



BOLLETTINO



Time to Make Convention Plans

The 2013 Convention in La Quinta, California will be held Friday, August 30, 2013 to Monday, September 2, 2013.

The theme for this year's Convention is: Living the Year of Faith.

The official Convention hotel is:

La Quinta Resort & Club, La Quinta, CA. To make a reservation call (800) 598-3828. The hotel is located at 49-499 Eisenhower Drive, La Quinta, CA 92253. Visit the link to hotel reservations on the hotel website for ease in reserving your room for the Convention.

The Room Rate is \$105.00 for single occupancy plus 13.2% (subject to change) tax and a \$5 resort fee. Double occupancy is \$110.00 13.2% (subject to change) tax and a \$5 resort fee.

The resort also charges \$3.00 per room, per day Housekeeping gratuity to your guestroom folio and recommends a gratuity of \$12.00 per person Porterage charge (includes both check-in and check-out).

Use Group Name "Italian Catholic Federation" or Convention Code "ZIC"

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Habemus Papam! We Have a Pope!

Monsignor Daniel Cardelli
ICF Spiritual Director
ICFspiritDir@aol.com

At 8:20pm (Italian time) on Wednesday, March 13, white smoke belled out of the chimney above the Sistine Chapel. Thousands of people in St. Peter's Basilica Square were cheering "Viva il Papa" and waving flags. Soon a Cardinal appeared to speak the Latin words proclaiming the new pope, "Habemus Papam." Then the new pope appeared at the window. His name is Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio, S.J. He was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, one of five children of Italian immigrants. His father, Mario Jose Bergoglio, was a railway worker; and his mother, Regina Maria Sivioli, was a homemaker. He has chosen the name Francis. His first official act was to ask the people to bless him. The whole square fell silent to pray for our new Pope! Then he spoke:

"Dear brothers and sisters,

Good evening. You know that the duty of the Conclave was to give Rome a bishop. It seems that my brother cardinals picked him from almost the ends of the earth. But here I am! I thank you for the warm welcome. The diocesan community of Rome has its bishop. Thank you! First and foremost, I would like to say a prayer for our Bishop Emeritus Benedict XVI. Let us pray together for him, that the Lord bless him and the Virgin keep him."



After leading the Our Father, Hail Mary, and the Glory Be, Pope Francis again addressed the crowd saying:

"And now let us begin this journey, bishop and people, this journey of the Church of Rome, which is the one that leads all the churches in charity. A journey of fraternity, of trust between us. Let us always pray for one another. Let us pray for the world so that this might be a great brotherhood. I hope that this journey of the Church that we begin today, and in which my Cardinal Vicar here present will assist me, will be fruitful for the evangelization of this beautiful city."

"Now I would like to impart the blessing, but first, first I ask a favor of you. Before the bishop blesses the people, I ask that you pray to the Lord that He bless me: the prayer of the people asking a blessing for their bishop. Let us pray in silence, this is

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Grand President's Monthly Message

Viva Il Papa!

As I am sure many of you were doing the same, my parents and I sat riveted to the TV waiting for the white smoke to rise. Knowing how much excitement and anticipation filled our home and yours, imagine the intensity of being right there. As we are all members of the ICF family, let us pray together as one for Pope Francis, as he sets out to be the new vicar of Christ.

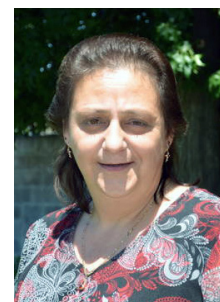
We are now nearing the end of the Lenten Season and approaching the festive day of Easter. We have the opportunity of putting to rest the past and of starting anew. More times than not the weather reciprocates with a beautiful day to add to the scene. As the crowds in Vatican Square and those of us at home rejoiced at the site of the white smoke, we can also rejoice as now our Lord Jesus has risen. This is a great feeling that we all can participate in.

All of us should be mindful of this feeling throughout the year. As long as we can carry with us the meaning of this wonderful day, we will have much less difficulty with spiritual trials that we may face during the year.

This Easter brings a new shepherd to the Catholic Church, new beginnings in our personal lives, and as such new beginnings to the ICF.

May all the members of the Italian Catholic Federation and their families enjoy a beautiful and Blessed Easter.

*Fraternally,
Jane Dianda
Grand President*



The 51st Annual Stockton District was held on St. Patrick's Day and hosted by Branch 390 at St. Bernard's Church, in Tracy. His Excellency Bishop Stephen E. Blaire, Grand President Jane Dianda, Past Grand President Jim Jones, Sir Robert Dianda, Mnsgr. Ivo Rocha, Stockton's District CC members Dante Galeazzi Life Member and Marco Galeazzi, District President Annete Elissagaray, along with eight supportive Central Council Members who participated with the Bishop Burse. Seminarians in the photo are Ceasar Martinez and Adrian Cisneros.

TIME SENSITIVE: PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY!

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UPCOMING:

2013 Bishops' Days:
Apr. 8 San Francisco
(San Francisco, San Mateo & Marin)
Apr. 21 Oakland (Contra Costa & East Bay)
Apr. 28 Chicago
Oct. 19 Santa Rosa
Oct. 20 Fresno
Oct. 27 Las Vegas
San Jose (Santa Clara Valley)
Nov. 3 Monterey (Central Coast)
Nov. 17 Los Angeles

2013 District Installations:
Apr. 25 Chicago

New Pope

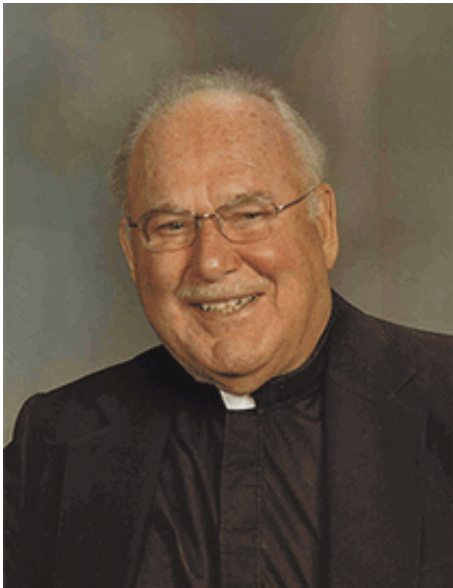
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your prayer for me.”

“Now I will impart the blessing to you and all the world, to all men and women of good will.”

After imparting the apostolic blessing, Pope Francis added: “Brothers and sisters, I take my leave. Thank you for your warm welcome. Tomorrow I’m going to pray to the Virgin, that she will safeguard all of Rome. Good night and rest well.”

The Italian Catholic Federation congratulates Pope Francis. We pray for him and wish him well in his role as the new head of the Catholic Church. VIVA IL PAPA FROM THE ICF!



**Awards
Deadline
Nears**

The deadline for submitting applications for the Pope John XXIII, Grand President, Mother Teresa, Family of the Year, and Young Adult Leadership Awards is May 1, 2013.

Membership Moment

Nancy Corsi
CC Grand Trustee
Membership Committee Member

Spring is in the air. The dawn of a new season is upon us. We have so much to be thankful for, in particular the fact that we are connected to such a wonderful group of people through our ICF. It is a new beginning and a time to refresh our focus. Like many of you, I have been a member for 40 + years. The ICF is a part of my family... a part of my life. In fact, I cannot imagine life without the ICF. I feel very blessed that I was introduced at a young age to the Federation, but also take into account that there are many of our new friends, new members who did not have that opportunity.

In honor of them I ask you to please open your hearts, branches, and districts and bring them in. Make them feel comfortable and welcome. We work so hard and sometimes may forget what it is like to be “the new kid on the block.”

Here is something I came across that I wanted to share as we think about recommitting our involvement with the ICF, our membership and open our hearts;

The Member Who Never Came Back

It amuses me to think that your organization spends so much time looking for new members when I was there all the time. Do you remember me? I’m the one who was asked to join. I paid my dues and then I was asked to be a loyal and faithful member. I’m the one who came to every meeting, but nobody paid attention to me. I tried several times to be friendly, but everyone seemed to have his or her friends to talk to and sit with. I sat down among some unfamiliar faces several times, but they didn’t pay much attention to me. I hoped that someone would ask me to join one of the committees or to somehow participate and contribute, but no one did. Finally, because of illness, I missed a meeting. The next month no one asked me where I had

been. I guess it didn’t matter very much whether I was there or not. On the next meeting date I decided to stay home and watch a good television program. When I attended the next meeting, no one asked me where I was the month before. You might say that I’m a good person, a good worker, and I love my community. You know who else I am?? I am the member who never came back. -Author Unknown

Open your hearts and renew the lifeline of Spring....Renew the lifeline of the ICF through our members.

**Membership Stats as of
July 1, 2012:**
11,212

Membership as of March 1 = 10,941

New:	571
Reinstated:	12
Transfer in/out:	29
Deceased:	182
Non-payment:	271
Cancellations:	401

High Five!

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

Contra Costa	+37
Blessed Sacrament	+23
San Gabriel	+15
Chicago	+06
Central Coast	+05

Congratulations to the following districts/areas who also have increased or maintained their membership: Tucson, Los Angeles, Reno, San Bernardino and Las Vegas.

Fourth Annual Seminarian Night Promises to be a Delicious Success

Pat Mages
Ways & Means Committee

Please join us for the ICF’s Fourth Annual Night for the Seminarians sponsored by the Ways & Means Committee. This year the event will be held at Our Lady of Grace Church in Castro Valley, June 1, 2013, 6pm to 11pm. It will be an evening of dining, dancing, fun and most importantly fundraising to support our seminarians.

Dance to the Big Band sounds of the “In Full Swing Band” and if you so choose you may wear your ‘Black Tie Clothes.’

The price is \$50. If you are unable to attend you may still support the event through sponsorship; paying for a (or several) seminarians, or other types of donations. This is the only fundraiser the Central Council

Ways & Means Committee sponsors, to support the Bishops’ Days donations.

Please contact Pat Mages for sponsorship and other additional information, (805) 492-9658,

email: pat.lou.mages@gmail.com;

1158 Calle Pinata, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360.

For dinner reservations contact Lisa Crudo: (510) 537-3256,

email:

Watkins6pk@aol.com

mail: 3718 September Ct., Castro Valley, CA 94546.

All reservations, sponsorships or other donations are to be sent to the Ways & Means Committee at the listed addresses.

Heritage Around the ICF

Louise Vento
Heritage Committee

Did you know 2013 is the year of Italian culture in the United States? The new Consul General of San Francisco, Mauro Battocchi, will be the driving force in the Bay Area behind the 2013 Anno Della Cultura Italiana - Year of Italian Culture, an ambitious campaign by Giulio Terzi, Italy's foreign minister, to create a new Renaissance and help Americans learn more about Italy. There is a detailed program that will take place in various cities around the country, such as New York to San Francisco, Washington to Chicago, with a series of very unique events that will highlight Italy's many contributions. (Like the 200th anniversary of the birth of Giuseppe Verdi.) There will be a great deal of collaboration with the Italian private sector as well as American and Italian American entities. Overall, this project aims to elevate the image of Italy. Italy's strengths are vast, just go into any museum in the world to recognize this, but the concept of culture goes beyond this and touches, for example, on design, technology, fashion, cars, art, cuisine, music and more. This project will be a year long journey that will communicate and promote Italy, engage and enthuse Americans, strengthen the

bonds that unite us and create new ones. It will be a journey that will reveal today's Italy, its brilliance and its excellence anchored in the present and driven by an unparalleled past. It will present an Italy of innovation, moving forward, engaged in projects and looking ahead. The concept of 2013 as a showcase of Italian culture and what it means to the American public is an ideal opportunity to promote Italy as a whole in both the cultural thematic and the economic features of the Italian brand. The approach is to strategically affirm the Italian system from the perspective of cultural economy, in other words, presenting culture not only in its traditional form of historical and artistic legacy, but as a dynamic asset that gives value to the whole system. The challenge for us as Italian Americans is to really understand and appreciate the evolution of the Italy of today, along with modern Italian thought as part of our heritage too, and not get stuck on over identifying with the historic divides of 18th -19th century Italy, or even our immigrant past. In other words we need to build upon a dialogue with Italy of today. As 2013 has been proclaimed the Year of Italian Culture, we will have ample opportunity to engage in these important history making events. (Taken from the IAHF Newsletter)

Scholarship Focus

Gregory Lima

Gregory Lima
The Catholic University of America
Mascot: The Catholic University of America Cardinal

A recipient of a 2012 ICF scholarship, Gregory writes, "I chose [to attend The Catholic University of America] because of its Roman Catholic identity which will facilitate my growth as a follower of Christ, the excellent Benjamin T. Rome School of Music, which will give me the training I need to pursue a career in the entertainment industry, and the university's location in the nation's capital, Washington, D.C., which will give me the opportunity to experience many different cultures and kinds of people."

Gregory is majoring in Vocal Performance because as he states, "God has graciously given me the talent of singing, which I have used extensively over the last four years, and I hope to honor Him by improving myself through my education." Gregory also looks forward to acting in campus productions: "Acting is very

important to me as well, and I plan to combine this passion with that of singing by participating in the musicals at CUA." Also, as a part of the Vocal Performance curriculum, Gregory will be taking a course in Italian! He enthusiastically writes, "I am tremendously proud to be a Catholic, and of course, Italiano!"

Gregory anticipates enjoying walking around CUA's beautiful campus, singing in the choir, playing intramural sports, and going to Mass in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

Receiving an ICF scholarship benefited Gregory because it helped to ease the financial burden of paying for a private education. He writes to the ICF, "Thank you so very much for your generosity! My family and I enjoyed our evening with the branch at our Lady of the Assumption in Claremont, where my scholarship was acknowledged."

His parents, Joseph and Mary Grace Lima, were members of the ICF branch at St. Louise de Marillac Parish in Covina, a branch that has closed.

The Ways and Means Committee announces
the Theme for the 2014 Fundraiser Calendar as

“Through The Years With The Italian Catholic Federation 1924 - 2014 Celebrating Our 90th Anniversary.”

The Ways and Means Committee will be planning and designing the
2014 Calendar.

Included in the calendar will be stories, facts and pictures in the 90 year history
of the Italian Catholic Federation.

We invite you once again to participate in the listing of not only Birthdays (yourself, your children, grandchildren, your parish priests or even friends) but this year Anniversaries (wedding, branch, priests' ordination anniversaries, etc.) and Religious Events or local Branch or Church Activities. The price schedule will be as follows:

\$10.00 for one name, \$15.00 for 2 names and \$20.00 for 4 names. Other numbers will be a combination of prices – for example 5 names will be \$30.00 (\$20.00 + \$10.00).

The deadline for the names and payments to be sent to the I.C.F. office will be
May 1, 2013.

The calendars are a big fundraiser for the Federation and we want to do all we
can to encourage members and friends to purchase one with your help.

Mail your list of names with birthdates, anniversaries, etc. and a check made
payable to the I.C.F. to:

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

The Committee thanks you for your participation. Chairperson: Franklyn
Lopes, Jr. and Members: Dante Galeazzi, Teresa Helfand (Chicago Only),
Patricia Mages, Andrew Pappani and Leonard Rossi.

MARCH CALENDAR WINNERS

DAY NAME	BR	CITY	WINS
3/1 Gina D'Amico		Campbell, CA	\$30
3/2 Rick Hanson		Tracy, CA	\$30
3/3 Kathy Nelson	150	Santa Rosa, CA	\$30
3/4 Lynn Stornetta-Green	18	Santa Rosa, CA	\$30
3/5 Valerie Hashim	281	Bakersfield, CA	\$30
3/6 Thelma Cavazos		Merced, CA	\$30
3/7 Kathleen Crespi		Murphys, CA	\$30
3/8 Judy Longawa	195	Calumet City, IL	\$30
3/9 Branch 198		Santa Rosa, CA	\$30
3/10 Peggy Barbato	32	Clovis, CA	\$30
3/11 Mike Descalso	39	San Carlos, CA	\$30
3/12 Kyle Porter		El Dorado Hills, CA	\$30
3/13 Elaine Bersano	237	Los Angeles, CA	\$30
3/14 Michele Vasquez	191	Campbell, CA	\$30
3/15 Michael Ornelas		Merced, CA	\$30
3/16 Joseph J. Gianquinto	281	Bakersfield, CA	\$30
3/17 Cindy McBride	419	Sacramento, CA	\$50
3/18 Stephanie Peterson		Mountlake Terrace, WA	\$30
3/19 Lisa & Larry Andrini		Moss Beach, CA	\$50
3/20 Cav. Liana G. Figone	50	San Francisco, CA	\$30
3/21 Mary Ann Miller	308	Fresno, CA	\$30
3/22 JoAnn Dorn	10	Alameda, CA	\$30
3/23 Emmett Schumer		Martinez, CA	\$30
3/24 Teresa Shimshock		Shoreview, MN	\$30
3/25 Bernie Gach		Merced, CA	\$30
3/26 Barbara Airoidi	227	Capitola, CA	\$30
3/27 Mary-Jo Stavros	39	Atwater, CA	\$30
3/28 Larry Pricolo	308	Fresno, CA	\$40
3/29 Most Rev. Armando X. Ochoa		Fresno, CA	\$50
3/30 Antoinette Rando	118	Los Angeles, CA	\$50
3/31 Alva Garibaldi	395	Stockton, CA	\$100

SEE THESE FIRST ON OUR WEB SITE: ICF.ORG

Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza
Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations*

IN MEMORY OF:	DONATED BY:
Emerson Heinen	Nina and Natalie Malone
John Cleary	Officers/Members of Br. 367
Mike Lesky	Officers/Members of Br. 362
Mary Santaferraro	Lorraine and Mike Nunziata
Mary Santaferraro	Mike and Marcie Rossi
John Cleary	Mary Romitti
Larry Di Tano	Officers/Members of Br. 21
August Bassano	Officers/Members of Br. 21
Mary Santaferraro	Bob Basuino
Rosella Ferlazzo	Officers/Members of Br. 362
Hope Baird	Anna Nanna
Mary Santaferraro	Officers/Members of Br. 408
Gloria Taormina	Mr. Steve Crisafi
Leno Freschet	Eda Rossetto
Angelina Schrader	Doris and Mary Onetti
Angelina Schrader	Romolo and Lorraine Iavarone
Antoinette La Cavera	Romolo and Lorraine Iavarone
Evan Rossi	Mike and Marcie Rossi
Joe Favazza	Mike and Marcie Rossi
GET WELL WISHES:	
Dominic La Russa	Forrest and Prudence Price
Lori Poli	Giovanni and Nancy Corsi
Bob Ludlow	Anna Nanna
Nancy Van Tricht	Anna Nanna
Aurora Roselli	The Kilcullen Family
Lucio Zanin	Officers/Members of Br. 367
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Dianne Vatalare	Officers/Members of Br. 367
Father Sam Falbo	Officers/Members of Br. 367
Joe Donato	Officers/Members of Br. 367
Joyce Nuti	Officers/Members of Br. 290
Josephine Wallace	Officers/Members of Br. 290
Catherine Folino	Officers/Members of Br. 290
Father Bill Pegnam	Joan and Jerry Delfino

*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.

