoughts and prayers: Barbara Badasci, Dianne Clees, Homer Clees, Stevie Hall, Pat Osuch, Gayle Quain, Lorraine Spargo, Helen Summerfield, Sonia Wagner and Jens Wagner.

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Keely Sanchez

Recording Secretary

Paso Robles

St. Rose of Lima, Br. 354

After almost two months of inactivity, our meeting on January 29th was filled with subjects to review and complete. One of our discussions brought up by President David was a project submitted by one of our scholarship recipients, 14 year old Eamon Mazelin, who together with his Boy Scout group has designed and completed fourteen 8 x 10" outdoor ceramic faced tile, wood framed Stations of the Cross. These will be placed on 5' posts in the beautiful garden area between St. Rose Catholic Church and their school. Members voted to donate \$150.00 toward the total cost of \$600.00.

Plans are being made for our next semi-annual pasta and meatball dinner on March 5th. Our goal is to surpass the record attendance at the last one.

Installation of our district officers was held at the beautiful Holy Cross Catholic Church in Santa Cruz. Thank you Branch 21, for holding this celebration and to Central Council for their expert officiating. Dinner was delicious as were the desserts and appetizers & beverages for early arrivals.

We have welcomed three new members to our club: Eva Valentin and son Vincent; and Ted Dembek. We need these young people to energize this aging club membership.

Our President David Zanini has been having some back discomfort and is hoping to get an accurate diagnosis to determine further treatment. We pray this will be successful. Our dear friend Tony Salvia can also use your prayers along with his wife Santa.

I am certain many of you remember our long time member Alice Mastagni whose wit and humor kept us amused. She was called from this world last month. Pray for the repose of her soul. She will be missed.

We always look forward to enjoying Arroyo Grande Branch's Fish Fry, and hopefully can plan a trip there during this upcoming Lenten season. Birthday wishes to members Irma Zanini, Rebecca Kudija, Jackie Beato and Mary Mazzo.

"Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see."- Mark Twain.

Theresa Sollazzo, Correspondence Secretary.

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Members of ICF Branch 36, Monterey, California

Oakland

East Bay

District Council

In spite of the questionable state of the health of the crabs, ours made the trip from Alaska and were as sweet as ever, so in spite of a smaller attendance, the Crab Feed was a success. Once again, thank you to the branches for the tasty hors d'oeuvres and chance baskets.

You may think that this is a repeat of last month, but we are looking forward to Bishop's Day on March 13, 2016. Once again this is a combined effort of both Contra Costa and the East Bay Districts. Mass will be held @ Our Lady of Grace in Castro Valley at 3:30. We are asking the branches to support this activity and make reservations early.

Also just another reminder, "Late Night Catechism" has been rescheduled for April 16, 2016, at Holy Names University. The sooner those reservations are made the better choice of seats you will have; also please note on the flyer what else is happening along with the play. Looks like FUN!

Can't believe that Lent is already here, but it is, so maybe we could all add an extra prayer for each other during these 40 days. Just think how many prayers that will be! Doing something extra is sometimes more difficult than giving something up, but is worth trying.

Meantime, Happy St. Paddy's Day to all.

Alameda

Nostra Signora Della Gracie, Br. 10

Our chaplain, Father Robert Kenady Chinnapan, mf, has been elevated to Pastor of our sponsoring parish, Saint Philip Neri-Saint Albert the Great. Father Robert has served as Parochial Vicar at Saint Philip Neri-Saint Albert the Great since June 2013. Father Joy Kumarthusseril, mf, who has led the parish since July 2008, has been appointed Pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Fremont.

We have been offering our Lenten Fish Fry dinners on Friday nights following Stations of the Cross at Saint Philip Neri Church, High and Van Buren Streets, Alameda. The final Fish Fry will be served on March 18, the Friday before Palm Sunday. The doors of Monsignor O'Brien Hall will be opened following the Stations, which start at 5: 30 p.m. Prices are \$12.00 for adults and \$6.00 for young people 12 and under.

We hosted the East Bay District Crab Feed on Friday night, February 5. A total of 147 attendees enjoyed this annual dinner held in Monsignor O'Brien Hall. The event netted a profit for the District of \$3,200.00, a large portion of which came from a very popular raffle.

Next on our calendar is the Irish Social scheduled for March 12, the Saturday before Saint Patrick's Day. The program includes social hour at 6:00 p.m., corned beef and cabbage dinner at 7:00, raffle, young Irish dancers, Irish music and dessert. Prices are \$25.00 for adults and \$12.00 for youngsters 12 and under. The location is Monsignor O'Brien Hall. For last-minute reservations and additional information, please contact Peggy Lubeck, (510) 521-4687 or petalpeggy@aol.com.

The next Saturday evening, March 19, we will host a traditional Saint Joseph's Day Table Dinner and Dessert in Monsignor O'Brien Hall. Mass will be celebrated at 5:00 in Saint Philip Neri Church, and dinner will begin at 6:30. Maria Croft will prepare the meal, which will include salad, pesto, chicken and vegetables. Guests are asked to bring an edible donation for the table of desserts. Prices are \$10.00 for youths 14 and under and \$20.00 for all others. For reservations, please contact Michael Marcheschi, (510) 523-4720, by Wednesday, March 16 at 9:00 p.m.

We will soon begin planning for our 90th Anniversary Dinner, which is scheduled for Saturday, May 21. Branch 10 was organized in 1926, just two years after the founding of the ICF. Jeanette Zugnoni will chair the celebration.

We are also looking forward to our annual barbecue-meeting on July 7. We are hoping that, unlike 2015, there will be no rain on the day of the barbecue.

We have been experiencing a slight and welcome gain in our numbers. A few new members have been joining us in recent months. Karen Harrington, treasurer-financial secretary, reported at our

February meeting that 2016 dues collection at the end of January stood at 59 %.

Much happens at Branch 10--come over to Alameda and join us!

John Zugnoni

Oakland

Santa Rita, Br. 40

Happy St. Patrick's and St. Joseph's Day. If your dues have not yet been paid, please due so now. Send your completed check made out to ICF Branch 40. And Mail it to Catherine Kapper at 20700 Tuxedo Ct, Castro Valley, CA 94552. And thank you if you have already done so. Just to re confirm that our monthly meeting have changed to the First Monday of the month at 7 PM. All members are invited to attend and enjoy refreshments afterward. Attention: Please mark your calendar for Branch 40's Polenta Dinner held on April 10th. This will be our first fundraiser for the year. It will be held at the Fratellanza Club, No host cocktails at 4PM and Dinner at 5PM. The menu: green salad, polenta with sausage and beef sauce, bread. Beverage to include wine and coffee, and of course dessert. There will be a raffle held and prizes are appreciated. Due to current state laws alcoholic beverages (wine and liquor) can not be included. How ever gift cards can be given (Bev-Mo, Cost Plus). Additional information will be sent out regarding the dinner soon.

Upcoming:

March 7th: Monthly meeting at 7PM

March 13th: Bishops Day Celebration

March 27th: Happy Easter

April 4th: Monthly meeting at 7PM

April 10th: Branch 40 Polenta Dinner

We wish a Happy Birthday to Gloria Andrada and Rosalie De Santi. God Bless you. Please remember in your prayers the sick and the convalescing members of our branch. Especially Gloria Andrada, zrosalie De Santi, Mary DeVincenzi, Marisa and Tom Poggi, Angela Rainero, June Ratto and Clemence Zanata.

Thought: Whoever has a heart full of love, always has something to give.

Ciao,

M.A. Francis and L. Francis

Richmond

St. Raymond, Br. 154

We celebrated the Chinese New Year of the Monkey with a wonderful dinner of Chinese food, including Sweet and Sour Pork, Fried Rice, Chow Mien, Green Beans and Beef, Chicken and Broccoli and Eggs Rolls. It was a feast enjoyed by all!

We then surprised Joe Meneghelli with a cake to honor his 96th birthday. Joe still plans our casino trips to Cache Creek and does a great job. He also collects the tabs on the cans of beer and soft drinks and donates them to Ronald Macdonald House in the name of the ICF. I wouldn't be surprised if he has collected over one million tabs! Happy Birthday, Joe and thank you for all you do on behalf of the Italian Catholic Federation.

Bishop's Day is Sunday March 13, 2016 in Castro Valley, 3:30 pm Mass at Our Lady of Grace Church 1431 Somerset Avenue, Castro Valley. The cost is \$30.00 for a catered Ravioli dinner which follows mass. Please RSVP by March 8th to Walter.

Mark your calendar for the next Polenta Dinner, on April 09, 2016 at St. Jerome's Parish Hall, Adults \$22.00, Children \$6.00. This is usually a sold out



Branch 154's Joe Meneghelli, celebrated his 96th birthday! Happy Birthday!

event so get your reservations in early at the next meeting. Otherwise make your reservation with Dee Yonke 510-236-0689. We are still looking for donations to be used as raffle gifts.

Time to start thinking of who is going to our ICF Convention held in Fresno, more information to follow at next meeting.

Please notify any of your children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews about the ICF scholarships. The deadline is fast approaching. Direct them to the ICF website for more information.

Next meeting is March 14, 2016. Corned Beef and Cabbage! Always a popular meal,

Reserve with Dee Rosier at 232-1387 by March 7th, Carole Jobe promises her delicious

Irish Soda bread for dessert.

Don't forget dues are payable now! Annual dues are \$35.00 and Hospitalization is \$25.00. Make your check payable to the ICF and give your check to Lori Framsted or mail it to me at PO BOX 767, El Cerrito, 94530.

Lorraine Acuña

Fremont

St. Francis of Assisi, Br. 215

We gathered for a pizza, salad and wine meal before our meeting and plan to do it again soon. We granted \$250.00 to Corpus Christi's Confirmation Youth Group for their retreat in L.A. on Feb. 24th & 25th.

