



# BOLLETTINO



## Congratulations to Branch 198 Celebrating its 50th Anniversary



Branch 198 Charter Members celebrating 50 years are Mary Desideri, Rose Anderson, and Kathy and Robert Acquistapace.

Ninety people attended the 50th Anniversary dinner for St. Eugene's Branch 198 in

Santa Rosa on January 9, 2016. In attendance were Grand President Leonard Zasoski, Jr., Grand 2nd Vice President Vince Piro, Grand



Grand President Leonard Zasoski, Jr. presents Robert Acquistapace with an ICF 50 Year small banner for the branch banner.

Secretary Lauren Kilcullen, Grand Trustee Anne Interrante, Past Grand President Carmen Kilcullen, Past Grand President and President of Branch 198 Robert Acquistapace. Central Council Parliamentarian and Past Grand President David Botta served as the Master of Ceremonies.

## Grand President's Monthly Message

by Leonard Zasoski, Jr.

*It is traditional to run the Grand President's Installation speech in the February issue of the Bollettino. Enjoy!*

Dear ICF Members,

I would like to thank the newly elected officers from throughout the Federation. Your commitment to be leaders in your branches and districts is greatly appreciated.

Over the past several years the Central Council has seen a need to strengthen and rejuvenate the Federation. The process for doing this has come about through our Strategic Plan. We are currently entering the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of a 3-year plan. The first year and the first quarter of this year have been about working with the districts and branches in achieving our core strategies that came about through the Strategic Plan. Each of those core strategies Membership Growth & Retention, Leadership, Finances, Community Connections (Establishing connections with our Parish and Community) is vital to the well-being of all branches.



Membership growth and retention will be a major focus throughout the Federation during 2016, for bringing in new members and retaining our existing members. Our goal with the Strategic Plan this year is to have each branch conduct a membership drive. The Membership and Task Force Committees, headed by Nina Malone and Vince Piro, are there to help, if needed, with your membership drive; please contact them for assistance. The leaders within your branch must play a proactive role in this endeavor, and as was stated in the Strategic Plan Workshop, current leaders should always be looking for their replacement in future years to maintain the energy in their branch and to infuse new ideas for a strong Federation.

Sometimes we tend to think "are we really making a difference with what we do as an organization, in our parish community and beyond, by not only our actions but also with the funds we raise within our branch or district?" Here are a few examples of what the Italian Catholic Federation has done and continues to do on a national level.

### Scholarship Program

In 2015 the ICF gave 185 first-year scholarships for \$74,000 and 43 2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> year scholarships for \$25,600 which comes to a total of \$99,600 from donations by you, our members.

Since the inception of the Scholarship Program, over 5,500 scholarships have been given, totaling over 2 million dollars for deserving college students, who are the future of our country.

## Make Your Reservations for "Late Night Catechism"

Attention Class: The ICF Central Council proudly presents "Late Night Catechism," a raucous, rollicking international hit comedy coming to Holy Names University Regent's Theatre in Oakland, California.

Late Night Catechism will be presented at Holy Names University Regent's Theatre, 3500 Mountain Blvd., Oakland, California. Performance date is Saturday, April 16 at 7pm. Wine and cheese reception will begin at 5:30pm. Tickets are \$40.00 for the mezzanine and \$50.00 for the orchestra and box seats. Discounts are available for groups of 10 or more and are available by calling Brown Paper

Tickets at 1-800-838-3006 ext. 1, or ordering online at

<http://ICFLNC.brownpapertickets.com>

Catechism classes are never as much fun - or as hilarious - as when they are led by Sister in the hit comedy "Late Night Catechism," by Vicky Quade and Maripat Donovan.

"Late Night Catechism" is an uproarious piece of theater that takes audience members back - sometimes nostalgically, sometimes fearfully - to the children they once were. The irrepressible Sister teaches an adult catechism class to a roomful of "students" (the audience). Over the course of the play, Sister goes from benevolent instructor, rewarding



the "students" for correct answers with glow-in-the-dark rosaries and laminated saint cards, to authoritative drill sergeant. These abrupt mood swings are bound to strike a resonant chord with everyone who survived the ups and downs of going to school, with an omniscient authoritarian at the helm.

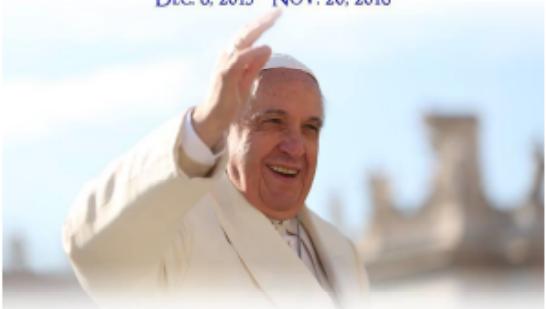
TIME SENSITIVE: PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY!

**Save the Dates:**  
**September 2 - 5, 2016**

**ICF National Convention**

**Fresno, California**

Theme:  
*Called To Be Merciful*



**EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE OF MERCY**  
DEC. 8, 2015 - NOV. 20, 2016

"IT WILL BE A HOLY YEAR OF MERCY."  
-POPE FRANCIS

2016 Convention Director: Roselynn Jarrett - Committee: Reverend Monsignor Daniel Cardelli, Denise Antonowicz, James Jones, Lauren Kilcullen, Franklyn Lopes, Deborah Rodondi - Advisor: Steven Fuentes - Assistant: Nettie Descalzo-Del Nero - Member-at-Large: Fresno District President Allen Watts

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**BOLLETTINO**

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# Lent, Here So Soon!

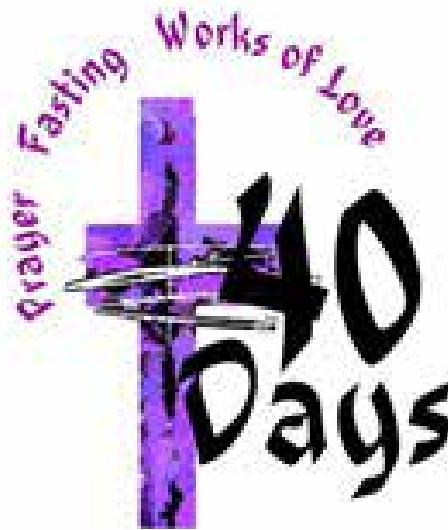
Monsignor Daniel Cardelli  
Spiritual Director ICF

We just celebrated Christmas and now Lent is soon upon us. "Time flies," as the saying goes. It seems to go faster the older we get. Lent this year is early. It starts on Ash Wednesday, February 10, 2016, a day of strict fast and abstinence for those who qualify. It officially ends on the evening of Holy Thursday. Lent is followed by the Triduum. Starting with the Mass of the Lord's Supper on the evening of Holy Thursday, continuing through the Good Friday service and Holy Saturday, and concluding with vespers (evening prayer) on Easter Sunday, the Easter Triduum marks the most significant event of Holy Week, the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

During Lent we have a great opportunity to make our personal relationship to Christ really come alive.

We do this by prayer. We make a greater effort to talk with Jesus. This strengthens our friendship with Him. We think twice before we hurt our dear Friend.

We do this also by penance. Penance means different things to different people. To some



it means giving up something we really like to make up for our sins and thereby make us stronger against temptation. For others it means doing something difficult that we don't really want to do. For example, some people really like fish, so for them to eat fish on Fridays in Lent is no penance at all. I know someone who is a strict vegetarian, you might say even a vegan. To do penance on Good Friday he eats a steak, which for him is a real penance. In other words, saying no to something that in



itself is good can make us stronger to say no to something that is bad. Through our Lenten sacrifice, our friendship with Jesus becomes more intimate.

Jesus, who is God our Savior, suffered and died for us so that we will have life with Him in eternity. Lent is our turn to show our love for Him for His infinite love and mercy. He forgives us our sins and is merciful to us always. In Lent we can show our love for Him by special acts of mercy to others by practicing the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. May this Lent, during the Year of Mercy, bring us closer to Christ and Christ closer to us.

## Membership Retention -- Part 1

Nina Malone

Membership Chairperson

**F**orrest Price – Central Council Member Emeritus, originally wrote this article in May 2014. As we begin to settle into 2016, I opted to rerun his article in the next two issues as a gentle reminder; not only of the responsibilities and tasks branch officers have agreed to take on, but of how each and every member of the ICF plays a significant part in the success of the branch and its district. This kind of active participation and commitment from everyone is crucial as we strive to gain and retain members!

*Nina Malone – Membership Committee  
Chairperson*

**A**ll of the functions and activities of the Federation, its districts and branches have an impact on membership. And conversely, membership has a bearing on the ability of the Federation to sustain itself and fulfill its mission to aid the Catholic Church in saving souls and to aid our fellow man. At the branch level, membership is crucial to enable the branch to grow and play its role in the overall mission of the Federation.

Generally, most of the articles in the Bollettino from the Membership Committee have been devoted to the extremely important subject of methods of attracting and recruiting new members. However, this article is devoted to the very broad topic of membership retention. And, of course, the ultimate and ideal goal of membership retention should be efforts to retain members for life.

Whether or not a member becomes a life-long member certainly depends a great deal upon his or her rapport with fellow branch members, including the officers; the inner satisfaction of being part of a group that serves the Lord

and that achieves goals and objectives in a pleasant, enjoyable manner and harmonious atmosphere. Therefore, the conduct of all members and especially the branch officers towards one another is paramount. Here are some thoughts on the subject:

Membership Committee – 1) The ideal is for every branch to have a Membership Committee composed of more than one or two members, including a Membership Chairperson. 2) The chairperson of the committee should be asked to attend the officers' meetings by the Branch President and to report on progress. 3) The Branch President should call on the Membership Chairperson to report his/her progress at every general meeting. 4) Members of the Membership Committee should continue to be mentors to new members for a substantial period of time

in order to introduce them to others, explain proceedings, answer their questions and make them feel that they are part of a dynamic and welcoming organization. 5) The Membership Committee should also encourage the new member to promptly become involved in the branch activities. 6) Within a year, the new members should be encouraged to at least accept one of the lower ranking offices and 7) Thereafter, the new member should be encouraged to accept higher offices if he/she has the ability and willingness to do so.

Participation in District and Central Council Events – A branch which truly wishes to retain members should support its District, the District special events and Central Council programs. The vibrant branch should also adopt projects to aid the parish and worthwhile charities. Programs of this nature should not be substituted for District and Central Council programs, but should be in addition to these programs.

## UPCOMING:

### 2016 Bishops' Days:

- Feb. 13 Tucson
- Mar. 6 Stockton
- Mar. 13 Oakland – tent.
- Apr. 3 San Francisco (San Francisco, San Mateo & Marin)
- Jul. 31 Monterey (Central Coast)
- Nov. 6 Las Vegas

### 2016 District Installations:

- Feb. 9 Las Vegas
- Feb. 13 Tucson
- Feb. 20 Blessed Sacrament
- Feb. 21 Fresno

## Letter to the Editor:

Thank you to all my Italian Catholic Federation Friends!