In Loving Memory

Report Date: 03/15/2013		JOSEPHINE L BRUNO	Branch 210
		MARIE CALABRESE	Branch 218
MARY MACALUSO	Branch 004	LORRAINE LUCERO	Branch 218
ALDO GUASTAPAGLIA	Branch 005	ANGELINA PUBLICO	Branch 237
PETRA IGNOFFO	Branch 005	EVA MARTINI	Branch 258
HAZEL HERRERA	Branch 010	NILA BAYLO	Branch 303
ANTONIO RATTO	Branch 010	ROSELLA T FERLAZZO	Branch 362
MARJORIE SIMICH	Branch 012	MICHAEL P LESKY	Branch 362
MARY CHIAPPARI	Branch 019	FRANK J DE RENZI	Branch 365
JOSEPH FAVAZZA	Branch 036	LOUIS MENDIETA	Branch 365
JAMES CAVALLA	Branch 039	EDWARD O’MALLEY	Branch 365
ALBERTINA L MARTINELLI		ANGELA V PRIVITELLI	Branch 379
	Branch 039	WILLIAM R BRENKWITZ	Branch 390
PETER J HOLEWINSKI	Branch 052	ADELINE L DE LUNA	Branch 391
BELMA BORRELLI	Branch 054	EVA CAVALLI	Branch 395
YVONNE ANDERSON	Branch 103	MINNIE INFELISE	Branch 395
ALBERT MOISIO	Branch 173	MARY SANTAFERRARO	Branch 408
NETTIE ARMAS	Branch 185		

Scholarship Donations

Scholarship Donations - 1 st Year	Laura Angelino
Johanna Tacci	In memory of Gwendolyn Altenburg-
In memory of Lisa Seifert	Gillott

Gifts of Love D o n a t i o n s

Branch 4	Officers/Members of Br. 435
Officers/Members of Br. 435	In memory of James A. Mammini
In memory of Lisa Gallego Seifert	Officers/Members of Br. 5
Holy Cross Ladies Guild	In memory of Petra Ignoffo
In honor of the Past President of Holy	Holy Cross Ladies Guild
Cross Ladies Guild	In memory of Ed Narcisso
Holy Cross Ladies Guild	Joe and Rose Frankina
In memory of Rose Santanocito	In memory of Mary Santaferraro
Bea Cunha	Bea Cunha
In memory of Earl Gonzales	In honor of the birthday of Dawn
Officers/Members of Br. 5	Waterhouse
In memory of Gino Barsanti	Officers/Members of Br. 4
Bob and Elaine Osorio	In memory of Mary Macaluso
In memory of Mary Santaferraro	Ann Fitzgerald and Daughters
Russ and Louise Vento	In memory of Mary Macaluso
In memory of Mary Zerrilla	Joan and Jerry Delfino
Mara Barsotti Millis	In memory of Mary Chiappari
In memory of Kathleen McKenney	Marian Papageorgiou
Joan and Jerry Delfino	In memory of Mary Chiappari
In memory of Jake Jacobs	Donna Basilin
Johanna Tacci	In memory of Louis Costabile
In memory of Jim Mammini	Bev Maloney
Fulvia Bettinzoli	In memory of Auntie Rose
In memory of Vincent Corsaro	Joe and Mabel Teresi
Steve and Charlene Drobeck	Get well wishes for Aldine Grisenti
In memory of Rosella Ferlazzo	Paul and Dolores Blefari
Steve and Charlene Drobeck	In memory of Mary Santaferraro
In memory of Mike Lesky	
Eva Stern	
In memory of Mary Santaferraro	

Benvenuti Membri Nuovi

Report Date: 03/15/2013		TERI L CARRANO	Branch 218
		CAROLYN FLACH	Branch 218
MICHAEL E BOWMAN	Branch 014	DANIEL J GRABO	Branch 218
SANDRA M BOWMAN	Branch 014	JANET R GRABO	Branch 218
FRANK KELLY	Branch 014	ROBERT KEELER	Branch 218
PATRICIA A SULLIVAN	Branch 014	MARIE PARISI	Branch 218
BEVERLY C THOMAS	Branch 014	LARRY G ROVARINO	Branch 218
MIKE B THOMAS	Branch 014	DENNIS MARTINELLI	Branch 281
CAROL A GHIO	Branch 021	DOMINIC A CARROLL	Branch 291
EUGENE J GHIO	Branch 021	GISELLA L CARROLL	Branch 291
JONATHAN H ELLIS	Branch 026	LORENA C CARROLL	Branch 291
LINDA WOOD	Branch 028	MICHAEL D CARROLL	Branch 291
RITA J TOSCANO	Branch 031	DEAN CASTELLINO	Branch 291
MAURICE DE BENEDETTO		LUCAS S CASTELLINO	Branch 291
	Branch 032	NORMA CASTELLINO	Branch 291
CLAIRE PISCHING	Branch 032	SARAH J CASTELLINO	Branch 291
CHRISTINA A FANUCCHI	Branch 033	ZACHARY T CASTELLINO	Branch 291
HORACE BATTAGLIA	Branch 036	ABBEY G GIUFFRIDA	Branch 291
JOANNE BATTAGLIA	Branch 036	CRYSTINA L GIUFFRIDA	Branch 291
GORDON P CANEPA	Branch 036	MATTHEW A GIUFFRIDA	Branch 291
ROSE CATALANO	Branch 036	JOHN (JACK) A KRESS	Branch 291
ROBERT V ENEA	Branch 036	SUZANNE S KRESS	Branch 291
SIL LOMBARDI	Branch 050	ANDREW C ORR	Branch 291
MARCELLA RAMOS	Branch 050	ANDRIA D ORR	Branch 291
KATHLEEN PONZO	Branch 052	DEVIN J ORR	Branch 291
BETTE JO REICH	Branch 052	MICHAEL A ORR	Branch 291
GLENN REICH	Branch 052	OWEN R ORR	Branch 291
DIANE K STERN	Branch 052	REV LUCAS CHACHA	Branch 327
CARRIE A MARCELLETTI	Branch 108	AGGIE M ADAMS	Branch 342
MONICA MARCELLETTI	Branch 108	JOE E MIKLES	Branch 342
TOMMY MARCELLETTI	Branch 108	SHIRLEY MOSER	Branch 352
GIUSEPPE SCOTTI	Branch 115	ANN R RUSSELLO	Branch 352
JUDITH A CARDOZA	Branch 144	CAROL GUALCO	Branch 365
DINA M MACDONALD	Branch 144	WILLIAM IRWIN	Branch 365
PATRICIA MACDONALD	Branch 144	JOSEPH LAYTON	Branch 374
ROGER MACDONALD	Branch 144	GIUSEPPINA CIRRINGIONE	
SABRINA MACDONALD	Branch 144		Branch 392
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	Branch 184	TIMOTHY A BASALONE	Branch 406
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ROBERT T ESERINI	Branch 213	LORRAINE ACQUAVIVA	Branch 425
VICKY V MARLAR	Branch 215	PAUL ACQUAVIVA	Branch 425
PAUL JOSEPH EMERICK	Branch 217	JACK R BAGAR	Branch 432
SHINTIA WINARDI EMERICK		JUDYANN M BAGAR	Branch 432
	Branch 217	JODY SODARO	Branch 432
KATHIE R FLEMINGTON	Branch 217	JOHN SODARO	Branch 432
STEPHANIE PIA KNICKERBOCKER		FRANK C STAGNITTO	Branch 432
	Branch 217	ROSALIE M STAGNITTO	Branch 432
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Cooley's Corner

Thalassemia Research Update Good Vibrations Study

Ellen Fung, PhD RD Associate
Research Scientist Department
of Hematology -
Children's Hospital Research
Center Oakland

Patients with thalassemia have many risk factors for bone fracture. Currently there are no non-drug therapies available to patients to help build strong bones. Therefore, the "Good Vibrations" research study was conducted at the Children's Hospital & Research Center Oakland (CHRCO), between March, 2010 and December, 2011. The intervention consisted of subjects standing on a vibrating platform (the size of a large bathroom scale), for 20 minutes a day, 6 days per week for 6 months. Eighteen patients completed the study, and though it was a rather small group, we found that the vibration platform did improve bone health. Whole body bone mineral content increased by 2.6% and bone mineral density by 1.3% in the adult patients after just 6 months. Though these appear to be small changes, they are quite exciting for such a small group of subjects in a short period of time. The results are not as clear

for the adolescent subjects in the study. This is the first report using this technology (low magnitude mechanical stimulation) to improve bone density in patients with thalassemia. The results suggest promise for this noninvasive intervention in a group of patients with significant risk for bone pain and fracture. The results were recently published in the American Journal of Hematology (Fung EB et al. The effect of whole body vibration therapy on bone density in patients with thalassemia: a pilot study. AJH 2012;87:10:E76-9).

Many patients are frequently asked to participate in research studies at CHRCO, and we are so grateful that you are willing to do so. It is because of the patients and their efforts that research such as this can be done and new types of therapies can be tested. "Vibration platform therapy" is still quite expensive (currently \$1,650 per platform), and it is not covered by insurance. However, now that we have shown it can be successful in thalassemia, perhaps we can encourage insurers to invest in these types of therapies. Thank you to the ICF for helping to fund thalassemia research at CHRCO.

Children's Hospital Activities (Desferal Activities) in Need of Funds

Jim Acitelli
Apostolate/Charity Chairperson

Our Apostolate Charity year began in September 2012 and ends in August 2013. Your support and generosity to our National Charity, Cooley's Anemia, has been overwhelming and I am proud to be associated with this program and with you who support it with your hearts and your fundraisers.

Each year, Oakland Children's Hospital sponsors several activities for the Cooley's Anemia patients which they treat. The hospital has redesigned their program to better fit the needs of patients and families as they deal with changing demographics and an aging population. Due to your generous donations in the past, we have participated as a sponsor for their wonderful programs. Last year, we were able to donate \$2,225.00. This money is used to help with a Patient BBQ in July and a Teen/Adult Weekend Retreat in the Fall. There are also small gatherings at the Day Hospital for when the children receive

blood transfusions. This year we want to continue our program whereby we offer them support, but we need to once again ask our Districts, Branches and Individual Members to take part and send in donations. Please discuss this at your meetings and consider sending in a donation in whatever amount you are able to give towards this very worthwhile program.

A time of recreation among friends is not something many of these children/young adults or their families can afford and we have the opportunity to help make fun and healthy experiences available to them. Please consider making a donation to help bring these events into their lives.

The deadline for contributions is June 30th. Please make your check payable to Italian Catholic Federation, memo it "Children's Hospital Activities Donation" and mail it to the I.C.F. Office, 8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110, Oakland, CA 94621.

As a reminder, please submit your Apostolate Charity report on or before July 15, 2013.

Thank you.

Live to Give

The Blood Donation Process

It will take approximately one hour for your entire blood donation appointment. It is advised that before your donation, you eat a well-balanced meal.

Step 1: Registration

You will be asked to provide some basic information (name, address, age, etc.) You must also present official identification with a photo or signature (driver's license, passport, etc.)

Step 2: Medical History and Mini-Physical

A medical history is taken and then a drop of blood is analyzed for hemoglobin content; then your pulse, blood pressure and temperature are checked.

Step 3: Blood Donation

A phlebotomist will cleanse and sterilize your arm before inserting a needle. The needle is sterile, used only once and then disposed. After seven to 10 minutes, you will have donated the "gift of life".

Step 4: Rest and Refreshments

Relax and enjoy fruit juices, cookies and assorted snacks after your donation.

In the next several hours, your blood donation will be tested, typed and separated into various components to be safely transfused into a patient. You can donate blood every 56 days or six times a year.

After your donation, it is recommended that you continue to drink plenty of fluids and not do any strenuous exercise for at least four to five hours.

What Type Are You? Blood Type Breakdown by Population

O positive	38%	O negative	7%
A positive	34%	A negative	6%
B positive	9%	B negative	2%
AB positive	3%	AB negative	1%

Blood Usage for Various Medical Conditions

Type of Ailment/Type of Blood Used/
Average Amounts of Units needed

**Shock Trauma (accidents, burns
and puncture wounds)**

Red cells and/or plasma - 6 units or more

Open Heart Surgery

Red cells - 6 to 8 units

Leukemia

Platelets - 100 units

Sickle Cell Anemia

Red cells - 5 units per year

Caesarean Section

Red cells - 3 units

Liver Transplant

Various blood products - 40 to 50 units

Cooley's Anemia

Red cells - 1 unit every 3 weeks for life

Hip Replacement Surgery

Red cells - 8 units

Bone Fractures

Red cells - 6 units

 **Blood Centers
of the Pacific**

1.888.393.GIVE
www.bloodcenters.org

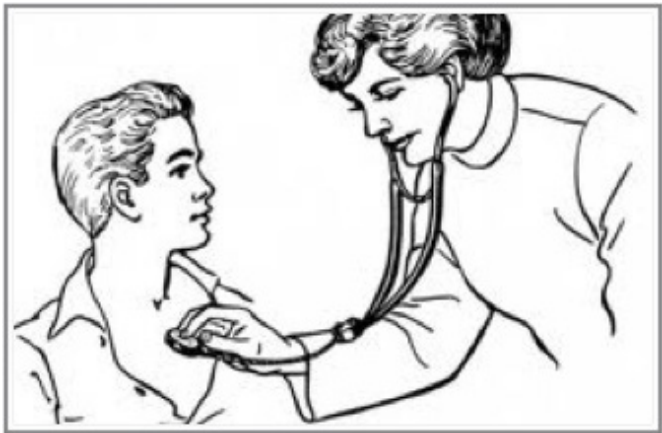
Cooley's Anemia Donations

Branch 4	Donna Basilin
Branch 4	In memory of Lisa Seifert
Branch 391	Mr. Charles P. Gullo, Jr.
	In memory of J.V. Kuzinich

Consider Joining the ICF Hospital Plan

\$25 / Year

provides benefits for
hospitalization and surgeries



(in-patient and out patient)
Contact the ICF Office for more details.
1-888-ICF-1924

BOOK REVIEW

Vince Piro

Also ONLINE AT ICF.ORG

Various Travel Books for 2013

As you prepare for spring and summer vacations, it is always a good idea to consult several reference books that can guide you during your preparations and travels. Fortunately, several excellent travel books exist for those who wish to travel to Italy. Many of these popular titles have been updated for 2013 and are now available as e-books for your tablet or computer. Most of the titles listed here should be available from your local bookseller or from online booksellers.

Eyewitness Travel Guide: Italy

This book “leads you straight to the best attractions Italy’s kaleidoscope of regions has to offer. Packed with photographs, illustrations and detailed maps the guide explores every facet that makes the country irresistible — from the Alps in the north to the sun-blessed Mediterranean shores of the south. This guide provides all the insider tips every visitor needs, from soaking up the romance of Verona, basking in the warm evening sun in Tuscany, or gazing at the ancient ruins lining the streets of Rome. There are comprehensive listings of the best hotels, villas, resorts, restaurants, and nightlife in each region for all budgets, as well as 3D cutaways and floor-plans of all the must-see sites plus street-by-street maps of the major cities and towns. DK’s Eyewitness Travel Guide: Italy explores the history, classical origins, architecture and art of this stylish and charismatic country — and still finds room to recommend a wine to go with the risi e bisi or the maccheroni con le sarde. With up-to-date information on



getting around by train, boat, car, walking in cities and all the sights, beaches, and resorts listed town by town, Eyewitness Travel Guide: Italy is truly indispensable.”

Rick Steve’s Italy 2013

Rick Steve’s popular television series Rick Steves’ Europe is the inspiration for this travel guide. “With this book, you’ll trace Italian culture from Rome’s Colosseum to Michelangelo’s David to the bustling elegance of Milan. Experience the art-drenched cities of Venice and Florence, explore the ancient ruins of the Roman Forum, and learn how to avoid the lines at the most popular museums. Discover the villages of Tuscany and Umbria and the lazy rhythms of the Cinque Terre. Shop at local market stalls, sip a cappuccino at an outdoor café, and pick up a picnic lunch at an allimentari . . . Rick’s candid, humorous advice will guide you to good-value hotels and restaurants. He’ll help you plan where to go and what to see, depending on the length of your trip. You’ll get up-to-date recommendations about what is worth your time and money. More than just reviews and directions, a Rick Steves guidebook is a tour guide in your pocket.”

Eyewitness Travel Family Guide Italy

Going to Italy with children? “This new guidebook series gives parents with kids between the ages of four and twelve the insider background they need to plan vacations that everyone in the family will enjoy. It features “hubs, built around major sights; a dedicated ‘Kids Corners’ feature cartoons, quizzes, puzzles, games

and riddles to inform, bamboozle and entertain young travelers; ‘Let off steam’ suggestions and eating options around all ‘hubs’ enable the entire family to recharge their batteries; maps outlining the nearest parks, playgrounds and public toilet . . .” It is ‘written by parents who understand the need to keep the children entertained while enjoying their time together, Eyewitness Travel Family Guides offer child-friendly sleeping and eating options, detailed maps of main sightseeing areas, travel info, budget guidance, age range suitability and activities for Italy. The Eyewitness Travel Family Guides are the ultimate key to a stress-free vacation. Activities in this volume include “visiting the Colosseum in Rome, experiencing the Basilica di San Marco, discovering the Uffizi Gallery in Florence, and exploring the Duomo in Milan.” There are Eyewitness Travel Family Guides for southern Italy and the island available as e-books.

Lonely Planet Italy

This is Lonely Planet’s #1 selling European country guide. “This full-color guide with 3D illustrations of major highlights and insightful features on seasonal and regional food and outdoor activities is essential for those wanting to see the best Italy has to offer.” It includes “15 authors, 13 volcanoes, 7600 km of coastline and hundreds of Renaissance masterpieces, Inspirational photos, pull-out city map, 3D plans of iconic sights, comprehensive planning tools, special Eat & Drink Like a Local feature and in-depth background.”

Fodor’s Italy 2013

This guide “is the essential take-along companion. With hundreds of full-color photos, this updated edition highlights everything that visitors adore—from Italy’s art and architecture to glorious Tuscan hill towns to red-hot nightlife, and even more.” Fodor’s now includes expanded coverage: “Fodor’s Italy 2013 continues to provide thorough, insightful coverage to this year-after-year top European destination. Dozens of scintillating new reviews are sure to

entice first- and even old-timers to hotels and restaurants scattered throughout Rome, Venice, and Florence. Establishments in farther-flung cities and towns are also given their due, and look for deeper coverage of trendy southern Italy destinations, such as Sicily, Puglia, and Basilicata.” As with other Fodor Guides, this guide has “multiple full-color features bring the many sides of Italy to vibrant life. Included among the photogenic array of riches are the ancient ruins of Rome, Sicily, and Pompeii; Michelangelo’s spectacular Sistine Ceiling, Palladio’s villas, Florence’s Duomo, and Assisi’s basilica of St. Francis; the vineyards of Barolo and Tuscany; the scenic glory of the Cinque Terre and Venice’s Grand Canal; the fashionista’s fascinating Milan; and more.” It also contains Indispensable Trip Planning Tools, such as “convenient overviews show[ing] each region and its notable highlights, and chapter planning sections [with] savvy advice for making the most of travelers’ time, with top tips on getting from cities to countryside villages. Enticing cuisine highlights are given in each regional chapter.”

Lonely Planet’s ‘Not for Parents’ Rome - Tablet Edition

This title is available as a paperback or ebook for the iPad and other tablets. As the publisher notes, “This is not a guidebook. And it is definitely ‘not-for-parents’. It is the real, inside story about one of the world’s most famous cities – Rome. If you were a cat why would you want to live in Rome? Would you want to go to the bathroom with dozens of other people? Can you imagine eating a flamingo’s tongue for lunch? Why do they fire a cannon every day in Rome? This book shows you a Rome your parents probably don’t even know about. Featuring over 12,000 words and 400 photos, maps and illustrations, Lonely Planet’s new Not for Parents: Rome opens up a world of intriguing stories and fascinating facts about one of the world’s most exciting cities.” You can download the FREE Not for Parents eBook to get a sample of the entire Not for Parents series.”

La Celebrazione di Gioventu -- The Celebration of Youth Celebrating the ICF

Color the ICF Emblem.

F = Faith

P = Patria (Fatherland)

I = Italy

A = America



Convention By-Law Submission Procedure

Leonard Rossi
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, 2013. 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.

SAVE THE DATE!

It is hard to believe, but Grand President Jane Dianda's two year term is almost over! Please put November 2, 2013 on your calendars as a day to celebrate -- and roast -- the grand presidency of Jane Dianda. More details on the Testimonial Dinner will be in the next issue of the Bollettino.



Italian Catholic Federation Thirteenth Annual

GOLF TOURNAMENT



DATE:

FRIDAY, JULY 19, 2013

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 -

RAFFLE:

Sumptuous Four Course Dinner

PRICE:

There will be a raffle with stupendous prizes!

Golfers: \$135 (includes hot buffet breakfast, 18 holes of golf with cart and banquet.) After July 12th, the price per golfer is \$150. Banquet only: \$35

RESERVATION DEADLINE: JULY 12, 2013

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

SIGN UP:

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

Banquet only



Make check for total amount (\$135 per player plus \$35 per banquet guest), payable to the I.C.F. Golf Tournament, and send to the address below before the July 12th deadline.

Remember: \$150 per player after July 12th.

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, 8393 Capwell Drive, # 110, Oakland, CA 94621 • 888-423-1924 • FAX: (510) 633-9758 • Web Site: icf.org • E-mail: info@icf.org

Convention

continued from page 1

when booking your reservation.

There is complimentary, self and valet parking.

Transportation to/from Palm Springs Int'l Airport: Palm Spring Int'l Airport is approximately 23 miles southwest from the resort. For public transportation (taxis/shuttle services) and rental car information, please visit www.palmspringsca.gov. La Quinta Resort does not offer shuttle service from Palm Springs Int'l Airport. Transportation to/from Ontario Int'l Airport: Ontario Int'l Airport is approximately 91 miles northwest from the resort. For public transportation and rental car information, please visit www.lawa.org.

Transportation to/from LAX: LAX is approximately 145 miles west of the resort. For public transportation and rental car information, please visit www.lawa.org.

Reservation Deadline is Monday, July 29, 2013. After this date, reservations will be accepted at the best available rate based on availability. To avoid lost reservations and reservation errors, we will no longer provide reservation forms. You must call the resort or go to their website to make

your reservations.

AIRLINES - NO CONTRACTS - JUST GO ONLINE OR CALL DIRECT

Here are a few:

Alaska Airlines: 1-800-252-7522

www.alaskaair.com

American Airlines: 1-800-433-7300

www.aa.com

Delta Airlines: 1-800-221-1212

www.delta.com

United Airlines: 1-800-241-6522

www.ual.com

US Airways: 1-800-428-4322

www.usairways.com

For more information on flights and approx. prices/contacts for services, visit www.palmspringsca.gov.