Fr Sergio Lopez, our branch chaplain and pastor of Corpus Christi will be leaving the end of June and has been reassigned to St. John the Baptist Church in San Lorenzo. We have appreciated his support and wish him well. We welcome Father H. David Mendoza-Vela as the new pastor of Corpus Christi beginning July 1st.

We are also happy to hear that Fr Joy Kumarthusseril, a long time ICF Supporter, has recently been assigned as the new pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Arrangements have been made with Our Lady of Guadalupe School to use their ball field for our monthly Bocce games. We will be collecting \$3.00/game (2 games for \$5.00). Please contact Jack Navarra @ (510) 656-0258 for the next play date and to make reservations.

Our Bingo Salad & Luncheon will take place April 21st and we wish to thank all who helped make it possible as well as to those who purchased tickets. Fran LaTorre has asked that anyone taking pictures forward them to her for submission to the Bolletino for publication.

Happy Birthday to all branch members with birthdays in April and congratulations to all those celebrating wedding anniversaries.

We offer our prayers for those who are ill and to the safety of our first responders, military and their families.

Ken Chiatello

Livermore

St. Filomena, Br. 285

"Life is not about living, life is about giving."

The ICF East Bay District Crab Feed in late January was the perfect example of giving. The Hosts gave, the chef gave, the servers gave, and the cleanup people all gave one of the most precious things we have to give - our time to serve others. But those of us who came also gave - everything from appetizers to raffle gift baskets, but importantly, we gave our time too. The Crab Feed lived up to its epicurean reputation, but did we really come just for the meal? When I looked around, people were chatting with old and new ICF friends, and hugging "Italian Style" was on the menu. There's something about an Italian get together that makes it an experience you want to have again and again. So in our own branches we, like the District, are giving of ourselves to help others. And that includes sharing that warm family experience at our events to remind us and our guests of how truly blessed we are and our obligation to share our blessings. Our popular "Bingo Bash" will have come and gone by the time you read this. Some left with a prize, but everyone left with an understanding of the plight of those who have Cooley's Anemia. And that's what the Bingo Bash and ICF is really about. Join us at any of our upcoming meetings - we have some great programs. Call our president, Judy, at 925-462-2487.

Ciao, a presto!

Chuck (my wife's Italian) Meier

Castro Valley

Our Lady of Grace, Br. 343

Thanks to all who helped make our Super Bowl bake sale a huge success. We had some new bakers and this meant a greater variety of goodies, because of this we are able to donate where needed.

At our Jan. dinner meeting we were given a brief report by member, Dorothy Giammona, on her pilgrimage to Italy, led by OLG pastor, Fr. Tom. She made the trip so interesting that one of our members said that she felt like she was along on the trip.

We are sad to report the sudden death of long time member, Hanako Nelson.

With Lent already here, we will once again be



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Head cook, Jim Thomas looking for the sausage for the Polenta Dinner. Great Cooking Jim.

preparing Lisa’s super Minestrone Soup for the parish soup meal in late Feb. There are many ways to make Lent a special season rather than a time to count the days til Easter and this is just one of them.

We will be looking for lots of help to get Stack Center ready for Bishop’s Day on March 13th, just sign on the dotted line.

Come celebrate both St. Patrick’s Day and St. Joseph’s Day/table with us at our March meeting on March 10th. Remember everyone is Irish on St. Paddy’s Day!

Happy St. Patrick’s Day.

Pat Grasso, Sec.

Contra Costa District Council

The Contra Costa District had their meeting Jan. 28th at St. Isodores Danville. It was inspiring to see new faces with new ideas. Our past president, Joseph Flores handed over the gavel to our new president, Gene Simonetti. Thank you Joseph for the dedication you gave to the ICF, and I am sure will continue to give. Our new president Gene Simonetti accepted the gavel by sharing with us new ideas, and goals to work on, and challenged us to bring to the table new ideas

Each branch brought their calendars so that we might share in their activities, It is nice to see what they have going on in their parish

Here we are coming up to the season of new beginnings . March 20th will be the first day of Spring. Butterflies, flowers,birds will share Gods creation, and then on March 27th He will rise again to assure us that we too can do the same. In the meantime we will have more daylight with the change of time March 13th

Hope to see you at our next meeting Feb 25th.. In the meantime HAPPY TRAILS TO YOU!

Joann

Martinez San Martino, Br. 13

Our first meeting of the New Year, for both the Branch membership and the Branch Trustees, was on January 15th. We installed the new officers, planned the Branch agenda for the upcoming year, and enjoyed pizza and good company.

Our first function was a joint, with the Knights of Columbus, pancake breakfast on January 17th. It was a well-attended event. We served over 75 people.

Our next function will be the Branch #13 annual Family Spaghetti and Meatball dinner prepared by our Top Chef, Tom Cook, on Saturday, April 16th. If you have never been to our friendly, joyful, Saint



Members of Branch #14 Crockett getting ready for their Polenta Dinner. Great Job !!

Catherine of Siena church in Martinez you are in for a treat. The dinner will be after the 4:30 PM mass. Please join us at this first fundraiser of the year in the Parish Hall. Contact 925-229-2665 for more details and to secure your tickets.

A little Martinez history. Martinez has a rich Italian heritage. Fishers from Sicily began arriving in Martinez in the 1880’s. The same families populated Martinez, Pittsburg and Crockett. Many of the Italian families between these towns were and are related. Sets of Brothers would marry sets of sisters. One of our most famous Martinez born Italians was “Joltin’ Joe” DiMaggio, the Yankee Clipper, who was born in 1917.

Martinez was also John Muir’s home for the last 15 years of his life. He did most of his writing from the Muir/Strentzel house which is now known as the John Muir National Historic Site. It is located at the Highway 4 off-ramp to Alhambra Road in Martinez.

Ciao from Martinez!

Crockett San Carlo, Br. 14

March is National Irish American Heritage Month, so to all of our Irish members, and to all who are Irish on March 17th, we say “Happy St. Patrick’s Day!”

On March 8th, our St. Joseph’s Table is celebrated. There is no mass, but there is a Blessing of Tables at 6:00 (note time change), followed by a pasta al pesto dinner. Please bring a meatless dish to share, i.e., a torte, vegetable, salad, fruit, stuffed eggs, dessert, etc. Be sure to attend because after “Joseph” knocks on the hall door, you don’t want to miss as he and “Mary” traverse the hall and Father sprinkles us with “Italian Holy Water.”

Saturday, March 12th is our Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner. Mary and George Berggren initiated this successful fundraiser 40 years ago, and now their daughter Kathleen and son-in-law Jim Thomas continue the tradition, still using their secret family recipe. Come, celebrate, and enjoy this famous Irish dinner. Be politically correct... wear green!

The annual, eagerly anticipated St. Rose Fish Fry is Friday, March 18th. Enjoy a delicious fish dinner and visiting with friends while helping support the church.

How about a Reno Gambling Trip? High-spirited, energetic Nancy Botta has organized an overnight trip for Monday, April 4th, returning the 5th. Contact Nancy at 787-2912 for additional information. Can you imagine how much fun this is going to be?

A special thank you to Janice Burnett for chairing our February ICF meeting. Everyone knows it’s not easy to substitute for Donna, but Janice did a great job. Also, thanks to our Heritage person Addie Bepler for her informational and humorous talk about Valentine’s Day.

Our sympathies to Addie Bepler on the passing of her two aunts, and get-well wishes to Susan Rexrout and Mary Jo Townsend.

Finally, to all of our members, “may St. Patrick

guard you wherever you go, and guide you in whatever you do, and may his loving protection be a blessing to you always.”

Ciao,

Diane Bottini Thomas

Pittsburg San Domenico, Br. 72

Our branch was well represented at the district Installation of officers. I would like to thank our branch officers for attending. Special thanks to the Brentwood branch for chairing this event at the Wedgewood golf course. We also thank the Grand President and several Central Council members who joined us.

Our annual Bishops day Mass will take place on Sunday March 13 at Our Lady of Grace church in Castro Valley at 3: 30 PM. Mass is open to all but dinner reservations will be closed by the time you get this. I will give a report on this special event next month which is being hosted by the East bay district.

Our next meeting was set to take place on Sunday March 13. We will change the date due to the



Welcome to the newly installed members of Concord, Branch 214. Being sworn in by David Botta are Irene Moore, Teri DiLoreto, Mary Androtti, Kathy Koski, Diana Rentz, and Helen Belleci.



Bishops day festivities. You will receive a branch notice/newsletter in the mail with the new date for the meeting and celebration of St. Joseph and St. Patrick’s day. Let Patty know If you are interested in playing Mary or Joseph at this event. We have the homemade costumes ready. How many of you remember Denny O’ Loughlin and his late wife Eleanor Russo O’ Loughlin playing the role of the Holy family? How about the Masses at St. Peter Martyr followed by the raffle in the hall and bags of homemade Italian cookies given to all in attendance? Come to the meeting and share your stories about past St. Joseph day celebrations.

Thank you for bringing sweets on Sunday Feb.14 when we had our Valentines party with lunch and sweets for all. We also had a free raffle followed by our branch meeting. Some of our members shared stories about how they met their Valentine. Thanks for making the day so much fun!

Let us pray for our sick members. If you know of a sick member please let sunshine chairperson Jane Russo know. She will be happy to send a card on behalf of the branch.

I would like to close with a thank you to member Joann Thilgen. Joann helps our members with transportation to and from many branch and district events. If not for her, Many would have to miss out on attending.

Happy St. Joseph and St. Patrick’s day.

Sempre Avanti,

Patty

Concord Todos Santos, Br. 214

includes: St. Agnes, St. Francis, St. Bonaventure & Queen of All Saints Parishes

Our Branch is working on an update for our 2016 calendar, many activities including our Annual TEA, please note the tea is set for April 9th.

Seven of our board members attended the installation at the Brentwood Branch on January 23rd and remarked of the delicious lunch that was served and how they enjoyed the day. Thank You

Branch 432, Brentwood.

