



BOLLETTINO



Mark Your Calendar for the ICF's 90th Anniversary Gala Celebration Near You

Michelle Feldman
Editor

In honor of the Italian Catholic Federation's 90th Anniversary there will be three gala events to celebrate.

The first will be in Chicago on June 8, 2014. The day will start with an afternoon Mass at St. Francis Borgia, in Chicago. The Gala Anniversary Celebration will follow at Al Pescatore Hall.

The second celebration will be on June 22, 2014 in San Francisco. The event will begin with Mass at Immaculate Conception Church, in San Francisco, and the Gala Anniversary Celebration will follow at the Basque Cultural Center in South San Francisco.

The third celebration will be in Los Angeles on June 29, 2014. The day will begin with an 11am Mass at St. Peter's Italian Catholic Church in Los Angeles. The Gala Anniversary Celebration will follow at the Casa Italiano.

These Gala Celebrations will take place this year in place of the Annual Seminar Night. The proceeds from the celebrations, however, will still be put towards the Providenza Fund.

Reservation information for all of these events will be published in future issues of "The Bollettino" once they are made available.

Strategic Plan "Moving the ICF Into the Future"

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

There has been considerable discussion over the last few years about the future of the ICF. Being that membership is a key component for our survival, we need to be meeting not only the desires of our current members but also the new members that we bring into our branches. Many of us feel that the best way to accomplish this is to create a strategic plan for our organization, a plan to guide us into the future. Preparing a strategic plan would give us the opportunity to look into what is working throughout the Federation and what modifications might be necessary for our continued existence in the future. The Central Council approved moving forward with preparing and implementing a strategic plan. The Task Force Committee reviewed a contract with a professional planner in January with

approval slated to be given by the first of February. The initial committee meeting scheduled with the planner will be in mid-February. The Task Force Committee and The Central Council felt that the best way for the plan to be successful is with full involvement from throughout the organization. The members will be asked for their input during the planning process with a general planning meeting to be scheduled in May. This meeting will be bringing various representation from all parts of the Federation. Please look for more information upcoming in the Bollettino, ICF Website and from your Branch Presidents. This will be a joint effort from all Members, Branches, Districts and The Central Council in seeing that we all do our part in making this plan and its recommendations a success. Please pray for the ICF and our members during this process. Remember God is always there for us, we just need to be able and willing to follow him and he will guide us.

Grand President's Monthly Message

As is Bollettino tradition, the February issue publishes the Grand President's Installation speech. Please enjoy.

90 years ago our founding Fathers Sir Luigi Providenza and Father Albert Bandini sat together for many months putting down in writing their goals for an organization that they wanted to form. They listed everything that they envisioned an organization would need to provide for the Italian immigrants that were falling away from the Catholic Church. Over the years we have slowly changed with the times by adding a few things and dropping a few things that were no longer working. But our basic tenants are still with us.



I stand here proudly as your current Grand President of the Italian Catholic Federation. We are at a crossroad now and 2014 will determine the road we go down for the next 90 years. Who knew when our founding fathers organized the first branch that 90 years later the Federation they started would be an organization based in 4 states with 135 branches. Our 90 year journey has brought our Federation membership to a current level of 11,000 members. Let us make 2014 a year of growth, enthusiasm and participation.

For the Italian Catholic Federation to be a vibrant organization in 90 years we need to make membership growth a priority by renewing our enthusiasm and focusing on recruiting younger families and members who will take over and grow ICF in the future.

Giving, as always, was a priority for the ICF. This past year our dedicated membership donated \$70,000 to Children's Hospital in Oakland. Half of this money will be used for research studies that improve the children's quality of life, and the other half is used for children's events, patient sponsorship, education, outreach, and patient medical expenses. After our annual convention, Laurice Levine, Outreach Director for Children's Hospital, told me she appreciates our time and donations and wants the members of the ICF to understand how vital we are in providing the high quality of care they give to their patients.

We gave away \$111,500.00 in scholarships to help give the opportunity of education to more young adults. Our scholarships may not be large in amount, but we touch many students who need help, and with the current cost of education every little bit is appreciated.

Our Gifts of Love Program donated

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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.

(You get the picture... but unique and creative!)

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.

The Committee thanks you for your continued support!

Chairperson: Lisa Crudo and Members Franklyn Lopes, Jr., Leonard Rossi, Dante Galeazzi, Patricia Mages, and Teresa Helfand

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

TIME SENSITIVE: PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY!

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There is No Starch in Pope Francis

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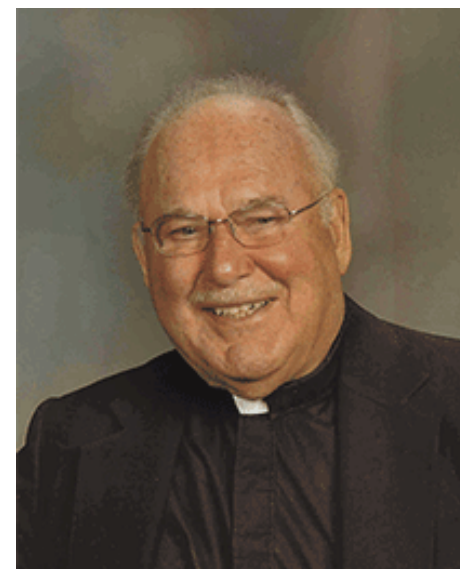
Pope Francis set a new tone to the papacy. Hierarchy just doesn't fit with him. He comes across more like a "Nonno" than the head of the Holy Roman Catholic Church. Even though we know he is the



Pope, he seems as if he is a member of our family. He is the Pope, and he accepts the responsibility that comes with that title. Yet there is something warm and welcoming about his personality. Pope John Paul II had a charisma that was very appealing. He reached out to the people as Pope. Pope Francis also has a charisma, but with a different twist. His whole personality seems to shout out "We are family."

No matter the title, the heads of States, the rich and the poor, the good and the bad, Pope Francis embraces all as family and sees Jesus in each of us. This is the example of his special charisma. He makes us feel that we would rather embrace him as a friend and a family member than shake his hand or bow and kiss his ring. We haven't met him, yet he makes us feel that we know him. We can feel his warm love for all of us because he treats all of us the same: children of God and brothers and sisters in Christ.

There is a new spirit, a new life which sparkles in Pope Francis. The one characteristic that beams from his personality is that he loves everyone without judgment. Just by watching him we can see how he affects each one of us. He radiates with



love and affection without judgment. That seems to be the key to his personality.

We could do the same with little effort. Accept people not as we expect them to be, but accept them as they are WITHOUT JUDGMENT! Let this be our motto for our ICF for 2014. Let us follow the example of our Pope Francis. Let there be NO STARCH IN US.

UPCOMING:

2014 Installations:

- Feb. 1 Blessed Sacrament Tucson
- Feb. 11 Las Vegas
- Feb. 15 Orange
- Feb. 23 Fresno
- Feb. 27 Chicago

2014 Bishops' Days:

- Feb. 1 Tucson
- Mar. 16 Oakland
(Contra Costa & East Bay)
- Mar. 29 Stockton
- Apr. 27 San Francisco
(San Francisco, San Mateo & Marin)
- Oct. 5 Las Vegas
- Oct. 12 Fresno
- Oct. 19 San Jose
(Santa Clara Valley)
- Oct. 26 Monterey (Central Coast)

Fr. Efrem Trettel

The ICF office has received word that Fr. Efrem is now at Mercy Retirement Center. He would still love communication from members of the ICF. If anyone would like to write or call, here is his contact information:

Fr. Efrem Trettel

Mercy Retirement Center

3431 Foothill Boulevard

Oakland, CA 94601

2nd Floor

(510) 228-4032



Membership is a Gift

Nina Malone
CC Life Member
Membership Committee
Chairperson

When someone asks you why you are a member of the ICF, how do you respond? Of course, we all enjoy the social aspect of joining any organization; the camaraderie is terrific and you can't find better food to eat on the planet. But many of you might say this is not the "meat and potatoes" of the Italian Catholic Federation; not what makes an organization like ours last for 90 years.

I have been a member of the ICF since my parents joined as charter members back in 1968; 45 years ago now. Back then, I was too young to join and a family membership plan did not exist. So I had to wait until I was 15 years old to become an official member of the ICF. But in the meantime, I was made an honorary member and felt every bit a part of the group as the adults. So began the countless spaghetti dinners, heritage days, parish festivals, bake sales, bus trips, membership drives, corporate communion masses, etc. But what kept me

High Five!

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

Contra Costa	+105
Santa Rosa	+56
Santa Clara Valley	+20
Fresno	+15
Marin & Tucson	+9

in the ICF when so many of my generation did not stay?

When you really sit down and think about the ICF, take a few moments to look back on the many accomplishments we have achieved as an organization; new branches opened, new members gained, monetary awards granted, scholarships awarded, support of vocations for our future priests, charitable and apostolic works and the thousands upon thousands of hours of prayer and spiritual gifts offered up on

**Membership Stats as of
Dec. 31, 2013:
10,887**

Members as of September 1, 2013:

10,935 - 48 member quarterly loss

New:	416
Reinstated:	6
Transfer in/out:	10
Deceased:	87
Cancelled:	325

behalf of the Italian Catholic Federation. These are all things that should make each one of us extremely proud to call ourselves a member of the ICF. These are the accomplishments we need to talk about when asked about joining our organization. I call this "making a difference in our corner of the world." Membership is a gift that should be shared with others. Just think... if everyone did just a little bit to make the world we live in a better place, how we would make God smile!

Volunteer Inspiration

People who volunteer make all the difference in the world. Here are some inspirational quotes to keep you motivated to continue all the hard work you do for the ICF.

'We must use time creatively in the knowledge that the time is always ripe to do right.' - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

'The future depends on what we do in the present.' - Mahatma Gandhi

'No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.' - Aesop

'We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.' - Winston Churchill

'I'm not telling you it is going to be easy, I'm telling you it's going to be worth it.'

'Your life is your message to the world. Make sure it's inspiring.'

'Never underestimate your ability to make someone else's life better - even if you never know it.' - Greg Louganis

'You have never really lived until you have done something for someone who can never repay you.'

'Volunteers are not paid - not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless.'

CALENDAR WINNERS

We held off pulling the calendar winners to give everyone a chance to return their ticket stubs to the I.C.F. office by the January 17 deadline. The winners' names for January 2014 and February 2014 will be printed in the March 2014 issue.

Do You Have What You Want?
Do You Get What You Truly Need?

Jim Acitelli
Apostolate Chairman

As we enter a new year in our lives, let us continue to reflect upon the words of Pope Francis that it is our duty to share our food, clothing, health and education with our brothers. What he says is pure Gospel, and be careful, because we are going to be judged by this.

“When Jesus comes to judge us, He will say to some, ‘Because I was hungry and you gave me to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me to drink, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me.’ And they will ask the Lord, ‘When did I do that? I don’t remember.’ And he will respond, ‘Every time you helped the poor you helped me.’ But He will also say to others, ‘Go away, because I was hungry

and you gave me nothing to eat.’ And He will also condemn us for the sin of blaming the government for poverty, when it is the responsibility we must all assume to the extent we can.”

Isn’t it a shame that in our blessed land in which God gave us everything, there is not enough food or enough jobs. The number of people living in poverty has continued to increase. It is not a new problem but it is one we cannot turn our backs upon. We, as individuals, must continue to do what we can to reach out and help others – to be Christ-like in our assistance to our fellow man. That is charity in action and a true following of the words in the Gospel. “I believe in the kindness of other, and that I must love them without fear.”

Thank you to my Committee, Lisa Crudo, Michael Cannady and Vincent Piccola for their assistance.

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.

Grand President

continued from page 1

\$42,794.00 to our brothers and sisters with disabilities or who are developmentally delayed. This program has helped many by making their lives a little easier. We have also been able to help our young people who are deaf receive the Sacraments thru our Deaf Religious Program.

We gave our Bishops \$32,000.00 to help with the education of our Seminarians. The Catholic Church is definitely in need of priests. These young men in the Seminary are dedicating their lives to serve our communities; the least we can do is help them with the cost of their tuition. We also donated \$9,800.00 to Catholic Charities for Hurricane Sandy. We try and help all those in need.

In 2013 the Italian Catholic Federation gave a total of \$265,894.00 to local and national charities. All of these gifts were from you, our members. This does not count the numerous donations each branch has given to their own parishes and communities. Our giving is what makes our organization special and unique. We give back to our local communities, churches and loved ones. This is how ICF affects our communities, parishes and members.

The Central Council has resources to help all of our Branches and Districts with membership and membership retention. Brochures and posters are available to help recruit new members. We have many years of experience between all of us and have made a commitment to come to your branches and parishes to help plan, implement and hold successful membership drives.

The Central Council is your resource and we want to be active and productive in your branches. We do not want to be seen as the group of 24 that sit at a head table or those people that are always holding secretive meetings. You have elected us to work for you and we are here for you.

Our office staff, Charlene and Patty, are also there to help you get the right information and resources. They are invaluable to all of us. Anything that you need please ask and we will try and make it happen. If you have something that is really working for your Branch let us know so your successes can be shared with others. Please be sure you use the Central Council and our resources to make your events easier to plan, and ensure success.

I am looking forward to 2014 and know it is going to be an outstanding year for The Italian Catholic Federation. It is our 90th Anniversary. We are starting a new

decade and it is time to grow and prosper. The Ways and Means Committee will be having three Galas Events this June. They will be held in San Francisco, Los Angeles and Chicago. The Central Council cordially invites you and your friends to these fine events. We encourage you to bring potential new members and show them what we are all about while celebrating this historic milestone with family and friends.

The Task Force Committee has been working very hard bringing our strategic plan to life. A strategic plan is a systematic process of envisioning a desired future and translating that vision into broadly defined goals or objectives and a sequence of steps to achieve them. This is what Sir Luigi and Father Bandini did 90 years ago. They saw a problem and “came to light a fire” to fix it. We are in the process of relighting that fire by creating a new strategic plan to help bring our Organization into the 21st century. We can only be successful with our Strategic Plan if every branch is committed and involved. The Committee and Central Council will be giving all our branches the opportunity to let us know what initiatives you need for your branch to prosper. We cannot put this plan into place without YOU, the members of ICF. We will be looking for you our members to participate, support and implement these initiatives. There will be a weekend general meeting, and meetings in our different districts to get everyone’s ideas, needs and wishes on paper so we can begin the process of planning for successful and maintained growth. We are very confident that we will be able to roll out the first steps of the plan at our Convention this September in Oakland. The Plan is one of the ways we will be able to have another 90 productive years.

This strategic plan will be a living document, not a stack of papers that will sit on a shelf at the office. The Plan will be reviewed and updated every couple years to ensure we are on track to continue to be a successful organization. As I said a little bit ago it took Sir Luigi and Father Bandini many months to get everything in order to form the Federation. It will take us a few months to roll out the new Strategic Plan, but I promise you our mission will not change. The Italian Catholic Federation’s goal is to uphold and develop the religious spirit among its members and to spread that spirit throughout the community. As Christians, we will continue the tradition of love, hospitality, and the works of charity as signs of Christ’s peace among us.

I want to wish every one of you a Blessed and Productive New Year. May God bless all of you and God Bless the Italian Catholic Federation.

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.