We did not provide information on AMTRAK, this year, due to distance from the resort and it is only an outside shelter - there is not an AMTRAK station with staff.

PLEASE SHARE THE ABOVE INFORMATION WITH YOUR DELEGATES!

If you have any questions, please call the I.C.F. Office toll-free at 1-888-423-1924

Celebrating St. Joseph's Day Around the LA District



Chicago

Franklin Park

St. Gertrudes, Br. 181

Happy spring everyone.

Angie Pascasio stayed in Florida to help her sister Rae who had a serious health problem.

Happy April birthday to Angie Campabasso and Father Al Carbo.

Congratulation to Gene and Chris Melone who will be celebrating Their 57th anniversary this month

Important dates

April 25 - installation all officers at St. Bernadines 6:30 starting with mass April 28 Bishops dinner dance at Alta Villa Banquet hall, \$50:00 per person. 3:30 cocktails dinner 4:30.

Please continue to pray for all our sick members and there familys. Be sure to call first, Virginia Occhipinti would enjoy a visit.
Pray for world peace
Barbara Miller

Calumet City

St. Victor, Br. 195

Our celebration of St. Joseph began with 10:30am Mass on March 17, and had Bishop Joseph Perry as the main celebrant. It was followed by our TAVOLA dinner. It

included our celebration of Pope Francis' ascension to the papacy. We view with joy and pride that his actual installation will take place on March 19, St. Joseph's Day. St Joseph's Day is special to Branch 195. More than 500 guests were served at our TAVOLA, after a special greeting by 195's president Mary Alice Kelly, as they waited to be served. All were in a celebratory frame of mind. Mary Alice led a procession to our mass. The selection and announcement of Francis as our Pope dwarfs any other detail of our TAVOLA. We pray for Pope Francis and for ourselves and for the whole world as he has asked us to do. Please keep Leonard Longawa and Frank Sidote in your prayers, while they undergo rehabilitation.

God Bless,
Jo Merlo

River Forest

St. Vincent Ferrer, Br. 358

Spring has finally arrived, "Prima Vera" and we have survived or cold, snowy, blistering Chicago weather.

A blessed and happy wedding anniversary to Frank and Teresa Cairo.

A beautiful reflection from the Salesian book:

Sure, it takes a lot of courage
To put things in God's hands
To give ourselves completely,
Our lives, our hopes, our plans;

To follow where He leads us
And make his will our own
But all it takes is foolishness
To go the way alone.

We celebrate the feast day of St. Vincent Ferrer on April 5. Born in 1350 in Spain, St. Vincent was the fourth child of the Anglo-Scottish nobleman William Stewart Ferrer and his Spanish wife. Before joining the Dominicans, he read solely Sacred Scripture and eventually committed it to memory. For twenty-one years he spent his life preaching in England, Scotland, Ireland, Spain, France, Switzerland and Italy. He became of Master of Sacred Theology bringing thousands to a better life. Thousands were converted - kings, queens, and civic magistrates sought his counsel. St. Vincent Ferrer died in France at the age of 69.

Please pray for our sick members, especially Teresa Cairo, Mario Dato, RoseMarie Cortiletti, Lena Gatto and Dr. Santina Litturi.
Ciao,
Caterina Renzi-Comisky

Chicago

St. Francis Borgia, Br. 392

Salve! Hope everyone had a wonderful Easter! I take this opportunity to thank our Maria Perna for surprising everyone with "a taste of Sicily" during our February 25 general meeting. The "pane e panelle" (made by our Concetta DiPiazza) and the "arancini" were

delicious!

March was a busy month at Branch 392 as we prepared to host our annual St. Joseph's Day Table and Bake Sale for the benefit of St. Francis Borgia Parish and made our spiritual preparations for Easter.

Needless to say, once again our St. Joseph Day celebration was a successful event! It was held on Saturday, March 16. Thanks to the donations from local restaurants, bakeries, grocery stores, and many individuals our table was adorned with tasty salads, vegetables, a variety of pasta dishes, sausage and peppers, chicken with roasted potatoes, pizza, foccace, crispy breads, different fruits, mouth-watering sweets and of course let's not forget, the traditional "zeppole", which were a hit with everyone. A dedicated committee served the exquisite buffet after the 5:00pm and 7:30pm masses. Over 200 individuals made up of ICF members, family and friends, and parishioners enjoyed the good food, company of friends, and amusing conversations. We applaud the St. Joseph's Day committee for such a pleasant evening! Proceeds from the event were given to St. Francis Borgia Parish for maintenance and repairs. St. Francis Borgia's Pastor, Rev. Richard Milek, was appreciative of the large turnout, which exceeded prior years, and thanked everyone for their generosity.

Aurora Pensa
Recording Secretary



Branch 31 Polenta & Chicken Dinner Raffle
Winner: Theresa Melillo of Los Banos, CA.

Fresno

Los Banos Santa Lucia, Br. 31

At our February meeting plans were finalized for our February 23rd Polenta dinner. A new bank account for scholarships was opened with \$500. At the March 5th meeting members were presented with a print-out of the results of the dinner. The total tickets sold were 390—takeout and dine in. The response was excellent. Those who dined in enjoyed the festive Italian atmosphere, the food, desserts, and spirit of friendship and good will that prevailed. Lovely baskets of Italian foods were raffled during the sit down dinner, including one very special larger basket. President Caropreso graciously thanked all members who worked so hard to make this occasion such a huge success. Thank you notes will be written to merchants who donated. President Caropreso welcomed new member Rita Toscano. The fifth Sunday in March is Easter so we will not meet for Mass and breakfast. Instead we will meet on April 28 at 10am at Country Waffles. Members and guests are invited. May our Risen Lord bless you with peace and joy. Buona Pasqua!
Germaine Orlando

Fresno

Our Lady of Victory, Br. 32

February 24 was the Fresno District and Branch Officers Installation at the Bakersfield Our Lady of Perpetual Church. We had in attendance, Natalie Clark, Treasurer/Financial Secretary, Patricia Vivenzi ,Recording Secretary, Yvone Saldubuhere, Trustee, Evelyn Nieto Sentinel, Elaine Lencioni, Rosie Lencioni and myself, President ,Jim Clark. Picture 1 Elaine Lencioni and Patricia, Picture 2, Yvone Saldubuhere and Evelyn Nieto enjoying lunch. Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church was a wonderful host for the Mass, Installation of Officers and the very tasty lunch! The District Officers as always,



Members of Branch 32 and the Installation of Officers.



did a fantastic job planning the event. It was a very long day for most of the Branches with the drive to Bakersfield. Our regular meeting for March 26, 2013, was cancelled due to Holy Week. We will be hosting the Lenten meal on March 8. Thank you to all the members for their help. The month of February brought us two new members, Claire Pisching and Maurice Debenedetto. April 20, 2013, will be our Quarterly District Meeting at Hayes Hall, Our Lady of Victory Church. April 23, 2013 will be our regular monthly meeting, As always, if you need a ride for our April regular meeting please call Jim Clark at (559) 977-0190.
*God Bless
Jim*

Bakersfield

San Luigi, Br. 33

Following the delicious Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner prepared by Chef Kurt we were treated to a guest speaker. Sasha Wines of Kern County Green spoke to us regarding the importance of recycling and going green in our everyday lives. Our newest member Christina Fanucchi, Barbara Fanucchi’s granddaughter, was also present. We also welcomed our guest Maurice Landry who recently returned from the World War II Veteran’s Honor Flight. Twenty-one members from our branch were able to attend the Fresno District Joint Installation lunch which we co-hosted at Branch 281. Many, many thanks go out to Barbara Crear and Maria Steele for co-chairing our St. Joseph’s Day Pasta Dinner. This event could not have turned out as successful as it did without the “many helpers” who helped pull it together that day. Special thanks go out to Lido Marchetti, 89, who instructed the cooks in preparing the pasta sauce. Our branch will be running the Wine Booth at the St. Francis BBQ on April 25. Joe Passaglia was the winner of \$30 on our member drawing and Gertie O’Neil won \$54 on our raffle.

Our next dinner meeting (prepared by our chef) will be April 9.
*Happy Spring!
Barbara Eyherabide*

Merced St. Cecelia, Br. 39

Wow, where does the time go. Our March meeting menu was chicken and risotto, salad, wine and dessert. Where can you get a meal like that for \$6.00? We began our Triduum with Father Andrew joining us for Mass and dinner. On Friday of that week we hosted Soup Night in the parish. Jim Rose was chairperson and he arranged for twelve members to bring their delicious soups and we had a full house. Members of the ICF were part of leading the stations following dinner. On Sunday, we celebrated St. Joseph Day and as usual, Millicent did a great job. Thomas and Anna Abbate portrayed Mary and Joseph, looking for a place to give birth to Baby Jesus. Eight students from UC Merced Newman Club joined us. It is always so good to visit with them and to exchange ideas. On March 13th, we had our polenta dinner and raffle. We thank everyone who donated a prize or a cash donation to underwrite the cost of the raffle prizes. We have the most generous members. April dinner will be Pork Loin and apple sauce. Please join us. Our condolences to the family of Jim Cavalla who passed away. “Everyone you meet deserves to be greeted by a smile”

N

Sanger Sant’ Antonio, Br. 70

The evening commenced with the recitation of the Rosary led by Father John Bruno in honor of the Lenten season. We thank President Kay Lopez and her mom Josie Lopez for setting up a special table with candles we lit in memory of our dearly departed. President Kay welcomed Frank Guierro as a new memeber of our Branch 70.

We extend our condolences and a mass to Father John Bruno, our chaplain, for the loss of his mother Carmela Bruno who passed away last month. St. Mary’s Church is having a St. Patricks fund raiser, and Branch 70 is in charge of cooking the pasta. Bob Merlo, who always does a fine job, is in charge. That’s all for now.
*God Bless You All.
Orsolina Casella*

Clovis

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Br. 250

Sunday, March 10 was our mass for the living and deceased ICF members. It was a real sacrifice for our members because it started with the 6:30am mass. This was the Sunday the time changed and our members had to get up early to get to church at what would normally be 5:30am. We had a good turn-out, though. Our hearts go out to members Tony and John Rainaldi and their family. Tony’s 55-year-old daughter (John’s sister), Nancy Germain, passed away unexpectedly on March 10. Nancy left a 15-year-old daughter. Please pray for the repose of Nancy’s soul and God’s comfort for the family. Last month we announced Mary Semas’ new great-grandson, Erick, born January 2, 2013. This month we congratulate her again for the birth of a second great-grandson, Sutton, born February 2, 2013. That makes four great-grandchildren for Mary. Debbie Abate’s son, Brandon Ortega, graduated from CSUF this last fall with a Cellular-Molecular-Biology major and Chemistry minor. He starts his Master’s Program in Biotechnology in the fall of 2013. Brandon has to be an extremely bright young man. Congratulations to Mom, Debbie, and to his grandparents, Corinne and Julius Abate! Vince Jura and his two daughters, Carolyn Prieto and Darlene Storm, will attend an AUSP Lessors’ Convention in Scottsdale, Arizona April 25 and 26, 2013. This is an



Branch 308 at the District Installation: (L to R) Trustee Larry Pricolo, Marilyn Renna, Trustee Russell Renna, First Vice Pres. Bernie Squeo, Trustee Tim Solipasso, and Sentinel Alex J. Garcia



Back Row 1st Vice-Pres. Bernie Squeo, Orator Angelo Pecora, Trustee Tim Solipasso, Trustee Larry Pricolo, and Trustee Russell Renna. Front Row L to R Financial Sec./Treasurer Susan Mencarini, Br. Pres. Antoinette Pecora, Maria Pricolo, Recording Sec. Maria E. Juarez~Garcia, Sentinel Alex Garcia and Marilyn Renna.



Br. 308 Pres. Antoinette Pecora and Orator Angelo Pecora



Jay Newsome and his wife, Financial Secretary/Treasurer Susan Mencarini

organization whose members lease land and buildings to the US Postal Service. Have a great time with your daughters, Vince. Happy Birthday to April celebrants: Jennie Campopiano, Mary Beth Mueller, Jeanette Shriver and Mary Zanarini.

“A man has to live with himself, and he should see to it that he always has good company.” (Charles Evans Hughes)

Ciao!

LeAnne Lavagnino

Bakersfield

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Br. 281

We hosted the installation of the Fresno District, with many members of the district enjoying mass, celebration luncheon and fellowship. Thank you to all who attended and chairperson Deborah Leary. It was a great event.

Our branch celebrated our forty year anniversary with a steak dinner which was enjoyed by many members. Charter members June Papasergia, Marie Parks, Maxine Scatena, Mildred Papasergia and Marian Zasoski attended. Thanks to Leonard and B.G. Zasoski for chairing this memorable event.

On Palm Sunday we hosted one of our largest fund raising events, our annual Pasta Dinner. Delicious food, fun and fellowship. Thank you to Chef Leonard Zasoski, to all who helped with the dinner and to all who attended to make it a great success.

Pancakes and sausage sandwiches are on the menu for our next breakfast/lunch on April 21. Please call Gary to help the Mole Team put the breakfast on.

On May 2 our annual Parish BBQ will be held, we will again assist with serving wine. Please call Amy to help.

Our prayers for a successful and quick recovery to Maxine Scatena and George Carson who had surgery recently.

Our next meeting will be April 11, a potluck meeting in the parish hall, hope to see everyone there!

Enjoy the Spring!

Mindy White

Fresno

St. Anthony of Padua, Br. 308

We hope everyone had a Happy Easter !

On Sunday, February 24, our Board Members of Branch 308 traveled to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Bakersfield, for the Fresno District Installation and luncheon hosted by Branches #33 and #281. It was a beautiful sunny day with a packed mass followed by a nice luncheon. Congratulations to new and returning Branch 308 members that were installed.

We're glad that we sold all of our ICF Calendars.

It was nice that we were able to keep some of the money for our Branch 308. Thank-you to all of you who bought the calendars and Good Luck to all of you, when they draw names every day.

There has been very good turnouts for our Lenten Dinners. It takes a lot of dedicated workers. Thanks for volunteering, to those that come before/after Mass and Stations of the Cross, to help out.

Our Branch welcomes new members Paula Savino and Mely Salvador. We were especially glad to see Pete and Flora De Pasquale (District Branch Deputy) back after illnesses to our monthly Dinner/Meeting.

Our Branch and Branch 417 will share the costs of buying the oil used for baptisms, confirmations, etc. The oil will be blessed, bottled and then dispersed to all of the churches in the diocese.

On Wednesday, April 10, we will have our potluck Dinner/Meeting starting at 6:00pm. Hope to see you there.

On April 27-28, we will be selling our Homemade Italian Sausage Sandwiches after the masses.

Happy Birthday to those celebrating a birthday in April, and Happy Belated birthdays to Pete

District Calendar

- April 11, 2013 - The 2013 ICF Archdiocese of Los Angeles Bishop Day Committee will be hosted by ICF Branch 374 and will meet in the Saint Theresa Room of St Bede the Venerable Church in La Canada from 2:00pm to 4:00pm

- April 14, 2013 - Open House at Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library in Burbank from 9am to 1pm hosted by the ICF San Gabriel District. Call 626 372-7812 for more information.

- May 23, 2013 - LA District General Meeting in the Galilee Room (basement) at Holy Family Catholic Church, South Pasadena.

De Pasquale (March 1) and to P. Fortunato (March 4).

Please pray for Barbara Hioco, who will have surgery the last week of March. Bernie Squeo, our Branch's first Vice President fell and broke his hip, and Charlotte Girado, who has completed a round of chemo. Please keep them in your prayers and other members who have health issues

and/or are unable to attend our meetings.

God Bless,

Maria E. Juarez~Garcia

Los Angeles

Los Angeles District Council

Buona Pasqua a Tutti!

Hope all ICF branch members, families and friends had a happy Easter!

On March 16 through 19th, the FEAST of Saint Joseph was celebrated with Saint Joseph Tables at various Parishes throughout the Los Angeles Archdiocese. District President Carmelo Sabatella and wife Linda joined other ICF Members in visiting a number of ICF Branches and Saint Joseph Tables including those located at All Souls Church in Alhambra (formerly Branch 286) and Saint Stevens Church in Monterey Park (formerly Branch 309).

Congratulations on the selection of the new Pope Francis I (formerly Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio of Buenos Aires, Argentina). May he lead the Catholic Faithful with guidance from above and through our prayers for him in his new role. Also keep former Pope Benedict in your prayers that he may remain in good health and find peace in his retirement.



Branch 111's St. Joseph's Day.

ment.

Thank you also to members and guests who attended the Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library Open House at Saint Frances Xavier Catholic Church in Burbank on April 14th! All Branches are encouraged to invite their ICF members, families and friends to attend Mass and visit the Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library at the next Open House on June 9. Visiting hours are 9:00 am to 1:00pm. Visitors learn about Mother Cabrini and share their personal stories about this first American Saint.

On February 22, District President Carmelo Sabatella received an email from Federated Italo Americans of Southern California President Ann Potenza on the Subject: Federated February Newsletter_Columbus Day SAVED! The email read in part as follows:

“Dear Federated Members and Friends, Congratulations! Our hard work paid off! AB55 (California Assembly Bill) has been Amended and Columbus Day in California will stay intact!”

Thank you to all members who responded to the Federated call to action to save Columbus Day in California. You are to be commended.

The District Board encourages all Branches to support each other's events wherever and whenever possible. Board members also wish to express how proud they are of all branches for their efforts in keeping the ideals and aims of the ICF alive.

Grazie to our members for your support of the ICF and its related events and your prayers for our sick and deceased members, friends and Parishioners. Special prayers for ICF Charter Members Angie Publico (Br 237), Michael Lesky (Br 362) and Pasquale (Pat) Di Bernardo (Br 115) who recently passed on to their eternal reward; they will be missed.

Please keep our troops in your prayers that



Branch 108 celebrates St. Joseph's Day.



Branch 111's birthday celebrants.

they may be kept safe and from harm's way.

Carmelo A. Sabatella, AIA, President

South Pasadena, CA 91030

626 372-7812

South Pasadena

Holy Family, Br. 108

We hope all Branch 108 Members, families and friends had a wonderful and Happy Easter on March 31.

On March 9th and 10th, Branch 108 celebrated the Feast of Saint Joseph with a successful Saint Joseph Table in the Parish Hall beginning with Mass followed by a Procession into the Parish Hall on Saturday evening where ICF Chaplain Father Jose Paranthanal said a prayer and blessed the Table. On Sunday, Continental Breakfast was followed by Dinner from noon until 9pm. Branch President Michele Silveri thanked Members of ICF along with five other Holy Family Ministries who helped staff this event. Co-Chairs Theresa Sabatella Shaw and Sandy Fielding did an excellent job of coordinating and following through on this event.

Save The Dates:

- April 7, 2013 - ICF Br 108 Bocce (1 to 2:30pm), lunch social and general meeting (3 to 5:00pm).

- April 14, 2013 - Open House at Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library in Burbank from 9 am to 1 pm hosted by the ICF San Gabriel District. Call 626 372-7812 for more information.

- May 6, 2013 - Biannual Fundraising Dinner at Jakes Roadhouse Diner in Oldtown Monrovia from 4pm to 9pm. Great BBQ with friends and family. Bring them all; you won't be disappointed. Call 626 403-6102 for more information.

Grazie Members, Families, Friends and HF Parishioners for your support of the ICF and its related events. Our prayers out to those Members and parishioners who have gone to their eternal reward and to sick members, family, friends and parishioners for a speedy recovery. May God bless and keep you healthy “per cento anni!”

Carmelo Sabatella, Past President - ICF Branch 108

Email: cas1810@aol.com

Montebello

St. Benedict, Br. 111

Ciao a Tutti,

What a great month of March that has passed. On March 13th, 2013 we had our regular monthly ICF branch meeting in preparation of our Annual St. Joseph's Table event.

Our St. Joseph's Table was held on March 16th and 17th. All were welcome. We had food items like homemade breads, cakes, cookies, frittatas (omelets), spinge, eggplant, artichokes, cardunes, homegrown fruits, vegetables, and flowers that were donated by members and friends and family. Statues were sold and raffled. Congratulations to Alexxa Vasquez and Salvatore Sorce who each won \$226 in our 6th annual 25/25/50 raffle. Again, thank you all who participated in making this year's St. Joseph's Table a big success.

On March 13 we celebrated our March birthdays. Congratulations to Estera Veneziano, Margaret Valdez-Gallardo,



Branch 111 celebrates St. Joseph's Day.



