

BOLLETTINO

Delay in April Issue of The Bollettino
 This issue of the Bollettino was delayed due to reports and articles received by the Editor that were both corrupt and had a virus. It took a long time to find the culprits and eliminate them from the system. Those who are submitting corrupt files will be notified to avoid this from happening in the future.

Instructions for Obtaining a Daily/Special Temporary Liquor License

Franklyn Lopes
 Central Council Grand Trustee

You must fill out an ABC-221 form for any event that your branch holds that will include the sale of alcohol.

Form ABC-221 must be submitted to the local ABC District Office which has jurisdiction over the event location.

The form needs to be received, at your branch, within 10 days of the event.

Police Department approval, may be required if your branch is hosting a large number of people, a casino night is held, or it's the first time an event is being held at the location.

If conducting the event on church property, you must obtain the signature of the business manager of the church, or whoever else may be in charge.

If conducting a raffle in which wine or liquor will be included in a basket or other gift item, a \$100.00 Special Temporary License will be needed. This special license can be found in Section C on the ABC-221 form.

Any other questions you may have, contact Franklyn Lopes at (831) 464-7570.

Strategic Plan: "Moving the ICF into the Future"

First Meeting With Planner a Success

Leonard Zasoski, Jr.
 Task Force Committee Chair
 Grand 1st Vice President

The Strategic Plan is well underway. The first meeting with the planner that was hired, to help us through the process, did a great job at our planning session in February. We have had an online webinar (a web version of a seminar) where several members from different areas were able to listen to the planner outline some of what was covered at our first meeting and the

members were able to ask questions and participate while viewing the presentation online. Even some of our clergy are taking time out of their busy schedules to be part of the process.

If you haven't completed the survey, please go to www.icf.org and go to the survey link.

We are looking forward to a great meeting in May. The two-day planning session will be held May 17-18.

As always, please keep the members working on this plan in your prayers - for with God all things are possible.

Celebrate, 90th Anniversary Gala I Came to Light a Fire



Immaculate Conception Chapel, San Francisco.

Dante Galeazzi
 Central Council Life Member

Our co-founders of the Federation, Father Albert R. Bandini and Sir Luigi Providenza would be extremely proud that the Italian Catholic Federation (ICF) will be celebrating its 90th Anniversary. The highlight of the day will be a Mass in the 21st Century with the new Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone from the San Francisco Archdiocese.

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Please join us for ICF's 90th Anniversary Gala in Los Angeles. The celebration will be held in three locations: Chicago, San Francisco and Los Angeles. The following information is for the Los Angeles Gala on June 29, 2014. We know you can't attend all the celebrations (although you're welcome to do so if you wish) but hope you can attend the one most convenient for you. I'll be the 'resource' person for the Los Angeles Gala. I will have information

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Immaculate Conception Chapel, San Francisco.

The celebratory season for the Italian Catholic Federation will begin in Chicago at the 90th Anniversary Gala - Chicago Event - on Sunday, June 8, 2014. It will be a "Black Tie Optional Event" and will start with Mass at 3:00pm at St. Francis Borgia Catholic Church - 8033 W. Addison Street - Chicago, IL 60634, (773) 625-1118. The Dinner Dance will follow at Pescatore Palace - 3400 N. River Road, Franklin Park, IL 60131, (847) 678-0895. Cocktails - 4:00pm, Dinner - 5:30pm, and dancing after dinner until 11:00pm. The meal will be a sit down dinner with appetizers. The menu will include: focaccia, bruschetta, Panzerottini, antipasto, pennette with marinara sauce, risotto primavera, salad, breast of chicken portafoglio stuffed with prosciutto and Italian mozzarella, sautéed

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Grand President's Monthly Message

by Bob Basuino

I cannot believe Spring is here and Easter is right around the corner. It seems things have been constantly changing. Retail advertisements and displays go from Christmas, New Year's, Valentine's Day, Saint Patrick's Day, and finally Easter. It is a flurry of activity and restlessness with the New Year starting Daylight Savings Time, cold weather and taxes. All of our senses are being assaulted every day. It seems like we have not had a chance to be thankful.



I like to look at this as a time of reflection, and a time of new beginning. Where have I been? Where am I going? What do I need to get done before Convention hits me in the head. During this time we should be focusing on the holy season of Lent and our families. We should be preparing ourselves for the Blessed season of Easter. As we do this what is brought to mind? Our old family traditions: mid-night Mass, Easter baskets, egg hunts, and Nonna's famous Easter bread. These are the things that we need to keep alive in our families so our children and grandchildren will have memories to reflect on in the future.

As I was reflecting during the past three months of 2014, what pops into my mind first is the hospitality of all the branches and members that I have had the pleasure of visiting. I have felt so welcomed at each of your installations. Installations are a new beginning for our Branches and Districts. It was a great experience to participate in and share these festive events with all of you. I

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Central Council Meeting Minutes Saturday, February 8, 2014 Los Gatos, CA

The meeting was called to order at 1:00pm by Grand President Bob Basuino. Opening Prayer: led by James Acitelli Salute to Flag/ICF Pledge: 1st Vice Leonard Zasoski; GP Bob Basuino Roll Call of Officers: 4 CC Members excused; 4 CC Life Members Emeritus and 2 Members Emeritus present. CC Meeting Minutes: Minutes for October 19, 2013 approved.

Introductions: GP Bob Basuino welcomed guests from visiting branches.

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TIME SENSITIVE: PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY!

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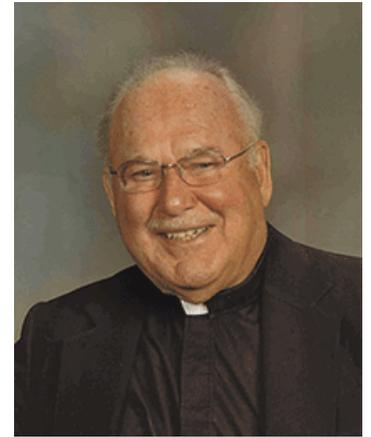
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Jesus Christ Has Risen! Alleluia!

Monsignor Daniel Cardelli
ICF Spiritual Director
ICFspiritDir@aol.com

blow their minds! Can you imagine living daily with God, traveling with him, working with him and knowing he was God?



Did you ever stop to think what the resurrection of Jesus really means? Who was he and why did he come to us? Jesus told his apostles that he was destined to die and would come back in three days. They didn't understand what he meant. They didn't know that Jesus was the second person of the Blessed Trinity who came into this world as a human being and at the same time God. It was too much for the apostles to handle.

Even though he spoke of the Father and equated himself with the Father—"The Father and I are one"—the apostles had no clue who Jesus really was. They didn't know he was really God until after the resurrection. His resurrection from the dead validated all that he said, all that he did, and all that he was. He died on the cross and rose again from the dead to save us and give us the gift of himself. He made it possible for us too to live with him today, to work with him, to traverse the rocky road of life with him every day—not only in our hearts and souls but especially in the Holy Eucharist.

At the time, the apostles looked towards Jesus as the one who would lead the chosen people to freedom from Roman oppression. They knew he was special, a prophet, who had special powers. He healed people from sickness, blindness, and many other diseases. If they knew he was God, it would

blow their minds! Can you imagine living daily with God, traveling with him, working with him and knowing he was God? It is difficult to understand how bread and wine can be changed into Jesus' body and divinity. It is difficult to understand how

Jesus can be man and God at the same time. We believe it. Why? Because he said so and he proved it when he rose from the dead. It should blow your mind!

Let Your Voice Be Heard

Nina Malone
Life Member of the Central Council
Membership Committee Chairperson

These are exciting times for our organization. We look forward to working with the strategic planner, as described by our Task Force Committee, with optimism and hope for the future of the Italian Catholic Federation. The purpose of hiring a strategic planner is to gain an objective insight as to how to move forward into the next 90 years; this can only be accomplished with input from our members. What is working? What can we do to improve? Meetings will soon be convened with District Presidents and Central Council Members to discuss these matters. But each and every member has an opportunity to express their opinion. Below is an example of our Member Questionnaire...this and other surveys are available on the ICF website. This is the time for everyone's voice to be heard. I look forward to hearing from you soon!

Member Questionnaire

Please mail, fax or scan this survey to the ICF Membership Committee, ATTN: Nina Malone

Mail: 8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110
Oakland CA 94621 Fax: (510) 633-9758

Email: membership@icf.org

icfeditor@gmail.com
icfeditor@gmail.com
icfeditor@gmail.com

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

All other email addresses have been closed. Please make a note of it.

How long have you been an ICF Member? _____

How did you learn about the ICF? _____

Is your spouse an ICF Member? Yes No NA

Are your children/grandchildren ICF members? Yes No NA

Do you have other family members or friends that belong to the ICF?
 Yes No

Do you belong to the Hospitalization Plan? Yes No

As a member, please check all of the following activities and offices that you participate in:

- Branch Meetings Branch Masses Branch/District Outings
- Branch Fundraisers Branch Officer Branch Committee Chair
- District Meetings District Masses District Committee Chair
- District Fundraisers District Officer Annual ICF Convention
- Installation of Officers Bishop's Day Spiritual Events
- Charitable Activities Heritage Activities Family Activities
- Other... Please share: _____

What do you enjoy most about being an ICF Member? _____

Would you recommend membership to the ICF to family and friends?
 Yes No

Why or why not?

What recommendations do you have to help improve the organization? _____

How do you stay up-to-date on ICF programs?

- Attend Meetings Bollettino Branch Newsletter
- ICF Website Branch Website ICF Facebook Page
- Phone Tree Branch Calendar Church Bulletin
- Other... Please share: _____

Comments/Suggestions: _____

Optional: Name _____ Branch # _____ City _____

Thank you for your participation!

UPCOMING:

2014 Bishops' Days:

- Apr. 27 San Francisco
(San Francisco, San Mateo & Marin)
- May 4 Chicago
- Oct. 5 Las Vegas
- Oct. 12 Fresno
San Diego
- Oct. 19 San Jose
(Santa Clara Valley)
Santa Rosa
- Oct. 26 Blessed Sacrament
Monterey (Central Coast)

High Five!

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

Contra Costa	+109
Santa Rosa	+53
Tucson	+11
Fresno	+9
Santa Clara Valley	+1

Membership Stats as of February 28, 2014:

10,609

Members as of July 1, 2013:

10,878 = 269 member loss

New: 705

Reinstated: 8

Transfer in/out: 19

Deceased: 139

Cancelled: 505

Non-payment >12 mos.: -338

Monetary Donation Reminder

Roselynn Jarrett
Grand Treasurer

Dear Members,

When submitting donations to one of our programs (Providenza, Gifts of Love, Scholarship, Cooley's Anemia, etc). please make the check payable to ICF or Italian Catholic Federation. In the memo, indicate the fund where you would like the donation directed.

Additionally, when making donations to multiple programs, please write a separate check for each donation as there is an individual account for each fund.

Finally, we ask that all donations be made by check, cashier's check or money order. We prefer to not place cash in the depository.

These simple steps will assist our office staff in processing your donations. Thank you for your continued support to the ICF programs.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

When there is a need, the ICF always rises to the occasion and the pasta drive and duct tape drives were no different. In December, I sent 234 bags (239 pounds of pasta) to Chef Bruno Serato. In January, I sent 252 rolls of duct tape to the Painted Turtle Camp (www.thepaintedturtle.org). Thank you to all of the members and branches who donated and supported these amazing causes.

Sincerely,
Laurice Levine

East Bay Area Catholic Young Adults

Attention 21-35 year olds. There is a new group within the Oakland Diocese called the East Bay Area Catholic Young Adults. The group holds various spiritual and social activities at churches and venues around the diocese. Activities enjoyed so far: Dinner and movie night, Eucharistic Adoration, Bowling, Walk for Life and listening to guest speakers at various churches. ICF members who are between 21-35 are welcome to take part in these activities. For more information, please contact Rose Jarrett (925) 957-0269.

The Ways and Means Committee Announces the Theme for the 2015 Calendar as:

"Italian Recipes Through the Year. Celebrating Holidays and Traditions."

The Ways and Means Committee will be planning and designing the 2015 Calendar. Included in the calendar will be pictures, recipes and Italian traditions for holidays and other special occasions through the year.

We invite you to participate in several ways: First, share special traditions and recipes you or your family keep throughout the year. Pick a special time of year including, but not limited to, Christmas and Easter traditions. Include New Year's, Valentine's Day, St. Joseph's Day, Carnevale, picnics, weddings, First Communions and other special religious celebrations or feast days.

We also invite you to participate in the listing of not only birthdays (yourself, your children, grandchildren, parish priests and chaplains, or even friends) but also Anniversaries (weddings, branch, priests' ordinations, etc.)

You may include your Branch or District events as well.

The price schedule will be as follows:

\$10.00 for 1 name/event; \$15.00 for 2 names/events; and \$20.00 for 4 names/events. Other numbers will be a combination of prices - for example 5 names/events will be \$30.00 (\$20.00 + \$10.00)

The deadline for the names and payments will be May 1, 2014.

Please mail your information with a check payable to the ICF to:

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

The calendars are a wonderful fundraiser for the Federation, and we encourage all members and friends to participate and purchase one.

For questions, please call the ICF office at (510) 633-9058 or Lisa Crudo (510) 861-9835

MARCH CALENDAR WINNERS

DAY	NAME	BR	CITY	WINS
3/1	Marie Barbagelata	395	Linden, CA	\$30
3/2	Virginia Bottino	432	Brentwood, CA	\$30
3/3	Sr. Flor Azevedo	308	Fresno, CA	\$30
3/4	Lynnette Harrity	395	Stockton, CA	\$50
3/5	John Malaspina		Newark, CA	\$50
3/6	Joe Proietti	39	Merced, CA	\$30
3/7	Bev Rossi	391	Brentwood, CA	\$30
3/8	Pat Duncan	417	Fresno, CA	\$30
3/9	Lois Ramos	14	Crockett, CA	\$30
3/10	John & Mary Del Monte	52	Healdsburg, CA	\$30
3/11	Branch 10		Alameda, CA	\$30
3/12	Peggy Dunn		Los Angeles, CA	\$30
3/13	Fr. Leo Ascuncion		Martinez, CA	\$30
3/14	Weston Hurlbut		Pleasant Hill, CA	\$30
3/15	Elsie Bottorff	27	Madera, CA	\$30
3/16	Vilma Romo	215	Union City, CA	\$30
3/17	Santiago Baez		Los Banos, CA	\$50
3/18	Erma Brogan	290	San Francisco, CA	\$30
3/19	Nettie Descalso-Del Nero	39	Merced, CA	\$50
3/20	Katie De Martini		Rodeo, CA	\$30
3/21	Bob Zanoni	395	Stockton, CA	\$30
3/22	Annette Pachinger	413	San Andreas, CA	\$30
3/23	Branch 10		Alameda, CA	\$30
3/24	Barbara Thompson	12	Napa, CA	\$30
3/25	Tom Cortez	14	Crockett, CA	\$30
3/26	Megan Blum		Tucson, AZ	\$30
3/27	Elaine Osorio	186	Palo Alto, CA	\$30
3/28	Mark Borge		Hollister, CA	\$30
3/29	Maria Keller	236	Sacramento, CA	\$30
3/30	Catherine Fluetsch		Merced, CA	\$30
3/31	Fr. Joe Vanthu		Sunnyvale, CA	\$30

SEE THESE FIRST ON OUR WEB SITE: ICF.ORG

Children's Hospital Activities in Need of Funds

Our Apostolate Charity year began in September 2013 and ends in August 2014. 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, Children's Hospital Oakland plans several psychosocial activities for the Cooley's Anemia patients whom they treat. ICF donations, make the following activities and events possible:

- Sending patients to Painted Turtle Camp (www.thepaintedturtle.org). While the camp is free, travel expenses are costly.
- Picnics and outings.
- Family conferences
- Patient retreat

Last year, the ICF donated \$1,800 and this year the ICF wants to continue the program whereby we offer them support. To achieve this goal, we need to once again ask our Districts, Branches and Individual Members

participate 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, 2014.

Thank you.

James Acitelli

Apostolate/Charity Chairperson

Typhoon Haiyan Relief Fund Contributions

The following contributions have been made to the I.C.F.'s Typhoon Haiyan Relief Fund as of February 26, 2014. Thank you for your support and generosity. A check has been forwarded to Catholic Relief Services for the total amount donated.

Districts:

San Gabriel Valley
Santa Clara Valley

Individuals:

Dorline Camozzi
Jerry and Joan Delfino

Robert and Theresa Dianda
Tom and Marisa Poggi

Branches:

1	12	13
14	52	103
115	144	154
198	218	223
237	258	281
290	327	362
368	390	417
432	438	

Total Donations: \$4,345.00

Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations*

IN MEMORY OF:

Lorraine Fricke
 Beatrice (Bea) Bianco
 Theresa Spinler
 Lorraine Fricke
 Lorraine Fricke
 Lorraine Fricke
 Michele Fiorentino
 Lorraine Fricke
 Frances Pamela Brooks
 Lorraine Fricke
 Lorraine Fricke
 Lorraine Fricke
 Lorraine Fricke
 Lorraine Fricke
 Dina Flora
 Lorraine Fricke
 Barbara Walker
 Norman Benito
 Barbara Airoidi
 Lorraine Fricke
 Lorraine Fricke
 Lorraine Fricke
 Lorraine Fricke
 Santina Ursini
 Dina Flora
 Donald DeTomasi
 Antoinette Sunseri
 Lorraine Fricke
 Reno Picchi
 Giuseppe and Fosca Orlandi
 Lorraine Fricke
 Lorraine Fricke
 Lorraine Fricke
 Pat Costaglio

DONATED BY:

The Kilcullen Family
 Marie Dezzani
 Jim and Janice Jones
 Jim and Janice Jones
 Leroy and Stella Taddei
 The Antonowicz Family
 Mr. and Mrs. Victor Tallarida and Son
 Steve and Sue Barizon
 Officers/Members of Br. 229
 Forrest and Prudence Price
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dianda
 The Dianda Family
 Bob and Kathy Acquistapace
 David and Roberta Madej
 Donna and Richard Pfaff
 Franklyn Lopes, Jr.
 Franklyn Lopes, Jr.
 Franklyn Lopes, Jr.
 Franklyn Lopes, Jr.
 Joan and Jerry Delfino
 Helen Dianda
 Nello Rossi
 Officers/Members of Br. 91
 Barbara C. Bottarini
 Lorraine and Mike Nunziata
 David and Pat Botta
 David and Pat Botta
 David and Pat Botta
 Faustina Picchi
 Faustina Picchi
 Roselynn Jarrett
 Pete and Andrea Vasquez and Family
 JoAnn and John Donivan
 Officers/Members of Br. 198

GET WELL WISHES:

George Bacigalupi
 Dave Rose
 George Bacigalupi
 Dave Rose
 George Bacigalupi
 Dave Rose
 Dave Rose
 Mary Rowe

Leroy and Stella Taddei
 Officers/Members of Central Council
 Forrest and Prudence Price
 Leroy and Stella Taddei
 Mike and Marcie Rossi
 Mike and Marcie Rossi
 Officers/Members of Br. 91
 Officers/Members of Br. 290

HAPPY 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY:

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Tomasello Steve and Donna Barnes

*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.

Gifts of Love Donations

Donations received by March 10, 2014

Officers/Members of Santa Clara Valley District	Joan and Jerry Delfino
In memory of Antoinette Sunseri	Get well wishes for Michael Cannady
Frances and Larry Agnello	Joan and Jerry Delfino
In memory of Norman J. Benito	Get well wishes for George Bacigalupi
Nettie Descalso-Del Nero and Tom Pollicita	Joan and Jerry Delfino
In memory of Lorraine Fricke	In memory of Rose Romano
Nettie Descalso-Del Nero and Tom Pollicita	Bob and Elaine Osorio
Get well wishes for George Bacigalupi	In memory of Dina Flora
Nettie Descalso-Del Nero and Tom Pollicita	Bob and Elaine Osorio
Get well wishes for Michael Cannady	Get well wishes for Esther Galedridge
Officers/Members of Branch 403	Eva Stern
In memory of Nancy De Biagio	In memory of Dina Flora
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dianda	Pat and Louie Cordich
Get well wishes for George Bacigalupi	In memory of Bill Vogel
Officers/Members of Br. 184	Pat and Louie Cordich
In memory of Dina Flora	Get well wishes for Bernice Kaiser
	David and Pat Botta
	In memory of George and Barbara Airoidi

Buona Pasqua!