You cannot imagine the shock and joy I experienced when I received so many get-well cards, masses, prayers, and phone calls from my many Italian Catholic Federation friends, especially my California friends!

Thank you to the Central Council Officers/Members for the mass and donation to the Sir Luigi and Lady Augusta Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund as well as the many get-well cards and notes.

Thank you also to the many Branch members who sent cards, offered prayers and masses. You never know the wide circle of friends you have until something like this happens. I saw my cardiologist today and no damage was done to the heart. I am wearing a heart monitor for the next two weeks and we will see where it goes from there; otherwise, I am doing well and Bette and I are moving forward in our daily life. Miss you all and thinking of you often. Thank you again, my friends, from the bottom of my heart!

*Jim Acitelli*

**Membership Stats as of**

**December 31, 2015: 10,070**

**Members as of July 1, 2015:**

10,074 = overall loss of 4 members

New: 363

Reinstated: 12

Transfer in/out: 37

Deceased: -105

Cancelled: -265

Non-payment 9

**High Five!**

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

Santa Barbara +82

Blessed Sacrament +35

Stockton +22

Santa Clara Valley +18

Fresno +11

## 2016 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 15<sup>th</sup> deadline. The winners' names for January 2016 and February 2016 will be printed in the March 2016 issue. The winners' names will also be available in the Bollettino Highlights on the I.C.F. website at [www.icf.org](http://www.icf.org) beginning with the March 2016 issue.

# Branching Out

Anne Interrante  
CC Grand Trustee,  
Public Relations Committee Member

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

**Branch 258, San Francisco, California** sponsors a Champagne Bingo Fundraiser.

Each year members from Branch 258 get together to plan their annual Champagne Bingo Fundraiser. Participants pay an entrance fee which includes a packet of bingo cards, a delicious catered luncheon, and of course champagne as well as other beverages.

And that's not all...there is also an amazing raffle. Members donate numerous prizes to the event, some of which are homemade items. The raffle is a way to involve members to donate and it's a lot of fun for the participants to win the great prizes. To top off the event, pull tabs are also sold which adds to the excitement of the day.

Members make sure to publicize the event in the parish bulletin and the local newspaper so everyone knows they are invited to attend. Funds raised help support the branch's many charities. Champagne, Bingo and a Raffle – definitely a fun event to try in your branch!

**Branch 368, San Jose, California** has a Friendly Golf Tournament with Neighboring Branch.

Many years ago, Branch 368 members started a friendly golf competition with another local ICF branch. Each branch would field a team and they would turn in a registration fee to play in the tournament.

Branch members meet up at the golf site and enjoy a day of sharing stories, laughter, and friendship while playing their nine holes. Branches take turns hosting the event and as a result decide the prizes and other event details.



As we all know, only one team can be the winner. So, members agreed that any extra funds raised would go to charity and that the winning team would select the recipient.

What a great idea to involve members in playing a game they enjoy, building friendship between other local branches and supporting a worthwhile charity at the same time!

**Branch 191, San Jose, California** came together and Built a Bocce Court.

About 14 years ago, Branch 191 member and Officer, Frank Guidace, had a dream of building a bocce court on the parish grounds. He wanted to instill camaraderie with Federation members, parishioners and in the local community.

Branch members, inspired by his idea, contributed funds and their time to construct not just one, but three bocce courts (with lighting), a covered picnic area, a horseshoe pit, and bathroom facilities. Barbecue grills are also available at the site.

For a rental fee, ICF members, parishioners and people from the local community can utilize the bocce courts for tournaments, events or just to gather together to socialize and play. The courts are managed and maintained by ICF members and revenues are donated to the parish.

As part of their apostolate program, the bocce courts are used for free by the parish elementary school children during their physical education classes. By the time each student graduates from the school, each of them know how to play bocce, compliments of the ICF.

Take a look at your parish property and see if there might be room to establish your own branch bocce court. What a fun way to bring people together of all generations!

## 2016 1<sup>st</sup> Year Scholarship Program

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

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

These are the eligibility requirements for students:

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

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

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

# ICF HISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

## Who Was Dr. Joseph Middleton? Read on and Find Out

David Botta and Carmen Kilcullen  
Past Grand Presidents

We hope that all our readers had a Happy New Year!!!

Every year, at the ICF National Convention, various awards are presented to deserving people in certain categories. We thought that, for the next few issues, we would spotlight these awards and the very first persons who received them.

This month we feature the Pope St. John XXIII Award. This award is presented by the Grand President at the Saturday evening banquet at the annual convention.

The Pope St. John XIII Award is given to an outstanding layperson of any denomination who exemplifies one or more of the following:

- Community betterment
- Ecumenical spirit
- Religious and moral leadership
- Cultural/educational contribution

At the 1970 convention in San Francisco, Dr. Joseph Middleton of San Luis Obispo, CA., became the first person to receive this newly established award. He was chosen over 26 other candidates. Dr. Middleton was born in Missouri in 1903. After his early college years, he joined the U.S. Navy as a pharmacist's mate. Upon his discharge from the Navy, he attended the Medical School at the University of Southern California. After practicing medicine in the Los Angeles area for a number of years, he moved to San Luis Obispo in 1940 where he began his general practice as a private physician, a position he held for the rest of his life.

Dr. Middleton was always interested in mental health and became quite knowledgeable in this field. He was a leader in the mental health programs of his community. After hearing about the Mayo Brothers' multi-specialty clinic, he and a fellow doctor established the San Luis Medical Center based on the Mayo Clinic's concepts. Also, concerned about alcoholism and its effects on society, in 1966, he initiated a halfway house for alcoholics, which was named "Middlehouse" in his honor. It is still in operation to this day. Its sole purpose is to help men who suffer from chemical dependency achieve lasting and successful sobriety.

Dr. Middleton died in 1978, leaving behind a legacy of humanitarian works in his chosen profession.

Later winners have included people from the entertainment world, social services and political arena.

### Convention – 2015

At the Las Vegas Convention in 2015, the latest recipient of the Pope St. John XIII Award was

Bradley James. He worked with Mother Teresa for over a decade, serving with her and her missionaries in orphanages and AIDS care homes. Mother Teresa encouraged Bradley to write inspirational music based on her words and prayers. The ICF was very proud to present this award to Bradley James.

If someone has a person in mind who may fit the criteria for this award, nomination forms may be obtained from the ICF office or on the website at [icf.org](http://icf.org).

## The Ways and Means Committee announces the Theme for the 2017 Fundraiser "Daily Raffle" as:

### "Italian Catholic Federation Branch and District Heritages"

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

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

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

The price schedule will be as follows:

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

The deadline for the names and payments will be May 1, 2016

Please mail your information with a check payable to the I.C.F. to:

Italian Catholic Federation  
8393 Capwell Dr., Suite 110  
Oakland, CA 94621

The Committee thanks you for your continued support!

Chairperson: Lisa Crudo

Members: Franklyn Lopes Jr., and Leonard Rossi

For questions, please call the I.C.F. office at (510) 633-9058 or Lisa Crudo (510) 861-983

## Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations\*

### IN MEMORY OF:

Joseph Marques  
Ezzio Mazzei  
Bernardino Dodson  
Margaret Howarth  
Lynette Monroe  
Eva Ceccotti  
Mary La Tona  
James DeVito  
Velma Bruschini  
Liz Griffith  
Jennie Vastila  
Mary Crivello  
Trevis Berry  
Olga Basso  
Olga Basso  
Kay Lucio  
Al Laivo

### DONATED BY:

Russ and Louise Vento  
Officers/Members of Br. 21  
Officers/Members of Br. 21  
Officers/Members of Br. 327  
Giovanni and Nancy Corsi  
Officers/Members of Br. 161  
Officers/Members of Br. 45  
Officers/Members of Br. 45  
Teri and Steve Hurlbut  
Officers/Members of Br. 343  
Officers/Members of Br. 343  
Bella and Ed Leonard  
Jim and Janice Jones  
Officers/Members of Br. 1  
Robert and Theresa Dianda  
Vic and Pat Arnaudo  
Al and Deanna De Nurra

### GET WELL WISHES:

Jacqueline Escobar Officers/Members of Br. 290  
James Acitelli Officers/Members of Central Council  
Bob and Theresa Dianda Bob Basuino  
Jim Acitelli Mike and Marcie Rossi

### IN CELEBRATION OF 40 YEARS ORDAINED TO THE PRIESTHOOD:

Reverend George Aranha Joan and Jerry Delfino  
Fr. George Aranha Michael and Lorraine Nunziata  
Fr. George Aranha John and Noreen Gillio

### CONGRATULATIONS:

New Grand President Leonard Zasoski, Jr. Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Dianda

### IN HONOR OF:

Past Grand President Bob Basuino Paul and Dolores Blefari

### HAPPY 80<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY:

Mr. Jim Jones Bob Basuino

### MERRY CHRISTMAS WISHES:

Mr. Bill Wilkinson Emily Corral  
Rev. Monsignor Joseph Milani Jim and Janice Jones  
Emily Corral Jim and Janice Jones

### IN SUPPORT OF THE PROVIDENZA FUND:

\*\*\*A donation was made to the Providenza Fund by Jim Witherspoon of Br. 173 - Burlingame.\*\*\*

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

## Gifts of Love Donations

### Donations Received By January 10, 2016

Branch 5	Joan Delfino
Branch 21	Get well wishes for James Acitelli
Branch 115	Arthur Bree
Branch 154	In memory of Yolanda Arnaudo
Branch 391	Mr. Charles P. Gullo, Jr.
Branch 438	In memory of Joseph Kuzinich
Romano Zan	Vic and Pat Arnaudo
In memory of Giuseppe Perrone	In memory of Olga Basso
Bill and Maria Greco	Ms. Mary Zadra
In honor of the 70 <sup>th</sup> birthday of Frank	In memory of Olga Basso
Delisle	Officers/Members of Br. 403
Bill and Maria Greco	In memory of Kay Lucio
Merry Christmas wishes for Susan Greco	Officers/Members of Br. 403
Nettie Descalso-Del Nero	In memory of Ada Mocelin
Get well wishes for Jim Acitelli	

## IRS AND STATE OF CALIFORNIA FRANCHISE TAX BOARD

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

\*\*\*THIS IS IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND MUST BE STRICTLY FOLLOWED\*\*\*