Report Date: 01/15/2014		FRANK X KRYSZEK	Branch 067
		THERESA E KRYSZEK	Branch 067
RUSSELL GOODMAN	Branch 010	CECELIA A CASCIARO	Branch 075
AIDAN DOOLEY	Branch 014	SALVATORE A CASCIARO	Branch 075
KEIRA DOOLEY	Branch 014	TERESA DE ROSIER	Branch 075
REV ALEX LEGASPI	Branch 019	JOSEPH DELLAQUILA	Branch 075
GEORGE PISCHING	Branch 032	MARY JEAN DELLAQUILA	
			Branch 075
MARY PEDEFLOUS	Branch 033	CAROL WHITSON	Branch 103
TERESA M BINDEL	Branch 036	CHRISTINE WOLFENDEN	Branch 103
PROVIDENCE CARDINALLI		MARIANNE L CANETTI	Branch 115
	Branch 036	ANNA G TEALDI	Branch 173
PETER JOHN CURATOLO	Branch 036	ELENA F TEALDI	Branch 173
PATRICIA (PAT) DONOVAN		THOMAS R TEALDI	Branch 173
	Branch 036	MATTHEW MARTIN	Branch 210
WILLIAM (BILL) DONOVAN		MATTHEW PINTO	Branch 210
	Branch 036	ROBERTA PINTO	Branch 210
NORMA DUNIPACE	Branch 036	MARION ARMSTRONG	Branch 214
RACHAEL DUNIPACE	Branch 036	RAYMOND DOORACK	Branch 214
JOEL FAVAZZA	Branch 036	ELIZABETH ROYBAL	Branch 218
JOSEFA NOLAN	Branch 036	GENE ROYBAL	Branch 218
KEVIN P NOLAN	Branch 036	CARMELLA HARTZELL	Branch 261
ANNAMARIE STANTON	Branch 036	DOMINIC PETRINI	Branch 281
ROBERT STANTON	Branch 036	GINO PETRINI	Branch 281
DAWN M TREGO	Branch 036	GREG PETRINI	Branch 281
IZZABELLA TREGO	Branch 036	LIZ A PETRINI	Branch 281
NOAH TREGO	Branch 036	MARCO PETRINI	Branch 281
TRISTANN TREGO	Branch 036	KATHERINE HOUGHTON	Branch 354
CHRISTINE A BELLUOMINI		DONALD R MADDALENA	Branch 354
	Branch 039	YVONNE L MADDALENA	Branch 354
MICHAEL R BELLUOMINI		STEFANA TRIPPIEDI	Branch 392
	Branch 039	TERESA COMES	Branch 418
DENNIS DIEBOLD	Branch 052	ENZO D'ARGENTO	Branch 439
MADELINE DIEBOLD	Branch 052	LAURA M D'ARGENTO	Branch 439
BEATRICE SEPPI	Branch 052	LINA D'ARGENTO	Branch 439
BRANDY SEPPI	Branch 052	SAVINO N D'ARGENTO	Branch 439
NATALIA SEPPI	Branch 052	TERESA FALCO	Branch 439
ANN BAGLIO	Branch 067	ANNA NINA FILIPPONIO	Branch 439
ALEXANDER CICONE	Branch 067	MELINA GIANELLI	Branch 439

BEATRICE BIANCO	Branch 091
EVANGELINE A SCARONE	Branch 102
ESTELLE MORETTI	Branch 127
MOLLIE MATTIODA	Branch 154
EUGENE B D'AMICO	Branch 163
ADRIAN M LAMPE	Branch 215
GUIDO GENIALI	Branch 258
DAVID A SPARGO	Branch 291
ANGELA MASELLIS	Branch 439

For it was not into my ear you whispered, but into my heart.
It was not my lips you kissed, but my soul.
Judy Garland

Cooley's Corner

PHRESH Project Looks at the Impact of Thalassemia in California

Laurice Levine, MA, CCLS and Susan Paulukonis, MA, MPH, California PHRESH Project

Beginning in Fall 2012, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention provided two years of funding to develop and share data about thalassemia in California. The project, titled Public Health, Research, Epidemiology, and Surveillance in Hemoglobinopathies (PHRESH) follows up on the earlier Registries and Surveillance for Hemoglobinopathies (RuSH) project, which used data from many sources to count those with thalassemias in the state. Surveillance in the project title refers to looking at public health issues, such as thalassemia, over time to see if the impact of the condition, the type of care being delivered, and the quality of life and outcomes are changing.

PHRESH funding allows researchers to delve deeper into the collected data and determine its accuracy. Project staff will share the data with those living with the disorders and their families, health-care providers, community-based organizations, and policy makers, as well as using it to continue to raise awareness of thalassemia in the state.

Among the types of information the project hopes to be able to publicize:

* How many people impacted by thalassemia (including alpha and beta thalassemia) are living in California? How

old are they? What racial and ethnic groups are most affected? What types of insurance (private, government, self-pay) do these people have?

* What areas of the state are most impacted by thalassemia?

* What are the complications, procedures, and treatments most frequently associated with thalassemia, and when are they most likely to occur or be necessary in the lifespan? How do these differ between transfusion-dependent and non-transfusion-dependent individuals?

Partners in this work are Dr. Lisa Feuchtbaum at the California Department of Public Health's Genetic Disease Screening Program, Dr. Elliott Vichinsky of Children's Hospital and Research Center Oakland, and Dr. Tom Coates of Children's Hospital Los Angeles. In addition, Dr. Catherine Madigan at UC San Diego Rady Children's Hospital, Dr. Theodore Wun at UC Davis Medical Center, Dr. James Huang at UC San Francisco Children's Hospital and Dr. Susan Claster at UC Irvine Medical Center are partners in the effort to determine the accuracy of the data. The project is set to conclude in September 2014.

For further information on the project, please contact:

Laurice Levine, MA, CCLS:
Llevine@mail.cho.org
510-428-3885, ext. 5427

Live to Give

20 Blood Facts

Brought to you by the Live to Give Committee

By Laurice Levine, MA, CCLS

1. Blood makes up about 7 percent of your body's weight.
2. Just one pint of blood can help save the lives of several people.
3. Platelets help blood to clot and give those with leukemia and other cancers a chance to live.
4. There is no substitute for human blood.
5. Much of today's medical care depends on a steady supply of blood from healthy donors.
6. Volunteers provide nearly all of the nation's blood supply for transfusion.
7. Every three seconds someone needs blood.
8. Approximately 32,000 pints of blood are used each day in the United States.
9. Shortages of all types of blood often occur during the summer and winter holidays.
10. 37% of the population of the United States is eligible to donate, yet only 5 percent nationally do so. This drops to 3 percent in Southern California.
11. If all blood donors gave at least twice a year, it would greatly strengthen the nation's blood supply.
12. Anyone who is in good health, is at least 17 years old, and weighs at least 110

- pounds may donate blood every 56 days.
13. Blood donation takes four steps: medical history, quick physical, donation and snacks.
 14. The actual blood donation takes 5 to 10 minutes. The entire process, from when you sign in to the time you leave, takes about 45 minutes to one hour.
 15. You cannot get AIDS or any other blood disease by donating blood.
 16. A heart surgery uses an average of six pints of red blood cells and six pints of platelets.
 17. The average liver transplant patient needs 40 pints of red blood cells, 30 pints of platelets, 20 bags of cryoprecipitate, and 25 pints of fresh frozen plasma.
 18. The average bone marrow transplant requires 120 pints of platelets and about 20 pints of red blood cells.
 19. If you began donating blood at the age of 17 and donated every 56 days until you reached the age of 76, you would have donated 48 gallons of blood.
 20. One out of every 10 patients entering a hospital needs blood.

Resource:
<https://california.providence.org/holy-cross/Pages/blood-donor-center-blood-facts.aspx>

Cooley's Anemia Donations

Donations received by Jan. 10, 2014.

Branch 39	Roger and Kathy Santos
Branch 102/Anna Centoni	In memory of Dolores Bettencourt
Branch 154	Roger and Kathy Santos
Branch 186	In memory of Frances Howson
Branch 303	Roger and Kathy Santos
Roger and Kathy Santos	In honor of the birthday of Hank Wempe
In memory of David Dupuis	Richard and Valerie Vote
Roger and Kathy Santos	In memory of The Rovera Family
In memory of Betty Signorotti	Lorraine and Mike Nunziata
Roger and Kathy Santos	In memory of Carolina Fasano
In memory of Fr. Peter Filice	

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

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Must be under 65 to join.
Contact the ICF Office
for more details.
1-888-ICF-1924

BOOK REVIEW
Vince Piro - CC
Br. 39, Merced

Delizia! An Epic History of the Italians and Their Food

John Dickie

Atria Books, 2008. 384 pp.

In Delizia! An Epic History of the Italians and Their Food, John Dickie writes about the history of Italian food, but rather than some dry culinary chronicle, he creates a fascinating exploration that explodes some common myths we have about Italian food, investigates the complex history of Italy, and tells some interesting and captivating stories.

In the introduction to his book, Dickie explains that the modern image of Italian cuisine — that it is based on rural peasant food — is false. In fact, as he explains, any history of Italian cuisine must be approached through its great cities.

The author describes the most common image of Italian cooking in the Western world: “. . . the trattoria in the olive grove; the ham suspended from the rafters of the farmhouse kitchen; the sun-weathered old peasant with a twinkle in his eye; the noisy family gathered under the pergola while mamma serves the pasta. These same clichés recur in countless recipe collections, countless ads for olive oil, or those jars of unspeakable pasta sauce.”

However, as the author explains, Italian cuisine has little to do with this rural, peasant image and is based on a revision of history. For centuries, the peasantry in Italy ate very poorly due to the inequitable society they lived in, which forced many of them into sharecropping and poverty. As the author notes, an old proverb illustrates how poorly Italian peasants ate: When the peasant eats a chicken, either the peasant is ill, or the chicken is. Throughout history, Italian peasants were so poor that they ate chicken - an expensive meat - only if they were sick and given a chicken meal to help them recover or if the animal had died itself of illness. Italy’s rich culinary tradition did not grow out of the poor, rural peasantry, because it barely had enough food to survive much less to create rich, expensive, complex dishes.

Any true history of Italian cuisine must be explored through its wealthy cities. Dickie explains that is why many of Italy’s most famous dishes are named after its cities: bistecca alla fiorentina, prosciutto di Parma, saltimbocca alla romana, pizza napoletana, risotto alla milanese and more. The inequity in Italian culture meant that while the peasant countryside was starving, the Italian urban centers were rich with food. Dickie explains, “From early in the second millennium, the hundred cities of Italy hogged the produce of the countryside and used it to build a rich food culture. For centuries, Italy’s cities have

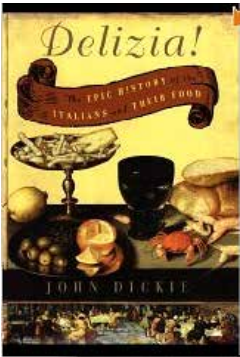


been where all the things that go to create cooking are concentrated: ingredients and culinary expertise, of course, but also power, wealth markets, and competition for social prestige.” Therefore, the author tells the story of Italian food through a history of some of its great cities: Palermo, Milan, Venice, Rome, Ferrara, Bologna, Naples, Turin, Florence, and Genoa.

Besides exposing some of the myths of Italian food, Dickie also offers a rich history of Italy, for any exploration of its culinary traditions is based on the complex social history of the country itself. The reader learns about King Roger II’s Palermo in the 1100s, about power in Milan during the 1200s, about the influence of Chinese trading in Venice in the 1300s, about the dynasty of Ferrara in the 1500s, about Mussolini’s Rome in the early 1900s and much more. Dickie weaves culinary history with the social and cultural history of Italy, showing how the Italian cuisine was influenced by a variety of factors. However, this is no dry academic history of Italian food and culture. The author is an expert storyteller and retells many interesting and engaging stories with enough details and specifics to entertain the reader.

For example, in chapter 1, Dickie retells the story of King Roger II, the Norman Ruler of Sicily, and Al-Idrisi, a Muslim intellectual. King Roger II commissioned Al-Idrisi to create a planisphere, a map of the known world. It was “a perfect disk of solid silver, close to two meters in diameter, and weighing as much as two men. Engraved on its polished surface were the contours of the habitable world; it was then the most complete map ever created.” King Roger had the planisphere created as a symbol of his great power and the wealth of Sicily at the time. As the center of much trading and many cultures, Sicily offered its citizens and visitors a rich and complex culinary experience. Earlier, the North Africans had introduced many irrigation techniques to the island — which made it a land of “carefully watered orchards and gardens where generations of Muslim technical expertise and commercial know-how had bequeathed a rich agriculture of lemons, almonds, pistachio nuts, cane sugar, dates, figs, carobs, and more.” It is through such explicit detail and clear explanations that Dickie is able to tell both the culinary and social history of Italy.

Anyone interested in Italian food and history will find *Delizia!* an interesting and enjoyable book, difficult to put down or forget.



La Celebrazione di Gioventu -- The Celebration of Youth President’s Day

President’s Day will be celebrated on Monday, February 17. Color the pictures of our first President and our current President of the United States.

In the box below, draw a picture of your ICF Branch President and share at your next Branch meeting.



George Washington
On February 22, 1732 George Washington was born in Westmoreland County, Virginia. He served as the first president of the United States. He died in Mount Vernon, Virginia on December 14, 1799.



Barack H. Obama -- Term of Office: 2009-Present
Barack Hussein Obama II was born on August 4, 1961 in Honolulu Hawaii. He is the 44th president of the United States, and first African American to hold the office. Before becoming president, he was both a State Senator and a U.S. Senator for the state of Illinois.

My ICF Branch President:

Share a story about your Branch President:

Written and Illustrated by: _____

2014 1st Year Scholarship Program

Deborah Rodondi
Scholarship Committee Chair

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

The deadline for donations and applications is March 15, 2014. Please discuss participating in the program at your meetings by making a donation of a full scholarship of \$400.00, if possible, or a partial donation of any amount. Partial donations do help to make other scholarships possible when that money is grouped together. Individual donations are welcomed as well. Please encourage your children, grandchildren, or anyone you know who is eligible to apply.



These are the eligibility requirements for students:

A High School senior; a total cumulative GPA (3 1/2 years) of at least 3.2; and meets all of the requirements in either #1 or #2: 1) Are Roman Catholic and of Italian descent and live within the Roman Catholic Dioceses of Arizona, California, Illinois and Nevada, only where Branches of the Federation are established. or 2) Are Roman Catholic but need not be of Italian descent or live where Branches of the Federation are established if either Roman Catholic parent, guardian or grandparent is a member of the Italian Catholic Federation - membership of a Roman Catholic parent, guardian or grandparents is mandatory for #2.

Please visit or call your local high schools where you would like to see applicants come from and make sure that they are promoting our scholarship program and have applications available.

If you have any questions or need additional applications, please call the ICF office toll-free at 1-888-423-1924.



Scholarship Donations

Donations received by Jan. 10, 2014.

Scholarship Donations - 1st Year

Ms. Janet Farren

Merry Christmas wishes for Mrs. Dina Puccinelli

Aldine Grisenti

In memory of Vito Borella

Donna and Richard Pfaff

In memory of Francis James Crowley

Donna and Richard Pfaff

In memory of JoAnn Reed

Officers/Members of Br. 351

In honor of Deborah Rodondi, Deputy of Br. 351

Deborah Rodondi

In memory of Franco Franchini



Mother Cabrini Open House

Carmelo Sabatella AIA
President

ICF Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library Committee

The Open House on January 12, 2014 was hosted by members of the Villa Cabrini Alumni Association. The VCAA emailed this report to me and members of their organization following the Open House:

“Hello, friends,

Today’s open house at Mother Cabrini’s chapel was another success. The weather was beautiful, the Italian cookies and pastries were delicious (I had more than my share!), and the visitors were enthusiastic to learn more about Mother Cabrini’s legacy in Southern California.

Approximately 30 visitors came from a variety of organizations -- Villa Cabrini, St. Francis Xavier Parish, Cabrini Literary Guild, St. Finbar Parish, and more. Sr. Regina (our own “Mother Cabrini”) offered personal prayers with every visitor, and Mikie read stories about Mother Cabrini to Gianna, a lovely and charming young student from St. Finbar School.

The newly-installed display drawers in the

museum are beautiful. They will provide secure yet viewable storage for the treasures that Mrs. Benz purchased when Villa Cabrini closed.

Love,

Linda Jones

Villa Cabrini Alumni”

The ICF Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library Committee invites and encourages all ICF Members, their families and friends to visit the Chapel and Library on their visit to Southern California and share personal stories of Mother Cabrini or come and learn about our first American Saint and ICF Patron Saint of Immigrants. The Chapel is located at Saint Francis Xavier Catholic Church, 3801 Scott Road, Burbank, CA.

The next Mother Cabrini Mass, Pilgrimage and Luncheon is scheduled for December 7, 2014 from 12:30 pm to 4:00 pm. Please spread the word and join members from all Branches in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles.

For a copy of the 2014 Open House Schedule, please send me a request at email cas1810@aol.com or call me at phone no. 626 372-7812.



Branch 392 celebrated La Befana. Here Antonietta Gerardi, Teresa Helfand, Teresa Romano, Rosetta DiFrancesco, La Befana played by Maria Abate, and board members.

Chicago

Franklin Park

St. Gertrude, Br. 181

Happy Valentines day to all our ICF members and their families.

Congratulations to district members who planned Our Christmas party which was held held on Dec. 29. We had a great attendance even though the weather was bad. As usual Pescatore restaurant served a great buffet after dinner there was dancing and many raffle prizes.

Feb. district meeting installation of officers.

Our condolences go out to the Oachipinti families on the passing away of their nephew Carl.

Please continue to pray for all our sick members and their families give them a call or

visit.

Pray for world peace.

Barbara Miller

Chicago

St. Francis Borgia, Br. 392

Ciao a Tutti,

We hope everyone had a great Christmas and a blessed start to the new year. Our branch recently just finished celebrating our annual epiphany (la befana) party on January 5th with 160 guests and 55 children. Even though, the weather was not looking too good we still had many people attend the event. We are so blessed to everyone that came out and attended. The children were all excitedly waiting for the gifts that the good witch brings every year to them. We were lucky to have this year a young and

beautiful lady to play the part as the befana. In which the children adored her indeed and we give thanks to Maria Francesca Abate for playing the befana. This festive holiday we do year after year is to make the children happy and to have them believe in this long legend Italian fairy tale that in essence the witch is usually played by an older person. But we decided to have a young and beautiful lady to emphasize to the children that the witch is not mean or cruel but rather friendly.

During this celebration, every year we honor someone for the peace award and we also give an award for the recognition of good faith. The person that was honored the peace award this year was Teresa Romano and the recognition award went to Rosetta DiFrancesco. We are so very blessed to have you both in our branch and for what you bring to us.

Last but certainly not least, we would like to thank all of those that worked hard to make this event possible and also all the ones that contributed to the sweet table which by all means was spectacular.