Keeping Up the Good Work

Jim Acitelli
 Apostolate Chairman

Recently, this committee was criticized because it was felt that we were not promoting spirituality and charity. That we should inspire, motivate and encourage the branches and districts to embrace that part of our organization as our Mission Statement directs us.

Our articles in the past have been a collaborative effort, in the most part, by the committee. We were submitting articles which we felt inspired the members to think about our relationship with God and with each other. We have focused on the "spiritual" aspect of this organization by writing about topics that were meant to inspire and encourage. We've written about our new Pope and Saints and their feast days and about acting in a charitable manner. How can we hope to promote spirituality and charity when we do not care for, and love, one another. Being charitable and encouraging to one another

is the inspiration for our wanting to give and support our programs.

We know that all, or most, of the branches are aware of what we do as an organization. We support many wonderful charities both nationally and locally. We also know that many of the branches have wonderful chaplains, and spiritual programs in place; like District quarterly communions, Days and Nights of Recollection and many celebrate St. Joseph's day by having a St. Joseph's table and sharing the goods or donations, as well as other events that promote our spirituality.

We encourage you to keep up those good works, and we ask that you include all of these events on your Apostolate and Charity Report that you turn in prior to convention. We are hopeful that many branches have appointed an Apostolic and Charity chairperson that will institute these traditions and other wonderful ideas in their branches and districts. Thank you all for your continued support in all of our Spiritual and Apostolic endeavors.

Blood Drive at Children's Hospital Oakland to Celebrate World Thalassemia Day

Children's Hospital Research Center Oakland is the home to one of the seven Centers of Specialty for Thalassemia and we have hundreds of patients who depend on blood to survive. A person with thalassemia requires approximately 35-50 units of blood, every year, to survive. Along with replenishing the blood supply, blood drives are also a means to raise awareness of thalassemia in the community. Please join us for our Annual Blood Drive in honor of International Thalassemia Day. Details are as follows:

When: Wednesday, May 7, 2014 -- 9am-2pm

Where: Children's Hospital Oakland. Blood Mobile will be parked in front of the Outpatient Center Atrium
 744 Fifty Second St.
 Oakland, CA. 94609

Who: To check if you are eligible to donate blood, please refer to www.bloodcenters.org:

To schedule an appointment and for more information. Please contact:
 Laurice Levine, MA, CCLS
 LLevine@mail.cho.org
 510-428-3885, ext. 5427

Blood Centers of the Pacific
www.bloodcenters.org



In Loving Memory

Report Date: 03/12/2014	ROSIE LENCIONI	Branch 032
URSULA LEONARDI	EVA BARCELLOS	Branch 051
ROSE ROMANO	WILLIAM C CONATSER	Branch 250
NORMAN BENITO	CECILIA LARSEN	Branch 285
VICTOR L CEREGHINO	ROBERT V HARRIS	Branch 291
VIOLET WEAVER	YOLANDA PLUT	Branch 327
LINDA GIRETTI	ANNETTE L BERTRAM	Branch 391
DOROTHY MALLONEE	NANCY DE BIAGIO	Branch 403
JOSEPHINE SERGI	RICHARD E MC COY	Branch 442

Cooley's Corner

Thalassemia (Cooley's Anemia) Trait

Laurice Levine, MA, CCLS
Senior Thalassemia Outreach Coordinator
Children's Hospital & Research Center at Oakland

Thalassemia is found in all populations, but it is most common among the following:

- Italian
- Greek
- Transcaucasian (Georgian, Armenian, and Azerbaijan)
- Southeast Asian (Vietnamese, Laotian, Thai, Singaporean, Cambodian, Filipino, Indonesian, Burmese, and Malaysian)
- Chinese
- East Indian
- Middle Eastern

Thalassemia is common in parts of the world where malaria is prevalent because thalassemia trait (also known as thalassemia minor) has protective mechanisms against malaria.

There are two main types of thalassemia trait: beta-thalassemia trait (more common among Italians) and alpha thalassemia trait. Individuals who have beta-thalassemia trait have one normal beta globin gene and one that is altered such that it makes little or no beta globin. There is not much scientific evidence that a person who has beta-thalassemia trait has any symptoms, although women with the trait may be more likely to develop anemia during pregnancy.

Thalassemia trait causes red blood cells to be a slightly smaller size, a condition caused microcytosis. Since iron deficiency is the most common cause of microcytosis Doctors often mistakenly misdiagnose thalassemia trait as iron deficiency anemia and prescribe iron supplements. However, thalassemia trait and iron deficiency are different problems, therefore before

prescribing iron supplements, doctors should rule out thalassemia trait and/or perform lab tests to evaluate iron levels. A person with thalassemia trait can also be iron deficient, but if he or she is not iron deficient, iron supplements may result in excess body iron, which can deposit in many areas of the body and over time cause organ damage.

Testing for Thalassemia trait is easy! It involves having a blood sample drawn which looks at the following:

- Hemoglobin electrophoresis with quantitative hemoglobin A2 and hemoglobin F
- Complete Blood Count (CBC)
- Iron studies (free erythrocyte protoporphyrin and ferritin)

Occasionally trait status cannot be determined by these screening tests alone. If iron deficiency is detected then an individual must be retested after completing a course of iron supplement therapy. With iron supplements iron deficiency should improve. If it does not it may be that the individual has thalassemia trait. Occasionally, DNA testing that directly examines the Alpha and/or Beta globin genes is necessary.

It is important for individuals and their partners to be aware of their thalassemia trait status, especially if you are of Italian descent (or other ancestry where Thalassemia is common). Again, since there are no symptoms, an individual may not know they have the trait until they have a child born with thalassemia major, a severe form of the disease. If both parents have the thalassemia trait there is a 25% chance that their child could be born with thalassemia major.

If you find out you have thalassemia trait and would like more information, please contact Laurice Levine at LLevine@mail.cho.org or 510-428-3885, ext. 5427.

Live to Give

Donating Blood: What to Expect

Laurice Levine, MA, CCLS
Live to Give Committee

When you donate blood you will help save the life of up to three people! It is one of the easiest ways to contribute to your community and it is free. If you have never donated blood before you may be feeling a bit nervous. However, giving blood is safe and simple. This article will help you understand the process and hopefully allay any fears you may have.

You can donate at a community blood drive in your area; often churches hold blood drives, or sign up to donate at a local blood collection center in your area. It is important to eat iron rich food in the days or weeks before donating blood; this is especially important for women who tend to have lower iron counts. It is also important to have a meal before donating blood and be very well hydrated – drink plenty of water the day before, day of, and after donating. When you arrive at the blood drive or blood bank you will do the following:

Step 1 Registration

- Present your photo ID Card.
- Read information sheet about donating blood.

Step 2 Donor Health History and Mini Physical

- Provide basic demographic and health information
- Answer questions about past and present health history (information is kept private)
- Undergo mini exam to determine if you are able to donate (temperature, blood pressure, heart rate). Give a blood sample (usually from the finger) to determine hemoglobin level.

Step 3 Drink Fluids

- Drink water or other beverage prior to your donation. The more hydrated you are, the faster your donation will be and the better you'll feel afterwards.

Step 4 Donation

- Sit in a comfortable donor chair.
- Once the needle is in place, it usually takes less than 10 minutes to draw a unit (about a pint) of blood. You'll squeeze a ball to keep the blood flowing while you relax and let the blood flow.
- Finish your donation, after which the needle will be removed and a bandage applied – a badge of courage!

Step 5 Visit the Canteen

- Sit, relax and have a snack and drink at the donor canteen for a few minutes (California law states you'll need to stay for at least 15 minutes).
- All Done! Enjoy your day. You're now a lifesaver!

Step 6 After Donation

- Avoid strenuous physical activity or heavy lifting for a few hours. If you feel light-headed, lie down until feeling better. Have everyone cater to you for the day and do something special for yourself – you deserve it!

The entire process usually takes less than one hour.

Perks of donating blood...along with the fact that you save three lives:

- You'll receive free wellness screenings, including blood pressures, cholesterol and iron level every time you donate.
- You'll learn your blood type.
- You can donate in honor of someone through the ICF – get a postcard from the office or from your branch president.

Resource:

www.bloodcenters.org

For more information contact:

Laurice Levine, MA, CCLS

510-428-3885, x 5427

LLevine@mail.cho.org

Cooley's Anemia Donations

Donations received by March, 10, 2014.
Branch 250
Barbara Firpo
In memory of Rose Romano
The Arnaudo Family

In memory of Dina Flora
Angelo Benassi
In memory of Dorothy Nelson
Lea Murphy
Thank you to Karin Faizi

Interested in learning more about the ICF's National Charity, Cooley's Anemia (Thalassemia)?

If your Branch or District would like members of the Cooley's Anemia Team at Children's Hospital Oakland to come and speak at one of your meetings or special functions, please contact:

Laurice Levine,
Thalassemia Outreach Coordinator
(510) 428-3885 x 5427 or
email: LLevine@mail.cho.org

Don't miss the blood drive at this year's Convention. More details to come.

BOOK REVIEW

Vince Piro
Central Council Member

Saving Italy: The Race to Save A Nation's Treasures from the Nazis

Robert M. Edsel

Norton, 2013, 454 pp.

With the release of The Monuments Men movie, we are reprinting this book review of Saving Italy, the book on which the movie is largely based.

In 1943, Hitler's Nazi army began its occupation of Italy and began seizing the country's rich and valued art work. With control of Italy, the Nazis could now steal the masterpieces and antiques of Italy's great cities and even the Vatican. However, General Dwight Eisenhower commissioned a group of soldiers, later to be known as the Monuments Men, to protect these treasures. In Saving Italy, Robert M. Edsel tells the intriguing story of these soldiers and their mission to save some of the world's greatest art works for all of humanity.

In the book, we meet Captain Deane Keller of the United States 5th Army. Portrait painter and Professor of Art at Yale University, Keller believed his knowledge of Italy could be of use to his country during the war and volunteered to join the Army. He left behind his wife and young son at great personal sacrifice, but with his hard work and determination, he managed to rescue some of the most important European treasures from the Nazis.

The reader will also meet Lieutenant Fred Hartt. The Lieutenant had also worked at Yale, as an assistant and cataloguer at the university's art museum, before joining the U. S. Army. He was a noted young art historian building a reputation in the field. In the army, he approached his mission with passionate "go-getter" zeal, acting impulsively at times.

The reader will learn of General Karl Friedrech Otto Wolff. Supreme Leader of SS Troops and Police in Italy. He negotiated a secret Nazi surrender of Italy while holding the Italian art work as hostage.

As an author, Edsel is able to capture the passion and inner conflicts of these men and others as well as the complexity of the evolving situation in Italy. He is able to clearly explain the various perspectives on the invasion of Italy, the different desires surrounding the art work, and the intrigue and secret plans of both the Allied and Axis forces. Not only will readers learn about the Monument Men's project, but they will also learn a lot about WWII in this fascinating historical book. As noted, "Brilliantly researched and vividly written, Saving Italy brings readers from Milan and the near destruction of The Last Supper to the inner sanctum of the Vatican and behind closed doors with the preeminent Allied and Axis leaders . . ."

One will also read about Giovanni Poggi, Superintendent of Galleries at Florence, Arezzo, and Pistoia, who masterminded

and oversaw a mass evacuation of some of Italy's greatest art works from Italian museums to the Tuscan countryside where they were cleverly hidden from the invading army. His experiences in WWI served him well during his mission.

The reader also learns about the different Monuments Men, both from the United States and England, who acted as spies and negotiators during the Nazi occupation of Italy. Having worked in various occupations in the field of art, these men had the knowledge, expertise, and passion to accomplish their mission.

Edsel's book is a page turner that absorbs the attention of the reader. He creates vivid characters and settings, tense scenes, and interesting dilemmas that engross the reader in each page. Both entertaining and educational, Saving Italy will be of interest to a wide variety of readers.

Robert M. Edsel is the best-selling author of The Monuments Men and Rescuing da Vinci and co-producer of the award-winning documentary film The Rape of Europa. Edsel is also the founder and president of the Monuments Men Foundation, a recipient of the National Humanities Medal, and a trustee at the National WWII Museum. After living in Florence for five years, he now resides in Dallas, Texas.

Midwest Tornadoes Relief Fund Contributions

The following contributions have been made to the I.C.F.'s Midwest Tornadoes Relief Fund as of February 7, 2014. Thank you for your support and generosity. A check has been forwarded to Catholic Charities USA Disaster Relief for the total amount donated.

Districts:

San Gabriel Valley
Santa Clara Valley

Branches:

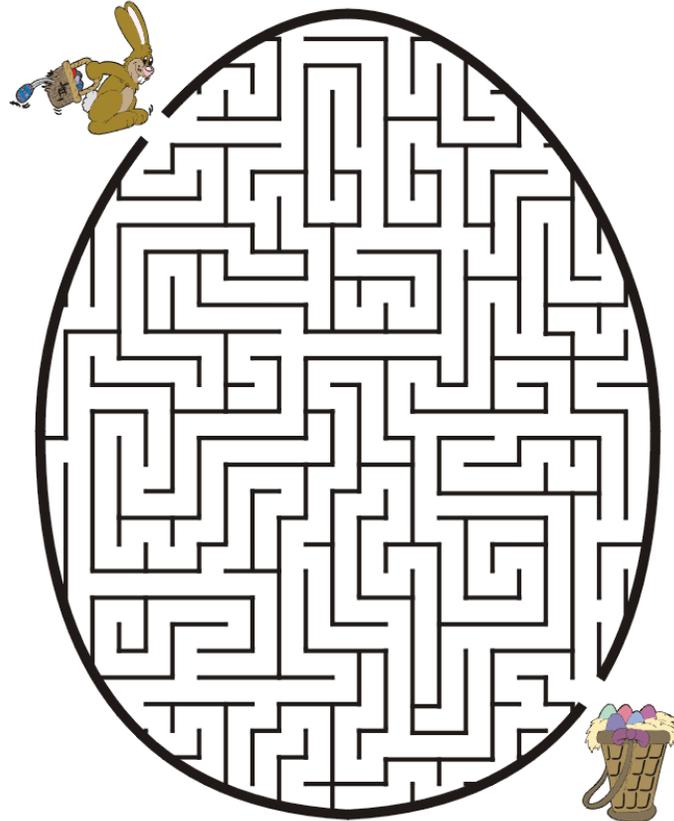
1 6
12 13
14 52
103 115
139 144
184 191
198 214
218 223
258 290
327 343
362 368
391 417

Individuals:

Jerry and Joan Delfino
Tom and Marisa Poggi
Bruce and Lonnie Swarrigim

Total Donations: \$5,135.00

La Celebrazione di Gioventu -- The Celebration of Youth Easter Symbols



The egg has long been a symbol of birth. We decorate eggs at Easter to remind us of Jesus' rebirth. The egg is like the tomb, cold and hard, but containing life within its shell. We color the outside of the shell as a sign that we believe in the life that is inside the shell.

The rabbit fittingly serves as a sign of the abundant new life of spring. In German tradition the rabbit delivered colored eggs at Easter to only the good children, a reminder that the just person will rise with the Lord who has the power of giving life to all.

Scholarship Donations

Donations received by March 10, 2014.

Scholarship Donations - 1st Year

Cecilia Tommei and Family
In memory of Franco Franchini
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dianda and Jane
Get well wishes for Dave Rose



2014 Convention in Oakland, California Friday, August 29, 2014 to Monday, September 1, 2014

Honoring The Past As We Envision Our Future

HOTEL AND TRAVEL HIGHLIGHTS

OFFICIAL CONVENTION HOTEL

Marriott Oakland City Center Phone: (510) 451-4000 /
Reservations: (800) 228-9290

1001 Broadway, Oakland, CA 94607 -- Visit the link to hotel reservations www.marriott.com on our website for ease in reserving your room for the Convention.

- ▶ **Room Rate: \$119.00 Single Occupancy plus 14% (subject to change) tax. \$119.00 Double Occupancy plus 14% (subject to change) tax**
- ▶ **Use Group Name "Italian Catholic Federation" or Convention Code "ICFICFA" when booking your reservation**
- ▶ **Complimentary Self Parking**
- ▶ **Transportation to/from Oakland Airport:**

Oakland Int'l Airport is approximately 10 miles southwest from the hotel. For public transportation (taxis/shuttle services) and rental car information, please visit www.oaklandairport.com

▶ **Transportation to/from San Francisco: San Francisco Int'l Airport is approximately 20 miles west from the hotel. For public transportation (taxis/shuttle services) and rental car information, please visit www.flysfo.com.**

Reservation Deadline is Monday, August 08, 2014. 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 hotel or go to their website to make your reservations.

***AIRLINES - NO CONTRACTS - JUST GO ONLINE OR CALL*
Here are a few:**

- Alaska Airlines:** 1-800-252-7522 www.alaskaair.com
- Southwest Airlines:** 1-800-435-9792 www.southwest.com
- Delta Airlines:** 1-800-221-1212 www.delta.com
- US Airways:** 1-800-428-4322 www.usairways.com
- Jet Blue Airlines:** 1-800-538-2583 www.jetblue.com
- *American Airlines:** 1-800-433-7300 www.aa.com

United Airlines: 1-800-864-8331 www.united.com *fly into SFO*

Railroad Service *AMTRAK*** Our Amtrak Convention Fare Code is X95R-987. It will give a 10% discount off the best available fare to Oakland, CA between August 25, 2014 and September 4, 2014. The reservation number is 1-800-872-7245 or call your local travel agent. The Amtrak station is approx. 1 mile from the hotel. Jack London Square - 245 Second Street - Oakland, CA 94607, (510) 238-4322. ***Please note: This code is valid for reservations made by phone only. It is not valid for reservations made online. There is no shuttle service but there is taxi service (curb side) and city bus service (Free B) - the bus stop is within walking distance (about 1 block). Visit www.meetdowntownoak.com for bus info and schedules.**

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

Convention ByLaw Submission Procedure

David Botta
Parliamentarian

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

All branches are urged to consider, discuss and formulate a proposal to change, modify or abolish a bylaw as it pertains to all the Branches of the ICF. According to the Branch bylaw Chapter XVII Art. 3 G proposals and/or amendments to the bylaws shall be submitted in writing (signed by the Branch President and Recording Secretary) to the Central Council Office not later than April 30, 2014. 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 An-

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Benvenuti Membri Nuovi

Report Date: 03/12/2014

ROBYN RISSO	Branch 007	NATALIE M DEL REAL	Branch 039
BEN RATTO	Branch 010	STEVEN P DEL REAL	Branch 039
BEN RATTO	Branch 010	JULIA DESCALSO	Branch 039
LINDA RATTO	Branch 010	ZACHARY BARLOW	Branch 051
WILLIAM (MIKE) RADCLIFFE	Branch 014	KEVIN CORTOPASSI	Branch 051
FAY CARRASCO	Branch 021	NATHAN CORTOPASSI	Branch 051
DIANE COLLOPY	Branch 021	PHILIP STEVENS	Branch 067
AMANDA A DANNER	Branch 021	ROSA STEVENS	Branch 067
CATHERINE A GHIO	Branch 021	ELIZABETH DE LORENZO	Branch 111
CHRIS L LUFFMAN	Branch 021	TONY DE LORENZO	Branch 111
GARY A MORO	Branch 021	SALVADOR L FRANCO	Branch 111
JOSIE PAPPAS	Branch 021	FRANK A GOMEZ	Branch 111
PAULI PAPPAS	Branch 021	HENRY B HERRERA	Branch 111
PETE PAPPAS	Branch 021	MINNIE P MURPHY	Branch 163
ROBBIE PAPPAS	Branch 021	ANNMARIE ZINNERMANN	Branch 184
MARY STAGNARO	Branch 021	RALPH ZINNERMANN	Branch 184
ARTHUR J WEYBRIGHT	Branch 021	KATHY CAMPBELL	Branch 209
DEE WEYBRIGHT	Branch 021	AUGUST JAMES CORSETTI	Branch 209
KAROL K SPANN	Branch 025	TANA GRACE CORSETTI	Branch 209
CAROL J BENNETT	Branch 028	AMANDA DI MICHINA	Branch 218
ROGER W BENNETT	Branch 028	JOSEPH DI MICHINA	Branch 218
EILEEN LENAGHAN	Branch 028	SARAH STANZIALE	Branch 250
TERENCE LENAGHAN	Branch 028	JOSEPH CUELLAR	Branch 308
CHARLOTTE S AFFONSO	Branch 031	MARY FIERRO	Branch 308
DAVID L AFFONSO	Branch 031	BARBARA L NORTHAM	Branch 317
DOLORES A AREIAS	Branch 031	RANDALL K NORTHAM	Branch 317
JAMES A AREIAS	Branch 031	PATRICIA FERRARI	Branch 343
JEFF J BONDI	Branch 031	KARLA B MOHRMAN	Branch 351
TWILA L BONDI	Branch 031	LAUREN E MOHRMAN	Branch 351
TARA BRENNAN	Branch 031	MICHAEL A MOHRMAN	Branch 351
MICHAEL A COTTA	Branch 031	MICHAEL P MOHRMAN	Branch 351
BRIAN R CUTLER	Branch 031	ELAINE GARDELLA	Branch 367
MICHELLE CUTLER	Branch 031	ELEANOR A PECHACEK	Branch 367
CRYSTAL M GUINTINI	Branch 031	JAMES R PECHACEK	Branch 367
DREW M GUINTINI	Branch 031	ALVINA LEDGERWOOD	Branch 382
SAWYER M GUINTINI	Branch 031	LYNDA C LAWRENCE	Branch 390
SUSAN M JORDAN	Branch 031	MARIA CARANFA-GROVE	Branch 392
PHILIP J LATRONICA	Branch 031	MARC JACKSON	Branch 392
JOHN J LUPINI	Branch 031	GREG PALUSO	Branch 416
YVETTE LUPINI	Branch 031	JUDY PALUSO	Branch 416
ELIZABETH NUNES	Branch 031	MARI HENSON	Branch 417
ELAINE T POST	Branch 031	LORAINA AU	Branch 435
THOMAS B POST	Branch 031	FRANCES SCALZO	Branch 435
JEAN M SEEBBA	Branch 031	FLORENCE DISSMAN	Branch 440
JONI VAN DELEN	Branch 031	BARBARA THEUMA	Branch 440
LAURA C ALEXANDER	Branch 036	JOSEPH THEUMA	Branch 440
ELIZABETH M ELSENSOHN	Branch 036	VICTORIA AMBROSINI	Branch 442
ROBERT K ELSENSOHN	Branch 036	MARIA A DA MAREN	Branch 442
LINDA R NUOVO	Branch 036	MAURINE J WAMOSH	Branch 442
CARLO S DEL REAL	Branch 039	WILLIAM J WAMOSH	Branch 442

Grand President

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personally know how much hard work and time goes into the set up and preparation of an installation and banquet but all the effort brings us all closer together to begin the New Year. Thank you for all your hard work planning the Masses and meals.