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

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

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

\*\*\*\*\*

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

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

*Thank You,*

*Deborah Rodondi, Grand Treasurer*

## Cooley's Anemia Donations

### Donations received by January 10, 2016

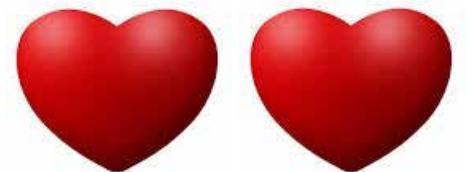
Branch 21	Roger Santos
Branch 154	Thank you to Christine Andrade for all of your support this past year
Manuel and Ana Lucas	Roger Santos
Roger Santos	Thank you to Angelo Benassi for all of your support this past year
Thank you to Gennaro Filice for all of your support this past year	Roger Santos
Roger Santos	Thank you to Andy Pappani for all of your support this past year
Thank you to Joe Fortino for all of your support this past year	Roger Santos
Roger Santos	Thank you to Diana Berry for all of your support this past year
Thank you to Anna Barberi for all of your support this past year	Mr. and Mrs. Frank Segreto, Sr.
Roger Santos	In memory of Thomas Tanner
Thank you to Frank and Louise Segreto for all of your support this past year	Mr. and Mrs. Frank Segreto, Jr.
Roger Santos	In memory of Thomas Tanner
Thank you to Marianne Peoples for all of your support this past year	Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Healy
Roger Santos	In memory of Thomas Tanner
Thank you to Louie and Pat Cordich for all of your support this past year	Angelo Benassi
Roger Santos	In memory of Trevis R. Berry
Thank you to John Filice for all of your support this past year	Officers/Members of Br. 28
	In memory of Trevis Berry
	Louie and Pat Cordich
	In memory of Trevis Berry
	Jeanette and Dean Hudson
	In memory of Trevis Berry

### Scholarship Donations

#### Donations received by January 10, 2016.

#### Scholarship Donations - 1<sup>st</sup> Year

Giulia Gallego  
In memory of Trevis R. Berry



## In Loving Memory

Report Date: 01/13/2016

OLGA I BASSO	Branch 001	ALDA SALVADORINI	Branch 121
AVE LOVI	Branch 007	EVA J CECCOTTI	Branch 161
HAZEL ORIO	Branch 010	LUCIA BASSO	Branch 163
ROSALIE CAVALLARO	Branch 013	FLORENCE A GALLI	Branch 163
MARY PIERCE	Branch 019	ANGELO CAMOZZI	Branch 209
BERNARDINE DODSON	Branch 021	BONNIE J HIGGINS	Branch 209
EZZIO MAZZEI	Branch 021	ANNE SANCHIETTI	Branch 209
MARY M CRIVELLO	Branch 036	IRMA JANOSIK	Branch 218
MARY LA TONA	Branch 045	BEATRICE M BERTANA	Branch 258
GIOVANNI DI MEGLIO	Branch 115	AGNES L BROWN	Branch 261
LUCY GRIECO	Branch 115	JENNIE M VASTILA	Branch 343
TOM IACONO	Branch 115	JOAN J FURTSCH	Branch 379
NORMA KASMER	Branch 121	JOSEPHINE VIVALDI	Branch 425
		VITO GRAZIANO	Branch 439

## Benvenuti Membri Nuovi

Report Date: 01/13/2016

REV LIVIO STELLA	Branch 004	EDWARD J RUSSO	Branch 184
LOUISE VIGNA	Branch 010	BRENDA J PETUYA	Branch 209
KAREN WATSON	Branch 010	DOMINIC R PETUYA	Branch 209
LUKE WATSON	Branch 010	RICHARD J PETUYA	Branch 209
KAYLEY WOODS	Branch 013	HELENE BILLECI	Branch 214
MELANIE WOODS	Branch 013	IRENE MOORE	Branch 214
GERI CALLAHAM	Branch 028	KARL KANE	Branch 230
TIM CALLAHAM	Branch 028	TED DEMBEK	Branch 354
JIM MASNER	Branch 028	EVA VALENTIN	Branch 354
KATHLEEN MASNER	Branch 028	VINCENT VALENTIN	Branch 354
PAULETTE M VOLPA	Branch 032	ALEXANDRA P RODRIGUEZ	Branch 379
GUS CONSANI	Branch 033	AMANDA R RODRIGUEZ	Branch 379
MONICA B CARRILLO	Branch 036	MICHAEL A RODRIGUEZ	Branch 379
CORALYN J COBLE	Branch 036	REBECCA A RODRIGUEZ	Branch 379
FILIPPO D'AQUANNO	Branch 036	PATRICIA BEGLAU	Branch 395
JOANNE D'AQUANNO	Branch 036	ROSE E CORONADO	Branch 395
JOSEPH P DRAGOTTO	Branch 036	MELODY CIARAVINO	Branch 416
SHARON G GLEASON	Branch 036	ROBERT K ANDREWS	Branch 425
KATHI MORRIS	Branch 036	EDWARD BARTON	Branch 425
TRACY OLSEN	Branch 036	MARY BARTON	Branch 425
JUDY M RYAN	Branch 036	CAROL J BRUZZI	Branch 425
DIANE SALOMONE	Branch 036	MARY ANN J JORDAN	Branch 425
VICKI L SCHAFFBUCH	Branch 036	LARRY KOSSAK	Branch 425
REV V OMMAR SOLIS	Branch 036	PAT KOSSAK	Branch 425
LETTY J STRACUZZI	Branch 036	JEFF SANSON	Branch 425
BYRON WASHBURN	Branch 036	KAREN SANSON	Branch 425
NANCY WASHBURN	Branch 036	NIKKI VALDEZ	Branch 425
CODY A SCHARER	Branch 052	JAN SEAGREN	Branch 435
DAVID A SCHARER	Branch 052	STAN SEAGREN	Branch 435
REBECCA J SCHARER	Branch 052	JODI BONNEY	Branch 433
VALERY M SCHARER	Branch 052	ANNA DUTRA	Branch 443
JOHN J FALANGETTI	Branch 115	JACQUELINE M DUTRA	Branch 443
PATRICIA C FALANGETTI	Branch 115	JULIE HORTON	Branch 433
BRANDON HARLON	Branch 184	JOSH C LIPKING	Branch 443
ANDREA MACCATO PhD	Branch 184	MELISSA M LIPKING	Branch 443
VICTORIA NGUYEN	Branch 184	ROCCO LIPKING	Branch 443
		SOFIA LIPKING	Branch 443

## Things to Ponder

“All you need is love. But a little chocolate now and then doesn't hurt.”

Charles M. Schulz

## La Celebrazione di Gioventu -- The Celebration of Youth Lent Begins February 10

Submitted by Roselynn Jarrett

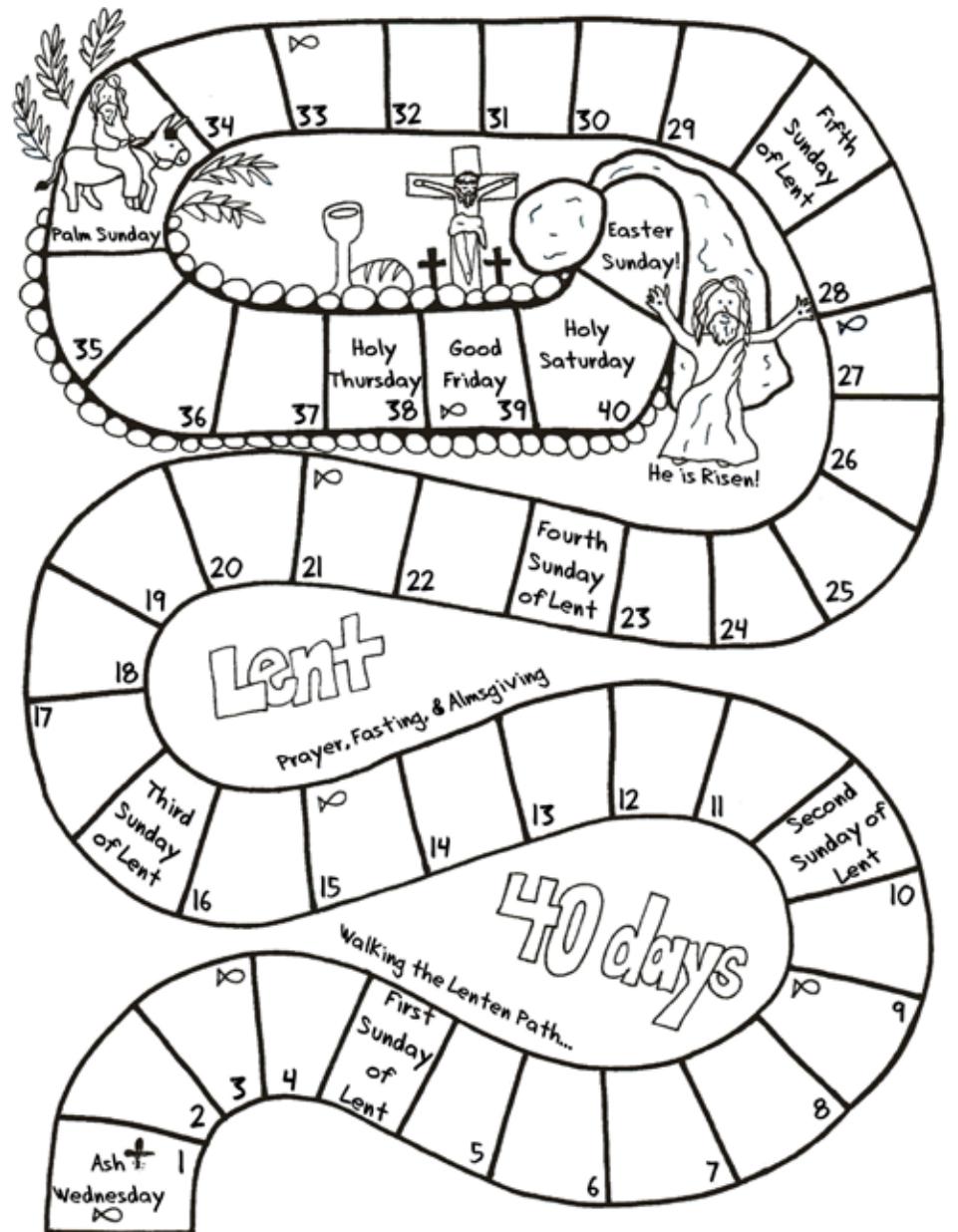
Central Council Life Member

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. At church, you will have a cross “drawn” on your forehead. The cross is made of ashes, which come from the palms that are leftover from last year's Palm Sunday mass. The ash is mixed with olive oil. Lent takes place for 40 days.

Color the photo.  
(Right)



Track your Lenten journey with the calendar. (below)



# Family Recipes

By Deborah Rodondi  
CC Grand Treasurer

In celebration of your Valentine, surprise them by making one or both of these recipes below. The first recipe is for RED VELVET CAKE. I got this recipe many years ago from a New York friend, who is a wonderful cook. At the time I had never heard of red velvet cake. Today it is a specialty cake.

## Red Velvet Cake

1 ½ cups sugar  
½ cup shortening  
2 eggs  
2 cups flour  
1 tsp. salt  
1 Tbls. cocoa  
1 cup buttermilk  
1 ½ or 2 oz. red food coloring  
1 tsp. vanilla  
1 tsp. baking soda, dissolved in 1 Tbls. white vinegar

Cream sugar and shortening; add eggs and beat well. Sift flour, salt and cocoa (3 times) and add alternately with buttermilk to creamed mixture. Add vanilla and food coloring. Fold soda and vinegar in (DO NOT BEAT).