*Be Safe, Be Healthy, Be Happy,
Maria A.
From Chicago Branch 392*

Des Plaines

St. Zachary, Br. 441

We installed our officers Dec 8 after our Italian-language mass. Elected president is Tony Arredia. He is the former mayor of Des Plaines: do you think he knows how to run a meeting? Vice presidents are Paolo Palmas (1st) and Rita Turco (2nd). Secretary is Jean Arredia, Tony’s wife. The treasurer is George Concialdi and Financial Secretary is Dan Graziadei. Sentential is Jo Tozzi. Orator is Marisa Perna. Our chaplain is Father Jack Plotkowski. Trustees are Tony Leone, Florinda Partilo, and Lee Slicer. Tony has always been a hard worker for many causes. He conducted his first meeting January 13 and let the group what he wanted to bring to the Branch.

The branch is in the midst of its second major raffle in its short history. The prize is two tickets to a Stanley Cup champion Chicago Blackhawks game just ten rows off the ice, a VIP parking pass, and \$100 gift card to a nearby Italian restaurant. The first raffle was for two Andrea Bocelli concert tickets. Our Christmas party was a hit: good food, lots of laughs, and a prizes that went home with lucky winners.

Fresno

Clovis

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Br. 250

Our Branch 250 celebrated Christmas with delicious hors d’oeuvres brought by the members and warm fellowship. Be sure to see the pictures taken at the party in this Bollettino.

Ken Gray is a proud grandfather. His granddaughter, McKenna, is a freshman at Santiago HS in Corona and is a straight ‘A’ student.

Glory and John Spatafore’s granddaughter, Ashley was married last September to Justin Williams. Justin left shortly after the wedding for basic training. Fortunately he was able to be home for Christmas. Their granddaughter, Sara, is getting married in May to Erik Kirchner who works in Fresno. Hopefully he won’t be leaving soon.

Mary and Rich Zanarini celebrate their 50th



Celebrating the holidays at Branch 250.

wedding anniversary in June. They plan to celebrate by going on a river cruise in September from Budapest to Amsterdam and spend six days in London. What a wonderful way to celebrate their 50th.

We continue to offer prayers for Bill Conatser, John Spatafore, Julius Abate, and our members who have been stricken by the flu virus. They are missed at our meetings, and we hope they will all be able to join us again soon. Also keep Al and Lena Daddino and Verona DeLuca in your prayers. We miss them, too.

Happy birthday to February celebrants Julius Abate, Sherrie Attolico and Frank Pimentel.

“Too often we under estimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around.” (Leo Buscaglia)

Happy Valentine’s Day!

Ciao!

LeAnne Lavagnino

Bakersfield

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Br. 281

Our January meeting found our branch planning upcoming events, Pasta dinner was enjoyed by all, thank-you to Deborah Leary for the arrangements.

Gary Moles and committee had a successful pancake breakfast and sausage sandwich luncheon and thank-you to all who volunteered to work. Many hands make light work.

Our annual parish Mardi Gras will be held February 16 and ICF will be hosting Adult Games. George Carson is chairperson and please contact to sign up to work. It takes a lot of people for this event so please call and volunteer.

Fresno District Installation will be held February 23 at St. Joachim’s church Madera, CA at 11:00am. Installation and luncheon to follow. Cost of lunch is \$23.00. Please call or e-mail Deborah Leary for reservations. Reservations are due by February 15.

Congratulations to Gary Moles whose daughter Claire Rock was nominated as lead role in a local theater presentation of A Midsummer’s Night Dream. Walter Scott became a grandfather with his daughter’s Allie’s delivery of a baby boy over the holidays. Major Wayne Haynes is the newest addition to the family and our best wishes to them all.

Several of are members have been ill and please keep them in your prayers, Susie Odom, Alice Franks, June Papasergia and Louise Zusan.



Also, keep in your prayers the Pfeifer and Martinelli Families on the news of their passing. Dorothy and Dennis were generous and devoted members always willing to help. May God Bless Dorothy and Dennis.

Fresno

Holy Spirit, Br. 417

Br. 417 welcomes the new year with a positive spirit and wishes all of our members a great 2014.

Please make note our yearly dues are payable and should be made to our new financial secretary, Rose Ann Allen. 2014 dues are \$34.80. You may pay at the meeting or by mail.

The branch calendar for 2014 of Events will be passed out at the January meeting. Our guest, Jim Friebel, Central Council member will attend; giving our members a chance to meet and ask him any questions they have about ICF or the CC.

Br. 417 will form a committee at this meeting to plan the menus for the Lenten dinners. Any interested member will be invited to join the committee. This year’s committee will be especially important because there



Philomena Consiglio and Clara Centrone of Branch 367.



will be more help needed in the kitchen since both Fred and Vito will have limited availability.

As a sad note, the ICF lost a star in Sandra Isaacson who is no longer with us. She will be missed. She was always a great help with the Lenten meals and it won’t be the same without her. Any remembrances in her name can be made to the ICF Br. 417 or your favorite charity.

*Ciao,
Pat Duncan*

Las Vegas

Las Vegas

St. Francis de Sales, Br. 367

Branch 367 ended the year with a truly beautiful Christmas party at Bear’s Best Country Club. We had our own private room with delicious food, desserts, coffee, tea. We just couldn’t ask for more. Our hostesses were Gloria Diliddo and Dianne Vatalare. After lunch, we had a Chinese gift exchange that turned out pretty hilarious. A few items got



Frank and Dianne Vatalare of Branch 367.



Joe Donato passing the gavel and ritual to new President, Frank Vatalare.



Branch 367 Chaplain Fr. Sam Falbo, with Branch President Joe Donato. Joe and Fr. Sam grew up together in Carbondale, PA.

“stolen” the maximum of three times. Plus Gloria and Dianne provided some door prizes, so Joe and I ended up going home with three gifts. It was fun for everyone.

We have a new president! We are so grateful that Frank Vatalare agreed to be our president. With Joe being out of commission most of last year, I was not only doing my Financial Secretary job, but I was doing Joe’s president’s job as well. Big relief! I know Frank was reluctant to take our presidency since he is also Financial Secretary of his Knights of Columbus Council with over 300 members. So, both of us are collecting dues.

Joe is doing much better now. Still walking with the walker, but he is determined, with the help of physical therapy, to make the convention in Oakland this year. Also, a trip to Hawaii and a vacation at our time share. I am so ready for a vacation!

Happy Valentine’s Day to everyone,

Ciao for now,

Jackie Donato



Members of Branch 108 processing together.



LA District Board enjoying a breakfast and meeting together.

Los Angeles

Los Angeles

District Council

On January 19, ICF Members from many of the 18 Branches in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles attended ICF Mass and Installation Ceremonies in Casa Italiana at Saint Peters Catholic Church in downtown Los Angeles. After the Swearing in Ceremonies, members enjoyed a luncheon of good food and good conversation with members.

On January 12 the Open House at the Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library was hosted by the Villa Cabrini Alumni. (see Mother Cabrini article in this issue) The next Open House is scheduled for February 9 from 9 am to 1PM and will be hosted by the ICF Los Angeles District. For more information 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

626 372-7812

Save the Dates

- February 9, 2014 - Mother Francis Xavier Cabrini Chapel and Library Open House hosted by ICF Los Angeles from 9:00am to 1:00pm at 3801 Scott Road, Burbank, CA. Come visit the Chapel where our first American Saint prayed to Our Lady Help of Christians. Call 626 372-7812 for more information. Cabrini Chapel Board Meeting from 1pm to 3pm in the Chapel Library. Members welcome.

South Pasadena

Holy Family, Br. 108

On January 5, 2013 ICF Branch 108 held its first Continental Breakfast for 2014. Thank you ICF staff, members and Parishioners making this a successful event. Thank you also to ICF Staff for organizing and managing the

Pot Luck and Branch Meeting in the Holy Family Church Parish Hall. President Michele Silveri thanked staff

and members for bringing their excellent food for the Lunch Social. The first General Meeting was well organized and made this an enjoyable meeting. Thank you to President Silveri and ICF staff for your support.

Save The Dates:

- January 5, 2014 - ICF Br 108 Continental Breakfast (6:30am to 12:30pm), Bocce (1:00pm to 2:30pm) followed by Lunch Social and General Meeting (3:00pm to 5:00pm). Mass at 5:30 pm.

- January 12, 2014 - Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library Open House hosted by the Villa Cabrini Alumni Association. Come visit and learn about the Patroness of the Ital-



Members of Branch 108 celebrating the holidays together.





Branch 108 celebrating Christmas together.



ian Catholic Federation and America's first American Saint. Call 626 372-7812 for more information.

Thank you Members, families and friends for your support of the ICF and its related events. Our 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

San Pedro

St. John Joseph of the Cross, Br. 115

Our branch is gearing up for our Annual Crab Dinner-Dance, which will be held on Saturday March 1, 2014. This dinner has been a long standing tradition and provides a wonderful opportunity to connect with family and friends. Many members come together to make this delicious meal and a fun time.

The menu will consist of antipasto, salad, linguine with clams, crab, shrimp, spumoni, rolls, coffee and wine. Music will be provided by the Tony Ciaramitaro Band. Dinner starts

at 6:00pm. \$38.00 per person. For reservations call Neal Di Leva 310 433 1044.

March 4, 2014 Mass will be offered at 8:00am in honor of St. John Joseph of the Cross.

Another way to connect with our Italian heritage is to attend the 6:30pm Italian mass offered at Mary Star. The music is outstanding and uplifting. It is a great way to wind down the weekend and gear up for the coming week.

Being a member of the ICF gives you the opportunity to connect with other community members who share our heritage. Our branch is conducting a membership drive. If you know of anyone who might be interested in joining call Pauline Iacono 310 832 0563

Upcoming events

Feb. 20, 2014 -- 6:30pm potluck. Monthly meeting to start after dinner. Please call Carmela Gioiello 310 832 0953 and let her know what you will be bringing.

Feb. 23, 2014 -- Harrahs Casino day trip \$20.00 to benefit San Pedro Relay for Life American Cancer Society. Call Anita Gioiello Trujillo for reservations 310 832 7186

Feb. 23, 2014 -- 6:30pm Italian Mass for all living and deceased members of Branch 115

March 1, 2014 Annual Crab Dinner-Dance

March 4, 2014 -- St John Joseph of the Cross Mass at 8:00am



San Pedro Branch 115 Christmas Party in Mary Star of the Sea Church Auditorium. The event included free dinner to all members. Menu: salad, pasta, chicken tri tip roast, and sauerkraut, wine and open bar. Lots of homemade cookies and ice cream. A fun evening hitting the pinata, playing game, music, sing along, Santa's visit and lots of free raffle gifts. An evening enjoyed by all. Thank you to all who came!



March 11, 2014 -- Palm Springs Follies show with music, dancing, and comedy \$90.00 per person. Trip includes a stop at the Spa Casino. Bus leaves at 8:00am. Call Pauline Iacono for reservations 310 832 0563

March 25, 2014 -- Pechanga Casino day trip, \$20 for members, \$23.00 for non-members

March 30, 2014 -- 6:30pm Mass for all living and deceased members of Branch 115

Branch 115 wishes all ICF members a Happy Valentine's Day.

Anita Gioiello Trujillo

Treasurer Branch 115

La Cañada Flintridge

St. Bede the Venerable, Br. 374

The branch has many exciting activities planned for the New Year. This month we had a fun meeting where members all shared

family traditions. We called it, "The Way it Was". We also celebrated the birthdays of Fiora Murphy, Edna Ulasewicz, Nancy Fraines, and former State Assemblyman Anthony Portantino. As usual, we shared our blessings and acknowledged God's goodness.

Looking ahead the program committee has planned an interesting program for February where Genoa native Sandra Richardson will be telling members all about her life in Genoa, especially during World War II when she and her family had to escape to the mountains to survive the war. We will also be awarding our first Distinguished Student service awards to worthy 7th and 8th grade students from St. Bede parish.

On March 23 we will try to top all previous years with a spectacular St. Joseph Day event. The committee is already working at planning for the day.

Our focus for 2014 is on Evangelism. With this in mind the members of the board of



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CAR RENTAL





Members of Branch 218 celebrated their 1st New York New Year's Eve together.



San Gabriel Valley Arcadia

Holy Angels, Br. 218

Hello All,

I hope everyone had a great New Year. We rang in the New Year with our first ever New York New Years Eve party. It was a great success everyone had a wonderful time. We profited over \$400.

Thanks to Matt Luchetta and Karen Berardi, for coordinating the party, and to all who helped.

Upcoming Events

Sausage Sale February 8 & 9, 2014

Membership Meeting February 9, 2014

St. Joseph's Table March 14-16, 2014.

God Bless,

Kerri DiMichina

Heritage Chair

Diamond Bar

St. Denis, Br. 317

Feb. 14 -- Valentine's Day Dinner and general meeting

March 14 -- Lenten Soup Meal and General Meeting

At the January meeting, we honored Clarisa Campos. For the last 10 years hosting the Parish donuts Ministry. We at St.Denis appreciate Clarisa's dedication and Christian spirit. Every Sunday without fail she gets there early morning to set up the coffee, juice and so forth. Thank you Clarisa and God Bless you.

Thank you to Liz Fan and Toni Werley for hosting the January dinner meeting with our Annual Pizza and Salad night. It is always a great way to start the New Year. More details later regarding the February 14 dinner.

We will prepare the soups for the Parish Lenten meal on March 14. We shall need

directors will be attending an all day Retreat in April where planning our organization's direction and spiritual life will take place. It will be a board Retreat, but members of the branch will find the doors open to them if they wish to attend. The Retreat will be held on a Saturday at either St. Andrew's Abbey in Valermo, or at Mater Dolorosa in Sierra Madre. The location will be decided at the February Board meeting.

Our May meeting will be centered on the Blessed Mother. We are planning to have a noted theologian provide us with insights on the life of the Mother of Jesus.

We will join others in June in celebrating the 90th anniversary of the Italian Catholic Federation with a special program at our meeting on June 17th. The entire branch will attend a special ICF program on June 29th at Casa Italiana where the entire Archdiocese of Los Angeles District of 18 ICF branches will come together to celebrate our anniversary.

Looking ahead, we are planning a Home Mass in August at the home of Ellen and Anthony Portantino. Other exciting programs are in the planning stages for the fall of 2014.

Membership growth is the responsibility of every member. If everyone brings in one new member, we can double our membership and our impact immediately. Please invite a friend.

Auguro a tutti voi abbondanti benedizioni di Dio.

Al Restivo

Branch President



Everyone was festive and had a great time at the Branch 317 Christmas party and meeting.



Members of Branch 326 had a fabulous time at the New Year's Eve Party hosted by the Knights of Columbus and the ICF.



at least 5 volunteers to prepare a variety of soups and donations of bread. Thank you everyone for your participation.

The quarterly Mass schedules for the year is as follows: 3/15, 6/15, /14 and 12/14. Please mark your calendar for the 10:30am mass for in memory of deceased ICF members.

Our Cannoli Fundraiser will begin in March for the presale and more details will be available at the March meeting and Lenten Soup Night.

Let us all join together on our journey for a continuous of St. Denis Branch ICF 317 for another successful year of Faith and Charity.

God Bless,

Roxanne Perry

President

Temple City

St. Luke, Br. 326

A fabulous New Year's Eve Party was sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and ICF. Everyone in attendance had a marvelous time. It was a great way to start the New Year.

HAPPY Valentine's Day to all of our members!

Our next General Meeting will be held on

February 26, 2014 at 7:30pm. Dinner will be served at 6:30pm. but 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 and Ann Primising. And, let's not forget to pray for our deceased members. Please pray For Joanne Miller and her family in the loss of her mother.

Happy February Birthday to: Inez Bonura, Mina Murillo, Ann Primising, and Lucy Hernandez.

Happy Anniversary to: Andy and Frances Bonura, 62 years and Jim and Mary Ann Law, 55 years!

"Life is just a journey that everyone must make; sometimes its leads to sorrow, in this land of give and take. There's beauty and there's sorrow on the road that you must trod, but you can overcome all odds, if you travel it with God."

(Frances Culp Wolfe)

God Bless,

Jo Anne Disney

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Santa Maria Goretti, Br. 102

The Lord Bless you and keep you, Make his face to shine upon you this 2014

We will not meet in February.

Pray for Mary, Phyllis, and Rose.

Happy Birthday Bernie Baima!!!

Ciao,

Joy

Monterey

Santa Cruz

Nostra Signora del Soccorso, Br. 21

Happy New Year, One and All. It's a new beginning and another chance to get it right. But, even before the year ended, Branch 21 did get it right with a wonderful Christmas Dinner at Holy Cross Hall. There were over 200 attendees including special guests Santa and Mrs. Claus. We want to thank Richard Puccinelli and Norma Wilson for standing in for the 'too busy to come' Claus'. And kudos and a huge thank you to Dr. Gerry Deck and Angelo Raffaelli for the most delicious polenta and sausage dinner. Finally, we thank all the volunteers and members who worked tirelessly to make this evening a great success.