I would also like to thank all of my Central Council members who traveled to the installations to attend and support the different Districts. It was a new beginning for many of them as their new positions in the Central Council officially stated process. I truly appreciate all your assistance, support and dedication to the Federation. I believe we truly are ONE BIG family.

So let's make are plans for family Mass on Easter Sunday; get out our favorite recipes to enjoy an Easter Feast and enjoy every moment of the Holiday.

BUONA PASQUA A TUTTI !!!!!

90th Anniversary

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San Francisco

The celebration will begin with an Italian Mass on June 22, 2014 at Immaculate Conception Chapel in San Francisco, the home of Branch 1. The Mass will be at 10:30am, followed by a catered meal at the Basque Cultural Center in South San Francisco. The Central Council and Gala Committee are with enthusiasm diligently working to have a festive celebration to recognize our apostolic and charitable works of 90 years.

Branch 1, Immaculate Conception Chapel, is where many of the Federation activities and traditions began. The Chapel is quaint, picturesque, and enchanting with it's lovely alter and beautiful stain glass windows. One of the stained-glass windows was donated by the ICF, and there is an ICF dedication brass plaque in the Chapel's entrance. Combine this with the colorful and decorative baroque tiles adorning the Chapel's doors and you will find that the setting is the perfect spot for such an auspicious occasion. Father Guglielmo Lauriola, pastor at the Chapel is so elated that the Federation has selected his "house of prayer" to celebrate Mass on this 90th Anniversary. Father Guglielmo said, "this is the heart of the Federation," as he refers to his Chapel and, "a very historical and Holy place for the ICF."

Once at the Basque Cultural Center, there will be three entree choices: delicious prime rib, fantastic rack of lamb and tasty salmon with a champagne sauce. The price of your entree will \$50 per person if purchased by June 9, 2014; \$60 if purchased between June 10-20, which will be the last day. There is a special "GALA DEAL" if purchased before May 30, 2014, the price of TEN (10) entrees will be \$450.00 (one check only). The attendee will be seated at dazzling decorated round table of 10. Sign-up by your Branch or District and the lists are available with your Presidents. Be sure to sign-up early because we will be limited to only 300 seats and a sell-out is expected before June 9, 2014.

The Federation Family continues to achieve the same goals as the founders, "

to encourage and promote faith renewal, apostolic and charitable works..... in our communities." In the last 10 years approximately 160 Branches, Districts and the Central Council in four states within the Federation Family have donated over \$1,000,000 to provide Seminary Scholarships. The Central Council, presented the first \$500 in 1941 to Archbishop John J. Mitty at the Stockton Convention. This is the fifth year that the Gala's proceeds will benefit the Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund which is greatly needed to show our devotion to the Seminarians.

Invitations are being mailed to the Bishops in Northern California. The Gala Committee wants you to extend an invite to your Branch Chaplin, District Chaplin, Vocation Director and yes, your Seminarians who will become your new Branch or District Chaplins. Other, special guests who are planning to attend will be the Providenza Grandchildren as well as their great-great grandchildren. Remember this is a time for our ICF Family to celebrate, to honor our accomplishments, and break bread with our Holy Pastors of the Federation.

Sponsors or Donors for the Gala who wish to donate to the Seminarians' Scholarship Fund should contact your Branch or District Presidents and/or Dante Galeazzi, for the list and more detailed information

The most important message of all is to attend or donate and become a part of ICF history. Do not hesitate to sign-up for this wonderful GALA 2014 celebration of Ninety Years of Faith.....

Dante Galeazzi

Life Member – co-chair Gala

Los Angeles

regarding the actual event as well as information about transportation especially the train service, Metro Link and shuttle from Union Station. Let's make the 90th Anniversary a celebration to remember. All proceeds will benefit the Providenza Fund for the seminarians.

Date: June 29, 2014, Sunday

Time: 11:00 am Italian Mass; 12:30 pm Luncheon Celebration

Location: St. Peter's Italian Church & Casa Italiano

1039 North Broadway, Los Angeles, CA (next to Chinatown)

Luncheon Celebration includes: Buffet of antipasto; fresh spring salad; spaghetti & meatballs; pasta with shrimp; chicken in cream sauce; & roasted fresh vegetables; Italian Cannoli (ricotta cream) Cake; Two bottles of wine on each table; & Live Music.

*Full Service No-Host Bar will also be available

Cost: \$40 per person; \$15:10 years & under;

Sponsorship \$420, Includes:reserved table for 8 with recognition at the Gala, table & listed on sponsor board; & publication in the Bollettino. (Few larger tables available for \$500 & up, depending on size)

RSVP; Friday, June 20, 2014; Late reservations: \$45.

Other Important Items: 1. Seating Re-

quests: send reservations together & list the guests' names on the reservation; 2. Parking is limited, may want to carpool, bus or rail/metro link system. Union Station is about 4 blocks from church & the Red Line is in Chinatown (2 blks). Can accommodate some shuttle from train station, with advance notice.

Contact & Questions regarding the Los Angeles Gala please call Pat Mages: 805-428-4623; &/or email: pat.lou.mages@gmail.com

Send Reservations to ICF Office:

Italian Catholic Federation

Los Angeles 90th Gala (Important to designate the location)

CC Minutes

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Communications

- Thank you from the Vatican Secretariat of State Office for the gift sent to the Holy Father.

- Thank you from Msgr. Cardelli for Christmas gift and all prayers/cards regarding his hip surgery.

- Thank you from Laurice Levine for our support and help for the Christmas party at Children's Hospital. And for all the donations of pasta for Chef Bruno and duct tape for the Painted Turtle camp.

Reports

Grand President – Bob Basuino

ATTENDED:

BISHOP DAY: Oct. 20-San Diego, Oct. 27-Santa Clara, Nov. 17-Los Angeles, Dec. 8-Reno

Leonard Zasoski represented the GP Oct. 20-Fresno and Oct. 27- Blessed Sacrament.

INSTALLATION: January: 4th-Santa Clara, 5th-Stockton, 12th-San Francisco, 18th-San Bernardino, 19th-Los Angeles, 21st-Larkspur Branch, 25th-Contra Costa, 26th- San Diego and Feb. 1 Blessed Sacrament

Leonard Zasoski represented the GP Jan. 18th-San Mateo, 19th-East Bay, Feb. 1 Tucson.

Andy Pappani represented the GP Jan. 18th-Central Coast and 19th-Santa Rosa.

OTHER EVENTS: Nov. 10- Br. 173 Burlingame 50th Anniversary, Dec. 5-Executive

Committee meeting, Dec.12-Children's Hospital Christmas party, Dec. 13-Executive Christmas party, Jan. 10-Executive Meeting, Feb. 7-met with landlord & Finance Committee meeting.

Grand Treasurer –Roselynn Jarrett

- UBS happy with our investments no recommendations of changes at this time. UBS discussed the benefits of individuals setting up a trust after death or during life possible convention workshop.

- Reviewed 2013 finances. CPA very happy with how records look.
- In June we will be shopping Liability Insurance.

- Providenza Fund is low; we are hoping the 90th Gala's do well, as all profit will go to the Providenza Fund.

- Discussed Computer Services (Gary): By April we are looking at a major change of our computers and systems. Finance committee proposes to sign the contract for 2014 with Gary. The Finance Committee

Chicago

potatoes - Vesuvio style, Italian gelato, cookies, wine, coffee, tea and soda. The evening's entertainment will be provided by DJ Michael Favia. The price per person is \$45.00. A raffle for gift baskets will also be part of the evening's entertainment.

For questions, please contact Teresa Helfand, CC Ways and Means Committee Member, at (773) 763-0507. For reservations, please send in the attached form to Italian Catholic Federation - 8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110, Oakland, CA 94621. The deadline for reservations is Monday, June 2, 2014.

will review and research bids in June for 2015. PASSED

- Bob Basuino, Roselynn Jarrett and Deborah Rodondi met with the landlord to negotiate a new lease. A lower rate was negotiated. The Committee moved that Bob Basuino sign the new 5 year lease with the option to renew for additional 5 years. PASSED

- Pointed out that the Bollettino has a major deficit and has for many years. It should be addressed by the Public Relations and the Finance committee.

- Roselynn Jarrett congratulated on a great job as Treasurer.

Deputy Chairperson – Leonard Zasoski

- Trying to set up an online meeting with the District Deputies. This could help in addressing problems before too late, gets about 5 out of 20 of the District Deputy reports.

- We should set up term limits for District Deputies and Deputies.

- The Chief Deputy can't do everything alone-help is needed. With CC being in many areas they can help out with issues in their area. Possibly create a committee to support the Chief Deputy.

Committee Reports

Apostolate/Charity – James Acitelli
Jim Acitelli shared words of wisdom with us;

- We are often so busy with the demands of our daily life that we fail to listen to and follow the plan that God has for us.

- Listen and allow God to be your guide, your teacher of truth, your counselor, your helper. The word of God is always for our benefit. Follow it and you will enjoy an exciting journey with Him every day of your life. Say yes to His ways and His plan will give you hope and a future.

- Listen to the voice of God and you will see blessings pour into your life and you will have the delight of knowing that what you are is pleasing God.

Awards-Jim Friebe

- They will be contacting District Presidents looking for candidates for the awards.

- If applications received incomplete they will contact the person who sent it to give them the opportunity to complete before the deadline.

By-Laws and Rituals – David Botta

- If you see any changes that need to be made to Statues or By-Laws let the committee know so it can be presented to the CC for review.

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CC Minutes

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- LA area has combined into one District. March 29th David Botta will be there for their election. Tucson wants to create a District. They have 3 branches. David Botta will assist.

Convention Directors - Steven Fuentes
2014 Oakland Theme "Honoring the Past as We Envision the Future". East Bay very excited and ready to go. Last year San Bernardino worked hard at LaQuinta and made it a success. There will be a shuttle in front of Hotel that goes back and forth to Jack London Square every 15 minutes. No mail in registrations. May Bollettino will have all the information. We are one of the lowest organizations in dues and registration fees for convention. Without the raffle the registration fee alone is not adequate income to cover the expenses of the Convention.

- Expansion - David Botta
New branch Christ the King in Pleasant Hill doing well. Br 75 Cloverdale has gone from 8 to 25 members. Thank you Bob Acquistapace and Carmen Kilcullen for all their help. Closed branches: San Juan Capistrano, Phoenix, and Cathedral City. Br 150 Cotati voted to close. Looking into opening a Branch in Rohnert Park.

- Br 6 and 130 thought of combining but have decided not to at this time. Pat Mage working with Ventura Branch. We are up to Branch #442 --- there are 132 active branches. David Botta challenged CC members-find one parish in their district to open a new branch by April 15th. Working with Christ the King in Las Vegas in the hopes of a new branch. Our root problem is October and election time. What can we do to get a president in a branch...it is the number one problem and has led to branches closing.

- Finance Committee - Roselynn Jarrett
All account signers for checking account have been updated. Raffles, state of California has a department of raffles. The Department of Raffle states that since we are a religious organization we do not have to obtain a licensed to do a raffle. 50-50 is illegal no matter what. Do not put 50/50 raffle on your event flyers or in treasurer report. Annually 90% of gross proceeds from raffles must go to charity. Liquor license information will go out in next mailing to Presidents. In the future anyone that wins the convention raffle totaling \$600 or more will be sent a w9 form to fill out when form received back in the office a check will then be issued to raffle winner. At tax time they

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IRS AND STATE OF CALIFORNIA FRANCHISE TAX BOARD

Roselynn Jarrett
Grand Treasurer

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

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

The IRS limit for the tax year ending 2013 is the following:

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

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

The State limit for the tax year ending 2013 is the following:

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

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

THIS IS IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND MUST BE STRICTLY FOLLOWED

Both Forms must be filed no later than May 15, 2014. The IRS and State strictly adhere

to this date, so please take this process seriously.

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

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

Please make sure all District or Branch finances are in order and that bank statements are reconciled through December 31, 2013. Remember that the Gross Receipts are total amounts received without subtracting any costs or expenses. These amounts include, but are not limited to, Membership and Hospitalization dues, dinners, fundraisers, raffle tickets, income from Convention raffle tickets and calendar sales, interest from all bank accounts, monetary donations, etc.

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

Thank You.



Italian Catholic Federation Fourteenth Annual

GOLF TOURNAMENT



DATE:

FRIDAY, JULY 25, 2014

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 18th, the price per golfer is \$150. Banquet only: \$35

RESERVATION DEADLINE: JULY 18, 2014

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 18th deadline. Remember: \$150 per player after July 18th. 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

HOLE SPONSORSHIP

A PROFESSIONALLY MADE SIGN WILL BE MADE AND PLACED AT THE HOLE OF YOUR CHOICE. SPONSORSHIP FEE \$100.00

Sponsor Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Telephone No. _____

Wording on Sign:

Please make your check payable to:

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

CC Minutes

continued from page 9

will receive a 1099 tax form.

Gifts of Love –Pat Mages

- Met Nov 23rd, awarded about \$12,000. Will meet again in March in the LA area.
- Gifts of Love is going on the road, this will allow more members of the Federation to become involved with the program. Most of the applications received are coming from East of the Mississippi; this tells us that we are not making people local to our branches aware of our program.
- Average size of a gift is \$1,000; an individual can apply and receive help up to three times; no qualified applicant has been denied an award. Many that put in applications are actually for scholarships/tuitions, which is not part of Gift of Love program.

Hospitalization – Andy Pappani

- 420 members as of January 31, 2014
- In 2013 dues paid in \$11,110.42, claims paid \$9,015.00.
- In UBS fund as of December 31, 2013 \$851,081.52.
- Discussing possible changes in program.

Live to Give- Jane Dianda

- A list of Blood Bank locations and additional donor cards were sent in the last mailing.
- Laurice Levine working on a few blood drives, including one for this year's convention.
- Each month there will be an article in the Bollettino.

Membership – Nina Malone

- Looking to set up a mandatory meeting/workshop for all officers at the District level to teach them ICF in the hopes of helping to retain members.
- Article going into the next Bollettino on how to put together a membership drive.
- Revisiting the membership questionnaire.
- Suggested to put ICF brochure in parishes close to our branches might drum up new members from neighboring parishes.

Public Relations –Vince Piro

- Corrupt article file was received and it dumped half the Bollettino twice, so it delayed the sending of February Bollettino.
- Cut off for Bollettino articles is the 10th not the 11th.
- A new printing company to be recommended and possible resizing of paper to lower cost of publication and at the same time produce better quality. Will present proposal to the Executive Committee.

Scholarship – Deborah Rodondi

- April 16 will be awarding 1st year scholarships.
- Found an article from the second year of the scholarship program where 500 students applied for the 10 scholarships given out (2%). Last year we had 446 applicants and awarded 182 scholarships (40%)
- Inquiry made regarding the possibility of setting up a fifth year scholarship, some venues take 5 years as opposed to 4 to complete. Committee to discuss.

Task Force – Leonard Zasoski

- Next Saturday will be our 1st full day meeting with the Denner Group and the beginning of the implementation of the strategic plan. Monthly articles will be in the Bollettino giving info on the plan and what we want from the members. For a strong and viable plan input must come from the membership. Within a few weeks packet will go out to the presidents.
- Will have Strategic Plan workshop at convention.

Ways and Means –Lisa Crudo

- 90th anniversary galas will be in 3 areas: 1) Chicago June 8 Mass 3pm at St Francis Borgia, will extend invitations to other organizations, about \$45, chaired by Teresa Helfand; 2) LA June 29th St Peters Italian Church Mass at 11 am, restaurant (holds about 400) buffet includes wine \$40, to include other organizations, chaired by Pat Mages; 3) SF June 22 Italian Mass at Immaculate Conception in San Francisco 10:30, meal at Basques Center in South San Francisco, church holds 250 Basque 300, about \$50, chaired by Dante Galeazzi. Galas profits will go into Providenza Fund.
- Golf tournament to be chaired by Leonard Rossi at Laguna Seca. Luncheon at San Carlos Hall, Monterey.
- Cruise in September for 4 days. In 2015 looking to do an Alaska cruise.
- Planning to order 90th anniversary ornaments, charms, and pins if received in time will sell at galas and then convention. Would like to set up an online store for ICF goods. Motion by Committee to advance \$4,000 to the committee so they can purchase goods. PASSED

Workshop-Dante Galeazzi

- Committee is depending on the help of CC members to promote workshops in their area.

Unfinished Business

- CC branch visits-reminding everyone to schedule their meetings.

New Business

- David Botta made motion to change deadline to August 1st for nomination forms to run for central council to be turned into office, this allows the office to get everything done and everyone to have an article in the Bollettino seconded by Roselynn Jarrett. PASSED

Good of the Order

- Bob Acquistapace asked to include in closing prayer Br 145 Eureka Father Eric Freed who was murdered and Bob's sister had back surgery. Also include in prayers Nancy Corsi mom, Toni Sunseri, Tom Pollicita.
- Roselynn Jarrett reported a member collapsed (heart attack) outside of Contra Costa Installation everyone came together to help in the situation. With prayer and CPR he is recovering. If you aren't CPR certified consider doing it.
- David Botta congratulated Roselynn Jarrett on being awarded associate of the year with her company.
- Dante Galeazzi thank you for rotating the CC meeting locations.
- Bob Basuino-meeting in June will be at Branch 19 in Colma along with lunch and dinner.
- Franklyn Lopes made a motion to donate \$150 to the parish for the use of the hall today second by Jane Dianda.