Bake in 3 pans (8") that have been greased and floured for about 20-25 minutes at 350 degrees. May be baked in two 9" pans for 25-30 minutes.

## Red Velvet Cake Frosting

¼ cup flour  
¼ tsp. salt  
1 cup milk  
Mix and cook slowly over low heat until very thick....cool thoroughly with refrigeration.  
1 cup butter  
1 cup sugar

Cream at high speed until fluffy. Add cooled milk and flour mixture and beat well (it will look like whipped cream).

Add: 2 tsp. vanilla, mix.

Frost cake, garnish with coconut or nuts if desired. Frosting can be refrigerated or frozen until ready to use. Good on any cake that whipped cream is good on.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Fudge

In a large bowl put:  
½ pound melted butter (can lessen to ¼ pound)  
1 cup chopped nuts (can increase to 2 cups)  
1 tsp. vanilla  
1 package (12 ounce) chocolate chips  
In a heavy sauce pan put:  
2 cups sugar  
1 small evaporated milk  
10 large marshmallows (or 50 small ones)

Let this come to a boil, and boil for 6 minutes exactly, stirring constantly. Put this over the mixture in the bowl, until the chocolate is dissolved. Stir well and pour over waxed paper or parchment paper while still hot, otherwise it will be difficult to remove from the bowl.

NOTE: This is the best fudge, I have found no other to compare to it! We called it by a major candy company name. My mom got this recipe in the 50's from someone that worked in that company. Is the recipe from the company? I will never know, but it can hold it's own with anything they turn out. So instead of going out and buying chocolates for your valentine this year....why not make it!!!!

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

Here is to wonderful adventures in the kitchen. Next month I will share some soup recipes that will warm you during these winter days.

Buon Appetito!

## BOOK REVIEW

Vince Piro  
Grand 2nd  
Vice President

## Waiting for Yesterday: Pages from a Street Kid's Life

By Michael Parenti

Bordighera Press, 2013, 155 pages

Michael Parenti describes his book, *Waiting for Yesterday: Pages from a Street Kid's Life*, perfectly when he writes, "Herein you will find vignettes of my working-class neighborhood, family, school, religion, and Italian-American ethnic identity . . . Within these pages I offer personal reflections, sometimes as the critical observer and other times as the active participant . . . This is a wide ranging personal memoir seasoned with commentary about broader social realities . . ." The book consists of very brief (usually a couple of pages or less) vignettes describing Parenti's childhood as he grew up in Italian Harlem in New York. They describe his life as a young Italian American in the last century, a time when the Italian-American neighborhood and family still consisted of newly arrived immigrants and their more Americanized children and grandchildren.

The vignettes give Parenti a vehicle for providing his ideas and opinions on a variety of social issues and matters. The book is broken into ten parts each revolving around a theme, such as family, community, school, coming of age, politics and mass media. Each chapter contains several vignettes which use nostalgia as a medium for expressing the author's ideas and opinions. He often begins with a memory from his younger years (for example, a description of a grandparent or schoolteacher) and interlaces it with commentary. For example, in a vignette entitled "The Teacher Creature," Parenti describes a series of teachers from his elementary school days. There is "Miss Munster, who sat and glared at us with menacing eyes" who each day ate a "richly layered sandwich" in front of her poor, working class students. There is also "Grace A. Meyer, a high strung nail biting stocky woman in her late forties or early fifties, whose thick freckled hands swung out at us without warning, sending heads ringing and eyes tearing." However, moving beyond simple school memories, the author uses the occasion to comment on the use of "Ritalin and

all the other abusive and damaging psychomedications" that teachers and parents use today to deal with overly energetic children.

In another series of vignettes, Parenti describes his Italian grandmothers. He writes that "My father's mother, Grandma Maria, was a living prototype of her generation: a short squat woman who toiled endlessly in the home. She shared the common lot of Italian peasant women: cooking, cleaning, and tending to the family, with a fatalistic submergence of self." He also describes his maternal grandmother, Concetta, an independent mid-wife, who was wise in the ways of Italian folk medicine. These nostalgic chapters are followed by a memory in which his African-American friend describes his own grandmother. Parenti and his friend soon realize that their grandmothers are very much alike. This leads Parenti to end this section by commenting ". . . the underlying script of the human comedy is very much the same. Too bad we cannot readily live with that awareness, finding reassurance in our similarities and enjoyment in our differences." Memory and nostalgia lead to commentary about lessons learned in life.



Parenti also writes about Benito Mussolini, Vito Marcantonio, and other public figures from a progressive perspective that often sides with the poor and oppressed. He also comments on how the mass media creates Italian-American stereotypes, discussing the Guido stereotype, the Latin lover stereotype, and the Mafia don. Parenti concludes that "Ethnic stereotyping sometimes can predetermine who is and who is not designated an American." He then tells the tales of Mother Cabrini and Lucky Luciano and how each is viewed differently by the mass media and who is considered more American. The results might surprise you.

*Waiting for Yesterday* illustrates that memory can be a powerful channel for exploring one's ideas and thoughts on a wide-range of topics. As Parenti writes of the title of this collection, "I entitle this endeavor *Waiting for Yesterday* because even though yesterday has already been lived, we often seek to revisit it with fresh understanding. We rummage through a mute past hoping to extract fragments of experience and feelings that we can weave together in an engaging and meaningful way."

Michael Parenti received his Ph. D. from Yale University and is the author of over twenty-five books, including *The Michael Parenti Reader* (2007). His articles have been published in scholarly journals, popular magazines, newspapers, and online publications. He is also the winner of numerous awards from academic and community organizations.

## ICF Is Going Green!

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

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



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[www.colombococonstruction.com](http://www.colombococonstruction.com)

## Grand President

*continued from page 1*

### Providenza Fund

The Providenza Fund is a program that helps support seminarians in their training and education as our future priests throughout the Federation. This program began in 1981 to honor our founder Sir Luigi Providenza and his wife Lady Augusta. Over \$500,000 has been donated by our members since the start of the Providenza Fund for this great cause.

### Gifts of Love

The Gifts of Love Program was established in 1996 by Past Grand President and Life Member Emeritus Albert Teglia. This program came about as a way for members to help those in need, Catholic and Non-Catholic. Since the inception of this program, over \$510,794 in donations have been given by our members throughout the Federation and over \$454,850 has been donated to those in need.

### National Charity Cooley's Anemia

Since making Cooley's Anemia our National Charity back in 1983, the ICF members have donated over \$1,935,754. These funds have been used for research, an outreach program to work with the newly diagnosed and those ongoing patients, and for medical equipment to help with the testing and treatment of Cooley's Anemia. The Italian Catholic Federation is a major contributor to the Cooley's Anemia Program at Oakland's Children's Hospital.

We also have the Organ Donor and the Live to Give Programs. The Organ Donor Program was established to spread awareness to the members throughout the Federation to give the Gift of Life to help others. The Live to Give Program came about through our National Charity Cooley's Anemia in helping spread the word about the critical need for blood donations in all areas of the Federation.

Even with our national charities and all the good that they do throughout our Federation, it is your local branch and parish communities that benefit the most from you, the members. For without your dedication to your events, programs, fundraising, spiritual connection to your church, there would be a void if this is not maintained. The foundation of our Federation was built upon bringing those who had fallen away from the church back into the fold. With our branches we are keeping the members connected to their faith and so much more.

Over the past several months at the Bishop Day events, I have been told by each Bishop how much they enjoy the Italian Catholic Federation, all that we do in our local parishes and with our programs that helps those in need. One of the main items the Bishops wanted me to instill upon you, the members, is the need to engage the next generation of the Federation - our sons, daughters, grandsons, and granddaughters. We must invite and welcome them to become members so that they, along with us, will maintain a connection to our faith, just as we did at the beginning of the Italian Catholic Federation back in 1924. At the same time as we look to bring in family members we must also invite our fellow parishioners and friends to be a part of our ICF family.

May God Bless the Italian Catholic Federation and all her members throughout 2016.

*Grand President  
Leonard Zasoski, Jr.*

# Chicago

## River Forest

### St. Vincent Ferrer, Br. 358

When February arrives we at branch 358 concentrate on our St. Joseph table which is scheduled for March 13. Our entire February meeting will be devoted to preparing & honoring our St. Joseph on his feast day.

We will also be hosting our Mimosa Sunday on February 14, Valentines Day. We will also be having our first meeting of 2016 on February 16.

And last, but not least, a huge Grazie to our retiring Corresponding Secretary Catherine (Kay) Comisky for her devoted, non-tiring work as our Branch 358 Corresponding Secretary for 24 years! Kay took on so many jobs during those years out of the goodness of her heart and we are forever grateful to her. Kay, there will be no one like you but, thank goodness we can all enjoy your warm smile at the meetings, it's time for you to settle back and enjoy just being a member. Grazie, Grazie, Grazie!

Happy Birthday wishes to:

Dr. James Izzo

Dr. Santina Litturi

Get Well wishes to:

Teresa Cairo, John Corcoran, Gene Gillette, Dr. Santina Litturi & Marlow Comisky

*God bless all!*

*Cathy Neri*

# Fresno

## Madera

### Santissimo Crocifisso, Br. 27

Sixty members and guests enjoyed the Chicken and tri-tip brunch, at our annual Christmas Party held on December 13th at the Madera Municipal Golf Course. There was Christmas cheer, a raffle and we sang Christmas Carols to the delightful live accordion music played by Rick Del Carlo. This year our conga line snaked all around the ballroom to the "Chicken dance". Monty Pistoresi was our Master of Ceremonies and, as usual, was delightful and charming. Thanks Monty for everything you do for ICF and Madera, you do make the party special. A great big thank you to the December Committee for a wonderful afternoon: Chairmen: Ray & Louise Chiarelli; members Mike Chiarelli, Carol Chiarelli, Jack, Jennifer and Juliana Chiarelli, Elsie Bottorff, Monty & Leona Pistoresi, and Ila Schoettler. After the festivities a pick-up load of canned goods and toys, donated by the members, was delivered to the Holy Family Table. They will use or distribute the items to help feed the hungry families of Madera. Members are planning the sale of oranges at the Church in January. Please



Monty Pistoresi was the Branch 27 extra-special MC.



Sisters of the Immaculate Conception as special guests at the Branch 27 Christmas Party.



Branch 27 members and guests enjoying the Christmas brunch.

continue to pray for our sick members, especially Nathan Zanoni and his family.

*Ciao,*

*Kerin Cavallero*

## Merced

### St. Cecelia, Br. 39

Felice Festa di San Valentino! We hope many of our members can join us at our February 10<sup>th</sup> meeting when we celebrate the holiday with a "We Love Our Members" theme. We will honor members who have been with our branch for increments of five years and those who have been long time members. We even have one member, Katherine Cesario, who has been a member for 72 years! They will be our guests for the evening and we will give out certificates to them. We plan to make this an annual event. Please join us at the Italo Lodge at 6 pm for dinner of a pesto pasta dish, salad, wine and dessert. We also will present our 2016 budget. Our February dinner meeting is on Ash Wednesday and Deacon Chuck Reyburn will give us ashes at 5:45 before the meeting.