Tanina Sergi, Alexxa Vasquez, and Christina Winans who celebrated birthdays in march. Buon Compleanno a tutti! We wish everyone a happy birthday!
A reminder that the St. Benedict's Pastoral Council is planning a fundraising dinner to

support church improvement costs. Mark your calendars for an evening of dinner, entertainment, and fun. Saturday, April 6. 6:0pm. Quiet Cannon, Montebello. Tickets are \$60 per person. We hope you can attend and help the church reach their fundraising



goals
This month I leave you with quote from 1John 4:16 – “We know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God and God in Him.” Let your heart love, be love and how you life will turn around.
*Thank you and God Bless,
Giuseppe Veneziano*

San Pedro

St. John Joseph of the Cross, Br. 115

Dear Members,
I hope all of you had a very blessed Easter with your family and/or friends. I am pleased to announce that we now have Pope Francis from Argentina. St. Francis guide him in the most prestigious position in the world. God bless him through these troubled times in our Church. The Crab Dinner Dance was a huge success and it's a joint effort by so many people. Neal Di Leva did an excellent job of organizing the event and I know he appreciates all of us and our efforts to succeed. Anthony Amalfitano, our main cook and his staff, prepared the guests a very tantalizing delicious 5 course dinner. You guys are amazing! J. J. “Artiano’s” for the cold cuts and cheese. Our serving staff, which consisted of the women and school children, served over 420 guests in 1 ½ hours. You were on fire! Pauline and Anna were there to troubleshoot, work and donate time in other capacities. The bartenders, Alex and Sandy, beverage and raffle booths were just as busy. What a fantastic job. Well done. I would like to thank those who contributed to the raffle. We had some great prizes and “Thank You” for the kind words regarding my contribution to the raffle. I have so many people to thank. Nancy for helping me organize and wrap all the baskets. Josephine for always baking the most delicious cookies and Ana for the beautiful Afghan. Anita, Nicolina, Gloria, Rosalie, Jo Ann, Mr. & Mrs. Buono and so

many other people involved in the raffle that it's impossible to mention in a short article. You know who you are, and on behalf of Neal and the officers, please accept our gratefulness to all of you. We will have the scholarship winners and their parents at the pot luck meeting on May 16 so please attend this celebration.

Events:
April 18: Regular meeting
April 28: Italian Mass in honor of the Madonna del Arco. Please bring flowers from your garden to place on the altar.
May 30: Pechanga Trip: \$20 so call Pauline at (310)832-0563.
Thought for the month: Friendship is not created by what we give, but more by what we share. It makes a whole world of things easier to bear. Have a safe month and please remember all our ill and deceased members. God bless.
*Mary Ann Lauro,
Officer*

Gardena

St. Anthony of Padua, Br. 237

Hope you all enjoyed St. Pat's Day and a St. Joseph Table event!
Spring welcomed us to brighter, warmer days and gentle rain.
The Easter season continues and there is a rebirth of spirit in the Church as we welcome our 266th Pope, Francis I, who was born in Argentina, and whose parents were Italian immigrants. Pope Francis is a humble, kind, compassionate man of prayer and congeniality who speaks 5 languages, a Jesuit, a great intellect, whose magnanimous heart and soul can easily communicate with all. Viva il Papa!
This April we are going on another “fun” bus trip to Laughlin.
These trips are always a joy and great fundraisers for our scholarships, etc.! Bring a friend or 2.**



Branch 115 San Pedro celebrated the Feast of Saint John Joseph of the Cross, patron saint of the island of Ischia with a Crab Dinner Dance on March 2. Menu included linguine with clams, crab, shrimps and all the other trimmings. The main chef Anthony Amalfitano along with his kitchen crew did a fantastic job. The event was sold out with 414 paid and 450 served. The Mary Star of the Sea auditorium was packed and everyone enjoyed the food and music. President Neal Di Leva would like to thank everyone for its success. Most of the proceeds will benefit the Parish and Branch programs throughout the year.





Angelina Publico is pictured with her grandchildren and great grand-children at her 90th Birthday. Angie, you were and are awesome! Heaven bless!

Calendar dates to remember:

April 7, 8, 9: -- Laughlin trip **

Departing at 8:30am. Edgewater Hotel/Casino
\$99.00 per person-Double

\$119.00-Single (1 buffet included.)
Reservations: Rose: (310) 516-0480 or
Connie : (310) 516-7222.

April 8 -- Annunciation of the Lord

April 15 -- Blessed Damien of Molokai

April 21 -- General Meeting

April 22 -- Earth Day!

April 29 -- Feast Day of St. Catherine of Siena
Birthdays: Gloria Castaneda and John Moore
enjoyed their March B-days.

April Birthday wishes go to: Francisco
Ramirez (4-2) and Marietta Passaro (4-12).
Julieta Roa, a future ICF member, also
celebrates this month.

We sincerely continue to hold in our hearts our
newly-departed Charter Member/ Treasurer
Angelina Publico, a great lady who left her
Catholic/Christian mark and influence on
many. Here is a photo of her at her 90th B-day
with generations of her family.

A special thank you to Michelle Feldman for
her wonderful, thoughtful work as editor of
The Bollettino. Grazie.

A Year of Faith continues through November
24th. So keep the Faith,
hold-on to loved ones, enjoy every day, and
live so you daily do something good for
people and the Earth!

Ciao,

Eleanor Rose

Downey

St. Raymond, Br. 362

Viva San Giuseppe! Our St. Joseph's Table
was a huge success once again.

Thanks to all our fabulous bakers and all
who helped or attended.

Get out your daubers and join us for our
"Hula Moola Hawaiian Bingo Bash" on
April 27.

Lots of good food, prizes and cash prizes.
This is our annual event that supports our
Sports Program at St. Raymond School.

It's with a heavy heart that we bring the news
of our dear member, Rosella Ferlazzo who
passed away on Feb.16.

She was a member of ICF for over 33 years.
Before joining our branch she was President
of St. Margaret Mary in Lomita and was very
active in the Los Angeles District.

Our hearts go out to her son John, daughters
Francine and Connie, and their families
She will truly be missed. May she rest in
peace.

La Cañada Flintridge

St. Bede the Venerable, Br. 374

Thanks to the hard work of Denise Koeppen
and her committee, we had another successful
St. Joseph Table. As in the past, our sauces,
baked goods, and entrees sold well and
delighted the parishioners who flocked



Br. 374 photo caption

ICF BRANCH HEARS ABOUT
EDUCATION IN THE 21ST CENTURY
Branch 374 in La Canada Flintridge,
California invited School District
Superintendent Wendy Sinnett to speak
about her views on education in years
to come. Members of the branch and
parishioners at St. Bede the Venerable
Roman Catholic Church were brought
up to date on current and future trends
in education. Many branch members
are parents and grandparents and
came away with interesting insights on

education from a former Catholic school
teacher and principal who now heads up
the large La Canada school system.

Pictured here L: to R are: Al Restivo,
Branch 374 President, Wendy Sinnett,
and Carmelo Sabatella, ICF Los
Angeles District President. The branch
has launched a series of educational
programs to stimulate attendance at
meetings and to encourage the growth of
members. Future programs will include
Natural Ways to Improve Heart Health,
Ways to Protect your Property, and fun
programs such as acting out Italian
gestures and Funny Hat Night. Branch
President Restivo says that he feels that
ICF meetings, following the old 1925
format, are not interesting enough to attract
younger members. "I really think we are
boring people with our time honored
rituals and that we must renew how we
run meetings so that people have fun and
look forward to coming to ICF meeting".
ICF meetings at Branch 374 always also
include a pot luck dinner of Italian foods.
Photo by Ernest Koeppen

to the Parish Center to purchase from our
beautiful display. Once again past president
Nino Battaglia could not be topped for his
delicious lasagna, which sold out very quickly.
And as usual, the focaccia provided by Don
Monteleone through Eagle Rock Bakery, was
a huge hit.

"The Distinguished Student Service Award"
program was formalized and applications
are now being welcomed from students in
7th and 8th grades at St. Bede School for
outstanding service to their school, church,
and community. Awards will be presented
once each year in November.

In keeping with our objective to provide
interesting and educational programs, we
enjoyed hearing about natural ways to
maintain heart health from an engaging
doctor, who like our own Father Greg, is a
native of Ghana. Dr. Kwacu Oppong from
Spectra Health in Monrovia provided many
suggestions for keeping your heart healthy.
Soon the branch will launch its first
membership drive with a program called
"Rush 374". It will involve an Open House in
the Parish Hall where we will serve "goodies"
and provide information about joining our
branch. The event will follow announcements
at all masses. Members are urged to join with
Mark Mannarelli who will be managing this
effort.

Maria DeSalguero, our fund raising
chairperson, and past president Sherene Abay,
are working on a major fund raising effort,
which will involve a Karaoke Sing Along and
sale of a variety of stuffed baked potatoes and
wine. Maria also has several other programs
in the planning stages. Watch for these in
months to come.

Heritage chairperson Edna Ulasewicz
is working on organizing trips to opera
performances and other fun events that will
involve awareness of the heritages of the
international nature of our membership.

On June 8 a group of branch 374 members
and friends will enjoy the music of Andrea
Bocelli at the Hollywood Bowl; another event
our members will attend together as we build
a strong ICF family community.

Che Dio vi benedice

Al Restivo

President

San Gabriel Valley

Arcadia

Holy Angels, Br. 218

A huge thanks to all that helped with the St
Joseph's Table, especially to JoAnn How-
ell, who again chaired this event and did a
wonderful job. It was again a very successful
event and very beautiful. Goes to show you
what can be accomplished when everyone
works together and, I have to say, our branch
works well together.

At our last meeting, we had a great turnout
and everyone enjoyed the potluck after. Our
next meeting is April 14. Watch for Jeanne's
newsletters for details.

Hope everyone had a great Easter. See all of
you at our next meeting.

Lolly M.

Diamond Bar

St. Denis, Br. 317

April 12 -- Dinner/General Meeting

April 13 -- City of Diamond Bar Birthday
Celebration

April 14 -- ICF Donut Sunday - St. Denis

April 28 -- Arts & Crafts Faire at St. Denis
(ICF)

The Dinner menu will be in the April
newsletter and we shall be discussing our
Fundraisers for April -- City of Diamond Bar
Birthday Celebration and the Arts & Craft
Faire -- Dates -- April 13th & April 28th.



Dist. Pres. Carmelo Sabatella, Sentinel Steve Drobeck, Branch 362 Pres. Charlene Drobeck, 1VP Christine Ragusa, Past Pres. Aline Amatisto, & Financial Treasurer Laura Boehme.

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SERVICE BEYOND EXPECTATION

We thank everyone who worked so diligently for our Holy Cannoli's sale on March 17th. Toni Werley and Laura Giello really were the best there is. We are so grateful to them as well as all who pitched in. Stuffing Cannoli's at 5:30 AM Sunday morning on St Patrick's Day is dedication in every respect. Thank you especially to Liz and Bea. More thank you's as soon as I have further information. You all have the true ICF spirit- many blessings will be bestowed upon you from above.

Our Arts & Craft Faire on April 28th. All the donations for the tables will benefit St. Denis "Building on Faith". Please do all you can to make this event a success? More details later and your input are valuable.

The District Communion Sunday will take place at S. Denis at 12:00noon Mass with the luncheon to follow on May 19. All details will be available at the April 12th meeting.

We thank Patty Lasko once again for chairing the City of Diamond Bar birthday Celebration on April 13th. We plan to have a game booth, hopefully.

Happy Spring! Roxanne has tickets for Tony Bennett on Friday August 2nd, for the Hollywood Bowl for only \$28 per reserved seat and bus from Rowland Heights. Don't miss out!! Bring your favorite libation and picnic dinner to enjoy under the stars at 8PM. Bus leaves at 6pm.

*God Bless,
Roxanne Perry
President*

Temple City

St. Luke, Br. 326

On April 14 ICF is sponsoring hospitality after the masses.

St. Luke's Fiesta will take place on April 20, 21, & 22.

Our next General Meeting will be held on April 24, 2013 at 7:30pm. Dinner will be served at 6:30pm. The menu for dinner will be: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes, vegetable, salad, and dessert.

We have a fundraiser coming up in early June. It will be a trip to Pala. Stay tuned for more details.

Please continue to keep all of our ill members in your prayers, especially; Rose Costa and Mary Girillo. And, let's not forget to pray for our deceased members.

Happy April Birthday to: Ann Baziak, Jack Baziak, Andrew Bonura, Josephine Cardella, Carmen Federico, Val Magro, and Vera Montemayor.

Happy Anniversary to: Sally and Toney Farinella (46 years)

"Thank you Lord for the little things, for they can surely grow into the greatest treasures that you may ever know. Don't covet worldly riches that may not be for you, nor overlook the special gifts that God has given you. Let

'giving' outweigh 'getting' on your scale of happiness, and your joyful heart will bask in the glow of Godliness."

(Catherine Janssen Irwin)

God Bless,

Jo Anne Disney

San Fernando Valley

Burbank

St. Maria Goretti, Br. 102

Our Ash Wednesday Soup Supper was wonderful!!

The young people that helped at the Soup Supper belong to the Catholic Junior Scholarship Federation at St. Francis Xavier Church.

We had our St. Joseph's Table at our regular meeting on March 9.

It was very successful.

We will have our next Fundraiser at Shakey's Pizza Parlor on Wednesday, April 10 from 5:00 to 8:00pm.

Our Pechanga Casino Bus Trip will be on Tuesday, April 23; the price will be \$20.00. Sunday, April 28, will be our Quarterly Communion Mass to be held at 8:30am at St. Francis Xavier Church. Breakfast at Burbank Elks will follow.

Our next regular meeting will be Saturday, May 11, at 12:00 Noon at Cabrini Hall.

A Blessed 2013 to all!

*Ciao,
Joy*

North Hollywood

St. Charles Borromeo, Br. 382

In February our branch said goodbye to a long-time member, Mary Alice Luccasano. Mary Alice joined our branch in 1987. She lost her fight for life on February 24 after a long illness.

Branch 382 has celebrated its 28th anniversary. We were established March 10, 1985. Through these years we have celebrated many happy occasions, and we have many fond memories and lasting friendships.

Our recent Casino Trip was a success and will fund our Scholarship Program.

Keep our troops in your prayers.

Ciao for now,

Monterey

Santa Cruz

Nostra Signora del Soccorso, Br. 21

Buon giorno! We hope your Easter was full of chocolate candy, colored eggs and the Blessings of Christ's sacrifice. During Lent-



Members of the Central Council, Eddie Leonard and Elizabeth Grammatico at the St. Joseph's Day celebration.

en Season, Branch 21 held a Crab Dinner that was well attended. The fresh crab was delicious as were the roasted sardines and Pasta Puttanesca. Thanks to all our volunteers and cooks, Sal Locatelli, Angelo Raffaelli and Luigi Dell'Aqua, who all helped make this fundraiser a great success.

At our last Branch meeting, we enjoyed an interesting Heritage Report. Alverda Orlando and Norma Wilson gave an informative presentation on the personal life of St. Patrick. What can we say? The man was a saint! Speaking of saints, on March 24 we honored another saint with a St. Joseph's Day Bake Sale and Dinner. Local merchants donated baked goods and members brought in homemade pastries. After buying goodies, attendees enjoyed a spaghetti and meatball dinner. Thanks to all who donated to this cause. After expenses, all proceeds went to the St. Francis Catholic Soup Kitchen & the Holy Cross Food Pantry.

Up-coming is the District Meeting that will be held in Paso Robles on April 14. Also, we have a fixed date for our Annual ICF BBQ as August 11. Stay tuned. Come and have fun at our meetings held the first Tuesday of each month at 5pm at Holy Cross Hall.

In the meantime, remember that our God is an Amazing God and He keeps you forever in His Goodness.

Patty Morelli

Recording Secretary

Branch 21 - Santa Cruz

Hollister

Santa Barbara, Br. 26

A Happy St. Patrick's Day to all. We had a great March meeting with delicious corn beef and cabbage. We have some of the best cooks in the ICF. A big thank you to everyone who helped with the pancake breakfast, we will be doing some more of these in the future so please come to St. Benedicts Sunday masses and enjoy a terrific meal! We would like to welcome our newest member Jonathan Ellis. We encourage everyone to bring someone new to the next meeting and enjoy a great dinner and companionship. Please pray for our sick members Susie Filice, John Franco, Ralph Brigantino Evelyn Fuentez and Betty Ferrero. We miss you and hope you can come back to the branch soon. God bless all the ICF.

Jennifer Frusetta

Corresponding Secretary



At Branch 36, St. Joseph was played by Eli Bettencourt, Mary was Elizabeth Gagel and the Baby Jesus was Bo Bradley Lewis.

Monterey

Santa Rosalia, Br. 36

Our Lenten dinners are over for another year, we are so grateful to all of our faithful hardworking volunteers, kitchen crew, waitresses, set up people, bartenders, take outs, desserts, ticket sales (dinners and bar), to our student helpers, to everyone who came to our dinners and to all who brought desserts.

A lot of work and such a delight to see everyone.

Our Saint Joseph's Celebration was beautiful, mass at 2:00pm, then to the Parish Hall for hors d'oeuvres, dinner, and delicious homemade breads and pignolo and cambiata, enough for 300 people. The Anthony Lane Band and Mike Marotta were terrific, the dance floor was a happy place!

We have lost another long time member, Joseph Favazza. Joe was a very active member for years, a gentle loving friend to all, with a great sense of humor.

Our deepest sympathy to his wife Josephine and their family

Mark your calendar:

April 11 - Dinner meeting

May 2 - 82nd Anniversary Dinner.

May your troubles be less,

Your blessings more

And may nothing but happiness

Come through your door. E-mail

Peace be with you,

Betty Sollecito



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Castroville

Santa Caterina de Siena, Br. 51

We have been blessed with our new Pope... Pope Francis. May God grant him the courage and strength to lead us through these troubled times. As Catholics, let us offer him our prayers and support. As the Holy Season of Easter gives us new life, Pope Francis gives us new hope.

Our St. Patrick's Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner went well and many of our members enjoyed this fun filled gathering there was plenty of food, drink and merriment. Grazie to Carmen Rossi for contacting Donna at Gifts on the Go in Salinas, Donna donated a beautiful raffle prize.

This year for our heritage display we had a St. Joseph's table that was blessed by Father Pedro. Chairperson Pat Stefani is working hard on our Scholarship Fundraiser to benefit students in our area. The date is Sunday, April 21 at the Parish Hall (Richard's Hall) from 4:00pm to 7:00pm. The menu includes pasta, sausage, salad, bread, dessert and coffee, (wine and soft drinks can be purchased). The price is \$12 for adults and \$6 for children. Paul Cortopassi and Dave Pecci are putting on their chef's hats so be ready for a delicious meal. A big thank you to Susan Seeno, Kathy Stefani, Cindy Stefani, Nancy Ausonio and Linda Grier for their help in getting tickets and flyers organized, printed and ready to go. Way to go ladies! Don't forget the awesome raffle..... great prizes!! We hope to see you there!

Ciao,

Leonora Barlow



(Above) Branch 291 member Gloria Dean celebrated her 90th birthday in March with a surprise party at the end of our General Meeting. Gloria's daughter, granddaughter and great-grandson surprised her with huge cake and flowers and we all joined in the celebration!

(Left) Father Alphonse (aka Father Mario) cheerfully delivered fish dinners to customers during Branch 291's Lenten Fish Fries.

Capitola

St. Joseph, Br. 227

Branch 227 celebrated March in style with an excellent corned beef and cabbage dinner prepared by Tom McNamara, Ron Gibson, Peggy D'Anna, Marylou Weidlich, Bob Martinelli, Nancy Keran and Margaret Margo. Thanks to all members who brought desserts. After dinner, we enjoyed a fun sing-along led by Tom McNamara, accompanied on the accordion by Jim Musler. The Irish ditty poked some lighthearted fun at a few branch members! First Vice President Ken Reaves conducted the meeting. In new business, the branch welcomed six new members: Toni Breese and Jason Goodell, Lenae Colombini and Erik Colombini, Sister Judy Silva, and Susan Berry.

By the time this appears in print, another season of successful Lenten fish fry dinners will have concluded. Thanks to all members who cooked, served, set up, cleaned up, sold tickets, and bartended. The branch extends special thanks to Sharleen Hedgepeth for her hard work coordinating this year's dinners and assuring their success. Thanks also to Heidi Ambiel for directing all floor activities. The branch also wishes to thank Fitz Fresh of Watsonville for donating the mushrooms used in preparing our Lenten fish fry dinner side dishes. Please remember our sick or convalescing members in your prayers. Bouna Pasqua!

Ciao,

Kathleen Martinelli

Arroyo Grande

St. Patrick, Br. 291

Our Lenten fish fries were a huge success and we served over 2000 dinners over the course of 5 Fridays in February and March. We'd like to thank the members of Branch 291 who worked so hard week after week to make every Friday fish fry run smoothly!

Branch 291's St. Patrick's Registration Assistance Committee recently allocated \$150.00 towards registration assistance for 14 children of ICF families. All the children attend St. Patrick School and their families have met the eligibility requirements to receive this disbursement. The money was raised during our Spaghetti Dinners held last fall. This is the first year our Branch has disbursed funding to eligible ICF families.

We recently initiated several new members to our ICF family: Gigi Carroll, Andrea and Mike Orr and their sons Owen and Andrew, and Crystina Giuffrida and her daughter, Abby. Welcome to ICF Branch 291!