PASSED.

- Vince Picciola said any banners that need cleaning send to him.
- June meeting will be electing a new Life member, Vince Picciola will become a life member emeritus.
- Leonard Zasoski shared a statement made by the priest at Tucson "I came to the ICF for the food but stayed for the spirituality". Great statement.
- Closing Prayer: led by James Acitelli

The meeting adjourned at 5:30pm by Grand President Bob Basuino, to meet again June 21, Holy Angels Hall, Colma

*Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Rodondi
Grand Secretary*

By Laws

continued from page 7

nual Convention. The order of discussions of proposals at the Annual Convention are prepared in advance by the Parliamentary 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.

Chicago

River Forest

St. Vincent Ferrer, Br. 358

Over 50 members welcomed Grand President, Robert Basuino, to Chi-beria for our officers' installation and despite the wintry weather, it was a very enjoyable evening. Branch 439, Our Lady, Mother of the Church and Branch 441, St. Zachary, received their beautiful banners. We are now looking forward to getting back to ICF business, beginning with the Bishop Day Dinner Dance on Sunday, May 4th at The Abbington in Glen Ellyn. Then, on Sunday, June 8th, we celebrate the 90th Birthday of the founding of the ICF - there will be a Mass in the afternoon and then a dinner at Pescatore Palace in Franklin Park. To round out the first half of the year, the Chicago district is having their Golf Outing Fund Raiser on Sunday, July 20th. We encourage a large participation as the proceeds benefit the seminarians. You can come for dinner only if you do not golf. We have no birthdays this month but sincere congratulations to Teresa & Frank Cairo as they celebrate their wedding anniversary. Lent is just about over and we can feel the warmth of God's love and provision for us. At Easter, the entire christian faith culminates in a celebration of Christ's victory over sin and death and reminds us of His eternal position beside the Father in heaven. Happy Easter!

Leonora

Chicago

St. Francis Borgia, Br. 392

Greetings from "Chi-beria", where the snowfall has continued into March!

On February 15th, 2014 our monthly St. Padre Pio mass was followed by a small reception to celebrate Valentine's Day with family and friends. During the reception we honored an amazing young man, Anthony Mustari, who after a long recovery has embarked on his college education. Anthony's parents, Sal and Lisa Mustari and grandmother, Teresa Romeo, were present to receive the monetary gift on his behalf. Branch 392 officers and members extend Anthony "best wishes for success"!

The Chicago Installation of Officers took place on February 27th, 2014 at St. Bernadine Church. It was a joyous celebration with all the Chicago Area ICF branches well represented. The ceremony was most memorable as we had the pleasure of having the Grand President – Robert Basuino with us. The evening began with a beautiful mass celebrated by our Spiritual Leader - Fr. Charles Fanelli. At the conclusion of the mass the Grand President assisted by District President, Gene Gillette, and Central Council Member, Teresa Helfand,

presided over the swearing in ceremonies. To top the evening everyone gathered in the church hall for good food, tasty desserts, and pleasant conversations. Our heart-felt thanks goes to Bob Basuino for making such a long journey to be with us for the occasion. His inspiring message and fine words made the celebration exceptional.

Please remember that the Chicago Bishop's Day Dinner Dance will take place on Sunday, May 4th, 2014 at the Abbington Banquets, Route 53 and Butterfield Road, Glenn Ellyn.

A presto!

Aurora Pensa

Itasca

St. Peter the Apostle, Br. 418

Branch 418 would like to congratulate previous I.C.F. college scholarship winner, Rachel E. Bayles, for being awarded to Virginia Technology Institute's Academic Dean's List, for outstanding achievement in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences. Our branch is proud to have sponsored you and we hope, in some small way, the I.C.F. has helped you to achieve your goals.

Congratulations, Rachel, and the best of luck to you in your future endeavors.

Chicago

Our Lady Mother of the Church, Br. 439

On March 2nd, the ICF Branch #439 celebrated Mardi Gras by hosting a "Carnevale" dinner party. Eighty members and non-members alike enjoyed an evening of good food, camaraderie and dancing. Many children and adults arrived dressed in costumes and participated in a best costume contest. In addition, a special member of the ICF received both the "L'Angelo della Salute" and the "Apostolate" awards. Silvana IZZI-Neri was honored with these awards in recognition for



Branch 439 awards honoree, Silvana IZZI-Neri.



Branch 439 adults and children in costumes.



her commitment and dedication to the ICF, many acts of charity, and her strong faith and values despite the many challenging circumstances in her life. Upcoming events for ICF Branch # 439 include a Saint Joseph mass and table and weekly Stations of the Cross during Lent.

tional Irish fare: corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, carrots and bread. Please continue to pray for our sick and injured members. We said good-bye to another long-time member, Pearl Franchi, who passed away in March.

Ciao,
Kerin Cavallero

Fresno

Madera

Santissimo Crocifisso, Br. 27

Our regular dinner meeting was held on February 11th. We were treated to Marge Avellar's homemade chicken soup, salad, bread and dessert. Thanks Marge. The soup was delicious, as always, and I saw several people go back for seconds or was it thirds! Thanks to committee chairmen Jerry and Angie Kelder; members Marge Avellar, Rita Dolio and Bill and Elsie Bottorff. On February 23rd Madera hosted the Central Council Installation of Officers. One hundred twenty six people turned out for an inspirational Mass at St. Joachim Church and a delicious meal, in addition to an outstanding installation. Thanks to our Mistress of Ceremonies Lisa Crudo, Grand Trustee Central Central Council, Branch 343, Castro Valley and Vince Piro, Fresno District President, Branch 39, Merced. Each club provided a basket for the raffle. There were many happy winners since all the baskets were beautiful. A very special thank you goes to Madera Community Hospital who provided the catering, table decorations, table setting and clean-up. They were very organized, professional and, above all, friendly. Members are getting ready for the annual YMI and ICF combined St. Patrick's Day celebration on March 13th. It will be a fun time with Irish music and all the tradi-

Fresno

Our Lady of Victory, Br. 32

Officers and members of #32 enjoyed the hospitality by Madera at the Fresno District Installation of Officers. Our new members and first time officers, Claire Pisching and Maria Guglielmino, were awed by the festivities. Thank you, Madera for a very successful event.

Branch #32 is having their major fundraiser on April 26, 2014. The Italian Dinner features antipasto, salad, spaghetti, green beans, chicken a la cacciatore, bread and butter, and dessert. For those dining in, wine and coffee are available. The chairperson, Patricia Vivenzi, is looking for workers and diners. Please call Patricia (233 8150) to offer your help and/or to purchase tickets to this dinner. Adult donation is \$25, while children

5 - 10 years of age is \$5. Seating is limited, so get your tickets now. This dinner will be held at the Verdi Club on Marks near Clinton.

We are so saddened by the loss of OLV pastor and our chaplain, Msgr. John Moreton. He will be missed by all who knew him. May he rest in peace. Our condolences are extended to Kathy Vitali and Carol Gentile on the passing of their mother and aunt.

June is our Hospitality month. Br. #32 is in charge of fellowship in the hall after all masses. Donuts, pastries, and coffee are a Sunday staple. A bake sale is planned as well

as a spaghetti dinner. Evelyn Nieto is the chairperson of this endeavor. She needs help so please volunteer your time.

Merced

St. Cecelia, Br. 39

Time marches on. We began our Triduum on Wednesday, March 12th with Mass and dinner.

Delicious Corn Beef and Cabbage and all the trimmings. We had 2 UC Merced as our guests.

Friday night of the Triduum, we served soup to parishioners and led the Stations of the Cross. On Sunday, we celebrated St. Joseph's Day. The UC Merced Newman club members joined us for the potluck lunch. What a treat to see so many young faces. Thanks to Millicent for all of her hard work. Our Biscotti/bake sale will be held on May 3rd and 4th after all the masses at St. Patricks. Please bake your favorite cookies and bring them to the parish hall kitchen on Friday, the 2nd of May so we can package them to sell. Thank you for helping us out. We lost 2 long time members, Dorothy Muratore and Adriana Martignoni. Keep them in your prayers as well as our sick members.

"When you get to your wit's end, you'll find God lives there"

Bakersfield

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Br. 281

We are proud to announce our Forty First Anniversary was recently celebrated with a delicious NY Steak Dinner. Thank you to Leonard and Betty Zasoski for chairing the event. It was a lovely evening to visit and remember our history and events of the past.

Gary Moles and his crew finished up the Pancake Breakfast season until September 7th. We hosted twenty five ladies from the OLPH Women's Guild for their Corporate Communion. Many thanks from the ladies.

We will be hosting our annual Palm Sunday Pasta and Meatball Dinner on April 13. This is a great fund raiser and the parish family looks forward to the great food and fellowship. We will offer to go dinners,.

Allen Watts is starting to plan for our annual Bocce Tournament to be held May 24th. Start getting your teams together. It is always a day filled with fun, competition (friendly), and a BBQ lunch. More information to come.

Thank-you to Deborah and Gary Leary, Crystal and Allen Watts, Rebecca and Craig Collins, Betty and Leonard Zasoski for representing Branch 281 at the Fresno District



Branch 417 at the Fresno Installation and Lenten Dinners.

Installation.

Fresno

St. Anthony de Padua, Br. 308

Our Branch #308 had a very successful turnout for our first Lenten Dinner on Fri. March 7th, from 5- 7:30 p.m. For the next Friday, we will be serving Fish & Chips which also includes a salad, dinner rolls, ice tea, punch, coffee, water, wine, and dessert. We hope to see those of you who couldn't attend at some of the following Lenten Dinners, after or before the Stations of the Cross.

The March 12th Dinner Meeting consisted of corn beef with many tasty side dishes and scrumptious desserts. There certainly are many wonderful cooks in our branch. Many thanks to all our great cooks, because they help make our general dinner meetings a very nice event.

Hopefully, those cooks among others, also sent in to Pat Faragia their favorite recipes for the Branch 308 Cookbook. Pat has been busy categorizing the recipes, which will be part of our Spring Fundraiser. If you would like to reserve a copy let Pat know or one of the Board Officers.

Please pray for all of our ill members and their caretakers, especially for Mike Pukish and Barbara Hioco who had surgery last week. Please say an extra pray for Barbara H. for good results on her brain surgery.

Birthday wishes go out to Pio Fortunato (Mar. 4th), Samuel Pardun (Mar. 4th), Cheyanne Pardun (Mar. 10th), and Cathy Christensen (Mar. 15th).

May you have a Happy Easter,
Maria E. Juarez-Garcia

Fresno

Holy Spirit, Br. 417

Branch 417 was well represented at the Fresno district officers installation with the attendance of our 13 members. The Madera branch did a great job and it was much appreciated by all attending.

Br. 417 served their first Lenten meal and it was a great success with the largest first night attendance since we started this event and fundraiser eight years ago. We served more than 190 people. We had over 20 members help with the cooking, serving and cleaning up. These meals are not possible without the hard work of all of our members.

New member, Cathy Klinge was helping out all over the hall and we really appreciate all





(Top) Installation of officers in Las Vegas with Grand President Bob Basuino.



(Left) Chaplain Fr. Sam Falbo, with Grand President Bob Basuino.

membership in Branch 367.

We had our St. Joseph's Table and Bake Sale on March 9th. We made \$1,050.80! We used to have a whole heritage day celebration for St. Joseph's Day, but we are very limited as to what we can do in the big hall. So, we make a Bake Sale out of it. I made some special St. Joseph's sandals, and tools. Joe made a hammer and nails, and a number of crosses out of cookie dough. They are always a big hit. I also made some Challah bread, white bread, and Clara made corn bread. (For those who are not eating sweets during lent.) Of course, we were filling cannoli and selling them for \$3.00 each also. Big hit!

Branch 367 certainly wants to wish everyone a Happy Easter, Buona Pasqua!

Ciao for now,

Jackie Donato

Los Angeles

Los Angeles
District Council

The LAADC wishes all members a very Happy and Healthy Easter Season!

Branches are reminded to include in their 2014 schedules and fundraising plans, the District Communion Sunday, the Bishop Banquet and Seminary Burse, Cooley's Anemia along with their other charitable causes and to identify their Branch Delegates for this year's ICF Convention.

Thank you President Tony Faranella and Branch 326 staff for hosting the first LAA District Council Lunch and General Meeting on March 29th in the Parish Hall of Holy Angeles Catholic Church in Arcadia. More information to come in the June Bollettino.

The Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini Open House is scheduled for April 13th from 9:00 am to 1:00 PM and will be hosted by the ICF LAADC (San Fernando Valley Region). The ICF Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library Board meeting is scheduled for 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Members welcome. For more in-



Branch 111 February Birthdays Florence Terramani, Christina Winans, and Eileen Viera.

formation call 626 372-7812.

The District Board encourages all Branches to support each others' 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 who recently passed on to their eternal reward; they will be missed.

Please keep our troops in your prayers that they may be kept safe and from harm's way.

Carmelo A. Sabatella, AIA, President
South Pasadena, CA 91030

Burbank

St. Maria Goretti, Br. 102

Ann Centoni's 100th Birthday was wonderful. She and her dear sister Lorraine are very precious to us all. Many more to you my dear.

April 13-Quarterly communion Mass at St. Francis Church, at 8:30am. Breakfast to follow at Hiill Street Cafe.

April 20-Easter Sunday-Blessings to all

April 30-Shakey's Pizza Party-6:30-8:30pm

Ciao,

Joy

South Pasadena

Holy Family, Br. 108

Branch 108 wishes all members a very Happy and Healthy Easter Season!

On March 8th and 9th, ICF Branch 108 worked with members of many Holy Family Church ministries to bring the Saint Joseph Table to Holy Family once again. Thank you members, parishioners, donors and visitors for making this year's Saint Joseph Table a great success. The Saint Joseph Table honored Tille Faille and her family for their tireless efforts on behalf of the Holy Family Community. Proceeds will again benefit the St Vincent De Paul Society, the Holy Family Giving Bank and Carmelite Sisters of Alhambra.

On February 22nd, the ICF Branch 108 "11th annual Wine Tasting Event" was held in the Parish Hall. This was the first time local amateur & professional wine growers, wine makers, wine club members, importers and suppliers from the San Gabriel Valley were invited to join this event where they presented their areas of expertise to members and parishioners.

On February 8th, ICF Members also enjoyed the "Get on the Bus Dinner" Fundraiser with members and parishioners.

SAVE THE DATES:

- April 6, 2014 - Bocce (1:00 pm to 2:30 pm) followed by Lunch Social and General Meeting (3:00 pm to 5:00 pm). Mass at 5:30 pm.



Branch 111 March Birthdays Franco Salomone and Carmelo Divincenzo.

- April 13, 2014 - Mother Cabrini Chapel & Library Open House hosted by the LAADC San Fernando Region. Come visit and learn about the Patroness of the Italian Catholic Federation and America's first American Saint. Call 626 372-7812 for more information.

Thank you members and parishioners for supporting this event with a special thank you and congratulations to Co-Chairs Christy Shaw and Gina Sabatella for organizing and managing this culturally significant, organic and successful fundraiser.

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

May God bless and keep you healthy "per cento anni!"

Carmelo Sabatella, Past President - ICF Branch 108

Email: cas1810@aol.com

Montebello

St. Benedict, Br. 111

Ciao a Tutti,

Happy April to everyone in ICF-Land. Can believe 3 months have already passed this year. There is still much to do for the year!

Congratulations to Tony DeLorenzo, Estera Veneziano, Margaret Valdez-Gallardo, Tanina Sergi, and Alexxa Vasquez who celebrated their birthdays in March. We wish everyone a Happy Birthday! Buon Compleanno a tutti!

Welcome our new members who joined our branch this year - Tony and Alba DeLorenzo, Frank Gomez, Sal Franco, and Henry Herrera.

On the weekend of March 15-16 Branch 111 Montebello held our Annual St. Joseph's Table. There were many food and collectible items that were donated and purchased. Lots of yummy canolis and Italian sausage were eaten and lots of free pasta to go around for everyone. We all had a blast and there was a great turn out. Thank you to all who participated and joined us for such a successful event!

This month's I leave you with a quote from Bruce Lee - "Notice that the stiffest tree is most easily cracked, while the bamboo or willow survives by bending with the wind."

Thank you and God Bless,

Giuseppe Veneziano

San Pedro

St. John Joseph of the Cross, Br. 115

Dear Members,

Hope all of you had a wonderful time on March 1, at our annual Crab Dinner Dance. Over 400 guest were served a delicious meal. Dancing and numerous raffles took place. The nite was a huge success. Special thanks to all the members who made this evening possible.

her hard work. She is a great addition to our branch.

Br. 417 will be finalizing plans for the Easter egg hunt and anyone wishing to help can contact Gerry. It takes place after the 10 AM mass Easter Sunday. It has proven to be a favorite event for our parish families.

Our Members who have not yet paid their 2014 dues should mail their checks to Rose Ann Allen or bring them to the next ICF event.

If you have any questions, please contact Fred or Gerry.

Ciao,

Pat Duncan

Las Vegas

Las Vegas

St. Francis de Sales, Br. 367

Our Installation of Officers took place on February 11th, with Grand President Bob Basuino officiating. Actually, we are all the same officers except we have a new President! Praise the Lord, Frank Vatalare stepped forward to accept this job even though he is extremely busy being Financial Secretary for his Knights of Columbus Council. And, he's doing a good job too! One of our new members, Helga Romero arranged to bring a couple six foot sandwiches, potato salad, and pasta salad for the installation. (Now that's the kind of new member I like!) Other members brought soda, water, and wine, so we were able to have a little supper with our Installation.

We had three more new members join us in February. Jim and Eleanor Pechacek, and Elaine Gardella, all friends of Helga Romero. Once again, we hope they enjoy their



San Pedro Branch 115 celebrated the Feast of Saint John Joseph of the Cross with the usual Crab Dinner Dance on March 1, 2014. About 400 people were served. The kitchen crew did an outstanding job. President Neal Di Leva thanks all of the many volunteers that made this dinner a great success. A Mass was also celebrated on March 4.

May 17-18th American Cancer Society Relay for Life held at San Pedro High School

May 22 Potluck dinner Please call Carmela Gioiello for more info 310 8320953

God Bless you all and keep all of our sick and deceased members in our prayers.

Anita Gioiello Trujillo
Treasurer



Without your help this evening couldn't have been possible.

On March 7th our branch was the 1st society to host the Lenten meal. The dinner was enjoyed by many. Once again thank you to our amazing chef's and volunteers.

With all this hard work behind us, members relaxed with outings to Palm Springs on March 11 to see the Follies and on March 25th to Pechanga Casino.

Happy Easter to all! Rejoice in the Risen Lord!

Our members are looking forward to a 3 night 4 day stay in Laughlin, Nevada. We will be leaving on April 27 and staying at the Aquarius Casino. \$135.00 double occupancy \$185.00 Single. There is still room available. Please call Pauline Iacono if interested in joining us. 310 8320563

Upcoming dates to remember

May 4th Feast of the Madonna dell'Arco mass and procession to the altar with the image of the Madonna at the 630 p.m. Mass Please join us for this wonderful celebration

Arcadia

Holy Angeles, Br. 218

Holy Angels Branch 218 celebrated 46 years as a part of the ICF on March 12. We celebrated with a pizza party and a cake. Thanks to everyone past and present that have made Branch 218 such a success.

We would also like to welcome Father Blaze who has agreed to be our Chaplain.

We are very excited to have him part of the ICF. See you all in April at our next General Meeting.

God Bless
Kerri DiMichina
Heritage Chair

Gardena

St. Anthony Of Padua, Br. 237

On March 23rd we had our first Mass and Pot Luck of the Year. We celebrated both St. Patrick and St. Joseph with good food and



In January & February Branch 317 honored, consecutively its wonderful ICF members Clarisa Campos and Elizabeth Fan for their dedication to their ICF goals, Christian spirit and generosity.

games!

May 4,5, & 6 we will travel to Laughlin,NV for our annual trip to the desert.These trips help fund our many charitable endeavors. Thanks to all who participate and assist us with our main focus of giving to others.

We celebrated another Baptism this month, Mikayla Franson, granddaughter of Marie and Don Franson. Congrats to all!