Please join us for our Fresno District Installation of new branch officers. Branch 39 will host with a 1:00 pm mass at St. Patrick's Church, followed by the installation and then lunch at the parish hall. Phone Robyn Piro, 209-658-3715, for tickets and reservations.

Anne Marie Bandoni, Kathleen Stefani and Stephanie Lucich are working with the Merced County Historical Society in preparation for the March 2017 exhibit showcasing the Italian immigration into Merced County. They will be contacting you for stories, photos and artifacts to use in the exhibit.

Remember our shut in and sick members with cards, visits and prayers.

*Cari Salute,*

*Stephanie Lucich*

## Sanger

### Sant' Antonio, Br. 70

Greetings from Branch 70 and Happy New Year!

We want to thank Ralph and Rosemary ymenga for hosting our Christmas party at their home in Dinuba. We all enjoyed a wonderful pot luck luncheon. Before lunch, Rosemary asked us to say The Lord's Prayer in each of our native languages. There was a combination of Italian, Spanish, Dutch and also Latin that could be heard. Each member brought a gift for an exchange and after lunch Ralph played Santa Claus and handed them out. We all had a wonderful time, and the meeting was filled with laughter and fun.

We held our nomination of officers last month also. We are lucky to have all our officers returning with Kay Lopez as our president once more.

On a sad note, we extend our heartfelt sympathy and prayers to our past president, Michael Quiroz, and family for the loss of his mother, Rita Quiroz. May she rest in peace.

We wish you all good health in this New Year.

*God Bless,*

*Orsolina Casella*

## Clovis

### Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Br. 250

We had a nice crowd at our Christmas Party December 6. Everyone brought delicious finger foods to eat; new recipes were exchanged; and good will and laughter was the setting for the evening.

January 5<sup>th</sup> was our Epiphany celebration. Betty Massa was the winner of the Baby Jesus in her cupcake, and with that, she won the right to bake next year's Epiphany cake. We had a White Elephant exchange and played the 'stealing' game



Branch 250, Clovis, Christmas Party. (Seated) Maxine & Wes Johnson, Vince Jura. (Standing L to R) Jennie Campopiano, John Rainaldi, Jeanette Couch, Melissa Squeo-Rodriguez, Betty Massa, Jessie Budd, Sarah Stanziale, Isabel Ronzano, Mary Moss, Madeline Conatser, Frank Pimentel, Linda Stockwell, Sylvia Dalton, Ron Travis, Sherrie Attolico, Ken Gray, Tony Rainaldi and Father Robert.

which made for lots of laughs. Everyone had a good time.

Our member, Gary Christensen passed away. Please pray for the repose of his soul, for his wife, Kathy, his daughter, Carlene, and the family.

Prayers are requested, too, for Sherrie Attolico and her family. Sherrie's brother passed away just recently.

"What we have once enjoyed we can never lose. All that we love deeply becomes a part of us." (Helen Keller)

We have missed Carol Rice at our meetings lately because she has been recovering from knee replacement surgery. Keep up with the therapy, Carol.

Breanne Stockwell, Linda Stockwell's daughter is now a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT). After years of education, 3,000 intern hours and two state tests, she has reached her goal. Her family is very proud of her.

Many happy returns to our January and February birthday celebrants. They are Verona DeLuca (1/6), Tony Rainaldi (1/2), Mark Schultz (1/17), Ron Travis (1/11), Sherrie Attolico (2/16), and Frank Pimentel (2/25).

"Love is like an hourglass, with the heart filling up as the brain empties." (Jules Renard)

Happy Valentine's Day, Everyone!

Ciao!

LeAnne Lavagnino

## Bakersfield

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

Our January meeting was the first ran by Crystal Watts as Branch 281's new president. Congrats President Crystal! You will bring a new light into our organization. The potluck meeting went well and it was a great start to the New Year. Thank you to everyone who attended and brought something to share!

The pancake breakfast and sausage sandwich lunch was a great success in January! Thanks to Gary Moles for spearheading this event, and to Allen Watts for making his famous Italian chili. The food was better than ever. Also, the many volunteers were very much appreciated—you all made the event possible.

Mardi Gras is coming early: January 31st! As always, our ICF branch will be running the games of chance. Contact George Carson to participate in this fun volunteering opportunity.

With the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday (February 10<sup>th</sup>), comes the beginning of the Knights of Columbus fish fry dinners! As usual, ICF will host the adult beverages. The first is on Ash Wednesday and then on every Friday during Lent. These dinners really are a great time to build community within our parish around a good meal. Hope to see you there!

Our February meeting will be on the 11<sup>th</sup>. Happy Valentine's Day!

Baci e abbracci,

Kristen Watts

## Fresno

### St. Anthony de Padua, Br. 308

Hello & Happy New Year Everyone.

1. Our monthly Branch 308 dinner meeting is this Wednesday 13 January 2016 at 6:00 pm at the Saint Anthony Social Hall with the following menu plans:

- Please bring a main dish if your last name begins with A through G

- If your last name begins with H through R kindly bring either a side dish or salad

- Fresh fruit or a dessert brought by those of you whose last name begins with S through Z

2. For 2016 officers, our January Board meeting will be Monday the 11th at the Saint Anthony's Social Hall. Members are also welcome to attend this meeting who would like to present before the board.

Our January 2016 agenda thus far is:

-Lenton Dinners

-September Convention

Please email back if you would like to add an agenda item, and kindly forward this email to anyone you think would like to know about these meetings.

We look forward to seeing you this week.

Cinde Oliphant & Carolyn Romersa

Branch 308 Secretaries



# Los Angeles

## Archdiocese District

### District Council

Congratulations to the 2016 District and Branch Officers of the Los Angeles Archdiocese District!

I wish to thank those attending the January 17, Officers Installation at St. Peter's Italian Church in Los Angeles. As always it was a special occasion. This year it was more so by the addition of our newest Branch #443, St. Gianna Baretta Molle, Simi Valley. A special thank you goes to the youngest members (ages 6 to 21+) who are taking active roles in our branches as youth officers and 'leaders'. Last, but not least thank you Past President Carmelo Sabatella for your love and dedication to ICF and especially to the Los Angeles Archdiocese District. You have successfully united four districts (regions) in to one large district with the common goals of Faith, Family and Friendship.

The main goal of 2016 will be to continue with the implementation of the Core Values of the ICF Strategic Plan. Emphasis will be on Core Value 1, Membership: Growth and Retention. The District will continue to be a source of education/awareness, guidance and support to all 19 Branches, their parishes and their communities. Los Angeles Archdiocese District will continue to support and promote two important sites: St. Peter Italian Church, Los Angeles and, the Mother Cabrini Chapel & Library in Burbank

Our next District General Meeting will be February 27, 2016, at St. Benedict Church, Montebello, 9:30 am to 12 pm. Happy Valentine Day!

Pat Mages

President

## South Pasadena

### Holy Family, Br. 108

Thank you members for making the Continental Breakfast on January 10th a success! Also Congratulations to ICF Scholarship recipient Anthony "Tony" Doerning and to members who shared their November, December and January Birthdays with us at the General Meeting along with the newly-elected 2016 Board.

"Carnivale" is here again at Holy Family Church on February 6, 2016 at the ICF Branch 108 13th Annual Wine Tasting Event in the Parish Hall. An exclusive Wine and Food Pairing Opportunity will also be offered with limited seating for 20 persons.

Contact 626 372-7812 to RSVP and for more information. Flyer upon request.

ICF Members visiting the Los Angeles Area are invited to join Branch 108 in a game of Bocce (1:00 to 2:30 pm) and to come enjoy lunch and visit with members at the General Meeting (beginning at 3:00 pm). All Branch meetings are on the first Sunday of each month. Call 626 372-7812 to RSVP and for more information and confirm meeting dates.

Thank you Members, families and friends for your support of ICF and its related events. Prayers go out to the families who passed away earlier this year and to all Members who have gone to their eternal reward and to sick members, family and friends for a speedy recovery.

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

Carmelo Sabatella, Past President

ICF Branch 108 Email: cas1810@aol.com



Members of Branch 108 making a yummy Continental Breakfast on January 10.



## 2016 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS OF THE

### Mother Cabrini Chapel & Library

#### 3801 Scott Road, Burbank, CA 91504

- February 14th – Open House, 9 am to 1 pm hosted by Los Angeles Region.

- February 14th - ICF Mother Cabrini Chapel & Library Committee Meeting at 1 pm.

- March TBD

- April 10th – Open House, 9 am to 1 pm hosted by the San Fernando Region

- April 10th - ICF Mother Cabrini Chapel & Library Committee Meeting at 1 pm.

- May TBD

- June 12th - Open House, 9 am to 1 pm hosted by San Gabriel Region

- June 12th - ICF Mother Cabrini Chapel & Library Committee Meeting at 1 pm.

- July TBD

- August TBD

- September 11th – Open House, 9 am to 1 pm hosted by Santa Barbara/Ventura Region.

- September 11th – ICF Mother Cabrini Chapel & Library Committee Meeting at 1 pm.

- October TBD

- November 13th- Open House, 9 am to 1 pm hosted by the Knights of Columbus, Burbank.

- November 13th - ICF Mother Cabrini Chapel & Library Committee Meeting at 1 pm.

- December 4th - Mother Cabrini Mass (12:30pm) followed by Pilgrimage to Chapel and Lunch in the Parish Hall.

Note: Groups may schedule visit to Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library by contacting Carmelo Sabatella at 626 372-7812.

Please spread the word to members, friends and parishioners who may be interested in Mother Cabrini and her life's work and how her role is reflective of our Church and the ICF mission to help those in need and post a notice in your church and organization bulletins, newsletters and newspapers one to two weeks prior to the events.

Thankyou for your help,

Carmelo Sabatella AIA, President

Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library Committee

Italian Catholic Federation

3801 Scott Road, Burbank, CA



(Above) Branch 108 members and board celebrated the November, December and January birthdays.

(Left) Congratulations to ICF Scholarship recipient Anthony "Tony" Doering.

Viera who celebrate birthdays this month. Happy Birthday to everyone!! Buon Compleanno a tutti!!

Please mark your calendars - Please attend a St. Joseph Meeting on Thursday, February 18, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at the St. Augustine House, 200 N. 12th Street, (corner of Cleveland Ave.) in Montebello. We need everyone's support to make this a successful event.

Our St. Joseph Table this year will be held on Saturday & Sunday, March 19 & 20, 2016 at St. Benedict Parish Hall. Set up will be on Friday, March 18th, starting at 6:00 p.m. in the parish hall. The monies we will raise at this event will allow us to support our parish, offer scholarships to St. Benedict School graduating students, support our clergy and Seminarians, scholarships to graduating high school students, Cooley's Anemia, and other worthwhile charities. Thank you for all you do for the ICF and may St. Joseph and God Bless you abundantly.