On Sunday, April 14 we will be co-hosting the District Meeting with the Paso Robles Branch at St. Rose's Church. We plan to serve a pulled pork dinner and encourage members to attend and to help with the dinner if you can.

At our February meeting, member Gloria Dean was surprised with a visit by her daughter, granddaughter and great-grandson who brought a big cake so we could all celebrate Gloria's 90th birthday!

Please keep the following ICF members and their families in your prayers: Sonia Wagner, Trish Jimenez, Joe Slavin and Marge Caruso. *Ciao!*

Keely Sanchez

Recording Secretary

Paso Robles

St. Rose, Br. 354

We welcomed 2013, with a new panel of officers who were installed after a beautiful Mass officiated by Rev. Joseph Occhiuto. The event was hosted by Hollister Branch 26, on February 2. Our compliments go to their members for providing a wonderful reception and delicious luncheon.

We are proud of our group and, with God's help and guidance, we hope to encourage new membership. Our President David Zanini and his wife Irma have been our "rocks". They work tirelessly for the club and the members. Our biannual Pasta & Meatball dinners have not only provided funds for scholarships, but have allowed us to make contributions for repairs and provide needed items to our church St. Rose of Lima.

This year we lost one of our most dedicated members, Norma Brenton, who was very involved with Cooley's Anemia. We made a donation to that organization in her name. She is missed by all. We also request your prayers for our pastor Father Roberto.

Oakland East Bay

District Council

Spring will be a busy time for the East Bay District. Branches 91 and 343 will be hosting their Anniversary Dinners on 4/14 and 4/20. Please continue to support your sister branches.

Their will be a District workshop held on 4/22/2013 at 7:00pm prior to the District Meeting at Our Lady of Grace Church Hall in Castro Valley. More details as to the exact topic or topics covered will be available to branch presidents prior to your April branch meetings.

The next big event is Bishop's Day falls on 4/21 hosted this year by the Contra Costa District. I know all seven East Bay District branches have been generous in their seminary bursar donations and in the prayers offered through the Spiritual Bouquet. The East

Bay District takes pride in presenting the Spiritual Bouquet this year. Remember that what differentiates the ICF from other Italian fraternal organizations is that we our faith based and we actively support our diocesan seminarians. We are not just a social club. May brings Anniversaries celebrations for Branches 285 on 5/4, Branch 215 on 5/15 and Branch 10 on 5/25. Branch 285 Livermore will also host our next Quarterly Communion set for 5/26. Details for Mass time will be given to branch presidents prior to your April meetings.

June 1 brings the Central Council's Night of the Seminarians held this year at our Our Lady of Grace Church, Castro Valley, CA. Cost is \$50.00 and black tie optional. District Day of the Races will be held on 6/6/2013. Flyers have been given to branch presidents already with all the details.

Lastly, Catholics worldwide can rejoice that our new Pope, Pope Francis, chose his name after St. Francis of Assisi. St. Francis of Assisi believed that the teaching of Jesus should be known by people of all walks of life, not just the educated and well-off. He reached out to his community. The ICF has as its principles just those same aims. We help each other nurture our Catholic faith and we reach out to our parish community and the greater community through our ICF charities.

Sincerely,

Fran LaTorre

Alameda

Nostra Signora Delle Grazie, Br. 10

March was a very busy month for us.

Friday night Fish Frys, Irish Social, St. Joseph Day celebration.

Our Branch 10 Anniversary Dinner is Saturday, May 25. Details not available at this time, but you may direct questions to Gina Foster, 510-995-8141. Note that the dinner is on a Saturday this year, not Sunday.

The July event will be the annual BBQ/Bocce ball and will include gifts/monetary donations for the Birthright Organization. October will be the Ravioli dinner.

We hope everyone had a glorious Easter.

Until Next month

Peace and Love to all

Jean McElroy

Oakland

Santa Rita, Br. 40

Hope you all had a nice Easter. Our Polenta Dinner will be on Sunday April 28 at the Fratellanza Club. Cocktails at 4pm and Dinner at 5PM. Cost is \$20. For reservations contact Anna Alberti, 510-562-1179, the deadline is April 20th. Raffle prize donations are appreciated.

Upcoming:

April 4- Monthly meeting at 7:00pm

April 21- Bishop's Day. If interested contact Pres. Anna Alberti.

May 2- Monthly meeting at 7:00pm

Happy Birthday to Rita Avery, Vanna Cesarello, Irene Crosetti, Rita Marie Dykes, and Ada Franco. God Bless you.

Please remember in your prayers the sick and convalescing of our branch, especially, Elsie Giani, Aldo Innocenti, Clemence Zanta, Leroy Casale, and Anna Alberti.

Thought: "What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us." Ralph Waldo Emerson

Ciao,

M.A. Francis

Oakland

St. Lawrence O'Toole, Br. 91

We had a wonderful dinner celebration of the Italian monk who brought Christianity to Ireland. Our neighbors in Ireland refer to him as St. Patrick. Was he really Italian? You can stretch things and say "yes" when you consider his parents were Romans. Patrick

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Members of ICF Branch 36, Monterey, California

was born in England around 385 A.D. (The Romans ruled England at that time) His father, was a high Roman diplomat living in England, but never the less a Roman citizen. And on that note we hope all enjoyed the Feast of St. Patrick and San Giuseppe. Special kudos to Vera Brown for hosting a wonderful Irish dinner at our Branch Meeting.

We hope you all will join us for family and fun at our 61st Anniversary Dinner celebration; April 14, 2013 at the Fratellanza Club in Oakland. Cocktails at 4pm, dinner at 5pm. Leonard Rossi will serenade us with wonderful music as only he can. Price is \$38.00, kids under 10, \$12.00. Menu: cold cuts, salad, raviolis, chicken, potatoes, veggies, dessert, coffee and vino on the tables. And of course we will have a fabulous raffle. This is a great opportunity to introduce potential new members to the ICF, have them join in the fun and the good community work we do. Let them share the ICF experience firsthand!!!!!! Looking forward to everyone's support as this is our one fundraiser of the year to support Scholarships, Seminarians and Cooleys Anemia.

Contact Giovanni Corsi, for your reservation by April 7; call 707-996-5866 or email gdsportmom1@aol.com.

Hugs to Lorraine Adams who is on the mend. Look forward to seeing you soon. Hurry and get well!!!

See you at our April 11, Meeting for Salad Bar Supper. \$6.00

Buona Pasqua!!!!

Ciao

Nancy Corsi

Fremont

St. Francis of Assisi, Br. 215

We are happy to welcome our newest member, Vicky Santilli Marlar. It was so nice to have you as our guest at our February meeting and to play bocce ball with you. Now we are blessed to have you officially become an ICF Branch 215 member in March.

Plans for our upcoming Bingo/Salad Luncheon have begun. Remember to invite all your friends and family to join us on Wednesday, 5/15/2013, at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church Hall, 40382 Fremont Blvd, Fremont, CA. Luncheon begins at 12:30pm and bingo follows immediately after. Tickets are \$10.00 and include (2) bingo cards. We are still gathering up bingo prizes and items to fill our raffle baskets. Sign-up for the salads to be served will take place at our 4/9/2013 branch meeting. Call Fran at (510) 887-1509 or Genevieve at (510) 656-8847 to make reservations, get tickets or make arrangements for your bingo prizes and raffle basket donations to be picked up. Reservation deadline is 5/8/2013.

The Central Council Workshop Committee will be holding a workshop for the East Bay District branches on Monday, 4/22/2013 at Our Lady of Grace Church Hall, 3433 Somerset Avenue, Castro Valley, CA beginning at 7:00pm. Further details regarding this work-



President Nancy Carriere and Secretary Yoli Moglia representing Br. 223 at Parish Open House.



Branch 285 President Pat Mueller and Kathy and Milt Elm in front of St. Joseph Table.

shop will be given at our 4/9/2013 branch meeting.

Our next bocce ball game will be on Sunday, 4/28/2013 at City Beach in Fremont. Be sure to call Adrian at (510) 657-9487 by 4/22/2013 if plan on playing. We gather at City Beach at 2:00pm. Weather permitting we always play on the 4th Sunday of the month.

Branch 215 has the privilege having St. Francis of Assisi as its patron saint. It fills our hearts with much joy that our new Holy Father, Pope Francis, chose his name in honor and recognition of St. Francis of Assisi. We will definitely ask the Holy Spirit through our prayers to continue to guide Pope Francis as he begins his new and important duties.

Please continue to pray for Cathy Staib, Sam Caesar and Al Grasseschi. Cathy continues to undergo chemo therapy to fight breast cancer. Sam's Achilles heel is slowly healing. Al continues to undergo kidney dialysis three days a week. We miss you all.

Congratulations and much happiness to all those members with birthdays and wedding anniversaries in April.

Respectfully submitted,

Fran LaTorre

President, ICF Branch 215

Oakland

St. Theresa, Br. 223

Saturday, April 27, ... Branch 223's Spring Dinner will take place at St. Theresa's Event Center, 30 Mandalay Rd, Oakland. Doors open after the 5pm Mass. No-Host Bar. 6:30pm Dinner followed by raffle and silent auction. Enjoy a delicious Chicken Cacciatore/creamy Polenta dinner and dessert. Adults, \$18. Br. #223 Members in good standing, \$16. Children 7-17 years of age, \$8. Reservations by checks made payable to I.C.F. Br. #223 and mailed to Holly Raineri, 1074 Annerley Rd. Piedmont CA 94610. Deadline is April 22. Questions? Call Holly at (510) 451-0608, or Br. #223 President Nancy Carriere at (510) 655-3446.

Weekend of May 4th and 5th...Br. #223 Bake Sale after the 5pm Mass on Saturday, and after the 9am and 11am Masses on Sunday. We will be in front of the church selling many kinds of homemade cakes, pies, biscotti, breads, Etc. at reasonable prices.

Viva il Nuovo Papa Francesco (Jorge Mario Bergoglio)

Let everything you do be done as if it makes a difference.

Yoli Moglia

Livermore

St. Filomena, Br. 285

It's April and Spring is in the air. Easter has passed but hopefully still in our hearts. The Lord has risen. Let us continue our journey of faith and renew our own "Spring" spirits. This will bring US much joy, but also to others and our God.

Our branch has had their annual BINGO



Contra Costa District Communion Breakfast, Sunday March 17, from left to right: Branch 13 President Tom Cook, District President Joe Flores, Crockett member Carol Lawson, Branch 14 President Donna Hoffman, Branch 352 President Tony Rosellini (side of face) across the table from Deanna Carone from Crocket, and Jim Smithwick, Peggy Hagerthy, and Marissa Smithwick from Branch 13.

BASH on February 16 at St. Michael's. It was a wonderful success. The money raised will go to several of our favorite charities. Special "Thanks to: Phylomena Buonsante & Joe Buonsante our Chairpersons, Don Merucci - Publicity, Joe Buonsante - our MELLOTONES music leader, Ron Tujague and Chuck Meier - Bar Setup, Elaine Meier & helpers for our lovely Raffle Baskets, Raffle & Prize Setup - Carlotta Schauer, Melanie Calabrese - Line Dancing, Phylis Bocoleri and Rose Stack for selling raffle tickets. Many others in our branch were of great help where ever they were needed. We wish to thank each of you for your contribution in making this event a big success. Mille Grazie!!

Our next big event will be our PRIMAVERA DINNER DANCE on May 4th at St. Michael's large hall. This event will be catered by Terra Mia Restaurant of Livermore. There will be wonderful music and dancing for all to enjoy. There also will be wonderful Raffle prize baskets to be won. Please join us for this wonderful event that will raise money for one of our Tri-Valley charities.

Our April Birthday Wishes are for: Hilda Alvillar, Bobbie Farrington, Cindy Tujague and Helen Wirtenson. Enjoy your special day and may you all have many more Happy & Healthy birthdays to come.

Get Well Wishes are being sent to all that have been ill or are recovering from a surgery of any kind. You're in our prayers for a speedy recovery.

In closing, I wish you all Peace and Good Health in the days to come.

God Bless, Ciao!

Pat Bellavia

Castro Valley

Our Lady of Grace, Br. 343

'Twas a fine dinner enjoyed by some Irish and many would be Irish! Corned beef and cabbage was prepared by the "goddesses of the kitchen", thank you ladies. Our first ever St. Joseph's table proved to be a success, the free-offering proceeds from this dessert table enabled us to make a generous donation, matched by our branch to St. Vincent de Paul at Transfiguration parish. Thanks everyone, bakers and buyers.

It's hard to believe that Easter has come and gone already, but hopefully the message of our Lord's death and resurrection remains with us. Caring for each other is also an ICF way of life. And let us welcome our new pope, Pope Francis, with a prayer for

strength as he begins his mission of leading his flock of Catholics spread throughout the world.

Dust off those dancing shoes, it's time to get ready to celebrate Branch #343's 34th anniversary on Saturday, April 20th. at Our Lady of Grace church in Castro Valley! Cocktails begin at 6 P.M., followed by dinner and dancing to "In Full Swing", we will also have our special raffle baskets. Tickets are \$35.00 and reservations are needed by April 15, 2013.

See you at the dance!

Contra Costa

District Council

Our Contra Costa District meeting was held on Feb. 28 at St Isidore's in Danville, and happy to say that all the branches were well represented.

The first upcoming event on the the agenda is our District Communion Breakfast at St Catherine's Church--Martinez. March 17. Mass will be at 8:30am followed by a \$5.00 breakfast in the church hall.

the Contra Costa and East Bay Districts of the ICF invite all to the annual Bishop's Day Celebration for the Diocese of Oakland. This will be on Sunday April 21, 2013 at 3pm. Mass at or Lady of Mercy Church, 31 West Richmond Ave. Point Richmond. If you plan to attend please respond to your branch by April 10. Dinner will follow at the Galileo Club, 371 South 23rd St, Richmond.

We are excited to announce the possibility of having a new ICF Branch at Christ The King Church in Pleasant Hill. Pray that this will come to fruition.

Wishing all the members and their families a Happy and Holy Easter.

Message from our District President Joseph Flores: Let's promote the religious Spirit among our members.

Remember--God so loved us all that He gave His only begotten Son

Joann

Martinez

San Martino, Br. 13

Great company for Sunday morning Mass and breakfast at Saint Catherine Church for the Contra Costa District Communion Breakfast on Saint Patrick's Day! Thanks for the attendance of our wonderful Chaplains Deacon Dave (born in Ireland) and Deacon Albert (born in the Philippines) who still think the



Branch 14, Crockett, had their celebration of St. Joseph's Table. Joe Macaluso, sang, Pat Mueller played the piano, Carl Heller (St. Joseph), Pauline Cardoza, (Mary) and Father Dillon all helped with the celebration.



Carol Lawson, (Br.14) Walter Costa, (Br.154) Dee Carone (Br.14) and Donna Hoffmann(Br.14) at the Contra Costa District Breakfast hosted by Branch 13 on St. Patrick's Day. Lucky Italians...



Crockett Branch 14, members singing at the celebration of their St. Joseph's Table while Joseph (Carl Heller) and Mary (Pauline Cardoza) coming into the hall.

Crockett

San Carlo, Br. 14

St. Joseph's Table is an age-old Italian tradition honoring one of our most beloved saints. In this dignified yet festive feast of thanksgiving, our "Holy Family" consisted of Carl Heller as a slightly irreverent St. Joseph, our beloved Pauline Cardoza as Mary, and our president's childhood doll as Baby Jesus, dusted off each year for this special event. Welcome to our Branch to Nurse Pat Sullivan, a longtime friend of those Contestable girls, Carla and Lois, and of the Bottas. Congratulations to Medoro and Mary Pagni as they celebrate 70 years of marriage. They are an awesome couple! We have all profited greatly from their unfailing love and generosity. Glad to hear that both Donald DeTomasi and Alma Nursement are out of the hospital and in rehab, and that Pat Botta has recovered and is back to her hectic schedule. A special Irish blessing to Jim and Kathleen

Thomas and their many helpers for their 37th successful Corned Beef Dinner. The profits helped with the many donation requests we received in March. We voted to donate over \$5,300.

A personal thanks to Nancy Botta for giving a terrific St. Patrick's Day Heritage report. Bravo, Nancy!

Members are encouraged to attend Bishop's Day on Sunday, April 21. Mass is at Point Richmond and dinner after at the Galileo Club. For reservations, see Donna at the April meeting.

Hope to see you on April 9. Mass at 5:30, dinner (free!) 6:30, and the meeting at 7:30, when we elect convention delegates. Don't forget the April 26th Pedro & Card Night and our May 3rd Bingo & Hot Dog Night. There is always something on Branch #14's calendar!

Happy Easter Blessings to All!

Diane Bottini Thomas

Pittsburg

San Domenico, Br. 72

In March we celebrated St. Joseph's and St. Patrick's Day with a novena followed by lunch and our meeting.

On March 17 we attended the District Communion breakfast hosted by the Martinez branch at St. Catherine's church. We thank branch 13 for hosting the event.

Upcoming:

Sunday, April 14 – Branch meeting at 2:pm. Theme: "Spring" There will be an election of Convention Delegates. We will also have a free raffle and an egg hunt.

Sunday, April 21 – Bishop's Day in Richmond.

Thursday, April 25 – District meeting at 7:30pm in Danville.

No Branch meeting in May.

Saturday, May 25 – Remembrance Mass at Good Shepherd 5:30pm followed by dinner. Have you made your reservation for Bishop's day? If not, call Patty at 925-228-0810. Mass will be held at Our Lady of Mercy Church in Richmond. Banquet will follow at the Richmond Galileo Club. If you plan to attend please mail check made out to ICF branch 72. Send it to treasurer Helen Politakes at 953 Veterans Dr. Martinez, CA 94553. Lunch is \$25.00 per adult. Children's price available. The ICF expansion committee is exploring opening a new branch in Pleasant Hill at Christ the King church. We will keep you updated with details as they become known.

Sempre Avanti,

Helen Politakes

Richmond

St. Raymond, Br. 154

President Walter Costa and Toni Reeder honored St. Patrick's by preparing a luscious, tender Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner. Walter is planning a Risotto and Salad dinner in April honoring past presidents. Come and enjoy this menu at a cost of only \$7 with champagne and dessert after the meeting. Reserve with Terri Ventin at 524-6093.

Make your reservations now for Bishop's Day. Mass to be celebrated at 3:00pm on April 21 at Our Lady of Mercy Church in Pt. Richmond followed by a great dinner at the Galileo Club, 372 So. 23rd Street in Richmond. Reservations required, call Walter Costa at 925-370-3737. March drawing winners: Attendance – Diana DeSimoni, Joe Meneghelli, Marie Mirante, Jim Rampoldi, and Frank Soldano; Birthday – Marie Mirante; 50/50 – Aldo Bracciotti. Plan ahead for our semiannual polenta dinner on May 4 at St. Jerome's Hall. This is always a sellout so reserve now with Gino Martinucci at 526-8749. Cost is \$22, \$6 for children.

This year members approved awarding five first-year \$400 scholarships and one second-year \$500 scholarship.

Please continue to pray for members Helen Holloway and Dee Rosier

Connie Gatto's heritage report was appropriately titled "Irish are Italians."

Good wishes and prayers to new pope, St.

Francis.

God Bless and Happy Easter

Joyce Peterson

Concord

St. Agnes, Br. 214

Our 45th Anniversary Polenta Dinner, Honoring Our Past Presidents was a well attended and a delightful event. Roberta Healy (President), acknowledged each Past President, present: Frank Ascateno, Al Tufo, Diane Lorenzetti (2terms), and Ron Artale. A moment of silence was taken for all that have past away.

Member Anna Raefield said our grace in beautiful Italian.

We Thank Teri Hurlbut and Barbara Faircloth for chairing this event. The meal, Italian desserts, raffle, great staff again Thank You.

Our St. Joseph's table will be celebrated with a potluck, prayer and Paul Schepis our Heritage person will present us with one of his wonderful stories.

Rummage Sale: April 28 Sunday, time 9am-3pm

Ed and Allison Mcguirk are chairing this sale of sales. It will be held

at St. Agnes School Yard; 3966 Chestnut Ave., Concord. Mark your calendars as you won't want to miss this fun day of finding your treasures.

We still keep F. Vince (our Chaplin) in our prayers. Prayers also to our elders and those unable to attend meetings.

God Bless

Christina

Danville

St. Isidore, Br. 352

Our April meeting will be the 15th at 7:30pm. Final preparations for our Festa Primavera dinner will be discussed. Free pizza will be served at 6:30pm prior to the meeting. Call or email Pres. Tony, or respond to the Evite for reservations.

A big thanks to everyone who so generously contributed to the success of our March 3 bake sale. This type of generosity allows our Branch to further the fulfillment of the ICF charity goal and provide monetary support for Children's Hospital and our other charity organizations.

The Contra Costa and East Bay Districts' Bishop's Day will be sponsored this year by the Contra Costa District and will be held in Richmond on April 21. Details will be provided as they become available.

Happy Birthday to all our April birthday members.