A very warm welcome to new members Steve Marioreni, Carlo and Lauretta Scaglione....

Birthdays for March John Moore and Gloria Castanada March 31

Birthdays for April Francisco Ramirez April 4th Marietta Passaro April 12th

Buona Pasqua
Happy Easter to all
Michael Roa

Diamond Bar

St. Denis, Br. 317

3/5 - 4/13 -40 Days for Life

3/31 - St. Denis - 40 Day for Life in West Covina

03/14 - ICF Lenten soup Dinner/ General Meeting

03/22 - 12th annual Pastor's Leadership Awards Banquet

03/16 - 3/30 - Holy Cannoli's Presale

04/ 02 - City of Diamond Bar Fundraiser

04/11 - ICF Dinner/General Meeting

04/20 - Easter Sunday

04/27 - Arts & Craft Faire

In January & February we honored, consecutively our wonderful ICF members Clarisa Campos and Elizabeth Fan for their dedication to their ICF goals, Christian spirit and generosity. God Bless them and their families. Please note their pictures.

Thank you for the delicious homemade soups at our March meeting prepared by Julia, Roxanne and Josefina and Eliseo. Thank you to Bea for the bread and cookies she donated to complete the meal.

March 16th to March 30th we will start our presale for Holy Cannoli's. With distribution on April 6th. Thank you to our chairpersons, Toni, Laura, Liz and Bea. Thank you for your support at St. Denis for the Pastoral Awards Banquet for Leadership on March 22nd.

Thank you to Patty Lasko for chairing City of Diamond Bar. Thank you to Bea Yary for chairing Arts & Crafts Faire. Easter Blessings to all our dear members & loved ones.

God Bless,
Roxanne Perry



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SERVICE BEYOND EXPECTATION

Temple City**St. Luke, Br. 326**

Happy Easter to all of our members!

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

Our next General Meeting will be held on May 28, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. The menu has not yet been decided.

Please continue to keep all of our ill members in your prayers, especially; Rose Costa, Anne Dandrea, Roberta Nangelo, Andy Bonura, and Ann Primising. And, let's not forget to pray for our deceased members. Please continue to pray for George Zavala. Also, please remember Hugo Crprieni, Lila Donofrio's brother who passed away.

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

Happy Anniversary to: Sally and Tony Farinella (47 years)

"Friendship is a golden thread that binds our hearts with love, a bond that reaches to the stars that twinkle high above. Friends see the pain behind the smile and come before we call to walk that 'extra mile' and lift us when we fall. ...Friends are the glue God gives us to mend a broken heart, the anodyne that sustains us when our world falls apart. Friendship is a precious thing that lives beyond our years, a looking glass that lets us see the laughter through the tears." (Clay Harrison)

God Bless,

Jo Anne Disney

Monterey

Santa Cruz**Nostra Signora del Soccorso, Br. 21**

Spring...wonderful, colorful spring! Robin Williams once said: 'Spring is nature's way of saying, "Let's party!"' Though we do party at Branch 21 we also raise money for good purpose and our next fund raising event is the Mother's Day Dinner Dance on May 9th. Perhaps you'd like to invite your children to come and share a wonderful dinner with you and maybe even a dance or two! Please contact Roseann Costabile or Norma Wilson for reservations.

We have had a number of new members join our branch of late. Most recently initiated members include Allen and Maria Reames, Fay Carusco, Mary Stagnaro, Kay Ghio, Dee and Arthur Weybright, Gary Moro, and Diane Massaia. Welcome, new members! We would like to thank Andy Pappani, 2nd Vice President of Central Council, for helping with the initiation ceremony. And, as a caveat, there are several more waiting in the wings to be initiated so stay tuned everyone!

As a reminder, we do have ICF scholarship applications available for those who may have children or grandchildren graduating from High School this year. The 1st Year Scholarship amount is \$400.00. If you are interested, please contact Rosa Radicchi for an application.

We want to thank those branch members who each month have faithfully prepared dinner for the homeless. They are Richard Puccinelli, Rosa Radicchi, Mary Jo Belli, and Diane Collopy. There are usually about 25 very grateful attendees who come to the Holy Cross School ground floor for the well planned and delicious dinner. If anyone would like to volunteer for this rewarding work, please contact Rosa Radicchi.

In closing, think of this verse as we pray for more springtime rain. "Let us press on to

know the LORD; His going out is as sure as the dawn; He will come to us as the showers, as the spring rains that water the earth." Hosea 6:12

Patty Morelli

Recording Secretary

Branch 21 - Santa Cruz

Salinas**Nostra Signora Del Sasso, Br. 25**

The Lenten dinners sponsored by Madonna del Sasso and Sacred Heart Churches were off to a very good start March 7th. It was one of the best opening nights since the start of this event. The profit is split between both churches, and has been a wonderful community event through the years.

Raffle tickets are available for sale from any ICF officer. First prize is \$250.00; tickets are \$2.00 apiece, or a book for \$20.00. Drawing is August 31, 2014 at the convention.

We now have a P.O. Box for mail. You can reach us by mail at ICF Branch #25, P.O. Box 2797, 93902-2797, Salinas CA

The polenta luncheon fundraiser cleared \$4225, a new record for us. This included bake sale and bar income. The bake sale in particular was a money maker, so thanks to all who provided so many goodies. We are trying once again to get a November date for this year's luncheon.

Our membership keeps growing. Welcome to Frank and Kathryn Ditto who recently transferred into our branch. We encourage all members to join us at our monthly meetings the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Knights of Columbus Hall 270 Rianda Circle, Salinas. If you know anyone interested in joining, bring them along, or please call one of our officers so that we may contact them.

Dates to remember:

July 25th: ICF Golf Tournament Monterey

August 3rd: District Picnic Salinas

October 25th: Bishop's Day Capitola

Ciao

Roy Frontani

Monterey**Santa Rosalia, Br. 36**

We had our first Lenten Dinner on March 7 and it was great seeing everyone, 744 guests came and enjoyed the dinner and had a great time. Wonderful how our volunteers show up year after year, God bless them.

AnnaMarie (DellaSala) Stanton and Anna Panetta, Co-Presidents of the Italian-American Cultural Center Foundation worked diligently to put together a permanent display in the Museum of Monterey at the Stanton Center in the Monterey Plaza of the Italian fishermen, boats, families, along side of the Chinese and Japanese fishermen, so now it is Italian, Chinese and Japanese displays - thanks to the Italian Heritage. This was long overdue and now it is here to stay!

Sorry to report we have lost another long time member, Sal Lucidio. Sal came to every event we had with Dorothy Maceira, he will be missed, our sympathy to his family and to Dorothy.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

April 20 - Have a blessed Easter, may Christ's peace and joy reign in your heart today and always.

May 1 - our 83rd Anniversary Dinner/Initiation of new members, this dinner is free to our paid up members and new members.

July 10 - Birthday Party for our 85 and older members.

Enjoy life, it has an expiration date, and be kind to everyone you meet, each of us carries a burden others cannot see. Life isn't tied with a bow, but it is still a gift.

Happy Easter,

Bettye Sollecito

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

First of all...thank you God for the refreshing and much needed rain, (more please).

Since our fundraiser was a month earlier this year our members were very busy during the month of March. With all the hard work everyone has put forth it definitely was successful. Many thanks to our chefs Paul, Dave, D.L. and Jeff, (you should open up a restaurant...only kidding). I would also like to say thank you to Cindy, Pat, Carrie, Vera, Kathy, Gino and new member Kevin for your help with the potluck. I hope I didn't forget anyone. I also would like to thank Sara Jane from the Pacific Grove Branch for her help.

While I'm giving out thank you's, a very big thank you to Charlene and her staff at the I.C.F. office. They have always been very kind when answering my many questions and so helpful in guiding me through I.C.F. procedures.

Cindy has been very busy again in her recruiting new members. Her efforts now are on the young people, (college, high school and grade school). She is looking at the future for Branch #51. Keep up the great work.

Our annual St. Patrick's Day Potluck was another fun filled evening. The food is always great but I think being together is what makes it special!

May we be people of joy and prayer in our lives, guide us to become all that you call us to be.

Ciao,

Leonora Barlow

Capitola**St. Joseph, Br. 227**

Our Fish Frys are off to a good start with 236 dinners served at the first one. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped cook, serve, and clean up. We were honored to have the Stow Family in attendance. You may recall that Bryan Stow was critically injured in an assault at Dodger Stadium in 2011. His good spirits and warm personality lit up the entire room.

We were saddened to learn of the death of George Airoldi, just one month after his wife, Barbara, passed away. George, who was a member of our branch for 14 years, served on the Scholarship Committee and helped in the kitchen. The George and Barbara Airoldi Memorial Scholarship is being set up in their honor.

Past President Bob Candau passed away at his home. Bob joined ICF in 1979 and served as President in 1990 and 1991. Sincere condolences to his wife, Rosemarie, and all his family. His presence at our meetings will be missed.

Get well wishes go out to Ron Gibson, who is at home recuperating after a stay at the VA Hospital.

The day trip to Graton Casino in Rohnert Park has been re-scheduled to May 7. Cost is \$35 with a return of \$10 at the casino. The bus will leave St. Joseph's at 8:00 a.m. and return at 7:00 p.m. This trip is open to everyone, not just ICF members. Contact Vicki Howell at 831-345-6374 to make a reservation. Deadline for payment is April 19.

Buona Pasqua,

Deanna Musler, Secretary

Pacific Grove**St. Angela Merici, Br. 206**

Our Branch will not have a meeting on March 14 because of a conflict with the St. Patrick's Day Dinner in the Church Hall. We hope to see everyone at our next meeting on April 11 at 5:30 PM. Some of the Members will be volunteering for the Youth Group's Fundraising Spaghetti Dinner on March 29.

There will be Masses for Living and Deceased Members at 8:00 AM on April 11 and May 9. Blessings to all during Lent.

Marjorie McClure, Recording Secretary

Chula Vista**St. Rose of Lima, Br. 229**

The St. Joseph's Day Table on March 16th was a great success! The Branch served traditional dishes, and the table was beautiful!! The group, The Men of St. Joseph, carried a lovely statue of St. Joseph on a platform from the church to the Parish Hall after the ten o'clock mass. Our Pastor, Fr. John Dolan, blessed the table. Thank you to all of the members who gave a great deal of their time and talents to make this event quite special. (I don't want to leave anyone out by mentioning names but you all know who you are and your efforts and hard work are very much appreciated!!)

Branch 229 is planning an Italian cooking class for sometime in May.

The Board is asking the general membership to bring in new members. A big welcome to the new members who have joined us so far in 2014! We are very happy you have come onboard!

I wish all of you a very blessed Easter! The Lord has risen! Alleluia!! Alleluia!!

Please pray for our deceased members, for those who are sick, and for those in need. When you see a man or woman in uniform,

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Barbara Musalo, Dianne Clees, Suzanne Kress and Sonia Wagner keep the dessert table fully-stocked during Branch 291's Fish Fries!



Joanna Van Blaricom and Father "Mario" from Branch 291 are dedicated Fish Fry workers!

please thank them for their service to our country! God bless our military!

Ciao!

Karen Judson

Recording & Corresponding Secretary

Arroyo Grande

St. Patrick, Br. 291

Our Lenten Fish Fries have been a huge success! We look forward to serving up our fish fries through April 11th. We have a wonderful group of dedicated members who put a lot of effort into making our fish fries successful! We thank them for all their hard work!

At our February General Meeting we initiated new member Nick Sausa. Welcome to Branch 291, Nick. We also enjoyed a potluck dinner at our February meeting—something we haven't done in a long, long time. The selection of entrees, side dishes, salads and desserts was outstanding!

We look forward to co-hosting the Central Coast District meeting on March 30th with the Paso Robles Branch. We'll be serving coffee and pastries in the morning, a delicious



Kathleen Sullivan, Father "Mario" and Abby Gallagher from Branch 291 are some of the friendly servers who deliver fish dinners to our customers.

spaghetti luncheon after the meeting, and will be giving away lots of great gift baskets and other fun raffle prizes to lucky winners!

Please keep in prayer Sr. Carol Carter, Joe Franco, Stevie Hall, Floralee Harris, Jan Hilton, Trish Jimenez, Jean & Emil Minicucci, Marjorie & James Rodarte, Joe Slavin, Sonia & Jens Wagner and any other ICF members who may be experiencing pain or heartache.

Have a Blessed Easter!

Keely Sanchez

Recording Secretary

Paso Robles

St. Rose of Lima, Br. 354

Because of our meeting schedule, we are submitting information on February's events and activities, which will become old news for the next edition of the Bollitino.

Our February meeting with President Irma Zanini presiding centered on planned events. Discussions were regarding applicants from our branch who requested high school scholarships. They are Annisa Brandonisio, granddaughter of Tony & Santa Salvia and Genaro Olveda, son of Jorge & Lupe Olveda.

The ICF has offered 7000 scholarships nationally since 1964, totaling more than two million dollars! Quite an achievement.

Our semi-annual pasta dinner on March 1st, a huge success, enables us to fund these scholarships. Members, friends and volunteers all pitched in. "Chef" David Zanini, together with kitchen crew served up the best spaghetti & meatball dinner ever.

On March 30th, our branch together with Arroyo Grande Branch 291, will be hosting a district meeting. In my January Bollettino letter, I inadvertently indicated that Deputy Pete Gallagher and his wife Abby were from Atascadero, instead of Arroyo Grande; I apologize for the senior moment. His branch will again be serving Fish & Chips every Friday during Lent. They do the tastiest job, and we look forward to supporting them.

Easter tray favors for the Vineyard Nursing home will be made by Lupe Olvedo, Alice Mastagni & Gladys Saucedo.

During Lent, let us remember the words of Mother Teresa, "Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless".

Theresa Sollazzo

Correspondence Secretary

Oakland East Bay

District Council

Thank you to all who turned out for Bishop's Day at Our Lady of Grace on Sunday 3/16. Nice to see some of the seminarians who we are supporting on their way to the priesthood. The next function to support the seminarians will be the various celebrations to mark the 90th anniversary of the ICF. The closest one for us is the one on June 22nd beginning with Mass at the Immaculate Conception church in San Francisco followed by the Gala at the Basque Cultural Center in South San Francisco. Save the date!

Some of you may begin to think that I am nagging you and I may be doing just that, but...we do need the help of ALL the branches to make our Convention successful. That means that we need representatives from all the branches at our upcoming district meetings. Our next meeting is at the Marriott Hotel in Oakland on Monday, March 24 at 7 P.M., where the Convention will be held. Hope to see some new faces as well as all the regulars. Also it is time to begin selling the raffle tickets for the Convention.

The district has voted to sponsor a \$400.00 first year scholarship.

Wishing you all a Blessed and Happy Easter.

Alameda

Nostra Signora Della Grazia, Br. 10

We are hosting our 2014 Polenta Dinner on Saturday, April 26 in Monsignor O'Brien Hall at Saint Philip Neri Church, High and Van Buren Streets, Alameda. Social hour starts at 6:00 p.m., and dinner will be served at 7:00. Polenta and chicken will be cooked by one of our new chefs and new member, Ben Ratto. The prices are \$21.00 for adults and \$10.00 for children 12 and younger. Proceeds benefit seminary education, scholarships for college students, persons with developmental disabilities and our national charity, Cooley's Anemia Research at Children's Hospital-Oakland.

For reservations, please contact Branch 10 President Dave Rose, (510) 522-6004, or First Vice-President Gina Foster, gfoster@csdo.org. Reservations are due on Monday, April 21.

During the season of Lent we have been sponsoring Friday Fish Fry's. The meal is served following 5:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross in Saint Philip Neri Church and consists of salad, fish fillet, pesto, bread and cookies. Prices are \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children.

A large crowd attended the Irish Social on Saturday, March 15, our observance of Saint Patrick's Day. The traditional menu included corned beef and cabbage and all the trimmings. The annual event also featured Irish dancing and a raffle of overflowing gift baskets.

Branch 10 also hosted Saint Joseph's Table on Wednesday evening, March 19. The Table was preceded by a special evening Mass in Saint Philip Neri Church. Chef Maria Croft prepared a dinner of salad, pesto, chicken and vegetables. Members of Branch 10 contributed a variety of desserts for the enjoyment of all.

Are you hungry yet? If so, we will welcome you at the April 26 Polenta Dinner.

Oakland

Santa Rita, Br. 40

Happy Easter to you and your families.

Upcoming:

April 3rd- Monthly meeting at 7:00PM

April 20th-Easter

May 1st- Monthly meeting at 7:00PM

August 10th- Branch 40's 82nd anniversary dinner at Fratallanza Club. More info to come.

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



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Member from Branch 14, Crockett who help set up for a successful Corned beef dinner. Great Job.



Carl Heller, Father Fred, Pauline Cardza, and Cliff Parr from branch 14, Crockett celebrating St. Joseph's Table.

and convalescing of our branch, especially; Aldo Innocenti, Clemence Zanta, Leroy and Elma Casale and Bruna Gasparo.

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. Theresa, Br. 223

Come to our Br. #223 Spring Bake Sale on May 3rd and 4th. We will be in front of St. Theresa's Church, 30 Mandalay Rd, Oakland. Our bakers will have baked wonderful homemade goods such as cakes pies, breads, cookies, biscotti, cupcakes, etc. for sale at reasonable prices. Everyone is welcome. Hours of Bake Sale are May 3rd after the 5P.M. Mass, on May 4th after the 9A.M. and 11A.M. Masses. We look forward to seeing you.

We will miss you... two of our recently new members, George Husson and Michael Bamrick, are leaving California. Their new location, after Easter, will be Buffalo. We wish them a good life and good health.

Farewell... to our member Angelena (Dolly) Fiammengo, who passed away March 6th. Her funeral was held at St. Theresa Church on March 12th. Dolly's husband, Eugene Fiammengo, preceded her in 2003. Our sincere condolences are extended to her son, Gary Fiammengo and daughter Kristine Costa and their families. May she rest in peace.

Br #223 members...If you have a son or daughter who will be graduating from High School or College this year and you would like

to congratulate them in our Bollettino article in May please give the info to Yoli Moglia (510) 547-3800 before April 8th.

Buona Pasqua

Happy Easter

Yoli Moglia

Livermore

St. Filomena, Br. 285

Now that our successful Bingo Bash is behind us, we switch gears to the planning of our up-coming fundraising Primavera Dinner/Dance on May 3, 2014. The committee has been selected and plans are underway for a great evening of food, dancing, entertainment and prizes.

The dinner/dance will be held at St. Michael's Church Hall in Livermore, CA. For reservations, please call: Anna Yocham at 925-484-1523.

Our March 21st. potluck will display a special table to honor St. Joseph. Our members will bring their favorite meatless dish to share.

Several members of our branch plan to attend Bishop's Day on March 16th and look forward to the opportunity of meeting Bishop Barber.

Pauline Kirk, one of our members, has arranged a field trip on April 11th, to Ironstone Vineyards in Murphy's, CA. Lunch, wine tasting and viewing miles of daffodils in bloom will highlight the day.

Members enjoying April birthdays are as follows: Carl Bates, Lola Bobba, Bobbie Farrington, Cindy Tujague, Helen Wirtenson



St. Joseph's Table from branch 14 Crockett.



Congratulations and Welcome Robert and Roberta Schryver to Branch 14 in Crockett.

and Michael Yocham.

As we celebrate Ash Wednesday, we ask God to walk with us on our Lenten journey.

Ciao!

Judy Bates

Castro Valley

Our Lady of Grace, Br. 343

Well Bishop's Day has come and gone, thank you all for your help toward making it a success. Also past are St. Patrick and St. Joseph Days, both celebrated at our March meeting; by eating (corned beef and cabbage) and by fund raising (St. Joseph's table) to support St. Vincent de Paul charities. Again thank you all!

Our regular meeting in April will be our Chicken Marsala dinner and then it's time to dust off those dancing shoes because, it's our 35th anniversary dinner dance on Sat. April 26th. We will be needing your help with ticket sales, raffle baskets and setup and tear down. It will be a good time, it always has been.

Also time to get those raffle tickets for the Convention sold, it is a fund raiser.

Happy to say that we have donated \$400.00 toward a first year scholarship to any qualified graduate of O'Dowd, Moreau, Redwood Christian or Castro Valley high schools. Hope to introduce our winner at the May meeting.