Now, on to a New Year of adventure and achievements. On Tuesday, February 11, at our General Meeting, we will happily initiate new Branch 21 ICF Members Maria and Allen Reames, Mary Lou Wiedlich, and Salvatore and Diane Pecoraro. The following month on Tuesday evening, March 5, we look forward to our annual "Fat Tuesday Dinner". This is the night before Ash Wednesday so bring your appetite! On March 23, there will be a St. Joseph's Day Dinner. The profits from this dinner will go to support Holy Cross Food Pantry and St. Francis' Catholic Kitchen. So don't be giving up too many yummy things for Lent or you'll miss out on some great dining.

It's Year 2014 and we encourage you to come to our meetings, held at Holy Cross Hall on the first Tuesday of each month (except for February's meeting which will be held on the 2nd Tuesday, February 11). Come and break bread with us; come and make a difference. In closing, a lesson taken from Exodus, Chapter 16: 'Food is a gift like manna, meant to remind us of our dependence on God and upon each other'.

Patty Morelli

Recording Secretary

Branch 21 – Santa Cruz

Salinas

Nostra Signora Del Sasso, Br. 25

What a great Christmas party! The setting was wonderful as was the food and camaraderie. Christmas hymns were played by Thelma Frontani on keyboard accompanied by a host of singers including Father Ignacio. Highlight was the singing of The Twelve Days of Christmas, led by the three wise men, Galeazzi, Friebel and Puccinelli. What great fun! Thank you Julie and Joe for another warm memory.

The polenta luncheon was a great success as well. The event was well publicized as indicated by the large turnout. We served over 500 lunches, and grossed over \$6000, our best effort to date.

Congratulations to Lila Vezzolo for winning \$30 on the Calendar drawings. There's hope for the rest of us.



Branch 51 initiated new members at its Christmas party. Welcome new members Eva Mae Barcellos, Linda Grier, Gino Grier and D.L. Grier.

Thanks to Branch 206 for hosting the Installation January 18 at St Angela. It was very nice to meet with old friends and make a few new ones. Thank you for all you did.

Prayers go out to all our ill or injured members and their care givers, especially to Emil Mirandette and Lorraine. Also Joanne Cristofano who is recovering from an injury. We miss you.

Hope you had a safe and sane New Year's Eve and that your New Year's resolutions take hold. It may be worth noting Henry Moore who said, "I think in terms of the day's resolutions, not the years".

Happy New Year and God Bless.

Ciao,

Roy Frontani

Monterey

Santa Rosalia, Br. 36

This is a new year with new challenges - getting new members and keeping current members, greeting old friends and making new ones, and Lenten Dinners!

Mark Your Calendar Lenten Dinners and St. Joseph Celebration

1st March 7

2nd March 14

St. Joseph Celebration - March 16 - There will be a beautiful Mass, delicious dinner, great band, contact Mary Manuguerra, 375-2009 or Beatrice Bonanno, 649-3216. This is a pre-paid affair and reservations are a must. You will receive more information on St. Joseph's Celebration soon.

3rd March 21

4th March 28

5th April 5

6th April 11

Please bring or send a dessert each week for all six weeks, the proceeds from these dinners makes it possible for our branch to give much needed funds to the Church, charities, loaves and fishes, and scholarships.

Lenten dinners are a lot of work, but so much fun to be together, I actually miss them when they are over.

Our deepest sympathy to the families of our member's Mary Aliotti and Marion Baroni who passed away, and to Angelina Bruno on the loss of her brother-in-law Gus Favalora.

May they all rest in peace.

February 14 - Happy Valentine's Day - Do something wonderful for the special person in your life.

Falling in love is easy, staying in love is something very special.

And, time waits for no one, treasure each moment you have together.

Peace be with you,

Betty Sollecito

Castroville

Santa Caterina da Siena, Br. 51

Happy Valentine's Day to all the Branches!

Our Board has set March 23rd as the date for our Scholarship Fundraiser. Polenta and stew are on the menu. More details to follow in next month's Bulletin.

At the Christmas Eve Mass celebration our ICF Branch 51 Choir, along with two of our exchange students from Italy and Father Pedro playing the guitar sang the beautiful song "Tu Scendi dalle Stelle". After the mass ICF members served eggnog and panettone as the parish members exited. (Did I see Carlo adding something to his eggnog?) Mmm! ICF members also served eggnog and panettone after the 10:00 a.m. mass on New Year's Day.

Our annual Christmas party was one fun filled evening. Great food, lively gift exchange, exciting entertainment and four new members were initiated. For entertainment we had Cindy Stefani and Father Pedro on guitar, Carlo Cortopassi playing the musical instrument known as the "Ching-a-ling" and Chris Brown leading us in a beautiful Italian Christmas Carol. We would like to thank Andrew Pappani, James Freibel and Deputy Geri Hrepich and her husband Tony for coming to our Christmas Party and for initiating our new members Eva Sigala, DL, Linda and Gino Grier. Deputy Geri, Andrew, James... you and your spouses are always welcomed at our functions, thanks again.

Thank you to Pacific Grove Branch 206 for hosting the Central Coast Installation. Great Job!

To our members who live out of the area, Thelma Sbarra, Bruna Del Chairo and Gina Candiloro we think of you often and you are always in our hearts and prayers.

Ciao,

Leonora Barlow

Pacific Grove

St. Angela Merici, Br. 206

The Members always enjoy being together and sharing the evening with one another at our meetings. The potlucks are so delicious and we all enjoy playing bingo.

Our Branch is hosting the Installation Mass and Luncheon in January and we hope to have a very successful event. It will be a lot of work for all our Members, but we look forward to providing a delicious enchilada luncheon for everyone.

Masses for the Members and deceased Members of our Branch have been scheduled on the following dates at the 8:00am Mass: February 14, March 14, April 11, May 9, June 13, July 11, August 8, September 12, October 10, November 14, and December 12. These dates are also the dates of our monthly meetings, which are the second Fridays of the month.

Blessings to all.

Marjorie McClure, Recording Secretary

Capitola

St. Joseph, Br. 227

Members are reminded of the new meeting times: 1:30 p.m. social hour and 2:30pm meeting, followed by dinner. Many thanks to Linda Calciano and her crew for preparing her special lasagna for our January meeting. Since February 2 is Super Bowl Sunday, the February meeting is on Saturday, the 1st. Since our branch has many wonderful cooks it will be a potluck.

Planning is underway for our annual Fish Fry dinners, which start on March 7. Ellen Pauly, who has a wealth of experience in this endeavor, has agreed to serve as co-coordinator. This is our main fund-raiser, so we'll need lots of volunteers.

Several times throughout the year, our branch serves coffee and donuts after the Sunday morning masses. This gives parishioners a chance to socialize and it provides us with an opportunity to let them know about ICF and all that it does for our parish. Look for us on the church plaza on February 23.

It's that time of year again! Dues! Send or give them to Financial Secretary Jane Kotila.

In view of the dry weather this year, we join

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the California Conference of Bishops in their prayers for rain.

*Blessings to all,
Deanna Musler, Secretary*

Paso Robles

St. Rose of Lima, Br. 354

Welcome to the New Year 2014. 2013 was good for us. Several events were fulfilled and now we are looking forward to hard work, cooperation and determination for success in our future endeavors.

Our Christmas celebration meeting and luncheon at the Madonna Inn in San Luis Obispo was as predicted-beautiful surroundings and great food. Thanks to our new President Irma Zanini and her husband David, we thoroughly enjoyed our time together.

Our guests included President Pete Gallagher and wife Abby of the Atascadero branch, David and Linda Strom who have worked tirelessly with us at our events, and Peggy & Greg Bascom who also helped immensely. Raffle prizes included wine, gift cards, Panettoni bread, and biscotti, which Father Roberto wanted, but did not win. I think eventually he was gifted with it. A fun time for all of us.

Since our meetings take place on the second Friday of the month, the date usually falls after the due date for our Bollettino article submission. We will have the January meeting covered next month.

Please continue to pray for the poor, the sick, the elderly, the hungry, the homeless, addicted, unemployed, and for RAIN.

Happy New Year to the entire ICF membership and their families.

Theresa Sollazzo, Correspondence Secretary

**Oakland
East Bay**

District Council

Welcome aboard to all of the newly installed officers of the East Bay District, nice to have you with us. Now of course we will be putting you to work! The first order of business is the upcoming Crab Feed on Feb. 2 at St. Philip Neri Parish in Alameda. This is a B-I-G fund raiser for the convention and we are asking for 2 plates of Hors d'Oeuvres from each branch along with a raffle basket.

As stated in last month's Bollettino, Bishop's Day has been moved to March 16 and will be held at Our Lady of Grace in Castro Valley. Fliers will be sent out with more information.

Just a reminder, it is important that representatives from all of our branches attend and participate in the district meetings. Currently they are held the last Monday of the month at the Augustinian Hall at Our Lady of Grace in Castro Valley at 7:00pm. Hope to see many of you there.

Happy St. Valentine's Day to all you sweet-hearts out there.

Alameda

Nostra Signora Delle Grazie, Br. 10

Our holiday season was highlighted by a hastily-planned but well-attended Christmas party for children on Friday night, December 6. As the San Francisco Bay Area was lashed by wind, cold and rain that evening, 'twas a good night for indoor activities. Santa Claus braved the weather so that he could visit 80

of his diehard fans. For the rest of the week-end we joined in the two-day celebration of the 25th anniversary of the ordination of Father Joy Kumarthusseril, the pastor of Saint Philip Neri-Saint Albert the Great Parish of Alameda and a pioneer priest of the Missionaries of Faith. The order was founded by two Italians in Italy in 1982 and is now based in Father Joy's native land, India.

We are enjoying a busy first part of the new year. A large group of officers and members attended the District Installation at the Fratellanza Club in Emeryville on Sunday afternoon and evening, January 19. The District Crab Feed was held in our meeting place, Saint Philip Neri Hall, on Friday night, February 7.

The month of March will feature three more special events: Irish (Saint Patrick's Day) Social on Saturday, March 15 in Saint Philip Neri Hall; Bishop's Day at Our Lady of Grace Church, Castro

Valley on Sunday, March 16; and Saint Joseph's Table on Wednesday evening, March 19 in Saint Philip Neri Hall. We are also planning our Lenten Fish Fry's, which commence on Friday night, March 7, also in Saint Philip Neri Hall.

The Branch 10 Polenta Dinner, which had been planned for January 18, has been re-scheduled for Saturday, April 26 in Saint Philip Neri Hall. Ben Ratto will perform the double duty of cooking for both the Irish Social and the Polenta Dinner.

Not bad for an organization whose members average 80 years of age!

Branch 10 thanks the outgoing publicist, Jean McElroy, for her many years of enthusiastic service to the ICF.

For information regarding all of our 2014 fundraisers, you can contact Dave Rose, the president of Branch 10, (510) 995-8141. We look forward to seeing lots of out-of-towners for all of our 2014 events.

John Zugnoni

Publicist, Branch 10

Oakland

Santa Rita, Br. 40

Happy Valentine's Day. Dues need to be sent in if you have not done so already. Please send your check in the amount of \$36, made out to ICF Branch 40. Mail it to: Catherine Kapper, 20700 Tuxedo Ct. Castro Valley, California, 94552. Thank you.

Upcoming events:

February 6: Monthly Meeting 7:00pm

March 6: Monthly Meeting 7:00pm

March 9: Day Light Savings time begins; Spring Forward.

August - Branch 40 Anniversary Dinner. Our 82nd. More information to come.

We mourn the passing of Elsie Giani, one of our loyal and oldest members of Branch 40. She passed away on Christmas Day. You could always count on Elsie and her Sister Albina in supporting all of Branch 40's functions. May your soul and the souls of all our departed members, through the mercy of God, Rest in Peace.

Happy Birthday to Ernestine Pernecco, Diane Piombo and Claire Ramierz.

Remember in your prayers the sick and the convalescing members of our branch, especially Elma and Leroy Casale, Bruna Gasparro, Aldo Innocenti and Clemence Zanata.

Thought: "A friend - One who knows all about you and loves you just the same." Elbert Hubbard

Ciao,

M.A. Francis/L. Francis

Oakland

St. Theresa, Br. 223

We pray that God will help our own branch as well as the East Bay District during the new year of 2014 in their endeavors (especially this year's convention in Oakland CA).

Br. 223 is planning a dinner on April 5 as well as our first Bake Sale of 2014 in May. More information on these events will appear in next month's article.

Many thanks to Laurice Levine from Children's Hospital in Oakland, who attended our dinner recently and gave a most wonderful speech.

May God hear our prayers for better health in 2014 for our members who are ill.

Children will not remember you for the material things you provided, but for the feeling that you cherished them.

Happy St. Valentine's Day

Yoli Moglia

Fremont

St. Francis of Assisi, Br. 215

It seems like the Christmas Season went by in one big blur. 2014 has begun just as quickly. Sadly our branch began 2014 with the loss of one of our dear members, Adrian Lampe. He leaves us with many good memories, an example of how to be a witness to our faith and how to always keep a positive attitude. He and Sam Cesare joined forces and hatched a plan to use bocce ball as way to raise money for the branch and recruit new members. Too bad we can't name the bocce ball courts at City Beach Sports Center, the Adrian Lampe Bocce Ball Center. We will just keep playing and having fun in your honor, Adrian.

We have again set aside Memorial Masses for our deceased branch members throughout 2014. All Masses will be at the 6:00pm Sunday Mass at Corpus Christi Church, Niles District, Fremont. Those dates are as follows: March 2, May 4, July 13, September 28 and November 17.

Bishop's Day will be held on March 16, 2014. Branch 343/Castro Valley will be the host branch. Mass will be at 3:00pm followed by a brief cocktail hour and dinner in Our Lady of Grace Church Hall. Flyers with more specifics will be available soon. Roz Crudo will be taking reservations.

Our Spring Bingo/Salad Luncheon is set for April 3, 2014. Once again it will be held at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church Hall, 40382 Fremont Blvd., Fremont, CA. This will be considered our Branch Anniversary Celebration. Your donation of \$10.00 entitles you to lots of delicious food, two bingo cards, wonderful prizes and lots of fun. Flyers with more information will be available shortly

and tickets will go on sale in March.

I wish all members Valentine's Day that is loving and cozy. Best wishes to all members celebrating your birthdays and/or wedding anniversaries in February or celebrating whatever milestone that is important to you.

Respectfully submitted,

Fran LaTorre

Livermore

St. Filomena, Br. 285

Our new board is busy preparing monthly meetings and activities for 2014. We wish to thank the outgoing board members and all others who gave of their time and talents to make 2013 such a wonderful year for Branch 285.

A highlight of our January meeting was a presentation by member Kathy Elm, who made a recent pilgrimage to sacred shrines in Europe. While in Italy, she especially enjoyed seeing the catacombs outside of Rome, attending an audience with Pope Francis, and visiting the Shrine of Padre Pio at San Giovanni Rotondo. Her enthusiasm made us all want to book a trip to Italy! Thank you, Kathy!

Our branch welcomes new member, Rosalyn (Rosie) Dickie. And, we also send February birthday greetings to members, Philomena Buonsante, Chuck Berardi, Sharon Conniff, Ignatius Piazza, Carlotta Schauer, Judy Well-beloved and Anna Yocham.

Come join us for a fun evening at our annual Bingo Bash on Sat. Feb. 22, at St. Michael's Hall in Livermore! This fundraiser benefits Cooley's Anemia at Children's Hospital Oakland. Doors open at 6:00 pm with hot pizza to purchase. The Bingo program will begin at 6:30 pm with prizes, raffle, snacks and beverages to purchase, and dancing to DJ Joe Buonsante! \$10.00 per person for 1 bingo packet of 10 games. Reservations and information, call Helen Wirtenson, 925-462-3798 by Feb. 18. Hope to see you there!

Happy Valentine's Day to all!

Ciao!

Mary Merucci

Castro Valley

Our Lady of Grace, Br. 343

Hope all of you had a great time at our belated Christmas party. Lisa did a great job cooking the meal. Thank you all for being so generous with your gifts of baby things for Birthright. It was nice to have Sr. Carole Ann and volunteer, Theresa Fuller with us to receive them.

Also thanks to all who volunteered at the ministry fair on Sunday, Jan. 12. This was good exposure of all that ICF does to care



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These ladies made over 5000 gnocchi's for Branch 14 dinner meeting from an old Italian secret recipe. It is a secret they can't tell... Great job ladies.



(Above) Some of the children and grandchildren from Branch 14 enjoying Santa Claus's visit to the Branch Christmas Party.



Members of the Contra Costa District celebrated Christmas with a festive celebration.

Thank you to our president, Joseph Flores for the beautiful New Years wishes. The film was awesome!

Our next district meeting will be Thursday, February 27 at 7:30pm. We look forward to seeing everyone in 2014.

For the year of 2014 I realize that I can't fill God's shoes, but I can follow His steps~ . I can handle one step at a time

Pax---Joann

Martinez

San Martino, Br. 13

Please join us at our first fundraiser of the year on Saturday, April 5, 2014 in the Saint Catherine of Siena Parish Hall when we will serve spaghetti and meatballs! Contact 925-229-2665 for more details and to secure your tickets.