We pray for our sick members and those in need; keep them in our thoughts and prayers. Finally, I leave you with the following quote - "Those whose steps are guided by the Lord; whose ways God approves, may stumble, but they will never fall, for the Lord God holds their hand." - Psalm 37:23-24

*God Bless!*

*Frank Salomone*



**Montebello**

**St. Benedict, Br. 111**

Ciao a Tutti. A warm hello to everyone. Our February General Meeting and San Valentino Potluck Dinner will be on Thursday, February 11, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at the St. Augustine House, 200 N. 12th Street, (corner of Cleveland Ave.) in Montebello. Join us for a pre-meeting Valentine's potluck dinner. The branch will provide baked pasta, salad, garlic bread, and water, coffee, & wine, and cake. Bring your favorite main dish or side dish to share. All are welcome! Congratulations to Irena Scorcia, Lynn Enrico, Florence Terramani, Sandro Mercuri, Christina Casyello, and Eileen



(Above) Members of Branch 111 at the Mother Cabrini Shrine.

(Left & Below) Members of Branch 111 celebrating a festive Christmas gathering.



Members of Br. 115 at the outdoor mass at the Mother Cabrini chapel Dec. 6, 2015



A bus with 33 people from Br 115 attended the St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Pilgrimage in Burbank on December 6, 2015 (left-side statue) Elio Vitiello, Isidoro Amalfitano with his grandson, altar server Isidoro Amalfitano. (right side) Jerry Di Leva, Sal Mattera, Bob Hohman, Neal Di Leva and Isidoro Colonna.

**San Pedro**

**St. John Joseph of the Cross, Br. 115**

Greetings! For the next 3 months we will be a very busy branch!!

Starting with our Potluck meeting on Feb 18<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. Please call Carmela Gioiello and let her know what tasty dish you will be bringing (310) 8320953

At our January meeting President Neal DiLeva informed us that the Madonna Del Arco Mosaic donated by Joseph Scotti has been installed. Dedication will be on Sunday April 17<sup>th</sup> at the noon mass. Luncheon to follow in auditorium. Tickets will be \$20.00 for adults and \$10.00 for children Call Neal for tickets (310) 433 1044.

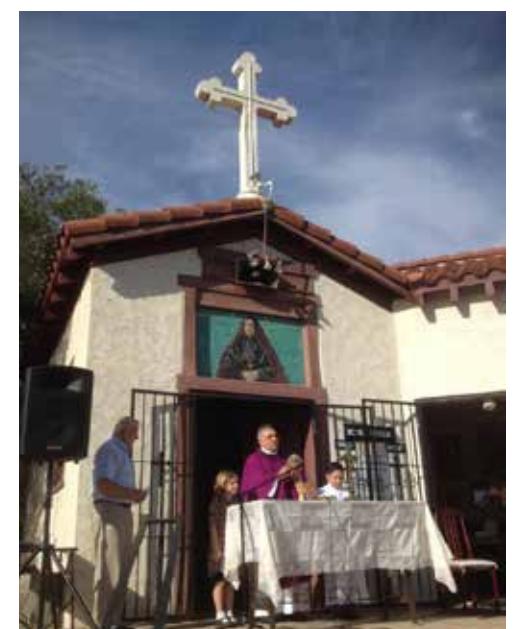
There is still time to join our branch for our annual Laughlin trip. We will be leaving on Feb 21st and returning Feb 24th. We will be staying at the Aquarius Casino. This 3 nites 4 day stay will run \$165.00 double occupancy and \$225.00 single. Please call Pauline Iacono for reservations (310) 832 0563.

At our Feb meeting we will be discussing our annual Fish dinner dance in honor of St. John Joseph of the Cross which will take place on Saturday March 5th. The day will begin with 8am Mass. Lite refreshment will follow in auditorium. This year's dinner menu will have slight change. Crab will be replaced with BBQ swordfish. Included with swordfish will be antipasta, linguine with clams, shrimp, vevs, wine and spumoni ice cream. Tickets will be \$40. It takes lots of help to put on these dinners. Volunteers are needed to help with this dinner. Please call Neal if you can help and or for tickets It is always a fun evening! (310) 433 1044.

Our Lenten poor man meal will take place on March 11th after the 5:15 mass. Please join us for this delicious meal of Pasta and Fagioli.

We also learned that the 6:30 pm Italian mass will be moved to the 4pm slot. Hopefully this time slot will be better attended.

Scholarship applications are now available on the ICF.org website for graduating High School Seniors. Applications are also available at local High School counselor's office. If your senior is having trouble finding the application call Neal at



Msgr. Antonio Cacciapuoto was the celebrant at St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Pilgrimage outdoor mass in front of the chapel.



San Pedro Br. 115 lead the procession with altar server Isidoro Amalfitano carrying the cross. (L-R) Neal Di Leva, Elio Vitiello, and Frank Colonna.

310 433 1044.

If you haven't paid your 2016 dues yet, please pay at our next meeting or mail to Pauline Iacono. Please encourage family and friends to join our branch.

Lastly I want to wish our President Neal DiLeva a very Happy Birthday. We all appreciate the hard work and unselfish dedication you provide to our branch.

Please remember to include our sick members and their family members in your prayers

Anita Gioiello Trujillo, Treasurer

### La Cañada Flintridge

#### St. Bede the Venerable, Br. 374

We began the year 2016 with the reelection of most of our board of directors. Andrew J. Meli joined the board as Financial Secretary. He will be working closely with Treasurer Joe Vinci on our finances. Trustee Connie Hockens retired from the board and was replaced by Paula Clinnin. We still have an open First Vice President position and President Mark Mannarelli is anxious to fill this important position on our board.

Our 2016 Board of Directors and Officers were installed at the Sunday, January 17<sup>th</sup> Installation that was held at St. Peter Italian Catholic Church, followed by a special luncheon held at Casa Italiana in Los Angeles.

Mark Mannarelli, President

Open, First Vice President

Diane Restivo Second Vice President and Membership Chairman

Joseph Vinci, Treasurer

Andrew J. Meli, Financial Secretary

Mary Wynton, Recording and Corresponding Secretary

Al C. Restivo, Orator and Immediate Past President

Fiora Marcucci Murphy, Trustee

Tom Passanisi, Trustee

Paula Clinnin, Trustee

David Capurso, Sentinel and Heritage Chairman

Saturday morning February 20, 2016 has been chosen for an Idea Generation and Sharing Workshop. All members of the board will attend and President Mark is asking other members to step forward to volunteer to share their ideas. The major thrust will be two-fold: visioning and the development of a Branch 374 SWOT Analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats). Al Restivo, a professional strategic planner, has volunteered to serve as the workshop facilitator.

The reason for this special meeting is that the board needs more time to devote to future planning, therefore a full Saturday morning workshop is planned to develop input related to the challenges we face related to planning and structuring. Additionally, the board feels that more time is required to exchange ideas for a future vision for the branch.

Planning is under way for the St. Joseph Table. This year it will be held on Sunday, March 13, 2016 in the Mother Theresa Room of the Parish Center. All members are being urged to participate by soliciting donations of food goods from stores and shops they frequent. We will be asking for volunteers to assist the chairpersons. We will also be asking members to produce and bottle their favorite tomato sauce for sale at the event.

Let us all pray for each other, our Church, and our nation.

Al Restivo, Branch 374 Orator and

Los Angeles Regional Vice President

## San Gabriel Valley Region

### Arcadia

#### Holy Angels, Br. 218

Upcoming Events: February 21 – Special Mass being said for Kraig Keeler and regular meeting, March 13 – Special meeting in celebration of the branch's 50th anniversary, March 18 – setup for St Joseph's Table, March 19 and 20 – St Joseph's Table. Matt Luchetta will be chairing this event this year. At our last meeting, Raquel Gallardo gave a very interesting report on her heritage, which is Nicaraguan. Jeane Bernabei won the 50/50 and a delicious pizza and salad luncheon was served after, arranged by Teri Carrano. There were many January birthdays and two anniversaries – Joe and Maria Lanero – 50 years – and Kraig and Bob Keeler. Congratulations to both couples and all the birthdays people.

Lolly M.

### Diamond Bar

#### St. Denis, Br. 317

Feb. 7-Donut Sunday

Feb. 10-Ash Wednesday.

Feb. 12 -Dinner/General Meeting

Feb. 21- ,28 I.C.F. Presale Canolis

March 6- Presale Canolis



Branch 443 Members volunteering for our first pancake breakfast fundraiser.

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

March 13- Distribution Canolis

March 20-I.C. F. Donut Sunday

March 21-I.C.F. Board Meeting

March 27- Happy Easter

Easter is early this year. Therefore, our Presale for Canolis will be Feb. 21, 28, and March 6. Distribution will be on Sunday, March 13. Chairperson to be announced later.

On Feb.12th our dinner will be home made soups, bread and deserts. The cooks and the kind of soups announced in newsletter by Feb.. happy Valentines Day.

Please review the above dates for future I.C.F. Branch activities . We were fortunate to have 4 winners of \$200.00 each for the Mother Cabrini Money Madness Raffle. They were Roxanne, Liz, Julia and Barbara.Thank you so much.Lets all work together for another successful St. Denis Branch 317 year.We will celebrate our 40th Anniversary on May 30th 2016.

God Bless Everyone at the I.C.F.

Roxanne Perry, President

### Temple City

#### St. Luke, Br. 326

Happy Valentine's Day to all of our members!

There will be a Bunco Party on Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup> in the Parish Hall from 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The cost is \$6.00 per person and homemade desserts will be served. There will be games prizes, door prizes and a money raffle. For more information contact Ann Baziak.

Our next General Meeting will be held on Saturday February 27, 2016 at 3:30 p.m.

Please note changes in our meeting day, time and location:

Our meetings will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month at 3:30 p.m. in the church library located in the rectory.

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

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

Happy Anniversary to: Andy and Frances Bonura 64 years and Jim and Mary Ann Law 57 years.

"Everything is possible if we truly believe. There are miracles and blessings that we can receive. ... Faith is an internal fountain that flows through our veins;...Everything is possible if we truly believe." (Clay Harrison)

God Bless,

Jo Anne Disney

## Santa Barbara/Ventura Region

### Simi Valley

#### St. Rose of Lima, Br. 443

There is much excitement at ICF Branch 443 from St Rose of Lima in Simi Valley California!! We are one of the newest groups to be installed into this wonderful organization.

Our branch hosted a Christmas Pot Luck on Friday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, at the St Rose hall. The hall was transformed into a Winter Wonderland and everyone brought their favorite Christmas dish or dessert for all to enjoy. We topped off the evening with several raffles of beautiful holiday baskets and an opportunity drawing that we split three ways so more of our friends could enjoy the winnings!

Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, we sponsored our first ICF Breakfast after our 7AM & 9AM Masses. We served eggs, sausage patties, Italian sausage, potatoes and pancakes plus sweets, coffee and juice to about 90 guests.