May it be a Blessed, Holy and Happy Easter for all as we celebrate the risen Christ.

Contra Costa

Contra Costa

District Council

The Contra Costa District was pleased to welcome delegates Carol and Judi from Branch 442, Christ the King, Pleasant Hill to our last district meeting We appreciate your input!

We want to thank the East Bay district for hosting the Oakland Diocese Bishops Day Mass and dinner in Castro Valley March 16th. A seminary burse and spiritual bouquet was given to the Bishop.

We will meet again at St Isadores, Danville, April 24th. District President Joseph Flores, would like all branches represented!

We wish all the Branches a Happy and Holy Easter! We will soon come to the end of the Lenten season, and time to rejoice in the Risen Savior., remembering that I can't remake who I am, but I can strive to be the best that God has made me.

Peace to all---Joann

Crockett

San Carlo, Br. 14

Special thanks to Jim and Kathleen Thomas and our hard working, generous members for yet another successful Corned Beef Dinner. This is the Branch's 38th salute to our Irish members, and all agree our cooks have it perfected.

Our April 8th meeting includes a free dinner; albeit sandwiches, the price is right, and they promise to be delicious, and with all the trimmings. It is also time to elect delegates to the Convention, which will be held in Oakland this year. If you have never attended a Convention, you should consider doing so, as you will experience ICF at its finest... Food (lots of food), laughter (lots of laughter), and great camaraderie.

Especially during Lent, please try to attend Mass at 5:30, prior to the April meeting. Father Fred gives a short, inspirational sermon, and attending a weekday Mass offers yet another opportunity to give thanks and to ask for continued blessings.

Sincere get well wishes to Karen Hart, and our condolences to Medoro and Mary Pagni on the death of Mary's brother. Special thanks to Lena McCrossen for being so diligent with sending cards. Her assistance is most appreciated.

Good luck to all who attend the April 11th Thunder Valley Casino Bus Trip. If you need help carrying home all those winnings, I believe I speak for everyone when I say we would all be willing to help...and to share.

May spring showers bring happiness, peace, and joyous Easter Blessings to all.

Ciao,

Diane Bottini Thomas

Pittsburg

San Domenico, Br. 72

We started out March with our celebration in honor of St. Joseph and St. Patrick. Members were treated to a delicious lunch. President Patty led us in a novena to St. Joseph. Orator Roselyne shared information about the history of St. Joseph. We thank all members who bought non-perishable food items for the St. Vincent De Paul. After the meeting we had a free convention raffle drawing followed by our St. Patrick's Day party.

Bus trip chairperson Joann shared details of upcoming fall bus trips. On the recent bus trip to Graton casino we profited \$400.00. President Patty told members some of the

profit was donated personally by Trustee Joann.

President Patty asked members to consider holding offices in the future. She explained Helen currently holds 3 offices. The members agreed to remember this at fall elections.

Heritage this month was about Italian cookies and treats.

Upcoming

Sunday April 13 - Branch meeting at 2: PM followed by Easter egg hunt and spring celebration. We will have convention delegate election. Watch for newsletter with details.

Thursday April 24 - District meeting at 7: 30 PM in Danville.

No branch meeting in May.

May crowning of in honor of the Blessed Mother to be announced.

Please continue to pray for our sick members including Bruno Giovacchini, Connie Boschke, Jennie Green, and Trustee Donna Stone. If anyone knows of any sick members be sure to contact sunshine chairperson Jane Russo.

Happy Easter,

Helen Politakes

Br. 72 Pittsburg Member Josie Leontini and "Cookie" represent St. Patrick and Member Grace Scanapico represents St. Joseph.

Richmond

St. Raymond, Br. 154

St. Raymond's branch celebrated Valentine's Day with a meal of delicious soup and salad prepared by Tony Reeder and Walter Costa. Adding to the festivities were Valentine cupcakes.

President Walter Costa announced that we need new members! Please bring any one that you think might like to join our wonderful organization. It was suggested that we might place a notice in St. Cornelius Church bulletin.

It was also suggested that perhaps we should look into wearing name badges. Walter will look into the cost.

It is not too early to start thinking about the annual convention in August. We will elect delegates to attend the convention in Oakland at the April 14th meeting.

April 14th meeting will honor Past Presidents with a Risotto and Salad dinner, \$7:00. Please make reservations with Terri Ventin, by April 10th. Champagne and dessert to follow!

It is with great sadness that we report on the passing of our beloved member, Art Chavez, in February. Rest in Peace, Art, you will be missed.

Lorraine Acuña

Danville

St. Isidore, Br. 352

This article is being written on March 9th and probably will not be published until the latter part of the month, so some of its' content may seem outdated.

Our February dinner meeting was well attended, Chef Angelo and his crew did an outstanding job and the food was delicious. We will have corned beef and cabbage for dinner at our March 17 meeting, hope to see you then.

Our March 2nd Bake Sale was a great success, the best in the history of the Branch, we netted over \$1,000.00. Many thanks to all who contributed.

Our March 8th Champagne Bingo Dinner was also very successful. We were honored to

have our Chaplain Msg. Cardelli, our Pastor Fr.Gerard Moran and Parochial Vicar Fr. Glenn Naguit join us. The dinner was catered by Boston Market.

Membership dues are to be sent by no later than the end of March. I would ask you to mail your dues if you haven't already done so. \$36.00 a year (\$3.00 a month) is a small amount when you consider all that we contribute to various charities as a result.

We will have Free Pizza at our Monday, April 14 dinner meeting. Please make plans to attend.

Remember that the success or failure of any organization is directly proportional to the efforts of its members. It's all up to you.

May God bless you.

Joseph

Brentwood

Immaculate Heart of Mary, Br. 432

Springtime has arrived!! Actually for those of us in California it has been spring for sometime. I am hoping that those of you who have had a rough winter are enjoying some sunshine and daffodils.

The beginning of Spring brings the celebration of St. Joseph's Table for many of our branches; we will be celebrating ours on March 31st.

Our April Fundraiser is also coming around the corner. Our 2nd Annual Hootenanny on Monday April 27th at our Church Hall at IHM. It will be a Tri-Tip Dinner with all the trimmings for \$15.00 We will have entertainment as well as some dancing going on, as well as plenty of raffle prizes to keep things interesting.

Tickets will be going on sale by the time you receive this issue so if you are interested, please call Gene Simonetti at 925 6345767.

This is also the time of year for Scholarships to be awarded to our deserving high school seniors. Remind your possible recipients to get their applications in, time is of the essence.

That is all for this month!

Get the most out of this Lenten Season, and have a Holy, Happy Easter.

Ciao,

Phyllis Lilly

Orange

Irvine

St. Thomas More, Br. 423

At press time, our branch is getting ready for our upcoming St. Joseph's Table. Our annual event was held the weekend of March 15 and 16. We sold assorted baked goods, homemade edibles, cupcakes, cannolis, Meal In A Bag, and sausage sandwiches. All proceeds of St. Joseph's Table help to fund the various charities we sponsor throughout the year.

President Mary Ann Profeta thanked last meeting's dinner hosts, Rosario Cippola and Tom and Joann Jordan for their delicious dinner of roasted chicken and mashed potatoes and gravy.

We welcomed a new member, Victoria Schenkenberg at our last meeting. Victoria will be a wonderful edition to our branch.

Cris Gianantonio read a heritage report about a journalist, satirist, and humorist named Beppe Severini. He wrote the book *Ciao America*, which describes life in Washington D. C. through the eyes of an Italian immigrant coming to America.

Congratulations to Marci Dodson on her winning a four week scholarship to study Italian in Italy. She will be studying in a

remote town where she will be immersed in the Italian language and culture.

We will be serving soup before the Stations of The Cross on Friday nights during the Lenten season. The soup dinners will be at St. Thomas More Parish from 5:30 to 7:30 pm.

Wishing you all wonderful Easter!

Ciao,

Miranda Gibson

Reno

Reno

St. Albert, Br. 135

On Sunday March 9th, 29 members and guests enjoyed a wonderful corned beef & cabbage dinner prepared by Bob&Audrey Ferrari and their son and daughter-in-law Bobbie&Rachael Ferrari. Many thanks for such dedication, service and terrific food.

We lift up continued prayer to our Lord for His great healing power for Father Mike Mahone (who is recovering and functioning but may need a future heart valve repair); and for Eugenia Hovland's grandson. We pray to our Lord Of All to deliver these folks.

At the business meeting, the following items were covered: a) convention raffle tickets are available to be purchased from Joyce Kowatch and from Ellie Snellgrove for the donation of \$20.00 for a book of twelve tickets; and, b) Vonnie Ramos gave a Heritage report on Saint Joseph, who has two feast days: - On March 19th. He is celebrated as husband of Mary and step-father of Jesus; and, on May 1st, as St. Joseph the Worker. The report also mentioned St. Patrick, who was born in Britain of Roman parents. After becoming a priest, he went to Ireland where he spent 30 years working at converting the pagans and druids to Christianity.

Our next meeting is Sunday, April 13th. 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

April greetings from St. Mary's Branch 45.

MAY events on the horizon are our ICE CREAM SOCIAL on May 1st and our CHICKEN and POLENTA DINNER in Giovanni Hall on May 4th.

The Ice Cream Social fundraiser will be on May 1st at Burr's Fountain at 4920 Folsom Blvd (in East Sacramento). Burr's will donate 20% of their sales on that day from 3:00PM until closing. Menu items include sandwiches, soups, salads and of course delicious fountain treats featuring Vic's Ice Cream. Make May 1st and Burr's a dinner destination for the family; a great way to help raise funds for ICF charities.

The next chicken and polenta dinner will be on May 4th; cost is \$12.00 for members and \$16.00 for non-members and guests. Make your reservation by calling Bruna, 916-515-9380 or Janine, 916-714-6967; please call by April 28th. Meeting time is 4:30pm and dinner at 6:00pm. All members are invited to attend the meeting. A highlight of our meetings is the heritage report by Sheryl Cecchetti. She always has something interesting and informative about our Italian heritage to share with us.

Buon Compleanno to members Frank Perri, Annji Ebert, Marvin Bernardi, Ralph Isola, and M Kay Pesce, our April celebrants.

Buona Pasqua

Ciao

Mary Jo

Roseville

San Vito, Br. 73

At the January meeting, the members present voted to donate a \$400.00 first year college scholarship. At the Mangiamo Italiano dinner the evening of 1 March, Branch 73 members and friends sold drink tickets and staffed the bar.

The evening of 22 February, Branch 73 served a polenta/chicken dinner to some 230 persons. Tony and Kathy Barsotti, Kresten Jensen, and their kitchen staff are thanked for preparing a fine salad and cooking excellent food. Also to be thanked are those who sold dinner, bar, and raffle tickets, decorated the hall, staffed the bar, and served the food. After all the expenses were paid, some \$2,300.00 accrued to the branch.

The next branch meeting will be in the convent at 7:00 on 18 March. We thank Central Council member David Botta, who attended our February meeting.

Buona Pasqua a tutti I soci della Sezione 73 il 20 aprile. May they mark the holiday with a fine ham or leg of lamb and other good food on the table, and with their family gathered around it.

If you think 20 April is too late for Easter, blame the moon. If next month brings rain, remember the old Italian saying, "Rain of April, every drop a barrel."

Buon compleanno e tante belle cose a tutti I soci della Sezione 73 nati nel mese d'aprile.

Robert Delpippo

North Highlands

St. Lawrence the Martyr, Br. 236

On Saturday, March 15th, our general meeting was held. Members were treated to corned beef and cabbage, rolls and dessert in honor of St. Patrick's Day. A big thank you to the Aguilar sisters, Vera Beine, Tina Flanders, Virginia Becker and Margie Burke for preparing the delicious meal for our members to enjoy!

Our branch is planning a Communion Dinner for our April meeting in observance of Lent, more information to follow.

On Saturday, March 1st, the Blessed Sacrament District held a Mangiamo Dinner, which consisted of pasta, salad, bread and dessert, at Holy Spirit School. Branch 236 was responsible for selling the tickets for the Raffle, as a result, we were able to sell over \$500 in raffle tickets. Wow! A special thank you to our members who assisted with the Raffle.

Happy Birthday wishes to Jo Bertolucci (April 13th).

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

Happy Spring!

Margie Burke

Auburn

St. Joseph, Br. 342

ICF Branch 342 wishes you and your loved ones a very Happy and Blessed Easter. Our branch continues to work hard to plan our meetings and events for 2014. We ask any members that have ideas for activities or



Branch 438 displayed their new Banner for the first time at their February meeting!



Judy Del Grande, Frank Ducato and Yvonne Perry greet Br. 438 members.



Angela Sullivan, Natalie Malone and Nina Malone as salad is served!



(Above) Branch 217 also conveyed Happy Birthday greetings to Carmen Hynds, Matt DiMaria, Paul Emerick and our District President, Jack Grisafe.

(Right) Branch 217 welcomed its newest member, Baby Lorenzo Emerick, born February 8, 2014.



Barbie & John Morrill and Janet & Al Smith – Mardi Gras cooks!

speakers at meetings to contact President MaryAnn Mikles. We also continue to look for ways to attract new members to our branch and would love any new ideas.

Please continue to pray for our ill members Norma Harris, Ted Fregosi, and Joann Swars. If you know of any member in need of prayers, please let our Sunshine Lady (Aggie Adames) or any board member know and we will add them to our prayer list. Thank you.

Ciao!

Pam Andersen

Bolletino Contributor

Roseville

St. Clare of Assisi, Br. 438

Newly elected officers were installed at the Blessed Sacrament District's 2014 Joint Installation of Officers on Saturday, February 1, 2014. Mass was celebrated at St. Lawrence Church in North Highlands followed by the Installation of Officers ceremony. Lunch was served in the parish hall and Branch 438 officers and guests thoroughly enjoyed the day. David Brill, Branch 438 President was presented our ICF Banner by Mr. Bob Basuino, Grand President.

Our members celebrated Mardi Gras at our February meeting. Everyone who attended was in a festive mood and they were wowed by the colorful Mardi Gras table decorations and, of course, the wonderful N'owlines meal. Al Smith and Barbie Morrill are just the best when it comes to preparing jambalaya, red beans and rice! Al also surprised us with his wonderful bread pudding for dessert – yummy! Second Vice President, Joe Fisher, conducted the meeting in the absence of David Brill.

The District Mangiamo Dinner was held on March 1st at Holy Spirit Parish in Sacramento

and some of our officers and members were in attendance.

A St. Joseph's Table is planned for our next Branch Meeting on March 21st. Yvonne Perry is the chairperson and we are all looking forward to sharing in this tradition and enjoying the wonderful treats.

Branch 438 is also in the midst of planning our parish Lenten Fish Dinner for April 11th. The Fish Dinner is always a successful fundraiser and we know it will be a wonderful evening of good will and fellowship for the St. Clare parishioners who attend. The Fish Dinner is held just prior to the Stations of the Cross.

We've moved our Membership Drive to the month of May. The chairpersons, Angela Sullivan and Pat Brown, have some interesting new ideas on how to increase our membership! More to come...

We are looking forward to the 90th Anniversary Gala on June 22nd in San Francisco! Branch 438 members send their blessings to each of you!

San Bernardino

Redlands

Sacred Heart, Br. 217

We had a wonderful installation dinner in mid-January and welcomed our guests including our Central Council Grand President, Robert Basuino and Grand Treasurer, Roselynn Jarrett. A scrumptious dinner of lasagna, zucchini, salad and bread was topped off with tiramisu and home-roasted coffee by Paul Emerick of Branch 217. Boy, do we know how to eat!

March 19, 2014, St. Joseph's Day marks

our kick-off of our Feeding the Children of Redlands program. We will have a formal, sit-down dinner which will serve 200 guests. Our guest speaker is Bruno Serato, renown chef and founder of Catarina's Kitchen which feeds some 800 children every day. Many will recall Bruno from his presentation at the 2013 Convention in Cathedral City. Branch 217 will be collecting packages of dried pasta and jars of pasta sauce which it will deliver to the Boys' and Girls' Club of Redlands and A.J.'s Kitchen. Both those organizations have programs in place to feed homeless children.

Tickets are \$10 per person. Anyone interested in purchasing tickets for this event may contact the church office at (909) 793-2469.

We welcome our newest member, Baby Lorenzo Emerick, born February 8, 2014. (Photo) We also convey Happy Birthday greetings to Carmen Hynds, Matt DiMaria, Paul Emerick and our District President, Jack Grisafe. (Photo)

Barbara A. Keough



(Above) A Super salad room crew at the Br. 230 Fish Fry.



(Left) At the Br. 230 Fish Fry, The Cassidy's go fish.

San Diego

San Diego

Our Lady of the Rosary, Br. 230

Cari Amici,

Branch 230 had it's annual Fish Fry Fundraiser on the first Friday of Lent, March 7, 2014. The event was very successful, all proceeds will go to Our Lady of the Rosary. Thank you to all that worked the night of the event especially our kitchen Captain Domenic Carini and 1st Mate Pietro Vella. Thanks also to the many hours of preparation by Mary Lou Terramagra and Theresa Cutri. Thank you to Tom and Kathy Zolezzi for loaning us their extensive Heritage Display. A very special thanks to our benefactor Giuseppe Principato, his generosity makes the Fish Fry a success year after year, may he be blessed many times over. We were very fortunate and grateful to have a great crowd of diners from our parish

and the surrounding communities.

In addition to fasting, praying and almsgiving during this Lenten season, Branch 230 will also hold it's annual Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser for scholarships on Sunday April 6th, 2014 , from 8am to 12 noon.

Our next General Meeting will be Friday May 16th, 2014 starting with a dinner social at 6:30 pm.

Please remember to pray for our lawmakers and for our servicemen and women.

Pace di Cristo

Richard Barker

San Francisco

San Francisco

Sts. Peter and Paul, Br. 38

Our February Valentine's meeting was a lot of fun. Maria Gloria, our Heritage Chairlady, told us an "Italian War Bride Love Story" between Francesca, a beautiful girl born in Naples, and Stefano, an American Army Officer. The story took place in war torn Napoli in 1943 during World War II. It told about their romantic courtship and how eventually the couple got married and migrated to America. This love story was typical of those times, and brought back memories that a lot of us remember. Actually, some years ago, at one of our branch meetings, we saw a movie called "Prisoners in Paradise" set in SF with two War Brides present. This love story was a reminder of the Italian prisoners in the Presidio during World War II who were quite anxious to find a bride. Thanks Maria for making our meeting memorable and romantic, too!

We had our March 8 meeting and we celebrated St. Joseph's Day, St. Patrick's Day, and Marti Gras. What a "mescolanza" of holidays! Again, our Heritage Chairlady, Maria Gloria, told us stories about the two saints. Did you know that St. Patrick is really Italian? It seems both of his parents were Romans. As you know St. Joseph was a carpenter. When Jesus was a boy, his stepfather St. Joseph was his first teacher and the hard working spouse to our Blessed Mother Mary. We will pray

to them to watch over us and give us strength and know how to accomplish what we need to accomplish in life.

Thank you Virginia Aguilar for donating 2 raffle prizes for our meeting, Maria Gloria for always bringing goodies, and thank you Cosmo for picking up our whipped cream cake...even though you dropped it in the store. Luckily, it was in a sealed box! It looked pretty messed up, but tasted great!

In April our Branch #38 we'll be having a "No Bake Sale." This money will be used 100% for the Scholarship donation. The amount we need to raise is \$400.00. Please be as generous as you can. Last year we sponsored 2 lovely & very deserving recipients: Madeline Lopez and Kimberly Anne Verzano. We enjoyed meeting them both and wish them much success in their future studies. Hopefully, they'll be able to visit us again.

Our next meeting on April 12 we will be celebrating "Easter", 3 very Special Birthdays (Norma Tealdi's 98th), and "Go Giants." Our lunch will be: "Going to the Ball Game."

Buona Pasqua a tutti ICF members!

Ci Vediamo il 12 di aprile!

Mara Amato

San Francisco

St. Elizabeth, Br. 258

Congratulations to our friends, Erma and Vince Brogan who celebrated their 73rd Wedding Anniversary on February 14, 2014. We wish you many more Happy and Healthy years.