Lent is approaching quickly. Ash Wednesday is March 4 followed by Easter on April 20. As we prepare ourselves for Jesus' resurrection, we're asked to offer prayers for the intention of our Bishop Michael Barber. The District tabulates members' intentions and presents them at the annual Bishop's Day. It is in the form of an imaginary bundle called a Spiritual Bouquet together with a monetary bourse for the benefit of Seminarians which is donated from combined branch funds. A Mass with the Bishop is concelebrated with Chaplains for all interested in attending. The banquet that follows is hosted by a Branch in the Diocese. Spiritual Bouquet is a personal offering and, therefore, anonymous. Names need not be on the paper you submit. If you want to include your prayers for Bishop Barber, please give a list to our branch President

(Right) Aron Cargo who played Christmas Carols and Mike Kish who played Santa Claus at Branch 14 Christmas Social. Great Evening!



indicating the number of Masses, Communion, Stations of the Cross, Tridiums, Rosaries and/or Novenas that you will complete for his intention. Consider participating in this wonderful gift during this liturgical Year of Forgiveness.

Please offer your prayers of strength for the family of eight year old Dominic Klapperich who entered into eternal life on January 9 to be in company of angels and our Heavenly Father.

Ciao for now,

Mary Cook

Crockett

San Carlo, Br. 14

It is with great sadness that we bid farewell to our members Eva DeTomas and her son, Donald DeTomas, and offer sincere sympathies to their family. While Eva has been unable to attend meetings for some time, Don was ever faithful, and will be greatly missed. Their kindness, humility and generosity have long been an integral part of Branch 14. Rest in peace, dear friends.

We begin February with our Polenta and Sausage Dinner on the 1st. The February meeting will be held Tuesday, February 11.

for others and support the parish, e.g. donate toward the new refrigerator.

Time to get out all of those special recipes for our Super Bowl Sunday Bake Sale on Feb. 2.

Remember the Crab Feed on Feb. 7. But save room for our Polenta dinner on Feb. 13 along with our regular meeting. Good thing that Lent is coming up in March or we may all have to go shopping for new clothes! Just kidding.

To all of you sweethearts out there, have a special St. Valentine's Day!

Contra Costa

District Council

The Contra Costa District officers and members wish each one of you a Holy and Happy New Year!

We start 2014 by thanking the Richmond Branch for hosting our District Installation of Officers on Jan 2. We appreciate your efforts!

We are looking forward to Bishops Day March 16, 2014 at Our Lady of Grace church in Castro Valley. Mass will be celebrated at 3:30pm. followed by cocktails and dinner. Check with your branch president for the dinner menu and cost!

Please try to attend 5:30 mass, ok? Chicken Marsala will be prepared by Chef Lisa Yama and served at 6:30, followed by the regular meeting at 7:30. The March 8 Corned Beef Dinner tickets go on sale after the meeting. There is a maximum of six tickets per member, and remember, there are no refunds after tickets are purchased.

End the month on Friday, the 28, at our Pedro and Card Night. Play begins at 7:00, and light refreshments will be served. All members are welcome to join in the fun.

February brings thoughts of Valentine's Day, and that reminds me of something I read recently that seems appropriate to convey: May your friends and family always bring you joy, and may your cup runneth over with love.

Ciao,

Diane Bottini Thomas

Pittsburg

San Domenico, Br. 72

We started out the year with our meeting and New Year's party. Everyone had a great time and we ended with a free raffle.

We are pleased to announce our new deputy, Peggy Aiello Hagerthy. She resides in



Martinez and is the first vice of Br. 13 Martinez. She is also a member of Br. 442 Pleasant Hill. Welcome Peggy!

The Contra Costa district Installation was held on Jan 25 at the Galileo club. Mass was celebrated and followed by the Installation and luncheon. A big thanks to the Richmond Branch for hosting.

Upcoming:

Thursday, February 6 – Bus trip to Graton casino.

Sunday, February 9 – Meeting at 2:pm. Theme: Valentine’s. Members will share stories about a love of their life. Members will pick the winner of the best story.

Thursday, February 27 - District Meeting in Danville at 7: 3pm

Sunday, March 9 - Soup Meal and meeting at 2:pm followed by a Novena to St. Joseph and St. Patrick’s Day party. Please bring a non-perishable item for the St. Vincent de Paul.

Sunday, March 16 - Oakland Diocese Bishops day in Castro Valley. Mass will be celebrated

at 3:30pm followed by social and dinner. Tickets must be purchased in advance by calling 925-228-0810.

Sunday, March 30 - Mass at Good Shepherd at 12 Noon.

Remember dues are payable and should be sent to Treasurer Helen at 953 Veterans Dr. Martinez, CA. 94553

Sempre Avanti,
Helen Politakes

Richmond St. Raymond, Br. 154

Felice Anno Nuovo!

We are please to announce the new officers for 2014.

- Walter Costa, President
- Lorraine Acuña, 1st Vice President
- Michael Cannady, 2nd Vice President
- Dee Rosier. Recording Secretary



- Lori Framsted, Financial Treasurer
- Toni Reeder, Treasurer
- Domenica Paletta, Trustee
- Antonio Costa, Trustee
- Gino Martinucci, Trustee
- Teresa Ventin, Orator
- Diana De Simoni, Sentinel.

Our thanks and appreciation goes out to all who served on the board last year and to those who will serve on the board this coming year.

Our up coming meeting will be held on February 10. The menu will be Soup and Salad, if you haven’t already signed up, please reserve with May.

Mark your calendar for the next polenta fundraiser. This dinner is a sell out! The date is March 22, 2014. Reservation information will follow in next month’s Bollettino.

A reminder that your membership dues are payable now, please remember to bring a check to the next meeting.

Lorraine Acuña

Pleasant Hill Christ the King, Br. 442

We continue to look for new members and volunteers to take part in our growing branch. Contact us at icfpleasanthill@aol.com with questions, thoughts and ideas.

Please join us for our next branch meeting at 2:30 p.m. Feb. 16 in the parish hall. Details to come via email and evite.

Please circle these dates for upcoming branch meetings:

Feb. 16

March 16

May 4

Ciao!

Craig Lazzeretti

Christ the King, Branch 442

Orange Irvine

St. Thomas More, Br. 423

Happy Valentine’s Day!!

Our annual Christmas party was hosted by Anne Marie Ferri on December 14. Members brought an assortment of delicious appetizers and desserts. Anne Marie provided several



Santa joined the children and members of Pleasant Hill, Branch 442 for its innaugural Christmas celebration.

types of lasagna as the main course. After the dinner, many members gathered to play a rousing game of L C R (Left Center Right). Ann Volpe emerged as the victorious winner!! We rounded out our festive evening with a white elephant gift.

2014 ICF Officers are as follows:

President: Mary Ann Profeta

Vice President: Donna Stahl

Secretary: Maureen Melvold

Treasurer: Tom Farrell

Sentinel: Lynn Goldstrom

Orator: Lupe Montejano

Trustees: Don Gibson, Frank Gianantonio, Mina Brooks

Frank Gianantonio thanked everyone in our branch for doing a great job during his tenure as ICF President.

Reno Reno

St. Albert, Br. 135

On Sunday January 12, 21 members looked forward to a blessed 2014, by fighting a chilly evening to our first meeting the new year. So, “bravo” to folks who made the meeting. Joe Saiz deep fried some turkeys and Vonnice Ramos provided the carrots and mashed potatoes, with gravy. Carolyn Smith provided the appetizers, salad and turkey dressing. And, Joyce Kowatch and Elle Snellgrove brought apple pie. A very tasty and homey affair. Many thanks to these five members.

The following was our “sick report” at the meeting. Father Mike Mahone had just gotten out the hospital, and we all pray that he doing well. And Virginia Zorio had just been admitted to the hospital with a possible phenomina which we pray for God’s healing touch for her.

At the meeting, members voted to give a \$400 first year scholarship to Central Counsel for a Reno area graduation senior to be used for college. Vonnice Ramos and Charlyne Pacini reported on the Diosesan Conference held the past weekend where we had an exhibit table and received several names of people, whom will be called to connect with Branch 135. In previous years we have gotten some very good members for our branch from this conference. Vonnice Ramos gave a Heritage report on Babbo Natale, La Befana, and the celebration of St. Anthony Abbot’s Day on January 17 in Italy. And, President Carolyn Smith reported that at the Bishops Dinner in December, about 150 pounds of non-perishable food was brought by our members to be given to St. Vincent’s for their ongoing ministry.

Also at the meeting, a flyer was handed out with meeting dates for the rest of the year, as follows: February 9; March 9; April 13; May

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Reno, Branch 135, held its annual Bishop’s Dinner on December 8, 2013. Left to right: Grand President Bob Basuino; Bishop Randolph Calvo; Branch 135 President Carolyn Smith; Fr. Mark Hanifan, Pastor of St. Albert the Great Church.

18; June 8; September (picnic TBA); October 19th; November (TBA); and December (Bishops Dinner TBA).

Our next meeting is set for Sunday, February 9. We pray to the Lord to bless and guide all our members and their families.

Submitted by,
Tony DiGuglielmo

Sacramento

Sacramento

St. Mary, Br. 45

We begin 2014 with our Installation of Officers on February 1st hosted by Br. 236, St. Lawrence. Our Branch Officers for this year are:

- President: Janine Orsi
- 1st V-P: Tina Tallman
- 2nd V-P: Ted Georguson
- Secretary: Bonnie Lally
- Treasurer: Lisa Bandaccari
- Orator: MaryJo Lee
- Trustees: Marie Leonard, Arlene Gianatasio, and Eric Bush
- Sentinel: Mary Ann Heinen

Thanks to Ted, Lisa, Arlene and Eric for joining the Board this year.

Our first Members’ Meeting and Dinner will be Sunday, Feb. 9, at 4:30pm for the meeting and 6:00pm for the dinner. On the menu is polenta and chicken. Cost for members is \$12 and for non-members/guests is \$16. For reservations, call Bruna at 916-515-9380 or Janine at 916-714-6967 by Mon., Feb. 3. We have lots to discuss about our upcoming events for 2014 at the meeting so please attend.

Our Annual District Fundraiser, Mangiamo Itlaiano Dinner, will be held on Sat., March 1st with Branch 419, Holy Spirit, hosting. More information to follow after this writing but if interested, please call me now at 916-714-6967. Proceeds from this event go to the Bishop’s Seminary Burse presented in October.

Calendar at a Glance:

Sat., Feb. 1: Installation of Officers at St. Lawrence

Sun., Feb. 9: Member Meeting & Dinner in Giovanni Hall 4:30pm & 6:00pm

Sat., Mar. 1: Mangiamo Dinner (District Fundraiser) at Holy Spirit Gym

Buon Compleanno to Members in February: Manuel Cazares, Olivia Ebert, Ted Georguson, Arlene Gianatasio, Dorothy Heick, Marlene Oehler, Emily Rossi, Giuseppe Schettini, Nives Schettini, Katherine Stefani.

Happy Valentine’s Day!

Ciao,
Janine

Roseville

San Vito, Br. 73

Since we have been remiss in preparing reports of Branch 73 activities for the last two issues of the Bollettino, there are some past events to be noted. The polenta/chicken dinner of 9 November was a success both in the quality of the food served and the monetary recompense to the branch. We thank all those involved in the kitchen, hall, ticket seller, in the bar, and with the raffle for contributing to the success of the evening. After expenses were paid, \$4,107.50 accrued to the branch, and \$500.00 was donated to the parish for the repair of the hall.

Also successful was the branch Christmas party of 14 December. The food prepared by the members was ample and delicious, and Santa Claus was present to present gift stockings to the younger children. The sum gained through the raffle will be donated to the Cooley’s Anemia fund later in the year.

The next polenta/chicken dinner will be held 22 February. The tickets will again be \$20.00 for those 13 and older, and \$10.00 for those 6 to 12, with no charge for those under 6. (The procurer of the chickens has assured us that the pieces will be larger this time.) Tickets are available from Giuseppina Novi (783-3816), Rose Msrie Presti (791-1726), and Arlene Roe (782-3073).

This will arrive in the second month of the year, but still early enough to wish all the members of Branch 73 a 2014 marked by good health, a lot of accomplishment, and much happiness. A belated happy birthday to members who added another year to their resumes in December and January, and one on time to those who will do so in February.

Robert Delpippo



(Above) Sandra Fuentes, Paula Scarpelli & Connie Terry from Br. 438 baking biscotti.

(Middle) Joe Fisher, Gene Moscuza, Luci Fisher & Tina Moscuza of Br. 438.

(Bottom) David Brill, Branch 438 President enjoying dinner.

(Right) Outgoing Br. 438 President Paula Scarpelli with Hank Scarpelli



Auburn

St. Joseph, Br. 342

Congratulations to our newly installed board members for 2014: President: MaryAnn Mikles, VP: Maria Fregosi, Secretary: Pam Andersen, Treasurer: Marissa Borba, Financial Secretary: Trish Putkey, Orator: Colleen Andersen, Sentinel: Josephine Andersen, Trustees: Barbara O’Rourke and Flo Mooneyham. A big thank you goes out to all those who served as board members in 2013.

Another big thank you goes out to all those who helped to make our recent Polenta Dinner. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and it would not have been so successful without all of you who cooked and served, set-up and decorated tables, organized and ran the raffle, ran the bar, sold tickets, made seating charts, and cleaned up after dinner. THANK YOU!

Healing prayers go out to our members Al Baldoni, Tony Pisanu, Christine Niece, Ted Fregosi, Bud Procissi, Joanne Swars , and MaryAnn and Joe Mikles.

Pam Andersen
Bollettino Contributor

Roseville

St. Clare of Assisi, Br. 438

Our November meeting was truly an event to be remembered. Al Smith and his wife, Janet, prepared a wonderful meal and Laurice Levine, the Thalassemia Outreach Coordinator, was our guest. As usual, she touched our hearts with her story.

Members enjoyed a wonderful multi-course Italian dinner on December 20 prepared by our talented chefs Joe Fisher and Gene Moscuza. Family members were invited and much to the surprise of the children, Santa made an appearance and distributed gifts! Paula Scarpelli, our outgoing Branch President, was honored and presented a special gift basket and flowers from the outgoing Board.

It would not be the Christmas season without our annual “cookie baking” event in Morris Center held on December 12. Many members gathered to make over 600 biscotti under the guidance of Connie Terry. Our Bake Sale was the following Sunday, December 15. Although we had three large tables filled with delicious baked goods, we were sold out after only two masses. The Bake Sale was a huge success under the leadership of Angela

Sullivan and Pat Brown. We raised \$900 which was donated to the St. Clare's Social Concerns Committee to help purchase gifts for those parishioners in need this Christmas.

Our new President, David Brill, held the first Board Meeting with new officers on January 8 and we look forward to planning many events for 2014.

We will keep all of you in our prayers and we hope that you are off to a successful start in 2014!

San Bernardino

Fontana

St. Joseph, Br. 210

We started the New Year off with a great pot luck as usual. Martha Nagy and Our President Mauro Romagnoli each donated a ham and the sides were outstanding. We indulged again after the Holidays! We are looking forward to our District Installation which is hosted by Branch 217 in Redlands January 18. Since Los Angeles District is being installed the next day, a lot of Central Council Officers will be down South, so will attend our event too. Grand President Bob Basuino and Grand Trustee Roselynn Jarrett, will both be installing our Officers. We will plan a Parish Breakfast for March 30 to replenish our Scholarship fund. Our April meeting and the May meeting are rescheduled because of Palm Sunday and Mother's Day. The April Meeting is moved to the first Sunday, April 5 and the May Meeting will be the 3rd Sunday, May 18. Happy Birthday to all the celebrants with Birthdays this month.

Stay healthy, and God Bless.

Ciao,

Jack Grisafe

San Diego

San Diego

Our Lady of the Rosary, Br. 230

Cari Amici,

Your new Branch 230 officers for 2014 are: President- Sherry Thurston- 1st Vice President- Carolyn Koebrich- 2nd Vice President- Theresa Cutri-Recording/Corresponding Secretary- Maria Tollefson-Financial Secretary- Amanda Morris- Cassidy- Treasurer- Mary Lou Terramagra-Orator-Del Centanni- Trustee-Jim Cardinale-Hill- Alternate Trustee-Dodie Rotherham-Sentinel-Robert Millican.

Branch 230 had its Annual Christmas Party on Saturday Dec 14, 2013. Thanks to Mary

Lou Terramagra and Thersa Cutri for all their hard work in setting up the Hall and for donating so many raffle prizes and decorations. We had a great catered Prime Rib Dinner and everyone was in high spirits as we celebrated the upcoming birthday of our Savior Jesus Christ. After dinner we gave Father Joe and Father Louie and Jody Balestrieri a gift from our branch. We sang Christmas carols and had a grand time. Thanks to Jack Battaglia and his set-up crew and to all who attended and who brought non-perishable food items and unwrapped toys that were given to Catholic Charities.

Our annual ICF Fish Fry Fundraiser will be held on Friday March 7, 2014 from 4pm to 9pm. We need everybody to show up to eat - all proceeds go to Our Lady of the Rosary.

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

*Pace di Cristo
Richard Barker*

San Francisco

San Francisco

San Francisco

Maria SS Immacolata, Br. 1

Dear Members: Our recent Installation and lunch at the SFIASC was enjoyed by all attending.