Thank You also to our Own member Mike Fillari/ Wedgewood for his expertise. In January, David Botta installed 6 new members into our branch during the meeting. Thank You David. We truly appreciate your input. Other members not present will be installed at a future meeting.

We are very excited about our new banner. (I need to correct my statement from last month - noting that we have a new banner because, we have changed our Branch name from St. Agnes to “Todos Santos”.

Christina Artale,
correspondence secty.

Danville

St. Isidore, Br. 352

January 23 Champagne Bingo was very well attended. Our thanks to everyone who helped serve, sell scratchers, and decorate the room beautifully.

The upcoming Bake Sale; Membership Drive is the weekend of February 14th. Any HOME BAKED goodies are always the Best.

We are making plans for our upcoming April 23rd, Fundraiser Dinner, Raffle and Auction.

Ciao.

Madeline

Brentwood

Immaculate Heart of Mary, Br. 432

Ciao all,

We had the first Branch meeting of the new year on January 25th. Our new board Presidents presided over it. Who are these people? Co-Presidents, Co-First Vice Presidents. So you don’t forget our new officers, here they are:

Chaplin -- Deacon John Kortuem

President -- Frank Stagnitto/Jack Bagar

First Vice President -- Sandy Gamble/Clarice Londos

Second Vice President -- Frank Silva

Secretary -- Anita Camera

Financial Secretary -- Gene Simonetti

Treasurer -- Linda Kortuem

Orator -- Ted Arcado

Trustees -- Philomena Sawko, Beverly Silva, Lilly Beatty

Sentinel -- Marie Modafferi

And for a closer look, check out the accompanying photo.

Left to right: Frank Stagnitto, Phil Sawko, Jack Bagar, Marie Modafferi, Anita Camera, Marilyn Simonetti, Gino Simonetti and Deacon John Kortuem.

Co-President, Frank Stagnitto gave an introduction speech which alluded to the ICF’s mission statement and then went on to cover some of the Branch’s goals for 2016. Branch 432 is going to be innovative in their approach to all fund raisers. Introducing new ways to create interest and excitement. And by creating interest and excitement, grow our base. Frank then added the final highlight for 2015, the branch’s \$2500 donation to Operation Creekside, which thrilled all of us. We are proud to support and pray for our Veterans. May they always be safe from harm while they safeguard our freedoms.

One of the new touches being added, music while we dined, on what else, Lasagna, deliciously prepared by Clarice Londos. After dinner, a film on Sicily. Very enjoyable but some were caught napping. Maybe a condensed version?

In life what you sow is what you reap and if you sow nothing you reap nothing.

la vita ‘e bouna

Pleasant Hill

Christ the King, Br. 442

Game Time! The biggest day in football was upon the Branch and no better way celebrate the day than with a meeting featuring an old style hot dog and chili cookout! Matt was as excited about the chili as he was about the Bronco’s Defense. “I know that the Panthers are in for a long afternoon” predicted Matt.

Larry laughed, “I think you are right, I am going to focus on the Budweiser Commercials”

With all the excitement about the big game, Matt made sure our Branch stayed focused on a few great events ahead of our Branch.

“Remember everyone, Bishop’s Day is March 13th from 3:15 to 7:15 at Our Lady of Grace Church in Castro Valley.”

Paul chimed in, “My family and I had a wonderful time last year, and I encourage everyone to join in.”

“And let us not forget our big spring event; the ICF Tea Party.” Rose announced, “The seats are going fast so make sure you contact icfpleasanthill@aol.com if you still need to make your reservation! The Tea will be held at Christ the King Church on April 9th during the day.”

Matt banged the gavel, “OK, let’s wrap up the meeting, it is almost kick off!

Scenes of ICF brought to you by:

Paul M. Nuti

Past President Branch 442

Sacramento

Auburn

St. Joseph, Br. 342

Our first meeting and dinner for 2016 will be on Sunday, March 13th with Chicken and Polenta on the menu by popular demand. The Branch meeting will be at 4:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:00 p.m. The cost is \$14 for members and \$17 for non-members. Please join us as we welcome 9 new members. For reservations, contact me by March 8th at 916-508-1199.

Get Well wishes to Mary Jo Lee who is recovering from a recent surgery. We miss you.

Belated condolences to Tina Tallman, our 1st V.P., and family for the passing of her Nana, Mary LaTona, at age 102. Mary was an ICF member for 45 years and was the “Sweetheart” of our Branch, never missing a meeting or dinner. We will all miss her wonderful wisdom and smiling face. May she rest in peace.

Belated birthday wishes to members for February: Manuel Cazares, Gina Devito, Olivia Ebert, Ted Georguson, Arlene Gianatasio, Marlene Oehler, Mary Louise Padlo, Emily Rossi, Katherine Stefani.

No Birthdays for March. We’re sorry we did not have an article last month. See you all on March 13th.

Ciao, Janine

San Vito

Roseville, Br. 73

The angel of death again visited Branch 73 when Terri Terrio died 16 January. A member since 2002, for some time health problems had prevented her from being an active member, but recently she had again begun to attend branch functions. We extend our condolences to her husband Fred, a branch officer. Requiem eternam dona ei, Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eam. Requiescat in pace.

Reserve the evening of 16 April to attend Branch 73’s spring polenta/chicken dinner, which also features salad, roll. and dessert. The cost is \$20.00 for adults and children over 12, \$10.00 for youngsters 6 to 12, and at no cost for those younger. Tickets will be available from Giuseppina



This year's San Diego Installation of Branch & District Officers was held at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish. Mass was at 10:30 followed by the installation and a delicious catered dinner.

Novi (783-3816) Rosemarie Presti (791-1726) and Arlene Roe (782-3073).

Dues for 2016 are now payable at \$34.00. They may be paid at the next meeting (15 March) or sent to Financial Secretary Fred Terrio, 228 Skopas Court, Roseville 95661.

Buona Pasqua a tutti i soci della Sezione 73 il marzo. Che possano godere la festa con i loro familiari e con buon cibo sulla tavola.

Buon compleanno in ritardo a tutti i soci nati nel mese di febbraio, ed in tempo a quelli nati nel mese di marzo. Auguri di tante belle cose a tutti loro.

Robert Delpippo

Auburn

St. Joseph, Br. 342

It was such a wonderful honor for our branch to host the 2016 Officer Instillation for the Blessed Sacrament District. Thank you to all Central Council members and Blessed Sacrament District members who attended and made this such a wonderful occasion. A big thank you to all those who helped with the mass, the instillation ceremony and the delicious luncheon. I hope to be able to share a few pictures in the next Bolletino.

Our board is continuing to finalize the 2016 calendar of events. Please keep an eye on the Bolletino and your e-mail for notice of the fun things we are planning.

I hope that all of you and your families have a very blessed Easter day!

Ciao!

Pam Andersen

Bolletino Contributor

Roseville

St. Clare of Assisi, Br. 438

At our first meeting of the year Michael and Sandra Fuentes served us a delicious Potato Bar along with Paula Scarpelli’s delicious salad. Paula, Hank and Sandra’s sister Linda Pasley were Michael’s helpers. Thanks to all of you.

Angela Digrande is working very hard on arranging our cook books. She has close to 200 recipes. This is going to be a big seller for our branch.

Please if you can find the time could you consider helping Michael Fuentes on election day. He needs a few more volunteers.

Our St. Joseph table will be presented in the Narthex on March 12th & 13th. This year our proceeds will go to the Baby Bottle project. Please bake,bake, bake.There will be a sign up genus.

It takes members like you to make our events

successful. Whether you volunteer to help in the kitchen, prepare one of our dinners or be a helper for one of the events. It just can’t be a selected few all the time. It takes all of us. Don’t be bashful. Jump right in and join the fun. Your help will be very appreciated.

We will not have a branch dinner at our March meeting.

One of our newest members past away Pidge Deeken. May she rest in peace. Please remember her and all of our sick members in your prayers.

Your Reporter,

Yvonne Perry

San Diego

District Council

The San Diego District Council held its Annual Installation of Officers on Sunday, January 31, 2016. The day dawned with rare blustery weather including rain, extreme wind, cool weather, and high surfs.

Lucky for us it did not dampen the beautiful mass held at Our Lady of the Rosary Church in Little Italy, and the recognition paid to the ICF Installing Officers, Members, and Guests by Pastor and District Chaplain, Rev. Joseph Tabigue, CRSP, hosted by Branch #230, Our Lady of the Rosary, and catered by Cupids Catering.

The Central Council Installing Officers, Spouse’s, and San Diego District Officers:

ICF Grand 1st Vice-President: Andrew Pappani, and Wife Siria

Pat Magas, Central Council Member Emeritus, and Husband Lou

Anne Interrante, Central Council Trustee from Branch #380 Thousand Oaks

Jody Balestrieri, Central Council Member Emeritus

Forrest Price, Central Council Member Emeritus

San Diego Officers:

Richard Barker, San Diego District President
Chis Murphy, 1st. Vice President,
Jim Cardinale-Hill, 2nd Vice President,
Tony Anthony, Past President, San Diego District
Delfina Centanni, President, Branch #230

In spite of the nasty weather and unsafe driving conditions, the Installation was done with the love, grace, and humor that define the members of the Italian Catholic Federation.

Contributed By: Pat Postal, Branch #416 Santa Sophia



Chula Vista

St. Rose of Lima, Br. 229

Wishing all of you a Happy Easter! Jesus Christ Has Risen Today! Alleluia!

The Super Bowl Meatball and Sausage Sale on Super Bowl Sunday was a great success! Thank you to all those who helped sell the sandwiches and cannoli! Proceeds will go to the St. Rose of Lima Mama Dee Pantry to assist the poor of the community.

St. Joseph's Day Table is scheduled for March 13, 2016.

Upcoming Branch events include the July Dinner/Dance, and a meatball sausage sandwich sale in August.

Please pray for our deceased members, for those who are sick, for the unemployed, for all military



Members of Branch 261 making some cookies together.