A big Happy 100th Birthday to our friend Yolanda Actis, who celebrated her big day on February 14, 2014. A big accomplishment, Yollanda!

April 7th to 11th: Palm Springs trip. Last show for famous Follies. Also going to Hearst Castle, Nixon Library, and Solvang.

Please remember our ill and deceased members in your prayers. Please, especially, remember our friend, Fr. Kazino, who is very ill.

Happy Birthday and Anniversary to those who have a special day coming up.

Happy St. Patrick's Day to everyone.

Buona Pasquale to all.

Dates to remember :

April 27th: Mass

April 28th: Meeting

Ciao!

Eva Perata, President

San Francisco

Corpus Christi, Br. 290

Cari Amici,

Branch 290 celebrated its 40th anniversary at our February meeting. Highlight of the evening was enjoying the delicious cake donated by Joe and Louise Isola.

Congratulations to Vince and Erma Brogan who recently celebrated their 73rd wedding anniversary. They were featured in articles in both the February 14th and February 28 editions of Catholic San Francisco. Vince and Erma are true examples of lives well lived and well loved. God bless them always.

The date of our April meeting has not yet been determined due to a conflict with Holy Thursday evening services. Jo Wallace will inform everyone of the April date by phone. Please remember that a polenta and sausage dinner will be served before the April meeting.

Please continue to pray for Mary Rowe, John Consiglieri and other members who are not feeling well.

Buona Pasqua a tutti!

Ciao,

Jeannette

San Francisco,

St. Cecilia, Br. 365

Archbishop's Day will be on the 27th of April. Mass will be celebrated at the Shrine of St. Francis of Assisi at 11:00. Lunch will follow at the Italian American Athletic Club. For more information, call George, 566-8333 or Joe, 564-7254.

Our first garage sale was so successful that we are going to have another one. Vince Russo has offered to have it in his garage, 2058 - 17th Ave. He has plenty of room and is waiting for our donations. We will do the preparation on Friday the 2nd. The sale will be held on May 3rd and 4th.

If you have not yet paid your dues, please your check for \$40.00 to Florence O'Malley, 520 Vicente, S.F. 94116.

Our next meeting will be on April 9, at 7pm.

May 14 -- Regular meeting at 7:00. We will have finger food provided by the branch. This is in celebration of Mothers' and Fathers' days.

God Bless,

Ann Basuino

San Mateo

District Council

Greetings! Many thanks to Branch 403, St. Dunstan's Millbrae for hosting the first District Communion and to Father Joe Glynn for presiding over the spirit filled Mass.

Mark your Calendars:

Sunday, April 20 Easter

Thursday, April 24 next District meeting at 7:30p.m. Our Lady of Angels, Burlingame. Hosted by Branch 327, St. Charles, San Carlos.

Sunday, April 27, Bishop's Day. Hosted by the San Francisco District. Mass 11:00a.m. at St. Francis of Assisi Chapel in San Francisco. Luncheon to follow at San Francisco Italian Athletic Club. San Mateo District will be arranging for a bus to take members to the event. Charge for the bus will be \$8.00. Pick up at St. Mark's, Belmont (take last driveway on right and park in back) and pickup at Duggan's in Daly City (park away from the mortuary on the street side of the parking lot). Contact Barbara Firpo for bus reservations and send check payable to San Mateo District to 1518 Bay Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303. Luncheon Price: \$40. Send luncheon reservations to your Branch President.

The District voted to give a 1 year scholarship in honor of Father Frank Murray. Remember him in your Prayers.

Our 50th Anniversary will be in October this year. How time flies! More information later.

Happy and Joyous Easter!

Anne O'Brien

Redwood City

Regina Coeli, Br. 6

Our Polenta dinner on March 1 was a huge success thanks to our cooks, and all of our helpers. Thank you too to all of the members, families and friends that participated in enjoying our delicious food and winning the beautiful raffle gifts. Everyone had a great time!

Our meetings now start at 7:00p.m. so I hope you will be able to join us and stay active. We miss those that have not been coming.

Our Branch voted to give a 1st year scholarship in Memory of Nancy Van Tricht.

Bishop's Day will be April 27 and the District will get a bus to take us to San Francisco. The cost for the bus is \$8.00 per person and the Luncheon is \$40 which will be at the Italian Athletic Club. Please come for a spiritual and fun filled day.

Please contact Catherine Boyle (650) 364-6165 with the names of any sick members so she can send them a card.

Ciao,

BF

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Members of Branch 213 at the Installation of Officers.

South San Francisco

Sacro Cuore, Br. 7

Being our March dinner meeting fell on Ash Wednesday, we all enjoyed wonderful vegetable lasagna. A big thank you to the cooks and helpers. Your efforts are always appreciated.

On March 15th, we had our Corned Beef & Cabbage Fundraiser. Thank you to all that participate and all the outstanding workers.

April 2nd we will have a ham dinner for our monthly dinner meeting. Please plan to attend and stay connected to you organization. Remember, "United we stand and divided we fall!"

May 7th will be our last business/dinner meeting (Enchilada) as we take a break for the months of June and July. Our first meeting after the break will be August 6th

So, until next time, a little thought to ponder ... "Being happy can be hard work sometimes. It is like maintaining your home - you've got to hang on to your treasures and throw out the garbage." *Sempre Avanti*

Laurie Masetti

Burlingame

Our Lady of Angels, Br. 173

We are planning a St. Joseph feast day celebration Potluck Dinner and blessing at our meeting on the 13th. This event is chaired by Dorene Campanile. We can't forget St. Patrick this month either or Father Michael won't forgive us.

The 6 week Renew Program started this month and if interested, call Sandra or Norm Bennett O.L.A. 650-697-4279. St. Francis Room Special thanks for our February Pizza dinner and Bingo chaired by Sandra Bennett and all of the cooperative earth angels who helped make it successful.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

April 6 Mass & Brunch with Br. 403 Millbrae, St. Dunstan 10:00AM Terrace Café - El Rancho

April 10 Branch Sandwich Supper and meeting 6:30 p.m. Contact: Lucy Witherspoon 650-697-0597 by 4-8-14.

April 26: Spring Fling Fundraiser OLA Hall 6 p.m. Cocktails/Dinner: 7p.m. Contact: Sandra Bennett 650-697-4279 \$22 Under 17: \$5 Donations needed for raffle prizes

April 27 Bishop Day/Mass at St. Francis of

Assisi Chapel S.F. Lunch to follow at Italian Athletic Club. Bus available but only so many seats available.

We are glad to hear that both Dorene Campanile and Mary Ann Camacho are back on their feet after stays in the hospital. (more garlic ladies) Please keep Larry Cavagnaro in your prayers.

God Bless,

Rosalind C. Emery

South San Francisco

St. Augustine, Br. 213

Our March 11 meeting was hosted by Lorraine D'Elia and her "crew". We all enjoyed a delicious dinner by Boston Market. Our thanks to Lorraine and her crew.

Dues for 2014 are almost one hundred percent, except for a couple. Good job. You make my job a lot easier!

Congratulations to our Pastor Father Rene Ramoso who celebrated his 25th anniversary in the priesthood on March 22. Good luck and God Bless You, Father Rene!

We have a new member, Joyce James. Joyce transferred to us from Branch 327 since her cousin belongs to Branch 213. Welcome Joyce; we are so happy to have you!

Remember our Anniversary Luncheon at the Terrace Café on April 27. Deadline for reservations is April 20. We hope to have a good turnout.

Sunshine: Please keep in your prayers Reuben Barrera and John Cannon. Give them a call or send a card. They would love to hear from you! Also, our long-time member, Mary Favuzzi, does not get to our meeting much anymore, so I'm sure she would be glad to hear from some of you. Jackie Smith is our new Sunshine Lady; so, if you know of someone who is ill, let her know @ 992-3505.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday, April 8 and hope to see you all there.

Happy Easter!

rf

San Carlos

St. Charles, Br. 327

Our meeting hall was filled to capacity for our 27th Anniversary Dinner Social last month which featured our usual Corned Beef and Cabbage entrée. The servers, which included several teenagers, did a magnificent job of getting the meal out to the diners while

it was still hot on the plate. The in-charge Gianuario family handled all the heavy lifting and meat cutting and they were ably assisted by the helping hands of Karstyn McCoy and branch member Lou Boris. Lou lent his expertise because this anniversary dinner was his responsibility for many years in the past. As part of the evening's program, fourteen heavily-loaded baskets of food and sundries were raffled off which was an exciting moment for each of the winners.

Our Branch will be donating funds to help the St. Charles Men's Club in its building project which will have out-door Stations of the Cross and a Grotto for the Blessed Virgin Mary being a big part of the renovation of the patio area of the church's social hall. This project has thought about for many months and it is wonderful to see the Men's Club take the lead in accomplishing what promises to be a welcome addition to the church grounds.

Our Branch dinner meeting in April will feature a pasta meal which is always a favorite on the calendar for the year of an organization with Italian in its title.

Gayton DeRosa, Corres.

Millbrae

St. Dunstan, Br. 403

We celebrated our 24th. Anniversary on March 9 with a dinner in our Parish Center. We especially wish to thank the following branches for joining us: Branches #6-Redwood City, #351-Menlo Park, #19-Colma, #163-San Mateo and #173-Burlingame. The delicious dinner of stuffed roast pork was prepared by our President/Chef Lorrie Kalos-Gunn.

Our annual St. Joseph's Table was another outstanding event this year. The Table was beautifully decorated with flowers surrounding the statue of St. Joseph. This was a potluck dinner and members brought an abundance of dishes to share; all remaining food was given to the San Bruno Catholic Hospitality House for the homeless.

We are looking forward to Bishops Day on April 27 with Mass at St. Francis Assisi Chapel in San Francisco with lunch to follow at the San Francisco Athletic Club.

Happy Easter St. Dunstan Branch #403

Marin

Larkspur

St. James, Br. 161

On March 18 Gloria Ghirarduzzi was very gracious in lending her house for our monthly meeting and celebration of the St. Joseph's Table. It was a wonderful evening enjoyed by all. Thank you Gloria and everyone who helped out.

At our last meeting Terry Rosser reported that we generously donated 640 hand-made

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items to Oakland Children's Hospital, Clipped Wings Special Olympics, Mother Lilly's home in Mexico, St. Patrick's School, Warm Wishes, Fiji Island and St. Vincent. Rosary beads and sundries were distributed to Fisher House, St. Patrick, St. Vincent and Special Olympics. Thank you Terry for being the funnel and also for making rosaries, as well as Imma, Diane and her friends and Anna. If you would like to get involved we would love to have your talent. Call Terry for more information.

On Tuesday, April 15 will be our next meeting in the meeting room at St. Patrick's, at 7:30pm.

On April 27 will be Bishop's Day in San Francisco. Mass at St. Francis Shrine and lunch at the Athletic club.

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

Wishing everyone a very Happy Easter.

Our next meeting will be April 15.

Buona Pasqua a tutti.

Ciao,

Anna Biggio

San Jose

Santa Clara Valley

District Council

Don't forget, the Santa Clara Valley April District meeting is being held at Br. 28 in Gilroy. This is not the usual order, so put it on your calendar. As always, anyone who is interested is invited to attend.

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

4/5/14 Br. 47 Mtn. View, Spaghetti and Meatballs \$12.00 Joanne MacDonald (650) 917-0422

5/9/14 Br. 368 Santa Teresa, Pasta and Meatballs - \$15.00 John Gillio (408)225-6372

5/18/14 Br. 391 International Heritage Day is back! ravioli dinner - details to follow.

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Members of Branch 4 having a great time at its Mardi Gras celebration.



To our sick members, our Prayers are with you. Remember a phone call or card can help brighten the day of a sick person.

To the Family of Louis Piro, we send our sympathy on the loss of his sister Jane. May she rest in peace.

*Blessings to All,
Ann Fitzgerald*

Gilroy

Santa Maria Ausiliatrice, Br. 28

As I write this article we have just concluded our Polenta Dinner. I must say we had fantastic help in the morning and during the dinner. Thank you again to the kitchen crew, the servers, the set up crew, and Chris for the raffle. All members really stepped up to the task. And if you missed it, don't miss it next year. The food was really tasty and it's so nice to see all the people have such a good time.

Upcoming:

April dinner meeting -- April 21, Cullen Hall 6 PM

May dinner meeting May 19 -- Cullen Hall 6 PM

Mark Santos Memorial Motorcycle Run May 31, Santos Residence

We still need cooks for our dinner meetings. If you would like to help or know of someone please let President Roger Santos know.

Also we are doing well on our membership, but if we could bring in a few more, it would be wonderful. Remember you don't have to be Italian, just Catholic. Spread the word to your friends about what good deeds we do for charity. Louise Segreto is our membership chairman.



Br. 186 Cioppino dinner/ dance was a success!! Reno DiBono's band always provides great dancing music. Ticket holders are eating delicious salad but can't wait for the crab cioppino!



Ed Vogel, Roy Shackel, Joe Fortino, Gennaro Filice, and Russell Wolf making the polenta at the Polenta Dinner of Branch 28 on March 8, 2014.



Kevin Clark and Sid Pappani mixing the salad at the Branch 28 Polena dinner on March 8, 2014.



Branch 28 kitchen crew, Andy Pappani, Dick Bozzo, and Vince Sasso. Polentas Dinner March 8, 2014

Pray for our sick members. And our sincere sympathy goes out to the family of Al Filice who passed on in March.

*Ciao,
Anna Barberi*

Los Gatos

St. Mary, Br. 184

It was with much sadness that we said goodbye to longtime member and great ICF helper Dina Flora. We send Bill and the family our deep condolences.

The Polenta Dinner Dance, aka "The Mad Hatter's Ball", is around the corner. Denise and her committee are working hard for this event. Hope to see you all there. It should be a lot of fun!

A couple of dates to post on your calendar: June 29, outdoor Mass at Our Lady of Peace Church in Santa Clara, and October 25, our own 50th Anniversary Celebration; details to follow.



By the time you read this, St. Patrick's Day and St. Joseph's Day will be over, and Easter is almost here. May the Blessings of the Easter Season be with you. We continue to pray for Nicholas Norcia, and for all of our ICF Family.

*Buona Pascua,
Lucy Amico*

Los Altos

St. Nicholas, Br. 186

Now that our two events, both successful, are finished we can sit back and enjoy our social hours at the meetings. We would like to have more members attend and enjoy the hors d'oeuvres. The meetings are short and it provides time to relax and discuss whatever concerns you may have. There are times when we do have a good showing, especially when we enchilada night.

Thanks to the crew of St. Francis alumni and friends that have come to help in the kitchen



6/22/14 ICF 90th anniversary mass/luncheon/dance – Check with your branch president for details

6/29/14 Our Lady of Peace mass with Father George Aranha and luncheon - details to follow

8/2/14 - San Jose Giants

10/25/14 Br. 184, St. Mary's in Los Gatos, dinner/dance/auction to celebrate their 50 anniversary - details to follow See individual Santa Clara Valley branch articles for more great opportunities to socialize, eat, and make new friends!!

Don't forget to elect Convention Delegates in May.

*Happy Easter!
Marcie Rossi*

San Jose

Holy Cross, Br. 4

Our first fundraiser of the year, "Mardi Gras" was very successful. The Hall looked like New Orleans, and the food was excellent. A big Thank You to our cooks, Maria and Bill Greco, Anna Greco, James Ho, and Darlene Fitzgerald. Special thanks to Darlene, who with the help of Grand 2nd Vice President Andy Pappani and his wife Sid made the Beignets for everyone. To all who came to support us, Thank you.

Anna Greco, Branch President is to be congratulated for her great effort!

April 2- Dinner meeting

May 7- Dinner meeting

The telephone committee will call with the details. Thanks to the Phone committee for your help each month.

Have you paid your dues? If not please bring them to our next meeting, or send them to Connie Barretta, our Financial Secretary.

We are in the Lenten Season, a time to reflect on our lives and our faith. A good time to think of others and do something to help another.



(Above) Frank and Bob Basuino had big smiles as they danced the Tarantella.



(Top Right) Members and guests had a great time at the polenta dinner/dance, even Father Hendrickson joined in the Hokey Pokey.



(Right) Br 191 member Jennifer Bertaccini was initiated into Branch 191 by Jim Jones and Mike Nunziata at the February meeting.

for so many years. Without them we would not have been able to put on our Cioppino and Polenta Dinners. We can never thank them enough.

The board will be deciding in the near future on distribution of the Charity Budget. Let the board know if there is a charity you want considered. The Branch recently donated \$500.00 to St. Nicholas School for App's for Student I Pods. The teachers and students were delighted.

Haappy Birthday to Josephine Del Carlo, Vi D'Oliva and Richard Bowers.

Rita Fraguaglia is now at Sunnyvale Health Center on Bernardo and Fremont. She would love to hear from you. Prayers are still needed for Chuck Tapella, Lena Fontana Joan Freitas, and Babe Fraguaglia

May 1, 2014 - Regular Meeting. It will be enchilada night. Dinner 6:30 PM Meeting

7:30 PM St. Nicholas School Center. . Bring dishes and utensils.

May 14, 2014 Deceased Remembrance Mass 8 AM St. Nicholas Church.

"Some spend their lives complaining and grumbling every day, instead of counting blessings God daily sends their way."

Happy Easter

Elaine

San Jose,

St. Frances Cabrini, Br. 191

Branch 191 welcomed another new member. Jennifer Bertaccini, daughter-in-law of Jo Bertaccini, was initiated into the branch by Jim Jones and Mike Nunziata at the February meeting. Welcome Jennifer!

March 8 was our annual polenta dinner/dance. Over 250 members and guests attended. Debbie Piro, Jim Jones and Liz Donaldson were chairpersons for the event. The theme was "A Disney Cruise". Jim provided posters with cruise ships and Mickey and Minnie. As part of the theme Debbie cleverly used napkins to make swans and elephants to decorate the tables. Liz, as al-

ways, made sure everything ran smoothly. The children who attended the dance had a great time participating in the games Debbie organized. Dinner was excellent; Chef Steve Piro and his crew did a wonderful job. It was a fantastic evening.

March 22 is the Day of Recollection at St. Clare's Church in Santa Clara. Many of our members will attend. We are looking forward to hearing Fr. George Aranha's inspirational words for us to reflect on during Lent.

March 26 our branch will be preparing Minestrone soup for the parish's weekly Lenten soup night. After dinner member will meet for the monthly meeting. Denise Antonowicz suggested we have a St. Joseph's dessert altar. Members are asked to bring a dessert to place on the altar. Father Michael will bless the altar before members share in the goodies.

Our Palm Sunday breakfast will be after the 8am Mass on April 13. Members their family and friends are invited to attend.

Happy Easter,

Rosemary Janis

San Jose

Santa Teresa, Br. 368

Thank you to Pat Cordich, Bobbie Gallegos, and Joyce Robba for hosting our dinner meeting. Everyone enjoyed the baked potato bar with all the fixings. The decorations were a St. Valentines Day theme.

Our evening guests were Bernice Sgroi, Ann Palsgrove, and Mike Ingoglia.

We welcomed our newest members, Anne and Mike Cerdoni.

Alice and John Czerniec were presented with a framed picture that was signed by our membership. We wish them the best in their new home.

Ed wendler gave a spiritual talk "hope is all you need". The message was that things change and you should never give up.

Judy Zahn gave an interesting heritage presentation on the life of St. Anthony.

Mark your calendars:

May 9 -- Pasta and meatball dinner

May 12 -- Host district dinner

June 22 -- ICF 90th Anniversary Mass at Immaculate Conception Church in San Francisco

Reminder: Meetings will be on Wednesdays until further notice.

Ciao,

Cheryl Sanchez

San Jose

St. Martin of Tours, Br. 391

The March meeting dinner was prepared by Diana and Al Vallorz, Jeff Prolo, Mary Lipari and John Rossi, and consisted of hearty comed beef, cabbage, carrots, rye bread and alcohol free hurricanes to celebrate Fat Tuesday and St. Patrick's Day.

Prior to the meeting, Branch #391 had a photograph taken of all the members present at the March meeting, which will appear in a booklet commemorating St. Martin of Tours centennial celebration.