Upcoming :

February = No Meeting

February 23 Monthly Mass -- ICC 10:30am

March 12 Spuntino and Raffle. 6:30 pm
Cost: \$15.00 Reservations Vic Arnaudo (650) 755-1369. Please bring a Raffle Prize.

Stay healthy in the New Year!

Ciao!

Toni Morsello

San Francisco

Sts. Peter and Paul, Br. 38

Our branch hadn't had our Christmas meeting as of the last printing of the Bollettino, so let me tell you what we did: Our branch members all commented how great everything turned out. Our catered luncheon from the SFIAC was excellent. The food was delicious and hot. The SFIAC gave us so much food we were even able to share it with the Salesian Sisters! Thank you Paul Alioto and your staff for treating us so well. Paul even included 6 bottles of wine in our price. How

great is that?! We ended our luncheon with a delicious Ice Cream Cake donated by Dora Varacchi. Also, thanks Cosmo for making the arrangements and picking up the food from the SFIAC.

After lunch we had a special someone come to our party, someone with a dilapidated red suit. He sure looked like Santa, but he could have been La Befana, too! The suit was held together with safety pins. Even though he looked homeless, he was very generous to all our members. Dominic and Matthew Ramsey were great Santa helpers. They each took turns in delivering gifts to each member and guests. Of course Santa had something nice for them too. After it was over, Santa suddenly disappeared into the crowd in Washington Square Park where there were thousands of Santa's that day. Of course, we're all looking forward to seeing Santa again next year. Many thanks to Fred and Susan Tealdi (Norma Tealdi's son and daughter-in-law) who helped us so much in so many ways, and everyone else who either donated or helped or both. We could never do this if it wasn't for your help and co-operation. Thank you so much my dear friends and fellow members for always being there to help.

After Santa left, Dora Varacchi led us in the singing of Christmas Carols, but I'm sad to say we didn't sound like the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. Now we have 365 days to practice for next year's party! Get ready Dora...a one, a two...a three!

Tomorrow January 11 will be our Branch 38 first meeting of 2014, and it will be a mini one. Hopefully, our members had a peaceful and healthy holiday. We are looking forward to having a successful and fruitful year. At this meeting we will be enjoying a New Years' Party with some Asti Spumante, hot Minestrone soup, a Brown Bag Lunch, dessert, and at the end of our meeting...Bingo!

Interesting Fact: February 1, 1932 Br. 38 was established 82 years ago.

Our next meeting will be on Saturday, February 8, 2014

11:30 a.m.: Regular meeting will be in the PC.

12:30 a.m.: Theme - "Be My Valentine" with a Buffet Luncheon.

Ciao!

Ci vediamo il 8 di febbraio 2014!

Mara Amato

San Francisco

St. Elizabeth, Br. 258

"Felice Anno Nuovo"

Happy and Healthy New Year to all our Members and their families.

Feb. 7 -- Trip to Thunder Valley Casino. Maybe 2014 will be good to all of us!!

April 7 -- We are planning a trip to the fabu-

lous Palm Springs Follies, Hearst Castle, Nixon Library and Solvang. If interested, Please contact Florence Mangion at 415-468-1764.

Please remember our ill and deceased members in your prayers.

Remember these dates:

Officers meeting: Feb. 3

Mass: Feb. 23

Meeting: Feb. 24

Ciao,

Eva Perata, President

San Francisco

Corpus Christi, Br. 290

Cari Amici,

Our February meeting will be held on Thursday, the 20th of February at 7:00pm. Soup will be served before the meeting at 6:00 PM. Remember to bring your soup bowl.

Save The Date!! March 15 is the date of our first Champagne-Bingo luncheon of 2014. Doors open at 11:00am, followed by lunch at 12:00 noon. Price of the luncheon is \$25.00. Please call Mary Rowe (415)333-7939 or Joyce Nuti (415)586-7879 for reservations.

We ask continued prayers for John Consiglieri and Al Oneto and all other members who are experiencing health issues.

Wishing everyone a Happy Valentine's Day!

Ciao,

Jeannette

San Francisco

St. Cecilia, Br. 365

About our Christmas dinner party, we served 43 people a 5 course dinner with wine included. John Fiore entertained us with his accordion music and had everyone clapping and hopping; some even getting up to dance. Our chicken & ravioli dinner was prepared by Liliana Zarich, with the help of her crew.

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

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Some of our members donated food and raffle prizes. We realized a total of \$845.00. I have mentioned many times that our members are extremely generous whenever we have fundraisers.

Our first donation of the year was a check to St. Cecilia Church in the amount of \$500.00. The rest of our donations will be made within the next few months.

Plans are in the works for a polenta dinner. Cost \$8.00. You will be called.

Please continue to pray for Leo Juarez, who had been in the hospital. Peggy Nan has been living with her son and daughter-in-law due to poor health. They plan to relocate in the Los Angeles area. We will miss you, Peggy.

God Bless and let us "Pray for Peace."

Ann Basuino

San Mateo

District Council

Congratulations to newly installed Officers of the San Mateo District for 2014. Many thanks to the outgoing Officers and their hard work and commitment to the Italian Catholic Federation. Many thanks to Branch 130, St. Pius, Redwood City for hosting the District Installation, January 18, 2014. It was a wonderful day with a spirit filled Mass and Installation followed by a delicious luncheon at the San Mateo Elks Club.

Also thanks to Branch 130 for hosting the Holiday Potluck Party on Thursday, January 23 at Our Lady of Angels, Burlingame. A fun filled evening was had by all who attended.

Mark your calendars:

Sunday, February 23, 2014, District Communion, 10:00a.m. Mass at St. Dunstan's, Branch 403. Reception following Mass in the Parish Center. RSVP by February 19 to r.morando@aol.com.

Thursday, March 27, 2014 our next District meeting at Our Lady of Angels, Burlingame, 7:30pm. Hosted by Branch 213, St. Augustine's, South San Francisco.

Sunday, April 27, 2014, Bishop's Day. Hosted by the San Francisco District at St. Francis of Assisi Chapel. Luncheon follows at the

San Francisco Athletic Club.

Remember in our thoughts and prayers, Father Frank Murray, Tom Pollicita, Al Teglia, Roberta Franchini and Family on the loss of dear Franco. If you wish to send condolences, Roberta's address is: 3140 Geoffrey Drive, San Bruno, CA 94066.

God Bless! Happy Valentine's Day!

Anne O'Brien

Redwood City

Regina Coeli, Br. 6

Happy New Year a little late! Our January meeting was small and those that were unable to attend missed a delicious dinner prepared by head chef Georgia Row assisted by Sylvia Row and Barbara Ebel. Thank you ladies for the dinner.

We have a District Communion on February 23, 2014, 10:00am. Mass at St. Dunstan's in Millbrae. Please let me know by February 18, if you would like to attend. I would like to see us support the spiritual activities in our District so I hope to see you there. My phone number is 650-323-0189.

Our condolences to Mike and Marie Felix on the loss of Marie's Father. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

If you know of any sick members that need a card, please contact Catherine Boyle 650-364-6165.

Happy St. Valentine's Day!

Ciao

BF

South San Francisco

Sacro Cuore, Br. 7

Where has the time gone? Can you believe we are already into the second month of 2014? As we begin the second month of the year, our business dinner meeting will be on February 5. That's also about the time we all start thinking about Valentines Day and the ones we love. So don't forget to bring your Valentine to the February 15 Crab Cioppino Dinner Fundraiser. Chicken is available upon request. Remember, a Valentine is not just about your wife, husband or sweetheart. A

Valentine is about people you care about and love...so bring all the people you love to this fun event! Call Norma at 650-583-3643 for reservations.

On March 15, 2014 we will have our Corned Beef & Cabbage Fundraiser. We hope you plan to attend. Please contact Norma for more information.

Just a friendly reminder, all Branch 7 yearly dues are now past due. If you have already paid yours in the month of January, we extend a big "Thank you"! If you have not, we appreciate your attention to this a.s.a.p.

Scholarship applications for high school seniors have been sent to all local schools. Any Roman Catholic student interested in obtaining an application, with all requirements, may get them from their school student counselor. The deadline to submit the application is March 14, 2014.

So, until next time...a few thoughts to ponder for Valentines, "Trip over love, you can get up. Fall in love and you fall forever." And, "Anyone can catch your eye, but it takes someone special to catch your heart."

"Happy Valentines Day"!

Sempre Avanti

Laurie Masetti

Colma

San Vincenzo de Paoli, Br. 19

On Saturday, January 18, 2014 the San Mateo District Council held the installation of Branch officers at St. Pius Church, Redwood City. Luncheon followed at the San Mateo Elks Lodge. Congratulations to the corps of officers and wishing them a successful 2014 term of office.

Mark your calendars for upcoming events:

Feb. 10: Meeting at 7:30 pm. Social to follow.

Feb. 24: Tray favor night at Debbie's. Call or e-mail to let her know you can help. (650)583-0805 or drodondi@Comcast.net

Mar. 10: St. Joseph's Table Porluck. Call Cheryl by 3/6 with your reservation and what you're bringing. (650)755-0878.

Mar. 24: Easter tray favors - TBA

April 14: Soup Night. No host cocktails 5:30 pm, dinner 6:30pm. \$10 members, \$12 guests. Reservations to Cheryl by 4/10.

Apr. 26: Champagne Bingo. 1:30pm champagne, 2:30pm dinner. \$16 includes one card. Reservations to Deborah.

Apr.28: Mother/Father's Day tray favors TA

A late Spring garage sale is being planed. Cleaning your garage or closets? Debora, Kathy and Al Heckman (650) 993-8336 will be happy to receive or pick up the items you can't drop off at Deborah's. Are you able to help pricing, setting up or helping to sell at the event, call Kathy.

Sincerest thanks to Joe and Joann Sangiacomo and their crew for holding a successful Pedro tournament on Jan. 25th. Even the losers go away happy because of good food and good fellowship.

Reminder that 2014 dues are now payable. Please send in or bring ASAP.

Hope to see you at one of our upcoming events. Best wishes for a Happy Valentine's Day.

Ruth Lapachet

Burlingame

Our Lady of Angels, Br. 173

Our first meeting of the New Year was well attended and Sandra Bennett and Bea Tomasello volunteered to be our co-chairs to cook our delicious pasta meal. Thanks to both of you.

This year we are planning on having a dinner at each meeting and need volunteers to chair a dinner or help do the shopping, take reservations, etc. or whatever can be done to help out the chairperson. We want a fun year in 2014.

Our new president, Norm Bennett had many items to cover on his agenda and information can be read in the monthly newsletter originating from the editor, Sandra Bennett. Thank you Sandra for volunteering to be our editor. We have a new Treasurer, Bea Tomasello, as Darlene Wigler resigned for health reasons but she will be one of our trustees.

Upcoming Events: January 18,2014

Installation of Officers, St. Pius Church Redwood City, 10:30 am. Lunch to follow at San Mateo Elks Club.

February 2, 2014 Pizza and Bingo Meeting.

We wish a speedy recovery to sick members especially Nerina Di Bello who is recuperating from a knee replacement.

God Bless,

Rosalind C. Emery

South San Francisco

St. Augustine, Br. 213

I have sad news to report, even though most of you already know; my beloved husband Franco passed away on January 3, 2014. He died peacefully at home with his family around him. He will be sorely missed by many.

Our first meeting of the new year on January 14 was hosted by Donna DeVoe and Judy Crosetti - soup and sandwiches were enjoyed by all. Thank you ladies for a great job! Dues notices were given out at the meeting, so please get your payment in ASAP.

Thanks to all our officers who attended the San Mateo District's Installation of Officers on January 18 at St. Pius Church in Redwood City. The luncheon following at the San Mateo Elks Club was very nice and we all had a good time.

Sunshine: Please keep in your prayers John Cannon and Reuben Barrera. If you know of any member who is ill, please let Pres. Joe, or Roberta know, so we can put it in the Branch Newsletter and Bollettino. Please also keep in your prayers our past branch Chaplain, Father Eugene Tungol. (Father Eugene had a kidney transplant last year and is doing well.) He has been a great support to me and my family during Franco's last days.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 11, 2014 and I'm guessing it will be a Valentine's Day celebration.

Thank you all for your kind thoughts, prayers, cards, phone calls, flowers, etc., during this sad time in our lives. We sincerely appreciate your kindness.

rf

Millbrae

St. Dunstan, 403

St. Dunstan recently had the wonderful opportunity to have Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone visit our parish. He celebrated 11:30 Mass followed by a reception in the Parish Center.

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Si Parla Italiano

Thanks to Branch 130 for hosting the recent San Mateo District Installation at St. Pius Church in Redwood City.

February 23 we will be hosting the Quarterly Communion with Mass at 10:00am at St. Dunstan Church followed by a reception in the Parish Center.

Upcoming Events:

March 9 is our Anniversary Dinner Celebration in the Parish Center. No-host cocktails at 4:30-Dinner at 5:00pm.

Dinner will consist of antipasto, salad, pork loin entree, dessert and wine for \$25 per person. For reservations and seating arrangements mail check payable to ICF Branch #403 to Rose Marie Morando, 706 Clearfield Dr., Millbrae, CA 94030.

Marin

Larkspur

St. James, Br. 161

In January we had the pleasure of having Grand President Bob Basuino install the new officers of our branch. Thank You

Mark your calendars for the ICF 90th Anniversary on June 22nd with Mass at the Church of the Immaculate Conception in San Francisco. Anyone interested in going please contact Marlene Farber.

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

Happy Valentine's Day!

Ciao,

Anna Biggio

Novato

Our Lady of Loretto, Br. 332

The first meeting of 2014 was held on January 14 at Our Lady of Loretto Parish Hall. Co President Greg Erigero welcomed all and introduced three new members, Diana and Greg Arata, and Carolina Lesta. He thanked everyone who helped make the Christmas Party a huge success. Special thanks went out to Karen Raccanello and Angie McDuffie for preparing the gift baskets which were then raffled off. President Greg also told us that Branch 332 had been awarded a Certificate of Merit for increase in membership in 2013. Speaking of membership, Financial Secretary George DeMartini reminded us 2014 dues and due and we have already achieved 80% renewal of members. Keep up the good work. The Branch will honor members over 90 years of age by waiving their annual dues. Petaluma Sons of Italy will be hosting a Crab Feed on February 22 at Lucchesi Park Community Center. Cost is \$40.00 per person and includes cracked crab, pasta, salad, rolls and wine. Contact Ernie Giono at erng1624@aol.com for reservations. Dave Garbarino, who has been playing the accordion for almost 60 years, just got his First Brand New accordion. It is a Roland Electronic reed less accordion. Now Dave can play and eat at the same time. Also in attendance was Dave Paganini's son, David, who is visiting from London. He plans on doing some extensive traveling before returning to London by visiting Australia, New Zealand, and Fiji. We hope all will enjoy a happy and healthy 2014.

San Jose
Santa Clara Valley

District Council

Our newly elected district officers are President: John Gillio, 1st VP: Denise Antonowicz, 2nd VP: Ric Shimshock, Recording Sec-



The Santa Clara Valley Officers and Chaplains - Monsignor Joseph Milani, Reverend Chris Bennett, and Reverend George Aranha, are excited to serve our district this year and are looking forward to seeing you at our District fundraisers as well as our opportunities to worship together as an ICF family.

retary: Emily Corral, Treasurer: Bill Greco, Orator: Pat Cordich, Trustees: Russ Vento, Marcie Rossi, and Donna Pfaff, Sentinel: Jo Bertaccini. Congratulations to deputy of the year, Donna Pfaff. Let's support our district and branches and our Central Council Grand President, Bob Basuino. The following are opportunities for fellowship with your ICF family and to support our charities:

Feb. 7, 2014 -- Br. 368, Santa Teresa, San Jose- 11th annual crab feed \$40.00 - Phil and Joyce Robba (408) 225-0883

Feb. 8, 2014 -- Br. 391 St. Martin of Tours Annual Valentine's dinner/dance 5-course meal \$40.00-Cathleen Lencioni (408) 248-6728

Feb. 22, 2014 -- Br. 47, St. Joseph's-Mtn. View Crab Feed and pasta dinner \$45.00 - Joanne or Todd at 650-917-0422

March 4, 2014 -- Br. 4, Holy Cross, San Jose - Mardi Gras Theme- details to follow

March 8, 2014 -- Br. 28, Gilroy Polenta Dinner -details to follow

March 8, 2014 -- Br. 408, Resurrection, Sunnyvale Pasta dinner - details to follow

March 8, 2014 -- Br. 186, St. Nicholas, Los Altos Hills, polenta dinner/dance \$25.00 Elaine Osorio (650) 493-5520

June 22, 2014 -- ICF 90th anniversary mass/luncheon/dance - details to follow

June 29, 2014 -- Our Lady of Peace mass and luncheon - details to follow

Oct. 25, 2014 -- Br. 184, St. Mary's in Los Gatos, dinner/dance/auction to celebrate their 50 anniversary - details to follow

Happy Valentine's Day,

Marcie Rossi

San Jose

Holy Cross, Br. 4

Happy New Year to All. I hope all is well for each of you. Since my last 2 articles weren't in the Bollettino, I will go back a bit. Thanks to all who brought toys for the Oakland Children's Hospital. Larice from Children's came to pick up the toys and she was thrilled! Thanks again! Everyone enjoyed the Christmas party and the children from Sabatino that entertained us.