San Diego, Branch 261, officer Installation for 2016. The CC Officers chaired the installation...Luckily the speeches were short and informative..Our 2016 officers...President – Pamela Tallarida – 1st VP – Tony Anthony – 2nd VP Bob Tallarida - Recording Secretary – Vickie Strieble – Corresponding Secretary – Vic Tallarida Sr – Financial Secretary Dave Backensto – Treasurer – Vic Tallarida Jr – Otator – Vera Covitt - Trustees – Bob Fischer – Betty Montoya – George Fielding – Sentinel – Robin Fielding.

Vic Tallarida --- Br 261

personnel, and for victims of terrorism and disasters.

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 Diego

Our Lady of the Rosary, Br. 230

After a most successful Lenten Fish Fry held on Friday, February 12th, Branch 230 will participate in other Lenten activities sponsored by Our Lady of the Rosary Church. The St. Joseph's Day

celebration will take place on Sunday, March 13th. The branch will also be supporting many of the church's societies as they sponsor "Supper and Stations" which commence on February 19th and are held every Friday ending on March 18th.

Although no formal general meetings are scheduled for the months of March and April, plans for the branch's annual Pancake Breakfast to be held on Sunday, April 10th are underway. Board members are reminded that the regular monthly board meetings will be held on March 2nd and April 6th.

May Lent offer us a very special opportunity to grow in our relationship with God.

God Bless,

Maria Tollefson

San Diego

St. Theresa, Br. 261

Hilda Mercanti was a charter member of our Branch.. She joined us in 1971 – and became an active member.. She was soon an officer and was a delegate at our ICF Conventions...Her husband Lou played the piano.. We had memorable "sing alongs" with Lou at the piano....

Hilda died late December at 99 years of age..She would have been 100 mid-January..She told her daughter Rose that she did not want to live to 100 because her friends would consider her an old person...

Our 1st Vice President – Tony Anthony – read the ICF Funeral Prayer...A reception followed the service...

RIP Hilda – We enjoyed seeing your smile at the Church doors...You will probably continue being a "Greeter" at those pearly gates...

ICF Super Bowl Meatball/Sausage sandwich & Sauce/Meatballs sale is scheduled for Saturday & Sunday – February 6 & 7... This has been an annual event and enjoyed by our St Therese parishoners... At our December 5 - 6 Christmas sale \$1500 was donated to our parish.. \$500 was given by one of our members.. Thanks to our cooks and our one special member....

Vic Tallarida – Br 261 – San Diego

San Francisco

San Francisco

San Francisco

Maria S.S. Immacolata, Br. 1

Dear Members:

Please note these upcoming events:

April 3 -- Archbishop Day Details - TBA

April 6 -- Monthly Meeting - 7:00pm Host ; Paul Biagi

Keep well!

Happy Easter to all!

Ciao!

Toni Morsello

San Francisco

Santo Stefano, Br. 50

February 3rd. - Wonderful meeting ! Our first of the year 2016, and we were all so happy to be together again.

Our President, George Bacigalupi and his wife Diane extended their best wishes to us for a fun and productive year ahead.

Diane thanked us all for the wonderful donations we made in December, and that they had been all distributed to our senior citizens. It was our first time donating "Toys for Tots" to the Fire Dept. and she was grateful to them for picking up all of them at the San Francisco Italian Athletic Club, after our 80th Birthday Celebration.

Our former President, Liana Figone is slowly recovering, and still receiving care in Marin County. Our continued love and best wishes to her.

We were very happy to have Father Ken Westray attend our meeting. In light of recent occurrences in our neighborhood, Father Ken made a suggestion. If we should ever question the security of our homes (during our absence) we should feel free to contact him. Accommodations can be made for volunteers to house sit when necessary. That was a very kind and much appreciated gesture. God Bless Father Ken !

Minutes and Financial reports were read by Annette Farrell, and we then discussed our future plans. It was suggested that this year we sponsor two six months College Scholarships. After some discussion, the motion was made and confirmed by all.

At the conclusion of our meeting, we enjoyed a most delicious dinner. Soup, Salad, and Chicken Cacciatore with Polenta. It was topped off with Diane's homemade Applecake cookies ! Needless to say it was enjoyed by all.

Until next time,

Ciao,

Anstell Ricossa

San Francisco

St. Elizabeth, Br. 258

Our sincere thanks to Anne Interante for the beautiful article in Branching Out in the February Bollettino. A good article.

Mark your calendars that on April 17th we will have our Annual Champagne Bingo. This is always a great time for members and friends to visit with their friends and to get up to date with families. More information will follow.

On March 18th, we have a trip planned to the Jelly Belly Factory, tour to Anheuser Bush and lunch at the Cast Iron Bar and Grill in Suisun City. Sounds like a great trip.

Our sincere sympathy to the Crescio family on the death of Irene. Irene was a member of Br. 258 for 44 years. May the Blessed Mother keep you in the palms of her hands. You will be missed.

Birthdays: Feb. 4th: Rosalie Alioto. on her 90th Birthday; Feb. 24th, Frederica Mickovich. Feb.

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26th, Helen Zahra. many more Happy and Healthy years.

Please keep our ill and deceased members in your Prayers.

Dates to remember:

March 7th: Officers meeting

March 27th: Mass

March 28th: Meeting

Ciao:

Eva Perata, President

San Francisco

Corpus Christi, Br. 290

Dear Friends,

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 17th, in Corpus Christi Parish Hall, following lunch at noon.

Just a reminder that our first Champagne-Bingo luncheon of the year is scheduled for Saturday, March 5th. For the price of \$25.00, those in attendance will enjoy a delicious lunch and will receive a free Bingo packet. Doors open at 11:00 AM, followed by lunch at noon. For reservations, please call Mary Rowe (415) 586-7939 or Joyce Nuti (415) 585-7879. Hope to see you there!

We ask prayers for members who are not feeling well or who are recuperating from an illness or a fall.

Happy St. Patrick's Day and Buona Pasqua a tutti!

Ciao,

Jeannette

San Mateo

District Council

Greetings! Many thanks to Branch 351, Menlo Park, for hosting our enjoyable Installation and delicious luncheon. We were honored with the presence and participation of Chaplain Tom Boyle and Grand President Leonard Zasoski. Thanks also to Deborah Rodondi for presiding over the memorable event.

The District's Christmas potluck party was held on January 28 and hosted by Branch 173 at Our Lady of Angels, Burlingame. Everyone who attended had a great time. A nice way to start off our New Year!

Will report next month on the Strategic Plan Workshop and the Semi-Annual District Mass not held yet.

Hosts for 2016 events are as follows:

Lenten Night of Recollection, Branch 130.

2nd Semi-Annual Mass, Branch 7

Christmas Party, Branch 213. No dates yet.

Mark your calendar for Sunday, April 3, 2016, San Francisco Archdiocese 55th Annual Archbishop's Day hosted by San Francisco District. Mass: 11:45 a.m., Sts. Peter and Paul Church, 666 Filbert Street, San Francisco followed by lunch at the San Francisco Italian Athletic Club. Price: \$55.00.



Memeber and newly installed officers of Branch 213 at the San Mateo District Installation.

Entree Choice: Salmon or Beef tri-tip. Reservation deadline: March 24 to Debbie Major 415-474-6925.

Happy St. Patrick's Day! Peace and Love!

Anne O'Brien

South San Francisco

Sacro Cuore, Br. 7

Our February business/dinner meeting was held on the 3rd and we would like to thank Jim Eli, Tony Parenti, Kelly Teglia and all of the helpers who prepared the outstanding Italian Sausage dinner.

The Crab Feed Fundraiser was held on Feb. 20th, and over 75 guests enjoyed the delicious dinner prepared by Bill Mangini, Jim Eli, and Tony Parenti. Also, thanks to all for helping to make this a successful event.

Our March dinner meeting will be on the 2nd, and we will be having Pasta Alla Bonanno".

Sam Bonanno will be our guest chef and you know he always does an outstanding job! We

will also have our Corned beef and Cabbage fundraiser dinner on March 12th. The business/dinner meeting for April will be on the 6th.

May 4th will be our last business/dinner meeting as we take a break for the months of June and July. Our first meeting after the break will be August 3rd. We would like to welcome our two new members, June Sturm and Lorraine Bellesi.

On a sad note, we send our sympathy and prayers to the Jerry Tassan Family. His wife Carol has been a member of Branch 7 for over forty years, and Jerry worked very hard for us over all those years doing set up, clean up and taking full charge of all responsibilities' for the bar. We will all miss his smiling face and warm and friendly personality. RIP Jerry! We also send our sympathy and prayers to the Ave Lovi Family. Ave was a member of Branch 7 for 39 years and she will be missed. RIP Ave!

So until next time...a little thought to ponder. "One's destination is never a place, but rather a new way of seeing things."

Sempre Avanti,

Laurie Masetti

Colma

San Vincenzo De Paolo Branch, Br. 19

Hello everyone,

It was a busy month in February for everyone.

First congratulations to Al Heckman, our third Trustee and Annette Novi as our Orator. Our list of Officers for 2016 is now complete. Welcome aboard!

So many Thank You's to give to everyone: To Joe and Joanne Sangiacomo for Chairing the successful Pedro Tournament that raised money for St. Vincent de Paul and church charities. We

are also grateful to all the helpers at the event and those of you who came and had a good time.

More thanks to the volunteers who helped with the lunch and dinner on February 13 Central Council meeting at Holy Angels hall. It was an enriching experience.

February meeting and dinner was delicious and the company great. Kudos to the Officers who put the dinner together.

Coming Activities:

February 28 - San Mateo District Semi-Annual Mass and Workshop hosted by Branch 19 with Spuntino following in the hall. It will be from 10:a.m. to 12:00 noon at 107 San Pedro Road, Colma. Contact Cheryl Simon (650) 755-0878 (voice mail) or email cas94015@yahoo.com. Also advise what you can make to help with the food.