Our first goal, in holding this event, was to add revenue to our branch account since we are just starting out. But, by the end of the breakfast, we all agreed it was an important learning experience for future events and an even greater bonding experience.

We look forward to a successful 2016.

May you enjoy God's Blessing in the New Year!

Linda Fabry

Recording /Corresponding Secretary

## Monterey

### Santa Cruz

#### N.S. Del Socorso, Br. 21

Happy New Year! Another new year already? Well, Branch 21 is off and running with a year of great planned events starting in January....some of which will have passed by the time you get your Bolletino. On January 10th is the dedication of the newly renovated Holy Cross High School Building with Bishop Garcia celebrating 10:30 mass followed by an ICF Brunch. On Friday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, there will be an ICF Calamari Dinner and on the 23<sup>rd</sup> there will be the Holy Cross School Fundraiser Dinner & Auction; both will be held in Holy Cross Hall. For info et al you can call Rosa Radicchi, Roseann Costabile or Norma Wilson.

The Central Coast Installation of Officers will be held on January 30<sup>th</sup> at Holy Cross with Father Occhuito celebrating the mass. The Branch 21 Officers for this Year 2016 are: President: Richard Puccinelli; 1st Veep: Richard Vote; 2<sup>nd</sup> Veep: Eugene Ghio; Recording Secretary: Patty Morelli; Financial Secretary: Norma Wilson; Treasurer: Rosa Radicchi; Orator: Rebecca Rosser; Trustees: Mary Jo Belli, Cynthia Schuette, and Valerie Vote;

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Sentinel: Madeline Crews; Branch Deputy; Vicky Howell. Come and support your Branch, and meet members of other branches, as well. Lunch will be served in Holy Cross Hall following the ceremony. Call Norma Wilson for reservations.

The No Bake Sale will begin on Ash Wednesday this year. Please call Valerie Vote with your questions and donations. Also, starting the last Sunday of this month (January 31<sup>st</sup>) and each subsequent last Sunday, ICF Branch 21 will be providing coffee and donuts outside Holy Cross Church following the 8:30 and 10:30 masses. The goal is to get the word out about ICF and its good works; and also what great fun we all have. See you there!

We were very sad to hear of the passing of two wonderful ICF members. Bernadine Dodson was a relatively new Branch 21 member but fell right in with attending meetings and ICF events. Ezzio Mazzei was a long-time Branch 21 member who, last year, was honored as one of ICF's 90+ years-old. Both were well-loved and will be sorely missed. Our prayers go out to their families.

Things to remember: 1.) Lent comes early this year (Ash Wednesday January 10<sup>th</sup>) because Easter does, too! 2.) Our General Meetings are always on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month (with the exception of September when it will be on the 13<sup>th</sup>.....and no meetings in July and December). They are always held in Holy Cross Hall. 3.) And, if you're a bit 'nerdy' you might like to sign up to receive the Bolletino on-line instead of by snail-mail. It saves ICF lots of money and viewing it that way is a beautiful, new experience.

Ciao for niao.....and God bless and protect us one and all.

*Patty Morelli*

*Secretary Branch 21*

## Salinas

### Nostra Signora Del Sasso, Br. 25

Happy 2016! To paraphrase Somerset Maugham, "Hope you ate wisely but not too well, and talked well, but not too wisely".

We all ate only too well at our Christmas Party hosted by Julie and Joe. The food was great due in no small part to our chefs Chuck DeBord and John Cailotto who cooked the meats to perfection. Thanks also to all who brought side dishes, and to our hosts for providing a wonderful start to the holiday.

But here we are with a new year and new obligations. The first is to make sure you have sent in your membership dues; you may also bring them to our next meeting. Membership is \$40. Make checks out to ICF Branch 25 and mail to PO Box 2797, Salinas CA 93902.

Hard to believe, but Ash Wednesday is upon us. Can the fish dinners be far behind?

Our council has always supported the Lenten dinners and, no doubt, will again this year. Help if you can as the proceeds are split between Madonna del Sasso and Sacred Heart churches, and you will have a great time doing it.

Please note that it is time for scholarship applications to be going out to local high schools for Catholic high school seniors to apply. If you have one in the family, or know someone who is eligible, please let them know.

The family of Olga Mazgai has asked for prayers for Olga, who is in a care facility. We are thinking of you Olga and pray that the Lord makes your spirit rise and restores you.

Happy Valentine's Day.

*Ciao,*

*Roy Frontani*

## Monterey

### Santa Rosalia, Br. 36

We had a full house for the children's Christmas party, 69 children (all ages) advent calendars

and gifts for each child, Santa (John Panetta) was great, Elves were Lillian Mika, Ann Ursino,

Paula and Hollee Buckman who helped Santa with the gifts and children. Everyone had a delicious dinner, dessert, soft drinks and bottled water.

January 7, 2016 we had our monthly dinner meeting. We have the greatest kitchen crew that

turns out fantastic dinners every month (during Lent it will be every week), and our waitresses, waiters, youth helpers, bar crew, ticket sales, telephone ladies and men, and anyone I forgot, we are so blessed to have each one of you, and to every member and guest who come to support us.

Our deepest sympathy to the following:

Father Peter Crivello whose mother, Mary, passed away on Christmas day, Mary was a wonderful woman who lived her faith every day, and in death she got to celebrate with Jesus on His birthday.

Frank DiPaolo passed away a month before his 98th birthday, Frank enjoyed coming to the I.C.F. with his friends and we enjoyed seeing him.

Dolores Rappa, whose husband Horace 'Ratzi' passed away, no matter where he was, in town out of town, out of the country, if it was Sunday he saw to it that we went to Mass. Ratzi kept his yard beautiful and loved his family. friends. all sports.

Mario Lucido was not a member of our branch, but he was the Grand Marshall of Monterey's Italian Festival, a good friend, and their lives the kindness person you could ever meet. He is with his wife Katherine now, their lives complete.

## CALENDAR

Lenten Dinners - Feb. 12-19-26

Mar. 4-11-18

Please bring or send a dessert each Friday for 6 (six) weeks, the money we make from the Lenten dinners goes a long way towards our charities and scholarships.

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

March 13 - St. Joseph Celebration

Mass at 2:00 PM - Dinner/Dance following Mass

All reservations must be pre-paid

For reservations call Mary Manuguerra (831) 375-2009 or Beatrice Bonanno (831) 649-3216

More on this in the March Bollettino.

And - Never save something for a special occasion,

Every day in your life is a special occasion.

*Peace be with you,*

*Bettye Sollecito*

## Castroville

### Santa Caterina de Siena, Br. 51

Happy Valentine's Day

As we begin this month our focus will be on our annual Scholarship Fundraiser. We will be serving Polenta and Stew, the date is February 28th. It will be at La Scuola, 10700 Merritt Street in Castroville. The time is from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and the cost is \$15.00 for adults and \$8.00 for children 12 and under. Take outs will be available. If you have any questions please call Leonora Barlow at 633-3448.

This year our Branch will host a District Meeting on April 16<sup>th</sup> at La Scuola beginning at 11:00 a.m. More information will be forth coming.

A big "Thank You" to Branch #21 Santa Cruz for hosting the Installation of Officers on January 30<sup>th</sup>. A great job---thumbs up!!

Our President, Paul Cortopassi is working on some fantastic/fun plans for our Branch so stay tuned. You never know what magic Paul will pull out of his Chef's hat!!

Please keep in your prayers our members Carl Armento and Alice Soliven. Please get better soon, we all miss you.

To our own very special member Thelma Sbarra, we miss you and wish you could come back and visit soon.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Mike and Linda Micheletti on the passing of Mike's brother Ralph, "Mic" Micheletti.

Remember to keep the Christmas spirit of Joy and Peace in your hearts all through the year.

God Bless You!

*Ciao,*

*Leonora Barlow*

# Oakland

## East Bay

### District Council

Well now that installation of officers is over and all are in place with their new duties in mind, it's time for all of us to get behind the various up coming functions the ICF supports. The report is that the crabs are healthy, so here's hoping that many of you enjoyed a feast-like dinner. To those who did, thank you. Also, thank you to the branches for the hors d'oeuvre plates and chance baskets.

An other function that needs our support is Bishop's Day, scheduled for March 13, 2016. Hopefully your committee representative is keeping you informed of what is scheduled for this very important day.

And finally, the big news! Late Night Catechism has been rescheduled for April 16, 2016. Since this is a fund raiser for ICF to support all their charitable activities it is important that this be a success. In order for that to happen, we need to sell tickets, so get a group together and plan to have some FUN. See the flyer to see what else will be happening at the play.

Here's wishing all you Italian or not sweethearts, a Happy St. Valentine's Day.

## Alameda

### Nostra Signora Della Gracie, Br. 10

We lost a longtime member, Hazel Orio, who died in December at age 98. Hazel had belonged to Branch 10 for 44 years. She continued her membership after moving to Pleasanton earlier in 2015 so that she could be with family.

The first quarter of 2016 is a busy time for Branch 10.

On February 12 we commence our Lenten Friday Fish Fry's The dinner follows Stations of the Cross, which start at 5:00 p.m. in Saint Philip Neri Church, High Street at Van Buren Street, Alameda.

Prices are \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for young persons 12 and under. Reservations are not necessary. The doors of Monsignor O'Brien Hall, where the dinner is served, will be opened upon conclusion of the Stations. The Fish Fry's continue through March 18, the last Friday before Palm Sunday.

Our annual Irish Social is scheduled for Monsignor

O'Brien Hall on Saturday evening, March 12. The menu will include corned beef and the traditional Saint Patrick's Day trimmings. Social hour starts at 6:00, and dinner will be served at 7:00. For reservations and additional information, you may contact chairperson and Branch 10 second vice-president Peggy Lubeck at (510) 521-4687.

We are also planning an event for Saint Joseph's Day, Saturday, March 19. Farther on the horizon is our 90th Anniversary Dinner. More information regarding the Saturday, May 21 festivities will follow in subsequent editions of the Bollettino.

We were also quite active in the recent past. On Sunday, December 6, we served lunch for the Confirmation class of the Alameda Deanery, which is comprised of Alameda's three parishes. On Friday evening, December 11, we hosted our Christmas Party. A group of approximately 100 children and adults attended the annual function, which included a visit by Santa Claus.

A crowd of about 110 enjoyed our annual Polenta Dinner on Saturday, January 9.

We sponsored our second annual Bunco party on Sunday, January 24. We also hosted, for about the eighth year in a row, the East Bay District Crab Feed on Friday, January 29.

Two new officers were scheduled to assume their positions at the District Installation held on Sunday, January 17 at the Fratellanza Club in Oakland. Karen Harrington will serve as treasurer-financial secretary, and Elena Searles has been elected as a trustee. We thank JoAnn Dorn, our outgoing treasurer-financial secretary and former president, for her years of very active and watchful leadership in Branch 10.

We will see you next month.

*John Zugnoni*

*Branch 10 Publicity*

## Richmond

### St. Raymond, Br. 154

Buon Anno! Happy New Year!!

The January meeting opened with Pizza and Salad followed by egg nog and spirits, a festive way to start the New Year.