The Santa Clara Valley District's branch officers ready to be initiated.



District Deputy, Jerry Delfino awards the SCVD Deputy of the Year award to Donna Pfaff with Grand President Bob Basuino.

Our January soup night was perfect for a cold night. Thanks to Kerry who made the soup. It was delicious.

February 5- Dinner Meeting - Pasta, Salad and Dessert

Since the first Wednesday in March is Ash Wednesday, our Fundraiser will be on Tuesday, March 4. It will be a Mardi Gras theme. More on this later.

To all our sick members, our thoughts and prayers are with each of you.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to Charles Gullo on the loss of his Dad.

Also to the Greco family on the loss of Maria's Mom.

May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed Rest in Peace.

"True great friends are hard to find, difficult

to leave, and impossible to forget"

God Bless,

Ann Fitzgerald

Santa Clara

N.S. Assunta, Br. 5

The President Office will be rotated for the year 2014. We will keep you posted as to who the current President is each month. Bea Cunha will be President for the month of February.

We need all the officers and members to work together for a successful year. We would like to thanked all members and officer for their time in making 2013 successful.

ICF Br. 5 resolution for 2014 is to get more members added to Br. 5, and with your help



The Santa Clara Valley District is the first district to install their officers for the year. We thank Bob Basuino, the Central Council members who attended the installation and luncheon, and Monsignor Joseph Milani and Reverend Aranha for their continued support of the ICF.

anything possible. Guests are always welcome at Dinner/Meeting each month. Talk about the ICF to your neighbors, parishioners, relative and friend. See Marlene Rotolo for Membership Applications information.

The Dinner/Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 27, 2014. Dinner Time is: 6:00pm Dinner and 7:00pm Meeting in the St. Clare Parish Hall. Menu is: Polenta with Meat Stew and all the trimmings. Cost: \$15.00.

This month is special for it includes Valentine's Day on February 14, 2014. May the love you give come around to you, and your family, and friends.

Please volunteer in any way to help at the Dinner/Meetings and events in this new year.

Ciao,

Marlene J. Rotolo

Gilroy

Santa Maria Ausiliatrice, Br. 28

Our first fundraiser is our annual Polenta dinner on March 8, 2014.

It is always a popular dinner, so get your friends and family together and reserve a table. The donation is \$20.00 for adults and \$10.00 for children. We will have tickets available at our February meeting, but get them even before then as we sometimes sell out. We need raffle prizes too. Take out will be available with reservations. Call Kathy Santos at 408-842-8547, or Louise Segreto at 408-846-4505 for tickets. Tickets will also be available at the Parish office. Contact Chris Andrade at 831-634-1994 to donate a raffle prize. This is one of our major fundraisers so please help. Speaking of help, if you would like to help serve please volunteer.

Our next dinner meeting will be February 23, Cullen Hall 6pm.

Polenta Dinner, March 8, 6pm, Cullen Hall.

March 16, regular dinner meeting 6pm Cullen Hall.

March 30, Spring Scholarship breakfast: 7am to 11:30am Cullen Hall.

I write this the first part of January, so if we still need rain, please keep praying.

Ciao,

Anna Barberi

Mountain View

San Giorgio, Br. 47

We want to start by letting everyone know how proud we were when our Deputy Donna Pfaff was named Deputy of the Year at this year's Installation Mass on January 4th. Donna has been a great help to us particularly over the past couple of months as we transition into new leadership. We look forward to working more with her throughout 2014.

We would like everyone to keep Joe Teresi in their thoughts and prayers. As most of you know, he has been a part of our branch for more than 50 years, as well as our leader for the past decade. Joe has been dealing with health issues for the past few months. We hope he recovers soon, so he can return to help us with the branch activities which we know he loves so much.

Thank you to everyone who helped, and participated in the St. Joseph School Bingo/Pasta night. The event has become very popular over the past couple of years, and as always, was a successful fundraiser for both our Branch, and the School.

Later this month we are holding our biggest fundraiser of the year. The Crab Feed and Pasta Dinner will take place on February 22 at St. Joseph School in Mountain View. Doors open at 6:00, and the cost this year is \$45 per person. For more information please contact Joanne MacDonald at 650-917-0422 or E-mail at macdonaldfam@yahoo.com.

Ciao!

Todd MacDonald

Los Gatos

St. Mary, Br. 184

Santa Teresa hosted the Mass and Installation of Officers on January 4. At the end of the ceremony, our Treasurer, Donna Pfaff, was surprised with the special "Deputy of the Year Award". She is Deputy to Mt. View Branch 47. Congratulations Donna!

A big Thank You goes to Marie Antonowicz who treated members to a delicious soup and salad dinner at our January meeting. As if that wasn't enough, she then entered the room dressed as La Befana, and distributed tangerines to everyone, while speaking in Italian! La Befana, whose name comes from the Roman dialect for "Epifania" (Epiphany) is a friendly witch who comes delivering

gifts for the children.

The Mad Hatter's Ball will take place Saturday March 29 in Howley Hall. Polenta with chicken cacciatore will be served, and the Reno di Bono Band will play for your dancing pleasure. Something new has been added. You are asked to create or decorate a hat. The Mad Hatter and the Queen of Hearts will judge, and then award a prize for the best entry! Also, a special raffle will be held before dinner. The winners will be seated at a very special table with the Queen of Hearts, the Mad Hatter and the March Hare. As they say, be there or be square....

Save Oct. 25, 2014 for our own 50th Anniversary. More info to follow.

Special prayers go to Eileen Fritsch in the loss of her father, and to our Deputy Maria Greco in the loss of her mother.

Ciao for now,

Lucy Amico

P.S. Special "hello" to Rena Vallorz!

Los Altos

St. Nicholas, Br. 186

March 8 will be our famous Polenta Dinner. Oh so good! The layered cheese and polenta, the succulent beef and sausage sauce, Good! Click up your heels to the music of Reno Di-Bono. Tickets are \$25.00 Call Elaine 650-493-5520.

Thanks to all who made the Cioppino Dinner Dance wonderful. Especially Dennis Garcia, Larry Dorie and Bob Osorio who picked up all the supplies. Also thanks to Bruce Barsi for taking care of the refreshment bar.

This past month we lost a wonderful long-time member, Joe Carroll. Our condolences to his family. He will be greatly missed, especially by the kitchen crew. May he rest in peace.

Reminder: Send your dues check to Andy Cauz.

Members: if you have a graduating high school senior in the family, let them know that scholarship applications are available from counselors or branch president. You can also go online at ICF.org and click on scholarships.

Please keep the following in your prayers as they are not feeling well, Chuck and Bernadette Tapella, Rita and Babe Fraguglia, Joan Freitas.

Belated 90th birthday wishes to Guidi Budelli, Branch 351.

March 6 - Regular meeting, hors d'oeuvres at 6:30pm School Center.

March 8 - Polenta Dinner Dance

"Love works in ways that are wondrous and strange, there's nothing in life that love cannot change."

Happy Valentine's Day

Elaine

San Jose

St. Frances Cabrini, Br. 191

Due to a clerical oversight articles for December 2013 and January 2014 were not published. Since there are members who should be recognized for their contribution to the success of our past events, I am taking the opportunity now to recognize them.

- Members Roz Castello and Ed Smith chaired the October Roaring 20's dance. The food was excellent, the music great and the sing along with Ed on guitar and Millie Medoro, Denise and Marie Antonowicz leading the singing made for a fun evening. Special thanks to Jim Jones for the 20's posters that added to the atmosphere.

- Our family Christmas party was on December 8. Debbie Piro provided the materials for the children to make pine cone Christmas trees. After the children met with Santa and dinner was complete, Ed Smith & Rosalyn Castello lead the group in Christmas carols. Everyone had a great time.

- A special "Thank you" to all the members who joined the SFC community in distributing clothing, food and toys to the needy on December 14.

Board members Joe Medoro-President,



Branch 191 officers at St. Teresa's Church for their installation on January 4.



Br. 391 welcomes Grand President, Bob Basuino's daughter, Gina D'Amico and sons Christopher and Michael as new members of Br. 391. We are also pleased to welcome Marge and John Papp to our ICF family.



Br. 391 officers for 2014 are looking forward to serving members of Br. 391 and are asking for their support at meetings, fundraisers, and at opportunities to worship together as an ICF family.

Denise Antonowica-1st Vice; Liz Donaldson-2nd Vic, Janice Jones-Recording Secretary, Camille Orlando-Financial Secretary, Aldine Grisenti-Treasure, Jo Bertaccino-Orator, Gloria Garcia- Sentinel, and Trustees Debbie Piro Jaime Portillo and June Sohn were installed on January 4 . Congratulations to all.

Anyone interested in attending this event can contact Liz Donaldson 408-266-3833.

God Bless & Happy Valentine's Day,
Rosemary Janis

San Jose

Santa Teresa, Br. 368

Thank you to Nancy Jolliff, Jerry and JoAnn Opp and Margaret Balistreri for hosting a wonderful lasagne dinner for our meeting.

Ed Wendler told us about our first native born saint, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. After her husband died she raised five children and devoted her life to God and the church.

Aldine Grisenti explained how ICF dues support the various ICF programs, including scholarships and the publishing of our newspaper the "Bolletino".

Our branch was the host for an Installation of Officers Mass. Noreen thanked everyone who helped make it a success.

Our heritage speaker for the night was Ron Sanchez. "I Am A Italian-American" is a pamphlet that outlines how those Italians influenced and contributed to making our country great .

Jerry Delfino spoke about scholarships and encouraged everyone to urge those eligible college bound students to apply.

Joan Delfino gave an update on the "Gifts of Love" program. \$13,000 was awarded to 7 recipients.

Upcoming Events:

Dues are now due! \$38.40 per person

Santa Teresa Crab Feed -- Friday, Feb. 7

Reminder: February Meeting to be held WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12 in the church

Ciao,
Cheryl Sanchez

San Jose

St. Martin of Tours, Br. 391

Branch 391 has its very big Valentine dinner/dance fundraiser on Saturday, February 8. This year's theme is the Roaring 20's Sweet-heart Ball, and it will include a five course meal, dancing, and a no-host cocktail hour. Please contact Kathleen Lincioni for tickets at 408-248-6728. You won't want to miss out!

We kicked off our first 2014 branch meeting by initiating Gina, Christopher, and Michael D'Amico, Marge and John Papp, Carolyn Gifulso and Elaine Steffans. Welcome to Branch 391! Also, at the meeting Louise Vento gave the heritage report on the contributions that Italians made to our modern society.

We look forward to a great year ahead and we hope to see you at our upcoming fundraisers!

Ciao,
Bianca Vallorz



Kitchen crew at Br. 52's polenta dinner.

Sunnyvale

Resurrection, Br. 408

Felice Anno Nuovo! and God Bless all our Members in this New Year !

We are sorry to report the passing of two of our very supportive members – Franco Ciachella and Fr. Alex Affonso. Fr. Alex attended many of our meetings and served as our Branch 408 Spiritual Advisor, while Franco was that cheerful spirit in our meetings who also served as our Branch President for a Term. May they rest in peace. We will certainly miss them both.

Congratulations to our ICF Creche Raffle winner – John Parker! We raised \$170 for the support of the Seminarians.

Please check our Branch Calendar for our many upcoming Br 408 events this year. Remember that Lent starts on 5th March this year with our ICF Lenten Soup on the 7th of March.

We look forward to our upcoming ICF PASTA Dinner which will be held March 15, 2014 this year to raise funds for the 5th Grade Science Camp.

Remember to include our sick members in your prayers and pleae pray especially for Dori Blefari (fluid in her lungs), Virginia Mirrione (new pacemaker) and Betty Deville (rotator cuff surgery and then flu).

Morgan Hill

Santa Caterina D'Alessandria, Br. 435

Our branch could not have had a more wonderful Christmas dinner. We were treated to the most delicious Prime Rib dinner with all the trimmings, stuffed mushrooms, antipasti, etc. and many, many mouth watering deserts. Thanks to Jerry Carravelli all this was possible.

It was so nice to see some of the members who have not come to our dinners for awhile.

We also collected many fun toys that we donated to St. Vincent De Paul.

If you have not sent your membership dues yet, please send them to Giulia Gallego as soon as possible.

Our new officers were installed on Sat. January 4, at St. Teresa's Church in San Jose.

Jim and Mary Ann FriebeI celebrated their 42nd anniversary on Jan. 8. Congratulations to the happy couple.

Our deepest sympathy to the passing of Father Alex. He was one of our priests here at St. Catherine's. Our parish will miss him dearly.

Wishing to all a happy, healthy and blessed New Year.

Donna Basilin

Santa Rosa

Santa Rosa

St. Rose, Br. 18

Buon Anno a tutti! We are preparing for the February 16 Santa Rosa District Council meeting. It is our turn to host this event. It will be held at the Santa Rosa Druids Hall, 1011 College Avenue. Think about attending, it's a good way to know members of other branches of our dynamic district. We have a vibrant, hard working group of brothers and sisters who generously carry out good works for our church and community. Of course, being an Italian inspired organization, we leave time for good food and good times.

Call Marie, 431-0563 if you have news of anyone in need of our prayers. This is a very important aspect of our Federation. New members, we need and always welcome them with open arms. Our sympathy and prayers to the family of Delores Waaland, deceased. She was a long-time member, the daughter of our Past President, Enis Babbini and the sister of our also long-time member, Godfrey Babbini. As is always our custom, we have a memorial Mass said for our deceased members.

Stay well and Happy St. Valentine's Day

Marie Canale

Healdsburg

San Francesco de Sales, Br. 52

January was a busy month for the branch. On Jan. 11, we had our Polenta Dinner. Thank you to Richard Passalacqua and his crew for the delicious polenta. We hosted the Santa Rosa District Installation on Jan. 19. Thank you to everyone who worked and attended this event. Both events were very successful.

Upcoming Events:

Feb. 4: Branch meeting in the Rectory. 7:00pm. All members are welcome to attend.

Feb. 15: Ravioli Dinner. Treat your sweetheart to a delicious ravioli dinner. More details in the monthly newsletter. Call Dee 433-5454 or Carol 433-2007 for your tickets.

March 4: Branch meeting in the Rectory. 7:00 pm. All members are welcome to attend.

Happy Valentine's Day!

Lauren Kilcullen

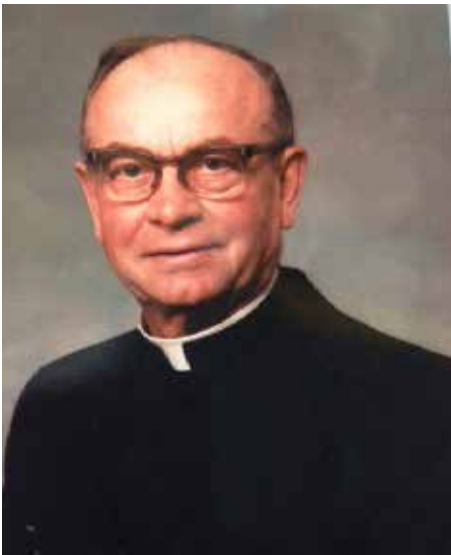
Cloverdale

L'Annunciata, Br. 75

The Italian Catholic Federation #75 wishes all of you a Happy New Year. Our prayer for all of you is that it be healthy and filled with

Obituary Notice:

Word has been received here in California of the death of Fr. Anthony Dal Balcon who passed away on August 8, 2013 at the Villa Rosa nursing home in Mitchellville, Maryland at the age of 90 yrs. Fr Anthony was born in Malo, Italy, on Sept 13, 1922.He entered the seminary in 1942 and became a religious in the congregation of the Missionaries of St. Charles Scalabrianians. He was ordained on June 29, 1949 at the age of 26yr. That same year he came to the United States. He served as an assistant pastor in New York for 8 years, then spent 7years as a missionary in California for the Italian Catholic Federation. He ministered to many Italian communities here in California. In 1964, after serving in California, he went to New York City and Montreal Canada. During this period he experienced the plight of many elderly living alone, helpless and neglected. Father assisted them spiritually and financially, worked that prepared him for his next assignment at



the Villa Rosa Nursing home in Maryland, in 2002 . He then became the executive director until his retirement in 2007. May he rest in peace.

joy as it unfolds. It is refreshing to look forward to 2014 and especially for our Branch which is reorganizing and gathering new memberships. Our meetings are potluck and held at St. Peter’s in Cloverdale on the third Thursday of every month at 6:30pm. All are welcome to visit or to join us.

*President
Patch Guglielmino*

Sonoma
St. Sebastian, Br. 103

Our branch will be celebrating Valentine’s Day at its February meeting. Dinner will be salad, polenta and sausage or tripe with dessert and wine. For reservations, call Lila at (707) 996-3448

The branch continues its goal to recruit new members, and last month, inducted 2 new members to our ranks.

Several of our members of the Council provided appetizers at the installation held in Healdsburg. The Council is now ready to go to work on fundraisers.

Happy Valentine’s Day to all.