Ciao

Gordon Brasseur

Orange

Irvine

St. Thomas More, Br. 423

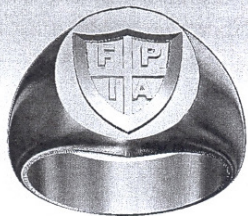
We welcomed two new members to our group at our January meeting, Lucia Trozzi and John Pianta. They will be wonderful additions to our group.

President Frank Giannantonio thanked Maureen Melvold for hosting the officers' brunch meeting and also thanked Mary Ann Profeta for facilitating the January meeting. On February 23, the installation of officers took place at St. Thomas More parish and was celebrated by Father Robert Capone. Afterwards, we had lunch at Johnnie's in Irvine. We had two members of the Central Council attend the installation and lunch.

At press time our branch was working out the final details of the St. Joseph's Table. We plan to have homemade baked goods, meal in a bag, cupcakes, fresh cannolis, and sausage and meatball sandwiches for sale. All proceeds going to the various charities we donate to.

Ciao,

Miranda Gibson



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Phoenix

Glendale

St Thomas More, Br. 436

Twenty individuals attended our February meeting. The officers for the 2013 year were approved: Suzanne Tamargo President, Natalie Maragiolio 1st Vice-President, Lonnie Cavaliere, 2nd Vice-President, Brenda Cavaliere, Secretary, Connie Schwartz, Treasurer, Fr. Nathan White, Chaplain Jill Lamouroux, Trustee Mike DeLucia, Sentinel and Vera Jacoby, Sentinel.

Our goals for the year are to continue to increase our membership, continue to support our parish activities and add to our group activities. Our next parish project will be the St. Joseph Table celebration. This has been a well-attended activity and all the monetary donations and extra food are donated to St. Vincent de Paul and Andre House. After the meeting adjourned, club members participated in a fun evening of bunco. As we continue our journey through lent we are reminded of our many blessings and we look forward to the celebration of Easter.

*Have a Blessed Easter,
Brenda Cavaliere*

Reno

Reno

St. Albert, Br. 135

On Sunday March 10, 30 members and guests enjoyed a wonderful corned beef & cabbage dinner prepared by Bob & Audrey Ferrari, Bobbie & Rachael Ferrari, and Eugenia Hoveland. Many thanks for such dedication, service and terrific food.

We lift up continued prayed to our Lord for His great healing power for Mike Smith, husband of our President Carolyn Smith who had been in the hospital and is presently "in rehab". We also lift up Daisy Pagni who is still in a group home – she is now walking with the aid of a walker. We pray to our Lord Of All to deliver Mike and Daisy.

At the business meeting, President Carolyn Smith covered the following: a) a special welcome to new member Mary Jo Wiese; b) correspondence from Central Council thanking the branch for faithfulness for our two recent scholarships; c) a vote was cast by the members to send a contribution of \$300 to the Coolies anemia fund drive; d) the date for our annual Polenta dinner this year has not yet been determined – we can expect to confirm a date by late August or early November so as not to conflict with the Nevada football schedule (which affects so many of our members and polenta dinner volunteer workers); and e) convention raffle tickets are available to be purchased from Joyce Kowatch (phone # 626-4229) if any questions or for more raffle books.

Our next meeting is Sunday, April 14. We ask the Lord's blessing on all our members and their families. And, Happy Easter – Buona Pasqua.

*Submitted by,
Tony DiGuglielmo*

Sacramento

Sacramento

St. Mary, Br. 45

Members and guests enjoyed our first dinner of the year 2013 on Sunday, March 10 in Giovanni Hall. Our generous Chicken and Polenta dinner was a hit. Thanks to Italian Importing for cooking the chicken, to Fred, Tim and Forrest for the excellent polenta, and our kitchen staff for putting it all together.



Members of Branch 342 at the Installation of officers.

Also a special thank you to Jackie Bush who donated the great Kings basket and to Bonnie Lally for the big basket she put together for raffle prizes.

Our next meeting and dinner will be on Sunday, May 5 in Giovanni Hall. Chicken and Polenta is on the menu. Meeting at 4:30pm followed by dinner at 6:00pm. Call Bruna (916) 515-9380 or myself (916) 714-6967 for reservations by Mon., Apr. 29. See you there. Calendar at a Glance:

Sun., Apr. 7 - Blessed Sacrament District Meeting at St. Clare

Fri., Apr. 26 - Bus Trip to Stockton Asparagus Festival

Sun., May 5 - Meeting and Dinner in Giovanni Hall

Sat., June 1 - Night for Seminarians - Castro Valley

Sun., June 2 - Sutter Creek Italian Parade

Sun., June 9 - Hosting Second Sunday Social after all Masses

Buon Compleanno to Members in April: Marvin Bernardi, Annji Ebert, Ralph Isola, Frank Perri, Kay Pesce, and Kristina Tallman.

*Ciao,
Janine*

North Highlands

St. Lawrence the Martyr, Br. 236

On Saturday, March 2nd, our general meeting was held in Gabrielli Hall. Members were treated to soup fagioli and salad. A big thank you to Anita St. Denis and Ann D'Antonio for preparing the delicious meal for our members to enjoy! Congratulations to Nina Malone who won this month's membership drawing and to Melissa Keller who won this month's 50/50 drawing.

A special acknowledgement was made to our Deputy, Robert Delpippo, in recognition of his commitment and dedication for serving as Branch 236' Deputy for the past 5 years. Our branch will be forever grateful to Robert and he will definitely be missed at our meetings. Our new Deputy starting in April 2013 will be Yvonne Perry from Branch 206. We look forward to meeting her!

Convention raffle books were handed out to members, don't forget to sell, sell, sell as the more we sell the more money goes to our branch, which we desperately need!

On Sunday, March 9 our branch sold homemade baked goods at the Knights of Columbus Breakfast as a fundraiser. We will learn the outcome of our fundraiser at our April meeting. A special thank you to all of our members who baked goodies for this event. Happy Birthday wishes to Jo Bertolucci (April 13).

Please continue to pray for all of our sick members and their families.

*Happy Spring!
Margie Burke*

Auburn

St. Joseph, Br. 342

We send out our deepest condolences to the families of our recently deceased members. We will really miss them and the contributions they made to our branch. Sympathies go out to the families of Maripaul Baier (member for 15 yrs), Joseph Fuentes(husband of Carmen and member for 14 yrs), Al-



(Above) Paul Frederick from Branch 217 in Redlands. Paul gave a brief historical presentation of his Italian heritage and the artifacts he has collected over the years pertaining to his heritage.

(Top right) Depicted are Beverly Seitzinger and Leonardo Frederick, one of our youngest members of Branch 217 in Redlands, CA.

(Right) Laurice Levine from Children's Hospital, Oakland came to give a moving speech on Thalassemia.



bert Marino (husband of Dixie and member for 34 yrs.), Bruce Norton (companion of Norma Harris and member for 22 yrs), and Don Bartorona (husband of Past President Marie Bartorona).

We are very pleased to welcome the following new members to our branch: Lynne Madonna and son James: Robyn White and son Ivan; Maxine Cresci; Sandy Amara; Tony and Anna Pisanu; Robert and Christine Niece and children Taylor, Katherine, Samantha, Benjamin, Jack, and Mary; and Gregory and Jamie Anderson and children Lauren and Gabrielle.

We urge all members to attend our Branch meetings every month! Besides great food, you will learn a lot about the happenings of our branch, your Italian heritage, and may even win a great raffle prize!

Ciao!

Pam Andersen

Bolletino Contributor

Roseville

St. Clare of Assisi, Br. 438

Our branch started out February by having a Mardi Gras to start the season of lent where all our members and guests enjoyed a delicious feast. At this meeting our President, Paula Scarpelli received our statue of St. Clare. The statue was presented by Nina Malone and Tina Tollman. It was a little late in coming but very much welcomed by all our members. To continue to celebrate lent we hosted our first Lenten fish dinner on February 22, 2013. It was a huge success. There are too many people to list everybody that helped with this but we do thank you all and especially our co-chairpersons, Michael and Sandra Fuentes.. In

March our meeting in honor of lent is going to be a meatless potluck. How fun is that! Then we get ready for our second and last of the year Lenten fish dinner. We look forward to the Easter season and continuing our good works.

San Bernardino

Fontana

St. Joseph, Br. 210

We celebrated St Patrick Day with corned beef and cabbage this month. We will have our Easter Dinner in April and Our Parish is celebrating St. Joseph Day with a Fiesta May 4th and 5th. (That's St. Joseph the Worker Day). We will staff the Hot Dog, Hamburger, Pop Corn Booth. Most of the meeting was taken up with discussion of plans for this Year's Convention. Our District Branches met with Steve Fuentes March 3rd. He Gave us instructions for hosting the Convention in La Quinta . There will be a lot of work so we will need all of our members to pitch in with whatever they can do. I hope this issue makes it by the end of March because I'm wishing you a blessed Easter. Our new Pope will be celebrating this year. Pray for him that he keeps the Church alive and vibrant. Happy Mother's Day to all our Mothers.

Ciao,

Jack Grisafe

Redlands

Sacred Heart, Br. 217

We had a wonderful meeting on March 3rd. We are planning our annual Italian sausage sale in mid-March and it's sure to be a crowd

pleaser. Cooking is something we Italians do best! In addition to our sausage sale, we will have another casino trip to Pala Casino on April 1st. Paul Frederick presented some items he and his family collected over the years. The artifacts are part of his Italian heritage, including his family's coat of arms. We celebrated Matt DiMaria's 92nd (or is it 93rd?) birthday, as well as birthdays for Carmen Hynds and Pat Amicone. We also welcomed a speaker from the National Cooley's Foundation, Laurice Levine. Ms. Levine has first-hand knowledge of the complications and seriousness of the disease, having been diagnosed with it at an early age. She presented some information about the disease and distributed informational packets. The disease, also known as Thalassemia, is common among the Mediterranean countries and Italians have unusually susceptible. The ICF is one of the Foundation's main contributors, and since the early 1990's the ICF has donated over \$1 million to the Foundation; that money is used for research and other costs.

Some Facts About Cooley's Anemia: When ICF was looking for a national charity in the early 90's, they choose Cooley's Anemia because of the Italian connection; since then ICF has donated over \$1 million, all of which goes to research costs.

Cooley's Anemia was 1st discovered in Italy; it is a blood disorder; patients are unable to make a protein in the red blood cells and affects their oxygen. Severe anemia is the main problem, because the red cells (produced in the bone marrow) are not living, so the body does not make good red blood cells. Babies die by the age of 3.

In the 20's, Dr. Thomas Cooley diagnosed the condition. The kids who were dying of severe anemia were given blood transfusions every 2-4 weeks from the date of diagnosis. (It's now diagnosed at birth.) By the time the children became teens, they were dying of heart failure and liver disease because they were storing too much iron from the transfusions. In the 1970's, doctors discovered a drug (Desperol) which rids the body of iron. The medication is distributed in a pump attached to a needle infused for 12-15 hours a day. That treatment starts with the commencement of blood transfusion. People who continue that therapy (Desperol), are doing quite well.

In 2005 an oral medication was created, and the combination of the daily infusion and the oral medication is quite effective.

Cooley's Anemia is common wherever malaria is common. It's a genetic disease - both parents have to carry the gene. Those with the Cooley's Anemia gene are protected AGAINST malaria and have a 1 in 4 chance of passing on the disease to offspring.

Oakland and LA are two of the locations in the U.S. with specialty centers. The facility provides comprehensive care to about 300 U.S. patients and about 700 from other parts of the world. ICF donations are used to transport afflicted patients to the Oakland facility. About half of ICF donations go to research and therapies such as bone marrow transplants and the like.

San Diego

Chula Vista

St. Rose of Lima, Br. 229

After our great February Super Bowl Sandwich Sale, the rest of the month was fairly quiet. We look forward now to our St. Joseph Day Table, a new twist this year is a plate called "A Taste of Italy". Foods from four regions of Italy will be served familiarizing the Parish Community with the favorite Italian family event, eating! The event will start with a



Branch 261 Pres Prudence Price presenting check to St. Therese pastor - Father Bruce.

blessing of the table after which the "plate" will be offered to those who want to indulge. We will also offer canoli and Italian bread from Frank's Bakery in Mission Hills. The Staff, Crown and Cross (bread) will be torn and offered after the blessing. Luke ch,16: V.19 So then the Lord, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God. We look forward now to Easter week, and the joy that comes from being assured that Our Lord has indeed Risen!! May your Easter be Blessed and filled with all the things that are the deepest desires of your heart. *God Bless all of you!* *Toni Hildebrand*

San Diego

Our Lady of the Rosary, Br. 230

Cari Amici,
Buona Pasqua! Truly He has risen. Branch 230 held it's annual Fish Fry Fundraiser on the first Friday of Lent, February 15. Proceeds from the event were good and will be given to Our Lady of the Rosary Church. Many thanks to Mary Lou Terramagra, Theresa Cutri, Pietro Vella, Margaret Battaglia, Maria Sardina, Mary Cragun, and all who worked to make our fundraiser a success. Thank you to our benefactor who donated the tasty fish and to the many others who donated time, money, and raffle prizes. We had a modest Heritage Display in the upstairs hall thanks to Mary Lou Terramagra, Meade Massa, and Jim and Martha Cardinale-Hill. Branch 230 had Corporate Communion on March the 10th. Our Pancake Breakfast for Scholarships will be held Sunday April 21, from 8am to 12 noon. Tickets for the event are being sent to all members so please attend or send in or bring a donation to our next General Meeting on Friday, May 17 at 6:30 pm. We are looking to raise enough for two \$400 First Year College Scholarships. The date of our Branch Picnic has been changed to Sunday July 21 at Spanish Landing Park right across the street from Lindbergh Field Airport. Everyone is invited to share the Bocce Ball and picnic fun from 6am to 7or 8pm. Please remember to pray for Pope Francis, our lawmakers and our servicemen and women.
Pace di Cristo
Richard Barker

San Francisco

San Francisco

San Francisco

Maria Immacolata, Br. 1

Dear Members:
Our March Spuntino was enjoyed by all! Please note these upcoming events:
April 28 - Branch Mass ICC 10:30am
May 1 - Mother & Father Spuntino and Raffle 6:30pm Cost \$15.00 Reservations: Vic Arnaudo (650) 755-1369. Please bring



Central Council members at San Francisco District Installation, seated along with SF District President Debbie Majors.

a Raffle Prize. Prayers and get-well wishes to Oretta Scaletti who was hospitalized recently. She is now out of the hospital and recuperating in a convalescent hospital. Also our prayers and get-well wishes to Jeanne Macchello who is having back problems. Stay Healthy!
Ciao!
Toni Morsello

San Francisco

Santo Stefano, Br. 50

We recently celebrated Easter Sunday. Let us carry forward that joy and good will in the coming months. April 7 is the annual SF Archbishop's Day, hosted by San Mateo District. Please attend and welcome the new SF Archbishop! Our branch is responsible for the after mass social hour on April 7. We provide the coffee, donuts, juice, etc. for those attending the 8am Mass. The May 8 meeting is our last meeting for 2 months as we take our summer break. Meetings resume with the August 7 dinner meeting. Rest up this summer for a busy fall and winter season in the branch! Please contact Eleanor with the news of any member who is ill or has suffered a loss. Remember to pray for our ill and deceased members.

San Francisco

Corpus Christi, Br. 290

Cari Membri,
Congratulations are in order to all Branch 290 members who contributed to the success of

our June 1 Champagne-Bingo luncheon. A wonderful afternoon was enjoyed by all in attendance. Our next monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, April 18. A polenta and sausage dinner will be served at 6:00pm, followed by a meeting at 7:00pm. Price of the dinner is \$10.00. Please call Mary Rowe (415- 333-7939) to make your dinner reservation. A reminder to all who are planning to attend Archbishop's Day. It will be held at Our Lady of Angels Church in Burlingame. The day begins with Mass at 11:30, followed by lunch in the Church Hall. Price of the lunch for our members is \$15.00. Please call Mary Rowe (514-333-7939) to make your luncheon reservation. Please pray for healing for Jo Wallace and Joyce Nuti, and for all members who are ill or are recovering from a fall or surgery.
Ciao,
Jeannette

San Francisco

St. Cecilia, Br. 365

Our potluck dinner in honor of St. Joseph was well attended and enjoyed by everyone. It was great to see Nancy Pagni back. She had quite a long bout with the flu and is now in good health. Liliana did a great job as usual. Thanks to all who brought the tasty food and many thanks to the set-up crew, especially Rev. Joe Landi, who got right in there and helped. Our Garage Sale fundraiser will be held on April 27 & 28, in the Pagni garage at 2562 - 17th Ave. Remember, this is a new endeavor for our branch and we need everyone to participate by donating items that we can sell. Large, small, used, new. Call George at

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566-8333. Large items will be picked up. The more we have to sell, the better. Please keep Peggy Nan in your prayers. April 10 -- regular meeting at 7:00. May 8 -- regular meeting 7:00. Spuntino to follow. no charge. Raffle. *God Bless, Ann Basuino*

San Mateo San Mateo District Council

Greetings! Hope you all had a Blessed Easter. Mark your calendars: Sunday, April 7, Bishop's Day for the San Francisco Diocese will be held at Our Lady of Angels, Burlingame. Mass 11:30 a.m. followed by lunch in the hall. Price: San Mateo District Branch Members \$20; Non-members and Guests \$25; children (under 12 years of age) \$12. Sunday, April 14, Branch 173, Our Lady of Angels, Burlingame. Spring Fling Fundraiser. Cocktails 4:00 p.m., Dinner 5:00 p.m. Raffle and Silent Auction. Price: Adults \$18 and Children \$5. Reservations: Call Sandra Bennett, 1112 Rosedale Avenue, Burlingame, Telephone: (650)697-4279. Thursday, May 23, 7:30 p.m. Next District meeting at Our Lady of Angels, Burlingame. Refreshments by Branch 130. November 8th, Chaplain's Night. Branch 351 Hosting. Keep in our thoughts and prayers: Father Frank Murray, Rose Marie Sickle, Nancy Van Tricht and yours truly Anne O'Brien. Thank you for all your thoughts, love and prayers. My surgery was a success and still need prayers for recovery. *Peach and Love. Anne O'Brien*

Redwood City Regina Coeli, Br. 6

Thank you to Georgia and Sylvia Row for the tortellini dinner. Everything was delicious including the focaccia. We set up in the kitchen and had a wonderful time. Just like home! I hope everyone had a Blessed Easter. We voted to give a 1st year scholarship and a 3rd year scholarship to the Mario Cugia Italian Studies scholarship. Thank you to our membership.

Please pray for our sick members Nancy Van Tricht and Catherine Boyle. Hope to see you at our next meeting. *Ciao, BF*

South San Francisco Sacro Cuore, Br. 7

At our dinner meeting in March, we all enjoyed a wonderful dinner by Chef Sam Bonanno. He prepared his "Pasta alla Bonanno" and always does an outstanding job. A big thank you to the cooks and helpers. Your efforts are always appreciated. On March 16, we had our Corned Beef & Cabbage Fundraiser. Thank you to all that participate and all the outstanding workers. April 3 will have our monthly dinner meeting. Please plan to attend and stay connected to you organization. Remember, "United we stand and divided we fall"! May 1 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 7. So, until next time, a little chuckle for your day.... A grandmother was telling her little granddaughter what her own childhood was like. "We used to skate outside on a pond. I had a swing made from a tire; it hung from a tree in our front yard. We rode our pony. We picked wild raspberries in the woods." The little girl was wide-eyed, taking this all in. At last she said, "I sure wish I'd gotten to know you sooner!" *Sempre Avanti Laurie Masetti*

Colma San Vincenzo de Paoli, Br. 19

Branch 19's March 11 meeting opened with Cheryl leading the attendees in an Irish Blessing. We then celebrated St. Patrick's Day with a traditional corned beef dinner with all the trimmings prepared by our member Joe Orsino. Donna and Christine were co-chairmen for this event. We all enjoyed participating in the "Right and Left" game as well as a Trivia Game. We now know a little bit more about St. Pat. Each table had a game winner. Thanks to Deborah for the lovely table decorations. A short meeting was held to take care of business. Branch 19 will continue to sponsor a scholarship for a graduating senior from Jeffersosn High School in honor of John

Mongdon as well as a first year Branch 19 ICF Scholarship. Raffle tickets have been mailed out. \$20 per book of which \$10 stays with the Branch, a great opportunity to raise funds for our charities. Need more tickets, call Donna at (650)991-0178. Looking Ahead: Apr 6 -- Champagne Chicken Bingo, 1:30 champagne, 2:30 dinner. \$16 included one card. Call Deborah (650)583-0805. Apr 7 -- Bishop's Day-Our Lady of Angels, Burlingame, 11:30am Mass. Lunch to follow in the hall. \$20 members, \$25 non-members. Apr 8 Soup Night - Bring your own bowl and spoon. Kathy will be serving soups from family recipes. Make reservations with Cheryl (650)755-0878. Apr 22 -- Mothers/Fathers Day Favors, 7:30. Call Deborah for location (650)583-0805. Spring has arrived. Better weather, longer day light. Come on out and enjoy ICF fellowship and hospitality. Stay well. *Ruth Lapachet*

San Mateo

St. Matthew, Br. 163

Salutations! Hope everyone had a Happy Easter. Many thanks to Virginia and Harold Fuentes for the delicious Minestrone Soup they made for the March dinner meeting. Many thanks to Bea Weiss and Marie D'Asaro for bringing some of the delicious soup to Rose Marie Sickle and myself on their way home from the meeting. We were there in spirit. Heard that Heritage Chairman Michele Casari-Loman held a fun game of bingo with Italian words on the bingo cards. How creative is that. Reminders: Bishops' Day is Sunday, April 7 at Our Lady of Angels in Burlingame. Mass will be at 11:30am, with lunch following in the hall. Price \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members. Sunday, April 14, Branch 173 Our Lady of Angels, Burlingame will hold a Spring Fling fundraiser. 4pm. cocktails, 5pm. dinner, raffle and silent auction. Adults \$18, Children \$5. For reservations, call Bea Tomasello (650) 344-5276. Many thanks to Eda Rossetto and the Branch members for their thoughts and prayers after my surgery. I'm still recovering and hope to be back with you soon. Please remember Father Frank Murray and Rose Marie Sickle in your prayers. *Peace and Love Anne O'Brien*

Burlingame

Our Lady of Angels, Br. 173

Happy Easter to all! We had a wonderful celebration for St. Joseph with a potluck dinner and prayers honoring the saint at our March meeting. The fava beans were also given out in the Italian tradition. Thanks to Dorene Campanile and Bob Tomasello for co-chairing the event. Also, thanks to Jean



Left to right is Mariano Wemiz, Dorene Campanile Br. President 173 and Jack Martinelli. They did an excellent job as president for the day. Our future Presidents of tomorrow. They had to write an essay of 50 words or more on why they wanted to be president for a meeting.