March 14: St. Joseph's Table - Dinner at 6:30 p.m. - Pot Luck

Contact Cheryl Simon (650) 755-0878 (voice mail) or email cas94015@yahoo.com.

April 9: Saturday, Champagne Bingo, Kathy Trevizo chairperson, opens at 1:30, lunch at 2:30 with bingo following. Chicken, pasta, champagne and 1 bingo card \$16.00. Reservations call Deborah Rodondi (650)583-0805. No one under 21 allowed.

God Bless and take care.

N. Thurman

San Mateo

St. Matthew, Br. 163

Salutations! The District Installation was enjoyable and well attended by the Branches at the San Mateo Elks Club. Our Branch had 7 officers and 1 Branch member attend. Thanks to Branch 357, Menlo Park for hosting the event and to Debbie Redondo for presiding over it. Installation was followed by a delicious lunch. No Mass was held.

Our January meeting was fun. It was like a picnic with sandwiches and all kinds of salads; a nice way to start our New Year.

We welcomed our new Deputy Debbie Redondo and ended our evening with a fund raiser raffle.

Will report on February potluck dinner and the Semi-Annual Mass next month.

Lent will begin this week on Ash Wednesday. Easter will come early this year, March 27th. Time seems to fly by. Well I look forward to spring and the warmth it brings.

Mark your calendars for Archbishop's Day, Sunday, April 3rd. Hosted by the San Francisco District. Mass at 11:45 am at Saints Peter and Paul Church, 666 Filbert St., San Francisco. Luncheon to follow at the San Francisco Italian Athletic Club. Entree Choice: Salmon or Beef Tri-tip. Price \$55.00. Reservations: Debbie Major at (415)474-6925.

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Anne O'Brien

Burlingame

Our Lady of Angels, Br. 173

It feels like Spring is close at hand but we still want and need more rain. Happy Valentine's day to all of our members. Our February ham dinner is being chaired by Mara Millis and we certainly appreciate all of her efforts.

Congratulations to Rina Cassanego for her 73 years of service to the ICF.

MARCH: March 10 St. Joseph's table

Sign ups at February meeting March 11 Father Michael has asked us to host one of the Lenten soup nights in the Hall of Saints. Please contact our President if you can contribute. March 19 Pedro Tournament held in OLA gym. More info to follow.

Please keep saying prayers for many of our member's families especially Dave Meyer, Patti Dugoni, Gino Bava, Jeff (M. Ann's son) Jeannie (Jean Watterson's daughter and Keith Aguilar Dorene and John's son-in-law.

God Bless,

Rosalind C. Emery

South San Francisco

St. Augustine, Br. 213

Our February meeting was hosted by our new member, Linda Benedetti. We had a wonderful Valentine's Day social and everyone participated. I never saw so many sandwiches and side dishes! Linda Marcelli made a delicious Italian soup that everyone enjoyed. It was a delicious feast. Thank you all! I would like to thank Jackie Smith for always calling all the members to see if they will attend the dinners.

Remember to keep in your prayers Steve Crisafi, John and Fran Cannon, Fran and Chuck Baumann -- we miss you guys!

Our March 8 meeting will be hosted by Linda Marcelli, Linda Benedetti, and Bob Eserini. We are looking forward to another splendid dinner! Thanks for hosting!

Roberta

San Carlos

St. Charles, Br. 327

Thank you, thank you, thank you to Dede Waters-Masters for her jumping-in last minute and serving the branch a wonderful dinner for the February meeting. Due to circumstances beyond their control, the Youngs were not able to come from Cool to serve their meatloaf dinner.

Dede graciously came to our rescue and served a delicious chicken dinner and a scrumptious dessert.

Preparations are under way for our March Anniversary Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner. The dinner will be March 5 and is \$35.00 pp.

If this Bollettino arrives before the 5th and you would like to join us for another wonderful dinner, please call Carmel Dufault at 650-592-1781.

For all of you who remember Father Frank Murray...he is now residing at Nazareth House and would love to hear from you. His address is:

245 Nova Albion Way, San Rafael, CA 94903.

Some upcoming events for your calendars:

Saturday, March 19 - Branch 173, Our Lady of Angels, Burlingame, Pedro Tournament.

Sunday, April 3 - 55th Annual Archbishop's Day. 11:45 Mass at Sts. Peter & Paul Church, SF, with a luncheon following Mass at the SF Italian Athletic Club. Menu: choice of salmon or beef tri-tip. Price: \$55.00 pp. Reservation deadline: March 24.

Saturday, April 9 - Branch 19, Holy Angels, Colma, Champagne Bingo, 1:30 lunch; 2:30 bingo. Chicken, pasta, champagne, 1 bingo card, \$16.

Saturday, April 16 - Holy Names University Regents Theatre presents "Late Night Catechism".

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Ciao,

Virginia Malaspina

Millbrae

St. Dunstan, Br. 403

We welcome our in-coming President, Mary Teseler and know she will have the support of all members.

Our 26h Anniversary celebration held on February 21 was a success and we wish to thank our cooks, past presidents Carla and Lorrie for all their hard work and our neighboring branches for their attendance and support.

Our next meeting on March 1 at 7:00PM will be a social, and dessert and refreshments will be served.

Our annual St. Joseph’s Table is scheduled for March 15. This is our annual Sicilian Tradition of offering thanks to St. Joseph. The statue of St. Joseph will be placed on the Table surrounded by candles and an array of fresh flowers. Each member will be asked to bring a meatless potluck dish to share. This has always been a wonderful and favorite celebration for our branch members.

We thank our past Branch Deputy, Bea Tomasello for her dedication and commitment to our Branch this past year and welcome our new Deputy Virginia Fuentes.

Rose Marie Morando

Corresponding Secretary

Marin

Larkspur

St. James, Br. 161

We would like to thank Grand President Leonard Zasoski, Jr. for installing the officers of St. James Branch 161.

The new officers are:

President – Marlene Farber

First Vice Presidents – Jeanne Asdourian & Lucia Della Santina

Second Vice President – Phyllis Rybensky

Recording Secretary – Anna Biggio

Corresponding and Financial Secretary – Mary Onetti

Treasurer – Catherine Biggio

Orator – Theresa Rosser

Trustees – Guy Francoz, Doris Mulligan, Margaret DeRango

Sentinel – Diane Hollister

Our get well wishes to everyone who isn’t feeling well.

Wishing you and your families a very Happy Easter

Our next meeting will be April 19.

Buona Pasqua a tutti!

See you next month,

Ciao,

Anna Biggio

Meeting:

Some key dates planned were:

·April 2 Day of Recollection at Santa Teresa with Fr. George

·June Tentative date for Golf Tournament

·October 16 Bishop’s Day at Resurrection Church

·Day at the Races TBD

Note: Instead of “Christmas in the Park” it was decided to help Larry Marsalli with Thanksgiving Meal at Branch 5 and donate \$75 to this event.

Officers’ training was held on February 20 at Resurrection Church, Something different this year is that the District Mass will be held prior to the District Picnic. Mike Rossi said he was working on adding an ICF Branch at Transfiguration Parish. Scholarship donations are needed; deadline for Applications is March 15. Also each branch should have submitted an Officers’ list to Central Council Office that the

Fr. George always reminds us that this is the Year of Mercy, quoting Pope Francis: “A little mercy makes the world less cold and more just”.

Branch events include the following:

Br. 28 – Scholarship Breakfast & Bake Sale – 3/6

Br. 191 – Soup Nights each Wednesday during Lent

Br. 368 & Br. 408 – Soup Nights each Friday during Lent

Mike Nunziata

San Jose

Holy Rosary, Br. 4

Our last Meeting was great! It was nice to see so many people attend!

Thanks to Maria and Bill Greco for our delicious Ravioli dinner.

We are in the Season of Lent. A good time to reflect on our Faith and our personal lives. Also a time to help those who are less fortunate than we are.

March 2- Dinner Meeting - You will receive a call with more details

April 6- General Meeting

April 16- Fund Raiser- Drive Thru Dinner - More info later

May 4- Crowning of Our Blessed Mother and Rosary. Short meeting and refreshments. Remember to bring flowers for Our Lady.

June 1- BBQ Fundraiser- Reserve the Date! More Details to come at a later date

As most of you know, Connie Barretta will no longer be our Financial Secretary. Many, many Thanks to Connie for her years of service to our Branch!

Please bring your dues to the meeting, or send them to Bill Greco at his home address for the time being.

Our new Financial Secretary is Bob Mirolo. Thanks, Bob, for volunteering.

To All our Sick members, our Thoughts and Prayers are with you.

“A friend is someone who reaches for your hand, but touches your heart”

God Bless,

Ann Fitzgerald

Santa Clara

N.S. Assunta, Br. 5

A warm hello to everyone. Our first meeting of the year began with a dinner that included a nice variety of sandwich and salad choices. It was great. Thanks go to our new president, Janet Glaubke, for making all the arrangements. A presentation of the budget, the distribution of our Branch 5 Informational Handout , and ideas for this year’s events were discussed. We’re off to a good start.



Welcome to the newly initiated members of Branch 191.



Welcome to Branch 191 Rando Flocchini.

In February, 2016, we will start a drawing, with all members’ names in the wheel. You must be present at the dinner and meeting, to have the opportunity to win \$20.00 cash.

The next ICF dinner/meeting will be on March 24, 2016. Menu: corned beef and cabbage, with all the trimmings. Call Bea Cunha for reservations.

Bring in some new members, by inviting them to the dinner/meeting. Let’s see if we can get a variety of age groups into our wonderful branch. The drive is an effort to increase membership, as well as to enjoy more friendships.

Please remember in your prayers, our deceased member, Reni C. Felice. May she rest in peace.

Happy St. Patrick’s and St. Joseph’s Day.

Ciao,

Marlene J. Rotolo

Gilroy

Santa Maria Ausiliatrice Br. 28

Our first order of business is our Scholarship breakfast and bake sale on March 6. A big thank you to all the help.