At the meeting, Donna Rossi gave the heritage report, which was about the history of music in her life. She also graced us with a beautiful song. It was a very nice treat. Our telephone committee chair, Linda Pfahnl, will be introducing email as a way to contact members in place of telephone calls. If you have an email address, which you regularly check, please be sure to give it to Linda. If you don't use email, don't worry; we will still be calling members that don't regularly use email. For Mike Rossi's Central Counsel report, he introduced the branch to the ICF's three-year strategic plan.

Reminders/Upcoming Events: Remember if you haven't already paid your annual dues, they are late and should be paid asap. May 18th will be our International Heritage Day fundraiser dinner.

Have a great spring.

Sunnyvale

Resurrection, Br. 408

Our Branch lead the Parish's first Devotional Stations of the Cross of the Lenten Season followed by hosting the Simple Soup Supper. This kickoff was a great success and we raised \$150 for the support of our Seminarians. Stations continue at 6:15 PM on Fridays in the church during Lent followed by soup in the Farana Center @ 6:45.

Our PASTA Fundraising Dinner for the 5th Grade Science Camp Fund was held on Sat 15th March and thanks to all our generous donors and especially to our Chefs Mike Kunz, Brenda Robbins, John Parker and Fred Petralia. Good food and Fellowship were had by all who attended.

Our next Blood Drive will be held on Sunday April 6th from 8- 1PM in the Farana Center.

Please pray for Donors of this gift of Life.

Remember to include our sick members in your prayers - especially for Larry Quaglia and Aldo Lucaratti and please say a special prayer for Mary-Clare Affonso as she deals with the death of her beloved brother Fr. Alex.

God bless us on our Lenten journeys!

Morgan Hill

Santa Caterina Alessandria,

Br. 435

Spring is finally here and we are all so happy that the rain has finally decided to help our draught situation.

At our last dinner meeting in Feb. we all enjoyed a chicken ciaccatore and polenta prepared by the Friebel family.

We also had a guest speaker Laurice Levin MA,CCS of the Oncology Children's Hospital in Oakland. She was a wonderful speaker and a survivor herself. We learned so much

about Cooley's anemia. It was an eye opener to hear about this illness and how it is now being advanced in so many ways. I, myself and many others learned how important it is to donate to such a worthy and needy cause.

We will be having our Quarterly Mass on Sun. March 26th, at the 10:30 Mass and hospitality following after Mass.

On March 20th we will be celebrating St. Patrick's day by feasting on corned beef and cabbage plus a St. Joseph program.

Keep April 26 on your calendar for our fund raiser dinner.

Please keep in your prayers Joseph Tacci (son of Johanna Tacci) who is suffering from complications of diabetes. We also need to pray for Pat Caravelli (wife of Jerry) who is undergoing tests for her illness.

Ending on a happy note we're happy that Josie Talamo is on a cruise in Mexico with a friend. I'm sure she'll comeback nice and rested.

Peace and God bless us all.

Donna Basilin

Santa Rosa

City

Name, Br. 18

We continue to support and encourage our youth by our annual donation to the ICF Scholarship program. This year we donated \$400.00 for a first year scholarship in memory of Branch 18's deceased members. We support our Church and community by our annual donation of \$75.00 to Catholic Charities. We earn the funds to support these worthwhile causes by our dinner dances. We celebrated our 86th anniversary at our March 15th dinner dance. Many thanks to all ticket buyers, chef, set-up and clean-up crews and waiters. It is always a joy to gather with those of good heart for good food and good dancing. April 2nd is our regular meeting, 1:00 P.M., Resurrection parish hall. The attendance prize is now at \$20.00. Winners of the attendance prize must be present to win. Be there or be square. If you have news of anyone in need of prayers, call Marie, 431-0563.

Sta in gamba!

Marie Canale

Healdsburg

St. Francis di Sales, Br. 52

March has been a relatively quiet month for Br. 52. We get busy, again, in April.

Upcoming Events:

April 2 -- General Meeting at Mary and John Del Monte's house. 7:00pm. Please note the change of date.

April 5 -- Polenta Dinner. Bar: 5:45pm. Dinner: 6:30pm. Price: \$15.00 adults. Childcare will be available. This is the last polenta dinner of the season.

April 13 -- ICF Breakfast after the 8:00am and 10:00am Masses. Come join parishioners for a delicious breakfast.

April 27 -- We host the Santa Rosa District Council meeting. 2:00pm. All members who are interested in learning more about the District Council are invited to attend.

In the future:

June 22 -- Parish Potluck. More details in the coming months.

Oct. 12 -- Golf Tournament

Thank you to all members who have renewed their memberships for 2014. We are one of the largest branches in the ICF and we keep growing.

Happy Easter!

Lauren Kilcullen

Cloverdale

L'Annunciata, Br. 75

On March 20, our first Heritage evening event will be a limoncello demonstration by Lou Guglielmino. There will be tasting along with refreshments. We look forward to

future Heritage events and get to know more about our members and their origins.

Our May 15 meeting will be a Mother's Day potluck prepared by men only. On June

29, our Branch 75 will host a District meeting. Officers will meet at 1:30 pm, open

meeting at 2:00 pm (one hour) followed by a light meal and raffle.

Ciao!

Sonoma

St. Sebastian, Br. 103

April is the month of The Resurrection and a great feast day around the world. Get ready to color eggs and eat lots of chocolate. It is the holiest of all the feast days of our faith.

At our April meeting we will unveil our new bulletin board and hope it will attract many new members. The Branch will also initiate a new member at our next meeting.

The Chefs informed that the entrée has not been decided, but assure it will be delicious. Of course, there will be salad, home made dessert and select red and white wine. For reservations, call Lila, 996-3448.

Buona Pasqua,

Marie-Therese Denning

Arcata

St. Mary, Br. 144

We had lots of discussion about Polenta. The committee for discussing possible improvements is Joan Dal Porto, Rosemary, Toni, and Doris. If you have any ideas, let one of them know. We had a huge turnout this time....fed 391 guests, plus crew. We had a beautiful St. Joseph's Table, thanks to Larry. We took in \$400.32 for St. Vincent's McKinleyville branch. Thanks for all the beautiful food. We gave \$50 to the Pregnancy Care Center's Baby Bottle project.

We will be having our Mass for the Deceased followed by a dinner meeting on May 7th, starting at 6pm. We have a Biscotti sale on May 17/18. Please pray for our ill: Lucille Fraga and Fr. Ron.

Tis Spring...the awakening of new life after a long winter. I wish for all of you a Blessed Holy Week, in preparation for the death and resurrection of Jesus, our Lord. I am looking forward to the beginning of this new Church Year, with a zest for new life, love, service and prayer. I hope for an even deeper relationship with my Church, my Lord, and you all.

Ciao.....Linda.

Eureka

St. Ambrose, Br. 145

Our February 11th meeting was a parish potluck open to all guests. The idea of the event was to show others what our lodge is about, encouraging others to join. The food was

wonderful; thank you to all who brought food to share. Thank you Marian and your committee for chairing the event, also to all who set up, decorated, and who helped clean up.

Afterwards we held a short business meeting to discuss future events.

Our first biscotti sale for the year was on March 2nd. Thank you to all of you bakers! You are very much appreciated.

Also our recent request for peanut butter and jelly for Betty Chinn was overwhelming! She will be able to feed many of the homeless with peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. Also thank you to the St. Bernard students who volunteered to make sandwiches for Betty. It was greatly appreciated.

Our next meeting will be on April 8th. Please plan to attend.

Remember to pray for our members and their families and for all those who have lost a loved one.

Peace and good health to all,

Nancy Paoli

Cotati

St. Joseph, Br. 150

This will be the last Bollentino entry for our Branch as it has been dissolved. Many members have decided to join other branches.

Tom and Carol Saksa with the BBQ'ing skills of Rich Casella and Beverly's help put on a wonderful steak dinner. Thank you Dorothy Aggio for the delicious cake for our dessert. Thank you to everyone who helped set up and clean up for this last dinner.

David Botta, a ICF Parliamentarian, who was 16yo when our branch was started Nov 1, 1959 was there and was here for our closing as he resigned our flag and regalia. Letters will be sent to each member to let them know where they can join another branch. If you want to join another branch go to a meeting and they will have the papers for you to fill out. Louise and Lou Vicino who were our deputies in the past years were sad to see us close and thanked us for all the wonderful friendships they have made with all of us. Bob and Kathy Acquistapace thanked us for all the wonderful times they had with us and reminding us what a wonderful branch we were.

We want to thank everyone who always was there to help for the fundraisers, the guys who stirred the Polenta, who chopped all the ingredients for the sauces, the people who set up, cleaned up, served, made the food, brought their special dishes to share, the guys and gals who held down the bar, who made the signs, who sold raffle tickets, salad makers, pie makers, supply buyers.....from A to Z we thank each and everyone of you who held us together for always being there for our branch.

We were saddened with the tragic loss of David Aggio son of Dorothy Aggio. Our prayers go out to Dorothy and her family.

One last thank you to Beverly for all the wonderful prayers.

Please pray for all our members to be healthy and strong.

God Bless each and everyone of you, for this is my last issue to write for. I will miss doing it.

Love and Blessings

Susan Daly

Petaluma

St. Vincent, Br. 127

Greetings from Petaluma!

Notice: "Due to the resignation of a Branch Trustee, it is necessary to hold a Special Election (as per our National By-laws) to fill the position. Written notice must be given to all members because the normal date of elections is not the date that we will use for filling the vacancy. Any member, in good standing, who wishes to be nominated and serve as Trustee of Branch 127 for the remainder of the current 2014 term, should either attend the May 12th Regular Meeting at St. James at 7PM and have a member (or themselves) nominate them for the office OR anyone interested may also submit a written and signed statement (to the Branch) before nominations conclude, signifying that they would like to be nominated and would serve as Trustee if elected by the members in attendance at that meeting. If more than one candidate is nominated, a "secret ballot" will be conducted of all eligible members in attendance at the May meeting".

The Officers and Members of Branch 127 were saddened to hear that there will no longer be a Cotati Branch. Our Branch and their Branch celebrated many happy and wonderful dinners together through the years. We hope that many of their members will join our Branch.

Thanks go to Chairman Giacco Manni, his cooking crew and all who helped and attended our recent crab feed. There was a great deal of friendship shared along with all the delicious food.

A brunch was held honoring Past President Spence Burton. Many members were on hand to wish him well and to thank him for his hard work and great leadership these past three years. Much happiness and a future success are wished for Cathy and Spence.

April 14th - Regular Meeting

May 12th - Pizza Nite/Bingo Cost \$5 Bingo \$3 per card - 6:00 p.m. sharp in St. James Church Hall - Reservations 769-7389

May 24th - Chicken Cacciatore Dinner - St. James Church Hall - 6:00 p.m. Cost \$16 Adults \$5 children under 12 - Reservations 763-9082

Get well wishes to all sick members and Happy Anniversary to members celebrating an Anniversary!

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

Ciao

Louise Vicino

Santa Rosa

St. Eugene, Br. 198

Dear Brothers and Sisters

As we reach the end of our Lenten season we anxiously await the celebration of Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

Our Federation focuses on the Catholic part of the Italian Catholic Federation with many special events from now until April 20th. May everyone make this a truly holy time in their life.

As we get into Spring, we remind all members to ask their friends and family

to join our branch and celebrate fun and faith with us.

Our upcoming events include:

April 7-- meeting , dessert and bingo at 7:00 pm in the Parish Life Ctr.

May 5th-- Mother's Day/Scholarship dinner in the Brinker Rm. at 6:30 pm Men \$ 10 Ladies free with baby clothes

May 6-- Mass for ICF at 8:00 am

Please pray for all our members, but especially RoseAnne Sikes, Vic Torchio Sr. and Frank Castelli.

We mourn the loss of our friend and member Pat Costaglio on Mar. 4th.

We ask everyone to pray for the repose of her soul. She will be missed by all our members and friends.

May all of you have a happy and Blessed Easter.

Buona Pasqua

Lorraine Castelli

Sebastopol

St. Michael, Br. 209

Our St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner was scheduled for our regular second Tuesday meeting night. Thanks in advance to President Barbara Bidia and Don Becchetti who never disappoint as our chefs. Thanks to both of you. You never let us down!!

March 30th will be our Quarterly Communion which will be followed by breakfast at "Zazu" a local restaurant which has recently relocated in Sebastopol's new "Barlow Center." We are all looking forward to visiting this beautiful addition to our city and visiting Zazu's new restaurant.

Our annual Fish Fry is scheduled for April 11th. Please call Lona Bertoli (707) 527-1021 for tickets.

Our guests at our February meeting were Bob & Cathy Acquistapace. Bob is currently the president of St. Eugene's Branch #198. Cathy is Santa Rosa District Branch Deputy. Cathy commented that she is working on getting a new Branch Deputy for Branch #209. Bob spoke on the Federation's effort to modernize efforts to increase membership.

Upcoming:

April 1 Board Meeting

8 Regular Meeting

11 Fish Fry

Happy Easter to all!!

Lona Bertoli

Stockton

Stockton District

Love was still in the air at St. Bernard's Parish for the Feb. 16 District meeting. Chocolate resonated at the raffle and dessert table. The baked Italian chicken, stuffed pasta shells, baked asparagus, salad and bread made a valentine dinner not to be forgotten! Honored guests included Past President Jim Jones and his wife Janice, and Central Councilmembers Dante Galeazzi and Marco Galeazzi and Marco's wife Diane. Roger Elissagay was present following his recent illness looking fantastic. Thank you Tracy branch for a wonderful Sunday afternoon gathering.

Don't miss our next event!!! The Bishop's Burse Day is being hosted by St. Anthony's in Manteca on Saturday, March 29. Mass begins at 11 a.m. followed by appetizers and an authentic Italian dinner prepared by Tony and Ida Queirolo. In addition to the presentation of the Spiritual Bouquet and the Bishop's Burse, we will be treated to a presentation by Sr. Wanda Billion, Vocations Director for the Stockton Diocese, who will "put the faces with the names" of the Stockton Diocesan seminarians. Time with our seminarians is rare due to their busy school schedules. Bring a guest to this once a year event supporting Bishop Blaire with gifts of prayer and treasure.

May 4 - District meeting at Church of the Presentation.

June 22 - 90th Anniversary Gala Celebration in San Francisco. Details next month.

We wish to express our deepest sympathy and extend our prayers to Past President Russ Stephens' family on their recent loss.

Karen Rossos

Modesto

St. Stanislaus, Br. 48

I will have to tell you all about our busy of March in the next bollettino since most of the events take place after the tenth of the month.

In April we will have our meeting and be getting ready for busy month of May. It will start with the District Meeting at Presentation in Stockton. At our meeting we will have a Mother's Day potluck and encourage you to bring your family and friends. We will also be making plans for our bake sale.

Mass for our deceased members will be Sunday April 6, 2014 8:00 am and Sunday May 4, 2014 8:00 am at the Maze Blvd. Church

Coming up:

Apr 9 7:00 pm Meeting - St. Stanislaus Hall 7th and K Streets

May 4 1:30 pm District Meeting Br. 395 Stockton

May 14 6:00 pm Mother's Day potluck and meeting

May 17 / 18 Bake Sale

Happy Easter!

Cecelia McGhee

Manteca

N.S. Buon Viaggio, Br. 139

Remember to get your tickets for our "All you can eat" Shrimp Dinner on April 26, 2014. This event will be held in St. Anthony's Gym. We will start with no-host cocktails at 6:00 pm. Don Garibaldi will provide Italian music on his accordion. Dinner will be served at 7:00 pm. The meal will consist of lots of shrimp, pasta with pesto sauce, bread, salad, and dessert. We will have wine available on a wine cart. There will be a dessert auction, and a table full of raffle prizes. Hope you can come. The tickets are \$35. each and available by calling Ida, 209 982-5710 or Marilyn at 209 612-7770.

Our next meeting is April 22nd at 6:30 pm. Dinner will be served in the school cafeteria. We hope you can come.

We wish everyone a Happy & Blessed Easter.

Ida Queirolo

Tracy

St. Bernard, Br. 390

Cecelia Casciaro Our monthly dinner meeting was well-attended - everyone liked the dinner of tri-tip, a deliciously seasoned roasted potatoes, Italian green beans with bacon, salad and a various array of desserts prepared by the members. Since the month was valentine's month, we honored those who celebrated anniversaries and when a group photo was taken of all those who have been blessed to have been married a very long time, there were so many lovely couples they almost didn't all fit in the photo!

March dinner meeting: a very traditional Italian spaghetti and homemade meatballs with garlic bread, salad and again an array of desserts. It was announced at the meeting that our branch will be accepting scholarship applications from high school seniors who qualify - they need only to fill out the application, obtain reference letters and write a letter about themselves. The board of di-

rectors will then review the applications and decide on the recipient.

Plans are in the works for April's monthly dinner meeting. This year, on April 24, we will be celebrating "Italian Heritage Night" and board trustee Rita Baretta is planning this very emotional event with various board members, which should prove to be a memorable night.

Coming up:

April 24 - Dinner Meeting - "Italian Heritage Night"

May 17 - St. Bernard's Annual Gala - this year's theme: "The Vatican".

The Gala is our major fund-raiser for the New Church Site Building and all are invited to attend.

Stockton

Church of the Presentation,

Br. 395

Branch #395 has had a very busy month. We just had our annual Polenta/Chicken Cacciatore Dinner on February 13. It was a tremendous success with the most attendees ever. As we prepare for Lent, our branch will be facilitating at the Stations of the Cross on March 14 and hosting the Lenten Soup Supper afterwards. Our branch has great cooks and we make the most delicious home made soups! We are sad to report that one of our long-time members, Lena Pinasco passed away in February. A Mass was said in her honor at the 7:00 a.m. Mass on February 26, 2014 at the Presentation Church. May she rest in peace.

Upcoming events:

Bishop's Burse at St. Anthony's in Manteca, March 29

Branch meeting/pot luck on April 10 and initiation of two new members

District Meeting hosted by Branch #395 at the Presentation Church on May 4

Have a blessed Lenten season. Josephine Weber, President

Angels Camp

St. Patrick, Br. 413

Our February Valentine Dinner Dance was well attended. The much-needed rain gave our event a cozy feeling. Our next event is the St. Patrick's Day celebration. We are going to provide corn beef sandwiches for the St. Patrick's Day celebration at St. Patrick's Church in Angels Camp.

The soup suppers after the Stations of the Cross are going well. These are provided for free by our Branch for the entire parish. We are looking forward to the Stockton District Bishop's Burse on the 29th of March.

Easter is in April this year, so we will see Bunny Bob at St. Patrick's Church in Angels Camp. You could take a drive through the green covered hills and enjoy the splendor of the flowers on your way to join us. Bob and Sharon Dunn put together packets for the children with candies and a religious card. The children hunt for empty eggs and take them to trade for the packets. The parents watch and enjoy one another's company. Last year,

Bunny Bob sat for pictures with our parishioners! Maybe he might be available again this year.

Hope everyone is enjoying the spring-like weather. We will keep you all in our prayers. God bless.

Felix Paschal!!

Robert Pachinger

Correspondence Secretary



Members of Branch 425 at its lasagne dinner.

Tucson

Green Valley

Our Lady of the Valley, Br. 425

We are trying to catch our collective breath... February was chock-full with activities. Bishops Day and installation of officers, shared with Branch 433, at Saints Peter & Paul in Tucson, Our annual Lasagna Dinner fundraiser on February 15th was very successful. We served 210 sit-down dinners and handed out 241 carry-out dinners at the drive-up station. We had a corporate communion on Feb. 23 followed by a group

breakfast. The current effort is focused on increasing participation in our St. Joseph's Table meatless dinner on March 15th. All contributions for this "all you can eat" dinner go to the local food bank. We will venture south on the 20th to Lake Patagonia State Park for a late afternoon picnic and boating. On March 30th we will carpool to the Holy Trinity Monastery in St. David, AZ to attend the 10 AM mass, patronize the gift shop, socialize and/or meditate and then have dinner with the Abbott before returning home.

For many of us in Branch 425, mostly retirees from distant points, our ICF community has become a second family.

ICF Hospitalization Plan

Annual Cost – Only \$25

Eligibility – ICF members who join before their 65th birthday



Benefits

- \$75 per use of operating room in hospital or surgical center
- \$50-1st day, \$25-2nd day, \$10 each day thereafter per hospital stay
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Features



- Membership continues beyond the age of 65 yrs. old
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