Watterson, Lucy and Jim Witherspoon for their continuous help with table setups for our dinners. They are part of our earth angels who are always ready to help out.

Upcoming Events:

Bishop's Day: Sunday, April 17, 2013 11:30 Mass at Our Lady of Angels Church lunch to follow. \$10.00 for our members and please get in touch with Dorene Campanile to assist. (650-344-7870)

Spring Fling Fundraiser -- April 14, 4pm. Cocktails, Pasta and Meatball dinner, raffle, silent auction \$18.00 adult, \$5. kids. Contact Sandra Bennett (650-697-4279). Deadline April 10.

We offer our condolences to Norma Moisio on the death of her husband Al and please keep John Watterson and Anita Bacich in your prayers. Also, please pray for our new Pope Francis and let's do all we can to make our world a more humane and faith-filled place.

God Bless, Rosalind C. Emery

South San Francisco

St. Augustine, Br. 213

Our March 12 Lenten Soup Supper was well attended. We were delighted to see John and Fran Cannon at the dinner meeting. We also welcomed our San Mateo District Deputy, Donna Barnes. What a nice surprise! Thank you to chairladies Judy Crosetti, Jackie Smith, and Roberta for providing the delicious food.

As an incentive to get our members to attend our monthly dinner meetings, we started a drawing at our February meeting. One name is drawn from the attendance list and that person is entitled to a free dinner at the meeting of their choice. February's winner was our new member, Bob Eserini, and the March winner was Virginia Fuentes. Congratulations to you both!

Best wishes to our Chaplain and Pastor, Father Rene Ramoso, on his 50th birthday on April 20! The parish will hold a dinner dance in his honor.

On Sunday, April 28, Branch 213 will celebrate their 46th anniversary at a luncheon to be held at the El Rancho Terrace Café in Millbrae. Flyers have gone out to all of our members. If you have any questions, please call Jackie Smith at 650/992-3505.

IMPORTANT: Please mark your calendars for Saturday, June 22. This is the date for our annual Champagne Bingo Luncheon. This is our only annual fundraiser and we will need everyone's help to make it a success!! Flyers will be available at our April 9 meeting.

Don't forget to pray for our members who have health issues: Helen Minotti, John Cannon, Franco Franchini.

Hope everyone had a joyous Easter and look forward to seeing you at our April 9 meeting. *rf*

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St. Charles**San Carlos, Br. 327**

Hi All,
Because we were having our Corned Beef dinner in March we cancelled our regular meeting. We will catch up next month. The dinner was a great success. All those who attended have given us good reviews. Thank you! Our family enjoys helping to make and serve the dinner each year. Thank you to all who attended and to all who prepared and served the dinner. It is thanks to all of you for making it the success that it was.
*God Bless
Carole*

Millbrae**St. Dunstan, Br. 403**

Our 23rd Anniversary Dinner held on March 10 was a wonderful celebration. Our chicken parmesan dinner prepared by our president Lorrie Kalos Gunn was enjoyed by all. Our annual St. Joseph's Table Potluck Dinner held on St. Joseph's Feast Day was very impressive; with a beautiful flower decorated table surrounding the statue of St. Joseph. ICF members brought an abundance of delicious food to share and all remaining food was given to the San Bruno Catholic Hospitality House for the homeless.

April 7 – Bishops Day was celebrated at Our Lady of Angels in Burlingame, followed by lunch in the Parish Hall.

April 28 – Our Branch was joined with Branch 173, Our Lady of Angels in Burlingame, for a Communion Brunch at the Terrace Café in Millbrae, following 10:00am Mass at St. Dunstan.

May 7 – Regional Italian Dinner Meeting at 6:30pm in the Parish Center. The dinner menu is breaded beef with salad, pasta and dessert for \$8.00 per person, payable in advance. Send check payable to ICF 403 to Dan Capodanno, 325 San Jose, Millbrae, CA 94030.

May 19 – Spaghetti & Meatball dinner in Parish Center – no host cocktails at 4:00PM, dinner at 5:00pm. Dinner includes antipasto, salad, spaghetti & meatballs, bread, wine, dessert, coffee or tea for \$25.00 per person.

Send reservations and seating arrangements with check payable to ICF #403 by May 13, 2013 to Dan Capodanno, 325 San Jose Ave, Millbrae, CA 94030.

*Corresponding Secretary,
Rose Marie Morando*

Marin**Larkspur****St. James, Br. 161**

Hope everyone had a wonderful Easter.

Our ladies are showing their love by knitting and crocheting beautiful items, as well as sewing items from fabrics, for different charities like Oakland Children's Hospital, Canal Alliance, Ritter House, Special Olympics, and St. Vincent's. Since June of last year, we have given out over 400 items. Thank you to the different ladies who have been doing this, but especially to Diane Hollister and Imma Sottile.

Our deepest condolences to our President Marlene Farber on the loss of her beloved mother, Angelina Schrader, on February 20. She was 97 years old. Our thoughts and prayers are with her and her whole family.

Our get-well wishes for a speedy recovery to all of you who aren't feeling well. Until next month.

Ciao,

Anna Biggio

San Jose

Santa Clara Valley

District Council

The April district meeting, 4-8-13, will be held at Br. 191, St.

Francis Cabrini, San Jose. The premeeting dinner will be at Effies Restaurant, 331 Hacienda Ave., Campbell 95008. Dinner time is 5PM. Contact Liz Donaldson, 408 250-1144 cell, 408-266-3833

The following are district and branch dates to mark your calendars and make plans to attend:

April 13 – Br. 191 St. Francis Cabrini – Liz Donaldson 408-266-3833

April 20 - Br. 47, Mtn. View, 6:30 pm Joe Teresi 650-493-2856

April 20 - Br. 184 Chicken and Polenta dinner/dance \$25.00 Don Arnaudo 408-354-4017

May 4 – District golf tournament – Gilroy Golf Course 9:30 A.M.

\$65.00 includes cart and tri-tip BBQ lunch – lunch only \$20.00 Pat Cordich 408-842-6065

May 11 – Day at the Races 12:00- Bill or Maria Greco 408-226-7820 or 408-221-4953

June 5 – Br. 4, Holy Cross – Baby Back Rib – Ann Fitzgerald 408-266-2549

June 23 – District Our Lady of Peace Mass 11:30 A.M. more info. to follow

August 7 – District - San Jose Giants – more info. to come

August 31 – Br. 391, San Jose Giants – food booth

September 7th and 8th 3rd Annual Italian Harvest Festa Morgan Hill branches encouraged to participate with a booth. Contact Jim

DiVittorio for information 408-461-0107

October 27 – District Bishop's Day at St. Francis Cabrini 11:30

A.M. More info. to follow. Don't forget to elect Convention Delegates in May.

Happy Spring!

Marcie Rossi



The attached picture is of Bernice (Sis) Kiser celebrating her 100 birthday at a Branch 28 dinner meeting on February 25, 2013.

San Jose**Holy Cross, Br. 4**

We were all Irish for a day and enjoyed the corned beef and cabbage dinner. Thanks to Bill Greco and family for cooking.

Hope during your Lenten Season, you have helped someone in some special way. Also, Lent is a good time to reflect on the strength of our faith.

April 3- Dinner Meeting

May 1- Crowning of the Blessed Mother. Please Bring Flowers!

June 5- Our Famous Baby Back Rib dinner. This is our big fundraiser, so let's all participate.. Cost is \$25.00 and open to the public. Get your family and friends to join us for this event.

Thanks to all who donate to Cooleys Anemia each month.

You have the convention raffle tickets. Remember for each book sold the Branch keeps \$10.00.

Hope you all had a Happy, Blessed Easter. "A Friend is someone who reaches for your hand, but touches your heart"

Ann Fitzgerald

Santa Clara**N.S. Assunta, Br. 5**

Thanks goes to Mike Holder, Joe Martinez, and Matt Dutra for a wonderful Irish Dinner on March 27, 2013.

April Dinner & Meeting, April 25, 2013. Time: 6:00PM Dinner & 7:00PM Meeting. Costs: \$10.00/\$12.00.

Menu: Bake Chicken ½
Pinto Beans
Scalloped Potatoes
Salad
Bread
Dessert

Come to the Meeting, April 25, 2013 for more information about the ICF activities both in Branch 5 and around the District. Indian Casino Trip planned in May.

Thanks goes to Father George Aranha for a wonderful and spiritual Day of Recollections at St. Clare on March 16, 2013.

May the soul of Petra Ignoffo, rest in peace. Please pray for family in their lost.

Remember, new members are needed, and applications are available. See Marlene Rotolo at the Meeting.

Hope to see you at each monthly Dinner/Meeting. It is time to enjoy the time change with it being lighter at night. Please join us and say hi to friends.

Ciao,

Marlene J. Rotolo

Gilroy**Santa Maria Ausiliatrice, Br. 28**

Thank you to everyone who worked so hard on our Polenta Dinner fundraiser. It was a great success.

Upcoming:

Dinner meeting April 15, 6pm Cullen Hall. Scholarship Pancake Breakfast, April 21, Cullen Hall

District Golf Tournament, May 4, Gilroy Golf Course.

Motorcycle run and car show: May 18, Santos Residence

We are currently on a mission to improve our membership numbers. If everyone contacted at least one person just look at what we could do. Tell everyone about our good monthly dinners, and all the good works we do. And of course what a great friendly bunch we are. The district golf tournament will again be held here in Gilroy. Hole sponsorships and raffle prizes are needed. Contact Pat Cordich at 408- 842-6065 if you can help. Lunch will be served from 12:30 to 1:30 Anyone can come for lunch. Reserve by calling Pat Cordich.

We lost member and past officer Pat Trinchero last month. Remember her and all our sick members in your prayers.

Ciao,

Anna Barberi

Mountain View**San Giorgio, Br. 47**

May God bless Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio our new Pope Francis 1 and the first Jesuit -- The humble friar who dedicated his life to helping the poor.

Our branch has made plans for our Polenta dinner on Saturday, April 20 in Doyle Hall. The price is \$15.00 for adults and \$10.00 for children. Dinner will be served at 6:30pm. We are giving all proceeds to the 2nd, 3rd, & 4th year ICF Scholarships.

Please pray for our sick members.

Happy Birthday to Kara Howe, Sabrina & Sara Stephens, Robert Mancini, Craig & Lynn Noah.

Sincerely in Christ,

Joseph J. Teresi

Los Gatos**St. Mary, Br. 184**

Everything is in place for our "April in Paris" Springtime Dinner Dance. The Buonaccorsi men will make the polenta and our hardworking men's group will create the delicious chicken cacciatore. Of course there will be live music, provided by the Reno Di Bono Band, for your dancing pleasure. Don Arnaudo is waiting to receive your reservation forms. Call him for more information at 408-354-4017.

Eileen Fritsch informed us that April is "Donate Life Awareness" month, and you can show your support by wearing bright blue or bright green. Eileen is our representative for the Organ Donor Program.

The Third Italian Festa will take place on September 7 and 8, at Uesugi Farms in Morgan Hill. In order to participate with a food booth, we need our members to step up and volunteer to help. Please contact Marie Yurosko at 408-354-4407 for information or to help!

We are very happy to learn that Sal and Denise Campagna have asked to be reinstated as members of our branch. It was before my membership, but I understand that Denise was once President of our branch. They now live in Morgan Hill and helped start the ICF branch there for St. Catherine's Parish.

Our Deputy Maria Greco and husband Bill remarked about our dinners before the meeting. In March, Ottavio and Mary Scalise prepared homemade ravioli in a wonderful sauce with meatballs, Marie Yurosko brought a large green salad, and Fran Filice's daughter made cupcakes from scratch. It was all delicious.

As I write this, a new Pope, Pope Francis,

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John is an active member of Branch 332, Novato and serves the entire Bay Area.

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is about to be installed, actually on the feast day for St. Joseph. We send him our prayers and heartfelt congratulations, “AUGURI PAPA FRANCESCO!” I hope you all had a Blessed Easter. *Ciao for now, Lucy Amico*

Los Altos

St. Nicholas, Br. 186

Hopefully all had a glorious Easter. Our Polenta Dinner Dance was a huge success do to all the help from our members. A big thank you to Chuck Tapella and Joe Carroll’s kitchen crews. They were great. Ralph Del Prete did a wonderful presentation at the District Meeting on the procedures of electing a new Pope. Very informative. Thanks Ralph. Reni and Pat Felice at our meeting gave a report on the Villa Siena Bingo they run each and every Tuesday. With the facility expansion, the Bingo Tuesday has really grown. All the residents look forward to winning a little something each week. Thanks to Reni and Pat for their dedication to this program. The Board will be deciding in the near future on distribution of the Charity Budget. Let the Board know if you have a charity you want considered. Happy Birthday to all celebrating birthdays in April. April 4 - Regular meeting - 6:30pm Hors d’oeuvres. Election of delegates to convention. April 17 - Deceased Remembrance Mass 8am, St. Nicholas Church “Do not value the things you have in your life, but value who you have in your life” *Elaine*

San Jose

St. Frances Cabrini, Br. 191

The month of April began with our branch hosting the district meeting on April 9th. Those attending the meeting were invited to gather at Effie’s Restaurant off of Winchester Blvd in Campbell for dinner before the meeting. Our yearly Polenta dinner/dance was held on April 13th. Chairpersons Jaime Portillo and Debbie Piro picked a 50’s theme for the evening’s affair. Joe Medoro was eagerly encouraging members to come in costume and be ready to join in on the activities that Jaime and Debbie were planning, such as the hula hoop contest. Esther Ramonda & Aldine Grisenti asked members to donate items for the baskets raffles. It is always exciting to see the creations these two ladies come up with. Reservations for the Bocce court are starting to come in. Members will be joining Liz Donaldson, Bette and Joe Antuzzi in getting the courts ready for our Thursday night Bocce ball pot luck social. If anyone wants to reserve the Bocce court for a party, contact Bette Antuzzi at 408-559-4268 or Aldine Grisenti at 408-559-1242. Our April meeting will be held on April 24. Members will sit down to an Enchiladas dinner at 6:30pm and our general meeting will begin at 7:1pm. FYI – the branch newsletter is posted on the St. Frances Cabrini parish website. From the SFC home page scroll down to SFC Organizations & Groups and click on the ICF logo. *God Bless, Rosemary Janis*

San Jose

Santa Teresa, Br. 368

Our branch honored St. Joseph with tables of beautiful flowers and a feast of delicious food arranged by JoAnne Opp and Cheryl Sanchez. Their spouses had aprons on too! Special thanks to Rose Traina for making the wonderful breads. The tradition of giving out fava beans was evident on the tables. A

bonus was Ed Wendler’s talk on the life of St. Joseph. The evening was also special with the initiating of new members Nancy and Tim Merlander. We enjoyed a delightful report by Mikela, daughter of Mary and Marcello Ridi and granddaughter of Rosa Traina, on her recent trip to Los Angeles for the Youth Fellowship Conference. It was also great to see Rose Franciotti looking so well. President Noreen thanked those who helped on the many past events. After a spiritual Day of Recollection and Easter renewal, plans are being made for upcoming programs. April 11 -- Regular Branch Meeting 6:30 April 21 -- Branch Mass, 8:30 May 4 -- District Golf Tournament in Gilroy May 9 -- Regular Branch Meeting 6:30 May 11 -- District Day at the Races May 13 -- Host District Meeting 6:30 May 17 -- Pasta Dinner Fundraiser May 19 -- Branch Mass, 8:30 In the meantime keep Aldine Grisenti and Fr. Bill Pegnam in your prayers for a speedy recovery. *Lorraine Nunziata*

San Jose

St. Martin of Tours, Br. 391

Branch 391’s March dinner was celebrated Irish style, in which we feasted on traditional corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, carrots, rye bread, and green Its-Its. As always, a special thank you to our “Kitchen Crew” who are always the first to arrive and the last to leave: Mary Lipari, John Rossi, Diana and Al Valloz, and Jeff Prolo. At the March meeting, our 2013 budget was presented by Steve Lencioni, and after minimal discussion, the members approved it. Also, Louise Vento presented an Irish heritage report about Catholics in Ireland and the customary kissing of the blarney stone. Please see Louise if you would like to present a heritage report, which only need to be a couple minutes in length. Since July, Branch 391 has welcomed 16 new members. Looks like we are on our way to fulfilling our annual membership goal! In May our branch will have another initiation of new members. April is organ donor awareness month, and at the next meeting we will have a special speaker informing us about organ awareness. Also, on April 27 is our Spring fundraiser which includes a pasta dinner. We hope everyone had a wonderful Easter. *Pace, Bianca Valloriz*

Sunnyvale

Resurrection, Br. 408

We are greatly saddened by the loss of our first Vice President and Past President Mary Santaferaro. She was a generous soul with a tremendous sense of humor. We will certainly miss all of her various cookies and baked goodies that she shared with us all. We had a great turnout and for the first Parish Simple Soup Supper of Lent and recruited three new members. Nice Job – Nancy Royal, Fred Petralia and John Parker on this recruiting effort. We had a very good turnout at the Quarterly communion Breakfast and Thanks to Fr. Bob for his kind words. Our ICF PASTA Dinner held 9 March 2013 to raise funds for the 5th Grade Science Camp was a great success. Thanks to all our supporters for this Remember to include our ongoing sick members in your prayers especially for Virginia Mirrione, Marie Volp and Franco Ciacchella.

Morgan Hill

Santa Caterina D’Alessandria, Br. 435 Spring is finally here and we are all so ready for it. It’s been a long winter. On April 6 after the 5:30 Mass at St. Catherine’s we are having a fundraiser. We will be serving



(Above) Br. 52 initiated new members at our January Polenta Dinner. Pictured are some of our new members in the past two years.

(Below) Br. 52 was honored to recognize Miria Garfagnoli for her 63 years of branch membership. Miria is pictured with Br. Pres. Nancy Seppi and Miria’s family.



spaghetti, sausage, garlic bread and dessert. There will also be a raffle by Sylvia Sorci who has collected some wonderful prizes. Be sure to put that date on your list of places & things to do.