We need your support as this funds 5 scholarships we give out each year. If you have a child or grandchild graduating from High School the applications are due by March 15. Go to www.icf.org and download the application or check with the high school. Our chairpersons are Elia Scettrini at Gilroy High School, Jeannette Hudson at Christopher High School, and Elaine Bonino at Live Oak High School in Morgan Hill.

Our next fundraiser will be the “Taste of Italy” shrimp and ravioli dinner. The board decided to hold this dinner in the spring and the Polenta dinner in the fall. The date is April 9, and Andy Pappani will be the chef in the kitchen. Please come and join in at our sit down dinner. We will also be in need of raffle prizes for the raffle. Contact Chris

Andrade if you can donate a gift.

March dinner meeting will be on March 21, back to our normal 3rd Monday of the Month.

Happy St. Patrick’s day, St. Joseph’s day and Happy Easter to all.

Happy Spring,

Anna Barberi

Los Gatos

St. Mary, Br. 184

Lent is here and Easter is on its way. On March 5th our Branch had a very successful Taste of Tuscany Chicken and Polenta Dinner Dance. Thanks to you who constantly work so hard to make us as successful as we are. The food, wine and decorations transported us to a Tuscan Tratorria and music by Reno Di Bono filled our hall with old and new favorites. If you missed this dance, watch for the flyer for our October Dance.

Our Branch has historically had meeting on the second Thursday of the month at 7pm. I’d like to know how you would feel about having meetings on Sunday afternoon. Lunch first, then the meeting and a social after. A notice will be going out to find out how you feel about this possible change.

Some up coming events:

·April 2nd – District Day of Recollection at Santa Teresa, Fr. George will preside. Time Noon to 3:30 pm. Donation of \$10 per person is suggested

·May or June – Monte Carlo Night at St. Mary’s… more information next month.

As Pope Francis said, “May we try to listen and be silent in order to make space for the beauty of God.”

Denise Antonowicz, President, Branch 184

San Jose

Santa Clara Valley

District Council

The SCV District meeting was held at St. Francis Cabrini, thanks to Jo Bertaccini and others hostesses. President Denise Antonowicz Presented the District Budget, which was voted and approved, then highlighted the results of the recent Officer’s

San Jose

St. Francis Cabrini, Br. 191

Did it seem to you that Lent came extremely early this year? At our last branch board meeting, we discussed Soup Night, what we would be cooking, who would be cooking and Palm Sunday Quarterly Breakfast, the menu, who would be in charge and it seemed that we were talking about activities somewhere way out in the distant future. Time is going too fast!!

April 16th is our Spring Polenta and Sausage Dance. The Theme is “The Adventures of Pinocchio”, with delicious Polenta, Italian sausage, Salad and dessert. Dance to the music of DJ Gino Popolizio. Enjoy the Balloon Lady and her wonderful balloons for the kids (all ages) and terrific decorations of Pinocchio and his gang. Call Debbie Piro for tickets or information.

(408)-306-9244.

Have a blessed Easter and God Bless.

Jim Jones

San Jose

St. Therese, Br. 368

We enjoyed appetizers and desserts at our meeting on January 13, thanks to Evelyn Taravella, Ilona Spada, and Noellia Chiono, who wished us a very happy new year with their decorations and enthusiasm. Well done, ladies!

We are pleased to announce that John Gillio has agreed to serve as branch membership chairman, and our branch officers have initiated two new members: Steven Huckaby and Avis Erkel. Welcome, Steven and Avis!

Lorraine Nunciata charmed us with her heritage segment on the meaning of the lyrics of the Twelve Days of Christmas. She told how the words may have functioned as a catechism for English and Irish Catholic children from 1558 to 1829 while Catholicism was outlawed by the English. Three French hens became three virtues: faith, hope, and charity.

After Noreen Gillio delivered part of the heritage segment on Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, she accepted our thanks, a stipend, an apron, and an adult’s coloring book for her three years of service as president. She says the apron is not for cooking; rather, she will use it to protect her while she is having fun coloring.

We are pleased to announce that we have turned over to Father Aranha a check for \$5,000 from our fundraisers for the new hall. He was more than happy to receive it!

The check wasn’t a bribe; he had already agreed to lead a Day or Recollection here at Santa Teresa on March 5. We are looking forward to an inspiring day of reflection and preparation for Easter.

We wish you all a happy Lent and a beautiful Easter!

God bless,

Judy Zahn

San Jose

St. Martin of Tours, Br. 391

At the February meeting, members enjoyed a dinner of pizza, pasta and salad. President Mike Rossi was traveling for work, so past President Russ Vento conducted the meeting.

Father Abe educated the members on how the date for Easter Sunday is chosen. Namely, it is chosen to fall on the Sunday which is forty days plus six Sundays after Ash Wednesday. Louise Vento presented the Heritage Report, centering on the City of Los Gatos.

Pete Sanchez and Jesse Romero enticed the crowd with details of the upcoming Valentine’s Dinner Dance fundraiser. The event took place on Saturday, February 13th and had a large turnout! Money raised supports Seminarians, Oakland Children’s Research Hospital, St. Martin Parish,

and scholarships. Also, Branch #391 hosted Stations of the Cross at St. Martin of Tours parish on Friday, February 19th.

The meeting was concluded by celebrating birthdays and anniversaries.

Wishing you a festive St. Patrick’s Day,

Michael Amato and Bianca Vallorz

Sunnyvale

Resurrection, Br. 408

Get Ready for our annual PASTA Dinner which will be held in the Farana Center Saturday March 12. This is our big Fundraiser to support the Ressurrection School Children’s Participation at their 6th Grade Science Camp. We start serving at 6 PM and will conclude 7:30 PM. Please mark your calendar, buy some tickets and bring some friends.

Branch 408 kicked off the Lenten Season with the first Lenten Soup supper after the Stations of the Cross Devotional. We had plenty of delicious and good fellowship. We raised funds to help support our Seminarians.

Please remember to mail in your dues statements for 2016. We want to close this annual Taks out for this year.

A Day of Prayer lead by Father George Arahna will be held Saturday 2 April at Santa Teresa Parish. We look forward to a good turn out.

Please remember to include our sick members in your prayers - especially for Paul Blefari, Edith Novak, Al’s wife Syd, Carolyn O’Connor, John Parker’s wife Barbara, and MaryJo DiMuccio.

Morgan Hill

Santa Caterina D’Alessandria, Br. 435

Our branch had a wonderful dinner last month. Jim Friebel made delicious Polenta and Josie Talamo was our great cook making yummy Chicken Cacciatorie.

Our new President presided at her first dinner meeting and did a great job.

We also had a small raffle with great prizes. One of the prizes was a beautiful, large, handmade Cross mad be John Gillio.

Sylvia Sorci was the lucky winner.

Our next dinner meeting will be on Thursday, Feb. 18th. Hope to see you there.

Wishing us all a happy Valentine’s Day and keep in your prayers the sick and needy in all our lives.

Donna Basilin

Santa Rosa

Napa

Santa Rosa, Br. 12

Our February meeting was held in St. John’s Hall. We had a good showing of 21 members. One young man attended and will be joining at our March meeting. You noticed I said “young”. We had a delicious dinner with the cannelloni from FoodShed and a few members adding to the meal.

We discussed our responsibility for the August District Meeting and Bishop’s Day in October. For various reasons, it is becoming difficult for our Branch to find a hall, at one of our parishes. We are working on it. Our Chaplain Brother Paul McCarthy gave an inspiration talk for us to carry on thru the Lenten Season. May you all have a very spiritual 40 days and Happy Easter.

Ciao,

Juliann



The Santa Rosa District held its Installation of Officers on Saturday, January 23 at St. Francis, Sonoma. Br. 103, Sonoma hosted the installation. The day started with 12:00 Noon Mass celebrated by Fr. Alvin Villaruel, newly appointed Pastor of St. Francis, followed by the Installation conducted by Grand 1st Vice President Andy Pappani. A delicious lunch followed in the church hall. At the lunch, Past District President Dante Corsetti presented the 2015 District President’s Award to Bud and Tia Polley from Br. 209, Sebastopol.. Bud and Tia are deserving recipients for this honor based on their years of commitment and work for their branch. They were honored to receive the award. Central Council members in attendance included: Grand Secretary Lauren Kilcullen, Grand Trustee Denise Antonowicz and her mother, Marie, Past Grand President and Life Member Leonard Rossi and his wife, Karen, Life Members Emeritus and Past Grand Presidents Bob Acquistapace, Carmen Kilcullen and her husband, Larry. Santa Rosa District Deputy Kathy Acquistapace and Siria Pappani were also in attendance. The District thanks all the Central Council Members for coming.

Santa Rosa

Santa Rosa, Br. 18

“Be there,or be square!” This is our 2016 calendar of events; March 19th,Anniversary Dinner Dance,chicken& risotto by Randy Apel,May 7th Mothers Day Ham&roast potato dinner,October 8th prime rib Dinner,November 19th Festa D’Autunno polenta&stew dinner. All dinner dances listed to be accompanied by “Showcase Band” except October 8th which is dinner only.A ll the listed events @ \$20.00 and will be held at Scottish Rite Center; Highway #12(Sonoma Highway) and Acacia Lane. For reservations call Doreen O’Rourke,Tel: 707/525-0295. We are most fortunate to have two hard-working members such as Doreen O’Rourke and Butch Bondi helping to make our fund-raisers successful. A special thanks to our Branch Dep

y, Louise Vicino for her ongoing support and also to Larry Kilcullen and John Kennedy(Doreen O’Rourke’s brother) for serving as our charming bartenders for these past many years.A big welcome to Bill Occhipinit, our newest member. Keep bringing in those new members, we love them.

Happy Presidents and St. Valentines Days

Marie Canale

Healdsburg

St. Frances di Sales, Br. 52

Congratulations to our new members! At our January Polenta Dinner, we initiated our new members. Welcome to Branch 52!