*Saluti a tutti!
Marie-Therese Denning*

Petaluma
St. Vincent, Br. 127

Greetings from Petaluma!
How beautiful to see some rain coming down today! To see the leaves on the bushes and trees glisten from the drops that have fallen is beautiful. God certainly has given us so much beauty in this world and so many don’t see it. Let us all be thankful for what we have today.

We had a great Christmas dinner, with many members in attendance. Christmas carols were sung and everyone seemed to enjoy a great evening.

Our soup and dessert meeting this month will be over by the time this is read. We want to thank the cooks and those who helped in any way for this special night.

Feb. 10 - Regular Meeting, Room 9
Feb. 15 - All you can eat Crab Feed. \$35 per person - 6:15pm, St. James Church Hall. Menu: O’erderives, Salad, Crab, Garlic Bread, dessert, wine/coffee.

This is going to be a great dinner, this is a prepaid event with limited seating and reservations are a must, call Louise 769-7389.

Mar. 10 - Regular Meeting, Room 9
Mar. 22 - Quarterly Communion/Mass 5:00pm, St. James Church with St. Joseph’s Table to follow in the Church Hall. Cost \$16, Children under 12 - \$5

Reservations - call Louise 769-7389
Keep Anita Morris Tyler in your prayers. Get well wishes to all sick members and Happy Anniversary to members celebrating an Anniversary!

Please support our new President Bruno by attending the meetings and the dinners. Make our Branch a success and bring in some new members.

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

*Ciao,
Louise Vicino*

Arcata
St. Mary, Br. 144

We did not make a fortune on our Breakfast with Santa, but it was great fun for the children. Thank you to all who helped. Our \$176.87 went to the Church Maintenance fund. Group Communion was very nice, with so many attending and sitting together. Next time we plan to wear our new ribbons. Polenta is upon us, so get on your aprons and running shoes. Let’s make Feb. 16 a big success.

At the Jan. meeting, we donated \$250 to the Newman in Fr. Eric’s memory, \$100 to the Humboldt Senior Resources Center, and \$200 to the Adventure Camp.

I know we are all praying for Fr. Freed, but please also pray for our ill; John Susan, Shar Evans, Jim Spallino, Ken David, and Fr. Ron. Happy Birthday to Elena David and Roger Mac Donald.

Feb. will be a quiet month...so rest up for March! Ash Wed.is on our meeting night (March 5). Our first Meager Meal is Mar. 7. St. Joseph’s Table is on March 8-9, and St. Patrick’s on March 16.

May we live our lives in the true spirit of Love, not according to Cupid, but because we are following Christ, our Lord and our example. Sometimes it will be hard to do, but the effort is well worth it. Don’t forget, “What goes around comes around” ...Let it be LOVE.

*Ciao
Linda*

Eureka
St. Ambrose, Br. 145

Our parish Christmas brunch on December 8th was very successful. Thank you to all who helped set up decorate, and brought food to serve. Everyone had a great time, especially the children.

The branch Christmas party on December 10th was a fun time. The food and the good company made for a great evening. Thank you to Joe and Julie Bonino and their committee for your making the evening so fun!

Our lodge and all of our community are mourning the sudden loss of our Beloved Pastor, Fr. Eric Freed. He will be deeply missed by the many he touched over the time he served as Pastor of St. Bernard Church and also the entire community. In the words of Bishop Vasa, we must “Remember, Rejoice, and Return” as we begin to heal.

Please keep Fr. Eric and all his family in your prayers.

*May his soul rest in peace,
Nancy Paoli and all the Branch 145 members*

Cotati
St. Joseph, Br. 150

Our January soup and pie dinner hosted by Dorothy was so yummy. Thank you to Elsie, Bernice, Lydia and Dorothy for the delicious soups and to the wonderful pie makers for the pies for dessert.

Thank you to Bob Acquistapace and David Botta for speaking to us about saving our branch. We didn’t have that good of a turn out and next month we hope to talk more about saving the branch. Please if you are interested in saving the branch, please attend the February meeting. We need more input to what members think.

If you don’t have a way to the meeting please call Tom Saksa for a ride and he will make arrangements for a ride for you. If you do not call or attend we will take appropriate steps with the members at large to discuss our options to maintain our branch and funds.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Fr. Eric Freed who was murdered. Please pray for his family and church family for all of our loss of Fr. Eric.

Please pray for our ill and recuperating members and former members.

*Happy Valentines Day
Susan Daly*

Santa Rosa
St. Eugene, Br. 198

Dear Brothers & Sisters
The year 2014 got off to a great start with 75 people attending our 48th Anniversary in the I.C.F. Thanks to Ernie, Claire, Dick and Becca, John and Vinnie the evening and dinner were a huge success. A special thanks to Branches 150 and 209 for their attendance and support.

Our dinner meeting in March will feature a Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner at 6:30pm in the Brinker Room on March 3. The cost is still \$10.00

The deadline for scholarship donations is March 3. If you plan to donate the \$ 400 in memory of a family member, please contact Bob Accquistapace.

We need to keep Pat Costaglio and RoseAnne Sikes, and Frank Castelli in our prayers and please notify Mary Desideri if you know of ill or hospitalized members.

Our Branch is really doing well but if you

have any friends or relatives that you think would like to join us please bring them on March 3 and we will have applications available.

*Ciao,
Lorraine Castelli*

Sebastopol
St. Michael, Br. 209

This month’s meeting with a “Happy New Year Dinner” which featured a menu of Soup, Salad and Dessert. Thanks to everyone who contributed delicious offerings!

Our District Installation this year is scheduled for January 19 at St. John’s in Healdsburg. With our new officers about to take over, we look forward to a successful and productive 2014!

Branch 209’s Chicken and Polenta Dinner is coming up on February 15 and we expect our usual “full house” that evening. Be sure to call for your tickets early, as this event is usually a sell-out. Call Lona Bertoli (707) 527-1021 for tickets.

Dues are now payable and may be paid at our meeting or mail to: Gerrie Goin, 1883 Paradise Lane, Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Happy Valentine’s Day!!

*Ciao,
Lona Bertoli*

Stockton
District Council

While the 49ers battled Green Bay in wind chills of 15 degrees below zero, the Stockton District enjoyed a sunny 60 degree day in Modesto at St. Stanislaus Church for the Installation of Officers. Father Sam West presided at the mass of The Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord with acolyte Deacon Carl Welsbacher. Cantor Joe Schlemmer was accompanied by Gerard Stroll on piano. Grand President Bob Basuino conducted the Installation with the assistance of Central Council members and Stockton District Recording Secretary Annette Pachinger. Following the Installation guests were treated to fabulous appetizers followed by a pork loin dinner with all the trimmings. Honored guests included Master of Ceremonies, Central Council Member Vince Piro, Grand President Bob Basuino, and his father Frank Basuino, Second Vice President Andy Pappani, and wife Syd, Trustee Lisa Crudo and her mother Rosalind, Sergeant at Arms Marco Galeazzi and his wife Diane, Parliamentarian David Botta, Central Council Life Member Leonard Rossi and his wife Karen, Central Council Member Life Emeritus Nello Rossi, and District Chaplain Deacon Carl Welsbacher. The highlight of the dessert table was the 25 pound panettone... YES 25 POUNDS!!!! Stockton District President Annette Elissagary with the help of Grand President Bob Basuino unveiled the creation from its unique, decorative box and everyone indulged in the dolce. Mille grazie Annette for sharing the holiday cheer. Thank you Br. 48 for your hospitality and hard work!

The next District Meeting will be held at St. Bernard’s Church, Fr. Fleming Hall in Tracy on Sunday, Feb. 16, at 1:30pm. Menu: Baked Italian Chicken, Stuffed Pasta Shells with Creamy Sauce, Vegetables, Salad, Bread/ Butter \$8.00. Reservations by Feb. 10: Call Ida Queirolo (209) 982-5710.

IMPORTANT DATE: SATURDAY, MARCH 29, Bishop’s Burse, St. Anthony’s Manteca, Br. 139, 11am. More details next month.

Karen Rosson



Members of the Stockton District enjoyed a 25 pound panettone at its District Installation. Grand President Bob Basuino had the pleasure of unveiling the dessert.

Modesto

St. Stanislaus, Br. 48

Thanks to the branches that came early to help us set up for the installation. You came in asked what had to be done. I gave you a diagram of what was planned and within minutes the tables were in place, the table cloths and decorations were on the tables and the flatware and napkins were all there. Then you helped with setting up the food and drinks.

Your help was very much appreciated as was the help of Branch 48 members who made the appetizers and the branches that provided the dessert. Thanks also to those who helped with the mass.

The St. Joseph's Table will be March 16, 2014 at 2:00pm. Mark the date on your calendar and join us for some great food and fun raffle. It is potluck so bring your favorite dish, family and friends.

Mass for our deceased members will be Sunday February 2, 2014 and March 2, 2014 8:00am at the Maze Blvd. Church

Coming up:

Feb. 12 -- 7:00pm Meeting – St. Stanislaus Hall 7th and K Streets

Feb. 16 -- 1:30pm District Meeting Br 390 Tracy

Mar. 12 -- 7:00pm Meeting – St. Stanislaus Hall 7th and K Streets

Mar. 16 -- 2:00pm St. Joseph's Table Celebration St. Stanislaus Hall 7th & K Streets

Mar. 29 -- 11:00am Bishop's Burse – Br. 139 St. Anthony's Manteca

Cecelia McGhee

Manteca

N.S. Buon Viaggio, Br. 139

Our officers were formally installed in January at St. Stanislaus in Modesto. Father Sam gave a very nice Mass. Grand President Bob Basuino conducted the installation ceremony. He and other Central Council member did a very professional job. We would like to thank them for coming and participating. We would also like to thank Br. 48 for holding the installation and the lunch. The lunch was delicious.

The new officers are working on the plans for hosting the Bishop's Burse on Saturday, March 29, at 11:00am. We hope that there will be a large group of people coming to this. We encourage the presidents in our District and elsewhere to invite their members to attend.

The tickets are \$25. each. Please call Anna Mello, 209 982 5458, for tickets or information.

Our next big fundraiser will be the "All you can eat Shrimp" dinner on April 26, 2014 in the St. Anthony's Gym. Tickets will be



Branch 390 celebrated its "Cancer Survivors" that were at the Christmas meeting and dinner. Audrey Gaia, Rita Baretta, Dolores Nunes, Dominic Nunes, Sister Mary, Annette Elissagaray, Carol Silva, Maxie Millingar.

available next month.

Our next meeting is February 25, 2014 in the St. Anthony's School Cafeteria at 6:30pm. Hope to see you there!

Have a nice Valentine's Day. Spread your Love to all your families, friends and ICF members.

Ida Queirolo

Tracy

St. Bernard, Br. 390

We had an excellent turnout for our traditional Christmas dinner meeting on the 12th of December. Special visitor from the North Pole, Santa Claus, had treats for all the children and took photos with them. Another special photo had Santa with our cancer survivors who were at the meeting.

Our monthly dinner meeting on January 23 featured polenta and chicken cacciatore. We also held the initiation of the new 2014 officers and members at this meeting.

Our Branch 390 will be hosting the Stockton District Meeting on Sunday, February 16.

Our next dinner meeting on February 27 will be honoring Wedding Anniversaries.

Coming up:

February 16 - 1:30pm - Stockton District Meeting - Father Fleming Hall, St. Bernard's Church

February 27 - 6:00pm - monthly Dinner Meeting - Father Fleming Hall, St. Bernard's Church

Wishing everyone a Happy, Safe and Healthy New Year!

Betty Hollars

Stockton

Presentation of the BVM, Br. 395

Branch 395 welcomed January 2014 with its first meeting on January 9. We enjoyed a wonderful dinner of pizza, wine, dessert and coffee. We were honored to have as our special guests Leonard Rossi, Branch 343, Life Member Central Council, Past Grand President and Nello Rossi, Branch 223 Life Member Emeritus. Four new members were initiated: Geoff Lin-Cerechino, Mary Ann Piana Chapman, Lori Arena, and Patricia Bertilacchi. Leonard Rossi assisted with the initiation. Nello Rossi led us in the Noi Vogliam Dio.

Upcoming events are:

February 13 -- , Polenta Dinner in the Com-

munity Center, 6:0pm

February 16, District Meeting - St. Bernard's, Tracy

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

We hope 2014 is starting out wonderful for everyone with much health and blessings. *Josephine Weber, President*

Angels Camp

St. Patrick, Br. 413

Congratulations to all our new officers. Theirs is the responsibility to carry the organization forward. May they serve with enthusiasm.

We are having our Valentine's Dinner Dance on February 8. The menu consists of prime rib and roasted potatoes with mixed vegetables. For dessert, we have a delicious lemon cake. The price for the tickets is \$25.00. Drinks are included in the price. The event starts at 5pm. As this is a family organization, we encourage children to attend. There is no charge for the children. Their menu consists of chicken nuggets and apple slices with cupcakes for dessert. There will be dancing to romantic music provided by Rich Rinaldi.

I would like to take a moment to remember Dan Darby. He passed on to a better life this past November after a battle with cancer. I was given the honor to speak a few words at his internment, and chose to read the ICF's Farewell to a Member prayer. It is a beautiful



Branch 395 initiated new members at its first meeting of the year. Past Grand President Leonard Rossi joined the branch for the meeting. Seen here are Leonard Rossi, Geoff Lin-Cerechino, Josephine Weber, Mary Ann Piana Chapman, Lori Arena, Patricia Bertilacchi and Nello Rossi.

prayer. Although in some branches it may be said too often, I encourage everyone to read it. This prayer is very special to us, as it belongs only to the members of the Italian Catholic Federation. Many members have departed this life with a tremendous love for the ICF. We should not forget this as we think of the future of this organization. We will always remember Dan and his special beans that he would cook for our events. May God bless his family.

Ciao,

Robert Pachinger

Correspondence Secretary

Tucson

Green Valley

Our Lady of the Valley, Br. 425

What is better on a cold winter evening than homemade soup? We enjoyed 3 different soups at our dinner meeting as well as salad, rolls and dessert. Thanks to Sue Simms and her "crew". During our dinner, Bob Burdick as wife Sue showed slides of the White Elephant Parade and our Corporate Communion breakfast. Bob then explained the use of church bells.

We have hit the new year full-steam ahead. We have our "Sit-down Lasagna Dinner" on February 15 as well as some carry-outs. This means every member will be working hard either selling tickets, making cookies, decorating, helping in the kitchen, serving or manning the take outs. This is a BIG money maker for us and it is also lots of fun to work together on this.

We will be traveling up to Ss. Peter and Paul in Tucson for Bishop's Day and Installation of Officers. As part of the picnic our group will provide macaroni salad. Yummy! as it goes well with sausage and pepper sandwiches.

A fun event is planned for the end of February.

Central Council member Jim Acitelli gave a brief report and a reading by Pope Francis which is quoted in his Apostolic Committee article in the February Bolletino.

Don't forget Valentine's Day and share a hug with someone just to show you care!

We hope you all stay warm as we look forward to more sunshine here in Green Valley!

Bette Acitelli, Reporting

Tucson**Fr. Eusebio Kino, Br. 433**

Since we did not have a meeting in December we took a breather before heading into the new year and the plans for our Branch.

We are also looking forward to Bishop's Day and Installation on Saturday, February 1 as we will be the hosts for the event. The dinner afterwards will be an "Italian Picnic" theme and with the winter season this will be a fun filled evening with a taste of summer.

New officers will be assuming their duties and planning a year of activities for us! We look forward to getting together again at our Branch meetings.

Don't forget Valentine's Day and give everyone a special smile or a big hug! Love you all!

Bette Acitelli, Recording Secretary

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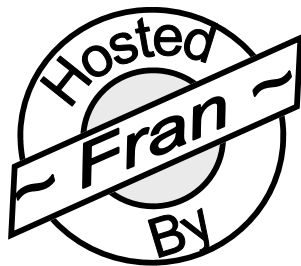
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Join Covina Hills Travel on an exciting GREEK ISLAND ADVENTURE OCT 9-20, 2014

\$3199* PPDO: Includes airfare,
*Airport Taxes/Security Fees Included

- * **ROUND-TRIP AIRFARE** from LAX
- * Meeting and assistance upon arrival in Athens.
- * **10 NIGHTS IN GREECE** visiting
- * Athens, Mykonos, Santorini & Crete staying at 4-Star Air-Conditioned Hotels:
- * **2 Nights Athens**, PRESIDENT hotel
- * **3 Nights Mykonos**, MYKONOS PALACE
- * **2 Nights Santorini**, SANTORINI PALACE
- * **3 Nights Crete**, HERONISSOS MARIS
- * **15 MEALS:**
- * 10 Buffet Breakfasts & 5 Dinners (1 Welcome & 1 Farewell Dinner at the hotel in Athens, and 3 Dinners in Crete)
- * 1/2 day Sightseeing city tour of Athens including the Acropolis.
- * Ferry tickets between Islands.
- * Airfare between Heraklion, Crete, & Athens
- * Round-trip transfers on every Island. Services of a local English-speaking representative throughout the trip.
- * Baggage handling.
- * All hotel taxes & service charges.



Offer Expires 15Apr14

Covina Hills Travel

Your Catholic Travel agents, Fran, Pete & Ron DeRuyter (owners)

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