A Mass was said for Giula Galeego’s daughter Teresa Siefert. The church was overflowing with everyone who loved her & her family. It was truly an inspiring service. A beautiful bouquet of flowers were given to Denise Campagna in appreciation for the hard work & many years with the ICF. She thanked us & especially her husband Sal who is always involved in so many ways. At our Feb. dinner we were treated with a delicious lasagna dinner cooked by John Sorci & helpers. Dessert was supplied by Denise Campagna. Save these important dates on your calendar: April 6 - fund raiser April 18 - dinner meeting May 16 - dinner meeting Please keep the following in your prayers- Father Alex, Loritta Johnson, Loretta Wilson’s son in law (Steve Britton) who has passed away. Hope you had a happy Saint Patrick’s Day & Happy Easter to all’ *God bless all our members. Donna Basilin*

Santa Rosa

Napa

San Giuseppe, Br. 12

The March 4 meeting was held at Sizzler Restaurant with eighteen members and guest in attendance. We voted to purchase a chalice for St. John’s Church, to continue with the Beer Booth at the Napa Fair in August, and to host the annual ICF Day of Recollection in September. We were saddened by the loss Marjorie Simich, a 23 year member having joined our Branch February 28, 1990. Several members attended her funeral, extending sympathy to family. Our April 1 Meeting will be held at St. John’s Hall, Gathering 6:00pm, Ham & Spud Salad Dinner 6:30 pm. The Quarterly Communion/ Dinner will be held Saturday, April 6 at 4:30pm Mass – St. Apollinaris and dinner following at Uva’s Restaurant. Mangiare bene! The monthly Mass for Living & Deceased ICF members will be held at St. John’s Church, 12:05pm Tuesday, April 9. The Officer’s Meeting will be held at the President’s home on April 15. Looking ahead: Mark your calendars now for the Branch celebration of its 86th Anniversary on May 6th at Filippi’s Restaurant. All members near and far are most welcome to come celebrate with us. *God bless, Juliann Fontana, President*

Santa Rosa

Santa Rosa, Br. 18

We donated two \$400.00 ICF scholarships this to show our encouragement to our future generations; one in memory of our living members and the other, in memory of our deceased members. Watch theBollettino for names of the winners. A big thank you to all who helped with our gala 85th March 23rd Anniversary Dinner Dance. A special thanks to all who bought tickets to this most enjoyable event. We use the ticket sales receipts to finance our Church and community projects. We are still collecting used eye glasses through Gift of Sight in cooperation with the Lions Club and Lenscrafter. We are pleased to know that both Jeanette Mitchell and Sally Darter are improving in health. Please let us know of anyone you know who is in need of prayer for recovery from illness or in need of comfort because of loss of a loved one. We are sending out convention raffle tickets to all members with the April Branch 18 Newsletter. We keep half of all ticket sales receipts to help finance our convention delegate’s expenses.
*Happy Eastertide to all,
Marie Canale*

Healdsburg

St. Francis de Sales, Br. 52

The Mardi Gras Casino Night on Feb. 9 was very successful. The profit to St. John’s School and the ICF was \$20,000. These funds will be split evenly between the two groups. Everyone had a great time playing the games and enjoying the food. Thank you to everyone who helped make this a success, especially Nancy Seppi and Teri Roller. Part of our share of the profits will be used to build storage cabinets for the ICF. We also had our first St. Joseph’s Table at the Parish Soup Supper on March 20. Thank you to Chrissie Zichichi for organizing this.
Upcoming Events:
April 2: Regular Meeting at Nancy Seppi’s house. 7:0pm.
April 14: Pancake Breakfast after the 8am and 10am Masses. Price: \$6.00 per person. If you haven’t attended a pancake breakfast, plan on attending this one. The pancakes, eggs and sausage are delicious!
April 20: Polenta Dinner. This is our last Polenta dinner until November. Bar opens at 5:4pm. Dinner at 6:3pm. For reservations, please call Dee Rochester: 433-5454 or Nancy Seppi: 433-4708. Price: \$10 for members, \$12 for guests.
If you haven’t paid your 2013 dues, yet, please send them to Tom Crotty.
Welcome to our new member: Anna Trischizzi Welcome!
*Hope everyone had a great Easter!
Lauren Kilcullen*

Sonoma

St. Sebastian, Br. 103

After a great St. Patrick’s dinner at our March meeting, the branch is concentrating on deciding which fund raising activities would produce the greatest revenues for our coffers. More news on the subject in next month’s article. The scholarship program has generated much interest and our branch is anticipating several qualified applicants. In April our dinner will consist of salad, pork loin with sides, dessert, and wine. For reservations call Lila Borogno, (707) 996-3448.
*Saluti,
Marie-Therese Denning*

Petaluma

St. Vincent, Br. 127

Greetings from Petaluma!
Petaluma Branch celebrated St. Joseph’s Table with lots of love and plenty of good food. The Frank Cresci family and the Orlando family did all the wonderful cooking. Frank not only cooked but donated a lot of



Fran McNatt of Br. 103 decorating March tables.

the food and goods. They have donated for many years their time and money and it is greatly appreciated by the Branch. They had a lot of help from all the members. Thanks to all who helped and all who came to the dinner.
Our last meeting was conducted by Vice President Bruno Fomassi, who did a great job. District Deputy Kathy Acquistapace and her husband Bob attended the meeting and we welcomed our new Branch Deputy Kenny Marshall from Napa Branch. Join us at our meetings we have fun along with our other fellow members.
We want to thank John Fomassi, for the years he gave to us as our Branch Deputy and thank his lovely wife Katie for always being there with him.
We are glad that Spence Burton is home and recuperating very nicely after his surgery. We hope to see him soon at our meetings again.
April is Bakeless Bake Sale Month. Please send in your donations.
May 6 - Reno Overnighter - Boom Town, Silver Legacy accomodations, the Nugget. Cost \$125 single or double occupancy - Make reservations with Kathleen Walker - 763-7354 ASAP
May 13 - Pizza Dinner 6:00pm - Bingo to follow
May 25 - Chicken Cacciatore Dinner - St. James Church Hall - following mass - Cost \$16 Adults \$5 children under 12 yrs. Make reservations with Louise Vicino - 769-7389
Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary to all members celebrating this month. Get well wishes to sick members.
Remember to be nice to someone, you will always get it back in return.
*Ciao
Louise Vicino*

Eureka

St. Ambrose, Br. 145

President Marian Griffin called our March 12 meeting to order. Joe Bonino read the minutes from the January meeting; approved as read. There were no minutes for the February meeting which was a delicious potluck meal.
Marian Griffin reported that she is working on the paperwork and permits for our July fireworks sale; all is in order. Remember our sales will be from July 1st through July 4th. Please consider helping as this is our biggest fundraiser of the year.
Nancy Brunner reported on our current membership. Our member numbers down to a critical low. We discussed the possibility of combining our lodge with the Arcata lodge. There will be more discussion at future meetings.
Arcata Deputy Mike Dal Porto thanked all of members who attended their recent chicken and polenta feed. Also Arcata will be hosting the April 20 anniversary dinner. Mass will be at St. Marys at 5:30, followed by cocktails and dinner.

We also discussed the possibility of having a “Book and Biscotti” sale combined with the monthly pancake breakfast at St. Bernard for another fund raiser. If you have and thoughts or ideas please contact Marian.
Our next meeting will be April 9, please attend.
Keep all of our members in your prayers, especially those who fighting serious illness.
*Peace be with all of you,
Nancy Paoli*

Cotati

St. Joseph, Br. 150

Our March dinner meeting was a wonderful beer soaked corned beef dinner. Thank you to Tom Daly who cooked the corned beef. Thank you to Lydia and Beverly for baking Irish soda bread, Dara for her peas, Maryann and Shelia for our desserts. Thank you to Susan and Emily for hosting the dinner. It was a nice evening. We installed four new members, Shelia Gardner, Belle Schlyer, Steve and Maryann Vossbrink. Welcome!
Our sympathy to our wonderful Jef McCrea who lost her husband Wendell recently. He was a wonderful member, 100% helper, loved the jokes and to sit with the ladies. We will sadly miss him.
Our Polenta fundraiser dinner was very successful. Thank you to everyone who helped out and of course attended. The raffle was fabulous. Thank you to Gene and Lydia Camozzi and family who hosted it with Carol Martinez as raffle host. Thank you!
Our new member Shelia Gardner has a wonderful consignment shop on Redwood Dr called Kenny G’s please check it out. It is a really neat place.
Louise Vicino, from Petaluma is our new Deputy, nice to keep it in the family.
We will be going to Olive Garden May 2 for our Mother’s / Father’s Day dinner. The room will only hold 30 people so first sign up will be able to attend. We will order off the menu and you will have your own check. Tom Saksa is hosting, please call him to sign up 795-7729.
*Happy Easter and Blessings to all
Susan Daly*

Santa Rosa

St. Eugene, Br. 198

Dear Brothers and Sisters
With Easter behind us and Spring underway, we can begin to plant our vegetables which will yield a harvest for us this Summer.
Do you remember your parents and grandparents checking the moon so the onions and lettuce would not go to seed? Remember them and keep the traditions going in the garden.
All of us need to get our tickets now for the Prime Rib and Pasta fundraiser on April 27. Call Claire Giampaoli at 539-1443 for your reservations.
Our scholarship dinner will be on May 6. We celebrate Mother’s Day and honor the scholarship recipients at a 6:30pm risotto and chicken dinner in the Brinker Room. Ladies are free with a donation of babyclothes and men pay \$10.00.
Our next two masses for ICF members living and deceased will be 8:00am, April 27 and 8:00am on May 6.
At these masses please pray for RoseAnne Sikes, Frank Castelli, Pat Costaglio, Aldo Strombi and any other members that may be in need of our prayers.
*Ciao,
Lorraine Castelli*

Sebastopol

St. Michael, Br. 209

Our March meeting was preceded by a delicious Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner prepared by Don Becchetti and President Barbara Bidia. We can always depend upon

Don and Barbara do a great job and this was no exception. Thanks to both of you!!
Treasurer, Lorraine Vannetti, gave a report on our recent Polenta & Chicken Dinner. We served 233 guests and workers and, as usual, was a complete success. Thanks to everyone to contributed in any way.
Our member, and Santa Rosa District President, Dante Corsetti, updated us on district news. He is also hoping to set up a tour of Oakland Children’s Hospital perhaps in May or July. This should be a very interesting event and, hopefully, there will be a good response in this regard.
May 19 is the date of our next Bocci Tournament with other branches. Loudean Becchetti has agreed to chair the event. Please call her (707-575-7688) should you have any questions.
Upcoming:
April 2 -- Board Meeting
April 9 -- Regular Meeting
Please pray for our sick members; especially Bud Polley, who will be undergoing heart surgery on March 27.
*Ciao,
Lona Bertoli*

Stockton

Stockton

District Council

There will be a district meeting May 19, 2013 hosted by Presentation Br. 395 in Stockton at 1515 Benjamin Holt Dr. at 1:30 pm. Cost \$8.00 per person.
Invite your members to attend and bring their families. Karen always has a great meeting. The convention raffle tickets have be given to the branches. Do your best to sell as many as you can. Remember for each \$20.00 book you sell your branch gets to keep \$10.00. Reservations should be in to Wendell Barnes (209)736-2985 no later than May 13, 2013.
Cecelia McGhee

Modesto

St. Stanislaus, Br. 48

We are getting ready for our semiannual bake sale May 4 & 5 at the Maze Blvd. Church after the masses. Get your baked goods ready because to have a good bake sale we need goods to sell. All your help is very much appreciated.
The May 8, 2013 meeting is a potluck in honor of Mother’s Day beginning at 6:00 pm. Bring your favorite dish, family, friends and appetite and join us for the evening.
May will be a busy month, there is also a district meeting May 19, 2013 at Br. 395 in Stockton.
Mass for our deceased members will be Tuesday, April 16, 2013 at 5:30 at the J Street Church and Sunday May 12, 2013 8:00am at the Maze Blvd. church.
Refreshments for the April 10, 2013 meeting will be furnished by Louise Alberti and Jan Parodi.
Bank Night winner was Louise Alberti
Coming up:
April 10 -- Meeting 7:00pm St. Stanislaus Hall 7th & K Streets Modesto
April 16 -- Mass for our deceased members 5:30pm J Street church
May 4 & 5 -- Bake sale at Maze Blvd. church after all the masses
May 8 -- 6:00pm Meeting & Mother’s Day potluck St. Stanislaus Hall 7 & K Streets
May 19 -- District Meeting Br. 395 Stockton
Cecelia McGhee

Manteca

N.S. Buon Viaggio, Br.139

Our annual fundraiser is fast approaching. It is our “All you can eat Shrimp” dinner. It will be held on April 27 in the St. Anthony’s Gym at 6:30pm. The tickets are \$35. each

and available now from Marilyn, 209 612 7770. Dan Garibaldi will be playing his accordion during the no-host cocktail hour and the meal. The menu consist of pesto, salad, bread, shrimp, beverages and dessert. We are going to have a silent auction on special deserts prepared by our members and a raffle with lots of prizes.

Reserve this date, May 5, for our club picnic held at the Cunial's home. We have a great time there. We play games of Bocce, swim and eat a great barbecued steak. The members bring the side dishes, salad, appetizers and dessert. Plan to come.

Pray for the safe return of our troops, for our deceased members and for ill members.

Ida Queirolo

Tracy

St. Bernard, Br. 390

Buona Pasqua! Our St. Patrick's Day dinner meeting was held on March 21st. Mike and Crew prepared Corned Beef, Cabbage, and all the Trimmings. Filling and delicious as always! Our Heritage Night was celebrated on April 25. Thank you to all the Members and Guests who brought in yummy desserts and/or raffle prizes.

We all had a wonderful fellowship at this year's Bishop's Burse held in Tracy. What an honor to have Bishop Blaire bless us all at a Mass followed by the beautiful voice of Ashely, and then a delicious meal.

Scholarship Fundraiser Tickets are now on sale for \$20 each. Please keep in mind this Fundraiser supports our high school seniors and college students. Prizes include:

1st - \$1000 cash

2nd - Spa Basket worth over \$250

3rd - \$100 cash

April 25 -- Heritage Night Dinner Meeting including Pasta and Chicken, and our Scholarship Ticket Winner

May 4 -- St. Bernard's Gala Dinner -- "Sea of Life"

Ridi Sempre

Alena Chappell



Celebrating St. Joseph's Day at Branch 433.

Tucson

Green Valley

Our Lady of the Valley, Br. 425

Our sit- down Lasagna Dinner was very successful this year, we made what we expected. Everyone said that the lasagna was very good and the crowd really enjoyed the dinner and the entertainment. We had Art Flanigan's wife that plays the accordion and played a great variety of Italian songs. We also had the local organ shop that had one of their employees play a nice verity of songs. Some of the members were singing along with the songs that they knew and I think everyone had a good time.

March started off with St. Joseph's Table. We did more advertising this time in hopes of a better turn out. All the members are making a great variety of dishes and soups. Michael Piraino did a great job this year as chairman. With some of the members down with the flu, we were afraid that we wouldn't have the variety that we had anticipated, but as usual there was plenty. All the proceeds (\$640.00) went to the Food Bank, which was twice the amount that we gave last year from the St. Joseph's Table.

Next on the agenda is our pre-Easter cookie

sale. This is usually a rather good fund raiser for us. We're hoping that everyone is healthy by them and we will have a good variety of cookies to sell and it will be successful.

Picture of the members at the St. Joseph's Table attached.

God Bless All Our Members,
Joe Vivaldi

Tucson

Fr. Eusebio Kino, Br. 433

Our 433 Branch members here at Ss. Peter and Paul have been VERY busy getting ready for our St. Joseph's Table on Sunday, March 17. We anticipate a good turn-out for our meatball sandwiches with potato salad as well as our baked goods, candies and raffle! We will not only be celebrating St. Joseph but also St. Patrick. This is a special day for our Pastor and Chaplin Fr. PATRICK Crino -- can you guess why?

Many of our members attended the St. Joseph's Table held by our sister Tucson Branch 434 on Sunday, March 10, 2013. We enjoyed getting together and comparing notes on how each Branch had prepared for their events.

With spring in the air, we will be glad to put aside the COLD days of the last few months and watch the desert heat up and bloom! As

the cacti grow in the warmth of the sun, we hope that our Branch will continue to grow under the warmth of friendships we are establishing here at Ss. Peter and Paul.

Stay sunny side up!!!

Bette Acitelli, Recording Secretary

Tucson

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Br. 434

March 15, 2013 -- Hello ICF Family! We hope this month's bulletino finds you all well. It is warming up here in Southern Arizona -- in the 90's today! We have been keeping busy at our Tucson branch. This past Sunday, we celebrated St. Joseph with our first St. Joseph's Table! It was fun, rewarding, and so awesome to bring this celebration to our church. We served sausage and pepper sandwiches and meatball sandwiches. We had breads, cakes, cookies, and cupcakes. There were tons of crafts on sale and potted cacti. We made over \$900.00 and really enjoyed seeing all of the families come through and learn of this beautiful tradition. We wish you all a blessed Easter!

Don't Forget to
Make Your Con-
vention Reserva-
tions!

Awards Deadline
Nears, please sub-
mit all competed

April is a Great Time to Visit Italy

There have been songs written about "April in Paris," but it's easy to argue that April in Italy is just as worthy of a musical tribute. This is a month that's still firmly in Italy's spring shoulder season, but it often also includes some of the last shoulder season perks travelers will see in Italy until the fall returns again.

Weather in April in Italy

There may be a saying about "April showers bringing May flowers," but April in Italy is more often marked by sun than by rain. Like any shoulder season month, of course, April weather is more unpredictable overall than the summer or the winter -- but you're far more likely to experience mild temperatures and sun instead of rain. As is always the case in Italy, the temperatures rise as you head south. In April, this can mean that parts of northern Italy are still getting a bit of rain and cooler nights when it's warm enough in southern Italy to have the locals worrying aloud about how hot the summer will get.

April weather, by and large, isn't usually warm enough to warrant lots of beach time, but it's usually sunny enough that you'll be happy you packed your sunglasses and you'll get plenty of use out of your walk-

ing shoes. Just don't be surprised if a freak rainstorm requires an unexpected purchase of a little umbrella, or a moment taking refuge inside a bar for a quick espresso.

Why go to Italy in April?

As mentioned, April is still very much in Italy's spring shoulder season -- and shoulder seasons are widely thought of by frequent travelers to be the best time to visit almost any destination. The combination of relatively good weather and relatively low prices makes them appealing, and April in Italy often delivers on both of those fronts.

Sure, you'll pay less on a plane ticket to Italy if you visit in January or February, and your hotel in Italy may cost more in April than in March, but the prices are still lower in April than the highs they'll reach during the summer. Not only that, if you're paying attention far enough in advance you can often score winter-rate travel deals to Italy for dates in April simply by booking your trip a few months in advance.

Visiting Italy during the winter is appealing to anyone who likes avoiding peak crowd levels, but even though there are more tourists in Italy in April than in January the number of visitors is still smaller



than it will be in the summer.

The unpredictable weather in Italy in April is one of the main drawbacks to an April trip, but travelers who are able to keep their plans flexible and switch from a day spent visiting the outdoor ruins of the Roman Forum and Colosseum to a day spent enjoying the indoor attractions of the Vatican Museums and St. Peter's Basilica are well-suited to shoulder season trips in general.

Keep in mind that it's important to find out

when Easter is occurring, because traveling during Easter weekend can be troublesome with trains and buses running on a slower holiday schedule. Also note that in some places the Easter celebrations create a minor spike in the cost of hotel rooms -- they don't tend to be as high as the cost can be in the summer, but they're often higher than the weekends directly before or after Easter weekend. Liberation Day also means closures at many attractions and shops.

Viva Il Papa!



SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, June 30th, 2013
10 AM—7 PM

Waterloo Gun and Bocce Club
4343 N. Ashley Lane, Stockton

For more Info: 209.983.4375 or www.festa-italiana.com

Bambini Zone ♥ Live Music ♥ Italian Dancers ♥ Bocce ♥ Automobiles ♥ Italian Vendors
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Italian Catholic Federation Thirteenth Annual

GOLF TOURNAMENT



DATE:

FRIDAY, JULY 19, 2013

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: \$135 (includes hot buffet breakfast, 18 holes of golf with cart and banquet.) After July 12th, the price per golfer is \$150. Banquet only: \$35

RESERVATION DEADLINE: JULY 12, 2013

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

SIGN UP:

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

Banquet only



Make check for total amount (\$135 per player plus \$35 per banquet guest), payable to the I.C.F. Golf Tournament, and send to the address below before the July 12th deadline.

Remember: \$150 per player after July 12th.

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, 8393 Capwell Drive, # 110, Oakland, CA 94621 • 888-423-1924 • FAX: (510) 633-9758 • Web Site: icf.org • E-mail: info@icf.org

SAVE THE DATE!

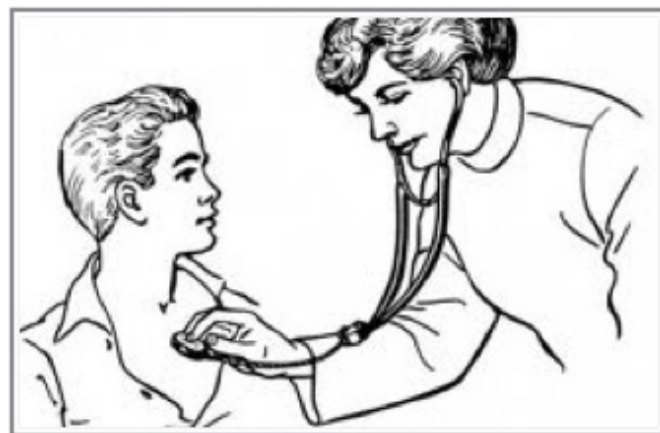
It is hard to believe, but Grand President Jane Dianda's two year term is almost over! Please put November 2, 2013 on your calendars as a day to celebrate -- and roast -- the grand presidency of Jane Dianda. More details on the Testimonial Dinner will be in the next issue of the Bollettino.



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1-888-ICF-1924