Our 2nd Annual Fish Fry was a great success. Thank you to everyone who helped and everyone who attended! We were very pleased to honor John and Mary Del Monte for their many years of tireless dedication and hard work to make Br. 52 a vibrant and successful branch. Photos will be in the April Bollettino.

Upcoming Events:

March 1: Branch Meeting, 7 PM at the Rectory.

March 9: We will be hosting the weekly Parish Soup Supper.

For those of you who like to pre-plan, we will be having our 2nd Biannual Golf Tournament on October 9. Mark your calendars!

In honor of Dad, Mary and Monica - Happy St. Patrick’s Day!

Happy Easter!

Lauren Kilcullen

Sonoma

St. Sebastian, Br. 103

Branch 103 hosted the Santa Rosa District ICF Installation of Officers at St. Francis Solano Church in late January. Noon Mass was said by our new pastor, Fr. Alvin Villaruel, with assistance by the District ICF Chaplain, Fr. Thomas Devereaux; and Branch 103 EUs Mignacco-Dutil and Denning. The installing marshal was Andy Pappani, Grand 1st VP. The audience of Officers installed heard comments by District President Spence Burton and Grand 1st VP Pappani. A tasty lunch was offered in Fr. Roberts Hall, followed by a welcome from President of Branch 103 Wurst. Bud and Tia Polley were awarded the District President’s Award by Past District President Dante Corsetti. Unfortunately no photos are available at this time.

Our next dinner will be on March 8, 2016. For dinner reservations, call Lila at (707) 996-3448. Please note the cut-off dates for reservations printed in the Branch February newsletter.

Tanti saluti and Happy St. Patrick’s Day,

Marie-Therese Denning

Petaluma

St. Vincent, Br. 127

Greetings from Petaluma!

What a beautiful day to wake up to. Went to the kitchen, pulled up the blinds and enjoyed the birds bathing in the bird bath. I have so many different



Fr. Sean Rogers and Pres. Nancy Seppi are pictured with the newly installed members of Branch 52.



Branch 52 Pres. Nancy Seppi and Past Grand President Carmen Kilcullen with the cake for Br. 52's 80th Anniversary.

varieties of birds who enjoy my garden as much as I do. Even saw a tree full of blooms as I rounded the corner coming home from shopping. God is certainly good to us so enjoy all that he gives us in life and thank him daily.

This year the Branch has a full calendar. There are many dinner fundraisers planned, potluck meetings, quarterly communions, branch picnic, so make sure to check your Calendar of Events, so that you don't forget to attend and enjoy your time with your fellow members. Try to bring in new members and help support your President and the Branch.

Welcome to our new members Margaret and George Gambonini. May you enjoy the friendship of all in the Branch.

As always during Lent, we will be holding our annual St. Joseph's Table/Dinner (Festa di San Giuseppe) on Saturday, March 19th. The dinner will be held at the St. James Parish Hall, 125 Sonoma Mountain Parkway, Petaluma. Doors open at 6:00PM. Antipasti and cocktails: 6:15PM. The traditional all meatless "baked salmon" dinner will begin by 7:00PM (includes salad, pasta, baked salmon, dessert and wine). The event is open to the public, though seating is very limited! No tickets will be sold at the door. Reservations and Tickets MUST be purchased in advance. Cost: Adults: \$25. Children under 12: \$10. For more information - Phone: 707-763-9082. Email: Spence@ItalianCatholicFederation.com (leave a phone number (email address), at which you can be reached.) Mail your checks to ICF #127, P.O. Box 5522, Petaluma, CA 94955-5522. Checks should be made payable to: ICF #127.

At this time thoughts of the Cresci and Orlando families and all of their hard work, donations and love that went into the St. Joseph Dinners in the past come into my mind. I believe that they started the tradition of the Dinner because of their love and devotion to St. Joseph. Thank you and your families for all you did for the Branch for all these many years. Thinking of you Frank and Roseanne



Branch 52's youngest members show off their crazy hats at the branch's 3rd Annual Crazy Hat Contest at the January Polenta Dinner!

and hoping that you are both feeling better.

Feb. 21st - ICF District Meeting, St. James Parish Hall, 125 Sonoma Mt. Parkway, Petaluma from 1-4PM (Officers meet at noon in Room 9)

March 14th - Regular Meeting

March 19th - Quarterly Communion Mass at 5:00PM with St. Joseph's Table/Dinner to follow.

April/May - Bakeless Bake Sale Fundraiser

Get well wishes to Lillian Ward, Frank Cresci and to Spence Burton and to any other member who is ill. Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary wishes to those celebrating this month. Happy St. Patrick's Day and St. Joseph's Day to all. And a Happy Valentine's Day to everyone. Remember your loved ones at this time. To those of you who have lost loved ones, hold them in your heart as always and to those who still have parents, husbands or wives and children, hold them dear to your heart and show them all your love with a smile, a hug, a kiss and not just on Valentine's Day but every day that you are lucky to have them. I thank you all for your friendship and kindnesses and send you all hugs and best wishes for the best year ever.

Remember to be nice to someone, you will always get it back in return.

Ciao,

Louise Vicino

Arcata St. Mary, Br. 144

The February monthly meeting was called together by newly installed president, Judy Cardoza. Current slate of officers were acknowledged: Jacque Aseltine, Vice President; Joan Dal Porto, 2nd Vice President; Treasurer, Elena David; Maria Banca, Financial Secretary; Shannon Gier, Sentinel; Mary Tanferani, Oracle; and Mike Dal Porto, Deputy.

Rosemary Melendy was acknowledged for her award of the District's Presidential Award she received at the Installation Dinner held in January.

Presentation was made by Spence Burton, District President and Bob Acquistapace. It was well deserved for all the time and service Rosemary has given to our group, church, district and her friendship.

Motion and approval was made of a donation of \$500 to the Humboldt State Newman Club and their drive to attend the International Youth Conference in Poland later this year. This will also include a side trip to Rome and the Vatican.

Chairmen for Polenta Fund Raiser held here at St. Mary's in the February were assigned. Pete Stagnoli and Jim Spallino will the Master Chefs with assistance, of course.

Meager meal is scheduled for March 4th by our branch. Nel Mills will be the cook, with help.

Joan and Mike Dal Porto celebrated their 45th Anniversary of Marriage with cheers. Joan De Peel had a milestone Birthday.

Lorreta Speziale also celebrated a birthday in February.

Have a Great March!

Larry De Peel



Rosemary Melendy. District Presidential Award. Branch 144, presentation by Spence Burton, District President at the installation dinner.



Eureka

St. Ambrose, Br. 145

Our installation of officers took place on January 16. Officers from Arcata Branch 144 and Eureka Branch 145 were installed. This year the Arcata Branch hosted the event. As usual they provided us with delicious h'orderves followed by a delicious dinner. Thank you to all your members who made it such a fun event. It was also great to see Kathy and Bob Acquistapace. Kathy is recovering very well.

Our February 9th meeting was a "Fat Tuesday" potluck meal. Thank you to all of our great cooks who provided such great food!

Marian Griffin reported that our super bowl peanut butter and jelly drive was a great success. We received 94 containers of peanut butter and 70 containers of jelly. This will be of great help to Betty Chinn as she feeds numerous homeless people daily. Thank you all for reaching out to her cause. We can continue to receive these donations at any time. We will see to it that Betty gets them.

Our anniversary dinner will be on April 23. Please mark your calendars. More details to follow.

Deputy Mike Dal Porto suggested to us to make use of the Newman Club members for future events for serving, cleaning, etc. The students are always trying to earn money for school. It also shows them what we are about.

Joe Bonino gave short talk on the history of the Mardi Gras.

Before the close of the meeting we had a raffle of items donated by Betty and Gene Senestraro. Thank you both!

It is dues time again, please pay them promptly. Thank you.

Please pray for all members and their families, especially for the family of Leo Francesconi who recently passed.

Good Health and Much Peace to all,

Nancy Paoli



Branch 390 in Tracy has had a record year of new memberships and here are just some of the newest folks who have joined our humble ministry to make this the best year ever.

Sebastopol

St. Michael, Br. 209

For the month of February, members enjoyed a “Happy Valentine’s Day” potluck. The alphabet was broken up so that a certain number of members would bring soup, some would bring salad and others would bring dessert. Thanks to those who contributed to what resulted in a delicious meal!

Our Chicken & Polenta Dinner is scheduled for February 20th. At this writing, response has been good, so ticket sales are keeping me busy. No doubt this will be another sell-out.

Now I have just received the tickets for our popular “Fish Fry” which is scheduled for Friday, March 18th. This is a very popular event, so call me (Lona Bertoli) early for tickets. My phone number is (707) 527-1021.

Dues of \$34.80/member are payable now. Please send your payment to: Gerrie Goin, 1883 Paradise Lane, Santa Rosa, CA 95401.

Our next Bocce Tournament is scheduled for May 22nd. For details, call Candy Peters (707) 824-9467 or Tia Polley (707) 823-4971.

Upcoming:

March 1 -- Board Meeting

March 8 -- Regular Meeting

March 18 -- Fish Fry

Ciao,

Lona Bertoli

Stockton

Modesto

St. Stanislaus, Br. 48

Our St. Joseph’s Table Celebration will be March 20, 2016 at 2:00 pm. It is a potluck so bring your favorite dish, family and friends and join us.

There is always all kinds of great food and we have a lot of fun with the raffle. You never know what you will get in some of the packages. You will have a great time visiting with friends. The proceeds from the raffle will go St. Vincent De Paul.

We lost two of our members our prayers and sympathy go to the families of Laura Broggi who passed away October20, 2015 and Danny Minuzzo who passed away December 14, 2015.

Mass for our deceased members will be Sunday, March 20, 2016 and April 10, 2016 at the 8:00 am at the Maze Blvd. Church.

We wish a Blessed Easter to all our families and friends.

Coming up:

Mar 6 - Bishop’s Burse Angels Camp - mass at 10:15 am

Mar 9 - 7:00 pm Meeting in the hall 7 & K Streets - Modesto

March 20 -2:00 pm St. Joseph’s Table Potluck and drawing - Hall at 7 & K Streets

April - 13 - 7:00 pm Meeting in the hall 7 & K Streets

Cecelia McGhee

Manteca

Nostra Signora del Buon Viaggio, Br. 139

After a delicious meal prepared by Tony Queirolo, Branch President Frank Re conducted his first meeting of the new year on January 26 with a full agenda. Anna Mello gave a final report on our holiday biscotti sales. Over 730 bags of biscotti were baked and sold. It was again a sell-out.

Ida Queirolo reported that preliminary planning has begun for our annual “All You Can Eat” shrimp dinner, set for April 23. Tickets will be \$30 each and a raffle will be conducted. Raffle prizes are being donated by our membership, according to Dino Cunial.

Our parish has “soup suppers” every Monday during Lent and or branch will participate by making the soup on one of those Monday evenings. We will be busy all during the Lenten season with other parish activities.

The branch decided that we will once again have a booth at Lodi’s Festa Italiana on May 22.

Ciao,

Mariano

Tracy

St. Bernard, Br. 390

Fun times at Branch 390 everyone! We’ve decided to hold “Branch 390’s First Annual Sugo Competition!” This year’s Italian Heritage Night dinner meeting will be April 28 in Father Fleming Hall and the contestants are urged to bring two quarts of the best Italian home-made tomato sauce of their choice: marinara, bolognese, even Sicilian! We will provide little bits of bread to dip in the warm sauces and the members will be the judges. Grand prize is dinner for two. Can’t wait to see the photos of that night. Lots more in store for our annual “Italian Heritage Night” so stay tuned.

Getting back to our regular monthly dinner meeting schedule, March 31 menu will be Italian roasted chicken, Nonni’s potatoes and all the trimmings. We will also be selling tickets that night for the Scholarship Program Raffle. Tickets are \$20 - first prize is \$1,000, second prize is a Luxury Spa Basket, and third prize is \$100. Drawing will be at the April monthly dinner meeting.

Tracy Branch 390 hosted the Stockton District meeting on Sunday, February 21. Chuck Tuso made his fabulous breaded Italian chicken, and his sister Annette and her peeps made their tasty stuffed pasta shells. Those were just two of the dishes served! When you come to Tracy, buon appetito!

Let me see - have I missed any food announcements - I don’t think so. Enjoy doing this column when I get to talk about food, which is every month. Best of all, we have had a record year for signing up new members (see photo elsewhere in this section). Our parish ministry is important to us and as our membership grows, we are able to contribute more to worthy causes. We know the meetings are fun but

so are the Italian dishes enjoyed by all. Thanks to Mike Bacchetti and his crew, it’s like eating at the best Italian restaurant in town!

Ciao for now,

Betty Hollars

Tucson

Tucson

Our Lady of the Valley, Br. 425

Our ICF family is at peak activity through early April. Our major fundraiser is the Annual Lasagna Dinner serving 200+ sit down dinners and 225 take-out meals. Our members staff the assembly line to produce more than 50 baking pans of lasagna ready for the ovens...gather the crew that serves the dinners in the parish hall... organize the team that packages the hot take-out meals... and the work party that services the drive-through customers...

Bishop’s Day on the 12th of February...we’re joining with Branches 433 Saints Peter and Paul and Branch 434 Saint Elizabeth Ann Seaton for the event.

We are planning to improve the results of our St. Joseph’s Table meal...we find that we are feeding and funding ourselves...we need to make this a community-wide event...like the Lasagna Dinner.

We will conclude our fundraising with our Easter Cookie Sale at which we expect to sell more than 20 dozen cookies.

A corporate communion is planned after Easter. We are family.

Barbara Barton reporting.

ATTENTION CLASS:
ICF CENTRAL COUNCIL
PROUDLY PRESENTS
LATE NITE CATECHISM,
THE RAUCOUS, ROLLICKING
INTERNATIONAL HIT COMEDY
COMING TO HOLY NAME UNIVERSITY
REGENT'S THEATRE, OAKLAND!

Catechism classes are never as much fun - or as hilarious - as when they are led by Sister in the international hit comedy *Late Nite Catechism* by Vicki Quade and Maripat Donovan.

Late Nite Catechism is an uproarious piece of theater that takes audience members back - sometimes nostalgically, sometimes fearfully - to the children they once were. The irrepressible Sister teaches an adult catechism class to a roomful of “students” (the audience). Over the course of the play, Sister goes from benevolent instructor, rewarding the “students” for correct answers with glow-in-the-dark rosaries and laminated saint cards, to authoritative drill sergeant. These abrupt mood swings are bound to strike a resonant chord with everyone who survived the ups and downs of going to school, with an omniscient authoritarian at the helm.

Late Nite Catechism will be presented at Holy Names University Regents Theatre 3500 Mountain Blvd., Oakland, CA. Performance is **SATURDAY, APRIL 16TH 7:00 PM**
wine and cheese reception beginning at 5:30 PM
Tickets are \$40.00 Mezzanine and \$50.00 for Orchestra and Box seats, discounts available for groups of 10 or more and are available by calling brown paper tickets at 1-800-838-3006 ex 1, or on-line at <http://ICFLNC.brownpapertickets.com>

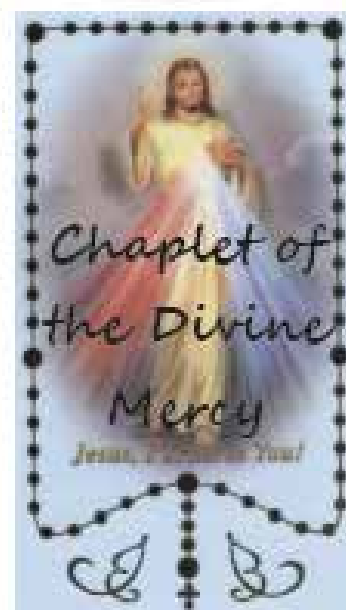
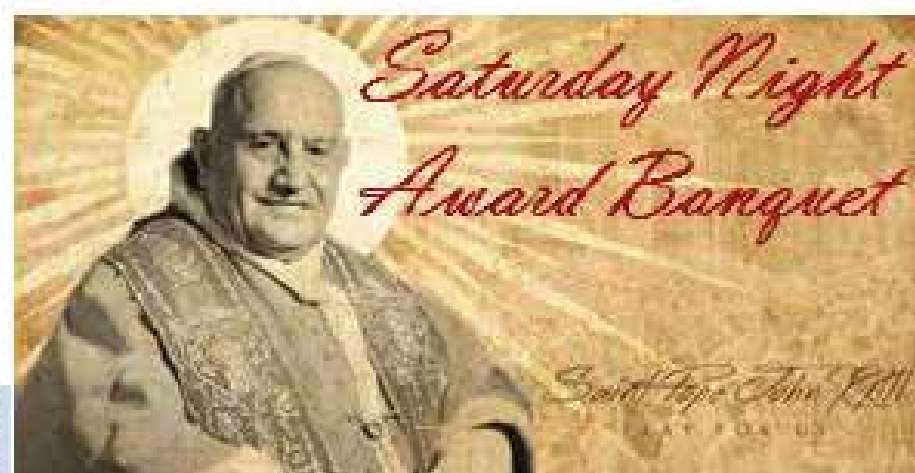
Italian Catholic Federation

Called To Be Merciful

2016 Convention – Fresno, CA

Friday, September 2 – Monday, September 5, 2016

CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS



T
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S



ICF Prom Night - Sunday



Convention Bylaw Submission Procedure

David Botta
Parliamentarian

Now comes the time of year that we must solicit proposals and/or amendments to the Branch Bylaws. The following is a brief review of the procedure followed in the ICF to accomplish this process and bring the proposals and/or amendments to the floor of the Annual Convention of the Italian Catholic Federation.

All branches are urged to consider, discuss and formulate a proposal to change, modify or abolish a bylaw as it pertains to all the Branches of the ICF. According to the Branch Bylaw Chapter XVII Art. 3 G proposals and/or amendments to the bylaws shall be submitted in writing (signed by the Branch President and Recording Secretary) to the Central Council Office not later than April 30, 2016. Branch bylaw change proposals may also come from the Central Council through the Bylaws Committee.

Such submitted proposals and/or amendments are forwarded to the Central Council Bylaws Committee for review, as to form and content. If a question exists relating to the submitted proposal, the Chairman of the Bylaws Committee will contact the submitting Branch for clarification and if necessary revisions to make the proposal acceptable.

It is helpful to present the original bylaw followed by a copy of the modified or changed bylaw with the changes in bold type. The insertions should be in italics and the deletions either in strike out text or underlined. The proposal must be accompanied by a well-reasoned rationale for the proposed change.

The Central Council through the Bylaws Committee is authorized to eliminate proposals: (1) that are unconstitutional, discriminatory (except as to the age for benefits) or infringing on the fundamental principles of the Federation, (2) proposals defeated at the immediate previous Annual Convention cannot be presented at the immediate next Convention, except if the Central Council approves the proposal for representation.

Once the proposal is found to be constitutional and acceptable in wording and content, the Bylaws Committee will present the proposals to the Central Council at the June meeting for their information. At this point the Bylaws Committee will "certify" the proposals, and announce they will be presented to the delegates at the next Annual Convention. The order of discussions of proposals at the Annual Convention are prepared in advance by the Parliamentarian and approved by the Central Council.

The proposals to be presented at the Annual Convention will be sent to the Branches in advance of the Convention for their discussion and consideration. At the Convention the proposals will be presented to the delegates for their vote. Matters presented by the Central Council will have precedence in the order of discussion.

Once passed by a majority vote of the delegates at the Annual Convention the adopted bylaw change is immediately effective.



Welcome to the world Baby Benjamin Levine!
Born February 5, 2016. See the story on page 3.

Dan Casagrande, MBA

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