New officers were installed at the district installation, January 23, Prayer Service was followed with Installation of officers and then lunch at the Wedgwood event center in Brentwood.

Our ICF calendar sale was a big success. We sold all of them with a request for more. Thank you to Dee Yonke for taking care of the calendar sales for 2015.

Our next meeting is Feb.08, 2016, in honor of Chinese New Year we will be celebrating with a Chinese Dinner! We are still working on the menu, details to follow soon. Call May to reserve. The cost is \$10.00. Gung Hay Fat Choy!

District meeting is Jan 28th, at St. Isadore's in Danville at 7:30 PM.

The date for our next fundraiser is April 09<sup>th</sup>, 2016. That is our big Polenta Family Dinner. Please

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mark your calendar. A few other up coming dates to keep in mind are the bus trip to Cache Creek in March, date to be announced later and Bishops Day also in March, Date to be announced later.

Don't forget to pick up the Branch calendar so you will have a schedule of meeting dates and activities.

Dues are payable now! Annual dues are \$35.00 and Hospitalization is \$25.00. Make your check payable to the ICF and give your check to Lori Framsted.

*Lorraine Acuña*

## Livermore

### St. Filomena, Br. 285

We look ahead in 2016 to continuing the fellowship and support we all are graced with as members of the ICF community and Branch 285. We are fortunate and we share our good fortune by supporting several deserving charities. Again, this year we will have two major fund raisers starting with our traditional BINGO BASH on February 27th at St. Michael's in Livermore. This is a popular event every year with PRIZES GALORE! Profits go to support Cooley's Anemia, Children's Hospital, Oakland. Call Helen Wirtenson at 925-462-3798 for tickets (\$10) and bring a friend for a guaranteed fun time. Ci vediamo la?

In 2015, our meetings were highlighted by relaxed listening to interesting speakers after a cocktail hour with hors d'oeuvres followed by delicious dinners prepared by our many member cooks. Believing that interesting speakers and good food are a winning combination, we again started in January with An Evening with Frank Sinatra by Phillip Lascola and dinner hosted by Elaine & Chuck Meier

Our get well prayers go to Pat Mueller and Rose Stack who will miss Sinatra, but it is his famous song, "The Best is Yet to Come," that captures our well wishes for Pat and Rose.

*Ciao, a presto*

*Chuck Meier*

## Castro Valley

### Our Lady of Grace, Br. 343

Seems like a long time since we were last together what with the holidays and all, here's hoping it was a happy break for everyone. Now it's time to come together as a working, fun loving group with a lot to accomplish. With installation behind us and a great crab feed that nourished us, we are ready to take on whatever is needed to be an involved ICF member and branch. Thank you to those who contributed to the hors d'oeuvres and baskets for the crab feed and for those who were lucky enough to get tickets.

We will be having our Super Bowl Sunday bake sale/fund raiser on Feb. 7, 2016 and are looking for bakers and sellers to make this a success. Thanking you all in advance for your support.

Bishop's Day, hosted by the east bay district, will

be held at OLG on March 13,2016, so we will all need to be present and to help make this a success.

And a Happy St. Valentine's Day to all you sweethearts out there.

*Pat Grasso, Secretary*

## Contra Costa

### Crockett

#### San Carlo, Br. 14

Ah, February! The month of love, right? Yes, always be kind and love one another, but also remember to love yourself; don't be too critical of yourself.

Our February meeting is on Tuesday, February 9th. Mass will be at 5:30pm, and the pork loin dinner begins at 6:30, with the meeting following at 7:30.

After the meeting, the March 12th Famous Corned Beef Dinner tickets will go on sale. Adult tickets are \$18. and children's tickets, \$7.00, the same as they were last year. We can't say "same as last year" about much these days, can we?

Thanks, Lena McCrossen, for sending get well cards to Josephine Airoidi, Lou Catalano, Judy Lesmeister, Rhonda McIntyre, Kym Parr, Tony Scardina and Bill Valli. Condolences were sent on the passing of members Marcy Morales and Marie Colombo, and to Ray and Margaret Lehre and Fred and Pat Maria on the death of family members.

On behalf of Branch #14, sincere sympathies to the family of Marcy Morales. There will be a void at our meetings. She was such a strong fighter against the odds, and an inspiration to us all. To Roxene Colombo, we send our sympathies on the passing of her mother, Marie Colombo. At 98, Marie attended most of our meetings, was always in style, and was as bright and knowledgeable as ever. We lost two remarkable women; may they rest in peace.

Our ICF February ends with a Bingo and Hot Dog night on Friday, February 26th. The fun begins at 6:00 with hot dogs and all the trimmings, and one Bingo card, for \$10.00. Yes, Pat Botta will call all of the games, so get ready for a fun evening.

Valentine's Day is February 14th, lest anyone forgets. But remember, candy, flowers and jewelry (well, maybe not jewelry) are mere expressions of love; we all know real love lives in our hearts. I will close with Mother Teresa's words, "Spread love wherever you go. Let no one ever come to you without leaving happier."

*Ciao,*

*Diane Bottini Thomas*

## Pittsburg

### San Domenico, Br. 72

We had our first meeting of the year on Jan 10. It was a Happy New Year theme. Members brought sweets. Some of them were homemade Italian cookies. We also had pizza. We had a nice time and went over our 2016 calendar.

By the time this goes out the District Installation



Children having fun with Santa and Mrs. Claus at Branch 14 Crockett.



(Above) Ladies from Branch 14 Crockett made 7000 gnocchi for their branch meeting. Great Job. Mm good.

(Left) Thank you Members of Branch 14 Crockett for toys delivered by Johnny Valentini, Donna Hoffmann and David Botta to Laurice Levine for the hospital.

will have passed. I will write about the details next month.

We have a new member. Kasen Cameron. He is the great grandchild of Jane Russo. Welcome Kasen! Did you know your children and grandchildren under age 23 can join ICF under the family plan for 10.00 per family?

Upcoming:

Sunday, February 14-----Meeting and Valentines party at 2: PM at 17 Marks Bl. Pittsburg

Thursday, February 25-----District meeting at 7:30 PM at St. Isidore in Danville in the main conference room.

Please pray for our sick members. Donna Stone was hospitalized. She had pneumonia. Grace Scanipico hurt her shoulder. We wish them a speedy recovery. If you know of sick members let our sunshine chairperson Jane Russo know.

Remember branch dues are due. You should have received your dues renewal form along with a self stamped envelope. Please send that to our Treasurer Helen Politakes at 953 Veterans Drive Martinez, Ca. 94553. Or you can pay at the Feb. meeting.

Let's work on Membership. Tell your family and friends about our branch.

Happy Valentines Day!

*Sempre Avanti*

*Patty Jarrett*

## Danville

### St. Isidore, Br. 352

Our Branch 352 is looking forward to a wonderful year, 2016. Members are being inspired by our

incoming president. Marianne Bordogna and the election of new officers for the coming year.

Ciao & Happy Birthday to our February Celibrants.

## Brentwood

### Immaculate Heart of Mary, Br. 432

Happy New Year!

All the best for each of you in 2016.

It is through each of us that our Branch can give its best to all of those that we reach out to. Remembering as we start the New Year that the ICF is an organization dedicated to promoting activities that build faith and family in men, women and children of all ages. By belonging to a Branch, we as ICF members share our culture, heritage and religious beliefs. We believe, that together, we can accomplish more than one can alone.

The concept to unite Italian Catholics in their faith, community and pride in a shared heritage was formulated by Luigi Providenza and Father Albert Bandini, ICF co-founders, in 1924. In 2016 the ICF is starting its 93rd year of service to the community and along the way, maintaining their heritage.

Branch 432 is starting its 14th year of service. On November 3rd in 2003, Ann Bottino organized a meeting at the, then downtown, IHM Church. Her intent was to find out if there was sufficient interest in the Italian Catholic community to start a Branch of the ICF in Brentwood. As it turned out there were more than enough Italian Catholics interested in maintaining the tradition of the ICF. Among the attendees that day were Eugene Simonetti and Philomena Sawko.

Gino and Phil have endured over the years from their pioneering efforts to Branch 432 as we see it today. Although both followed different paths,



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Branch 442 card game.

Gino in leadership and Phil in service and support, their handprints were undeniable in the growth of the Branch and its involvement and service to the community.

May God Bless you both for your dedication and sacrifice.

*la vita è buona*

### Pleasant Hill

#### Christ the King, Br. 442

There was a real buzz at the January Branch meeting. After the official meeting closed the members gathered to play cards and socialize. "2016 is going to be exciting!" exclaimed Juliette.

"I know," replied Carol, "we have so many great events planned!"

Everyone is looking forward to our big spring event; the ICF Tea Party. Juliette thanked Carol, "Wow Carol, I know that the Tea Party is a lot of work, thank you for chairing the event!"

Carol replied, "I know it is a lot of work but we had a great turn out last year and the event was a huge success! I am looking forward to even more members getting involved and new guests joining us for an afternoon of tea, savory sandwiches and sweat desserts."

"I know that the ICF Tea Party will be held at Christ the King Church on April 9<sup>th</sup> during the day." Remarked Juliette, "but, how can people learn more about volunteering or attending?"

"Official information will be going out soon to our members but anyone can email the Branch for information at [icfpleasanthill@aol.com](mailto:icfpleasanthill@aol.com) or they can call Paul Nuti at 925 933-2366 to get the inside scoop."

"Awesome, Carol, I will spread the word. It is almost Tea Time!"

Scenes of ICF brought to you by:

*Paul M. Nuti*

*Past President Branch 442*

## Reno

Reno

#### St. Albert, Br 135

Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, our first meeting of the year, 23 members and guests braved a chilly evening to enjoy excellent appetizers prepared by Lydia Brunelli and Mel Sullivan and pizzas.

Charlyne Pacini reported on the Diocesan Conference held the past weekend where we had an exhibit table in hopes of finding some new members. Members voted to give two \$400.00 first year scholarships to Central Council for a Reno area graduating senior to be used for college;

\$250.00 continuing education scholarships to each of the three catholic elementary schools in Reno. Also voted on were eight \$500.00 scholarships to Bishop Manogue High School for continuing education scholarships and incoming freshman. The members voted to give \$300.00 to Cooley's Anemia.

The slate of officers for 2016 were finalized, presented and voted on:

President: Charlyne Pacini

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Rachael Ferrari

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Mel Sullivan

Recording & Corresponding Secretary: Vonnie Ramos

Financial Secretary: Nancy Telliano

Treasurer: Ron Frediani

Orator: Eugenia Hovland

Trustees: Eleanor Donati, Bob Ferrari, Mike Telliano

Sentinel: Audrey Ferrari

Many thanks go to all our members who worked very hard at our very successful Polenta Dinner, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Thanks go out to Rachael Ferrari, Bob Ferrari and the all the committee members who did the planning. We had a big crowd.

President Carolyn Smith reported that after the December meeting she took about 100 pounds of non-perishable food and \$50,00 in checks brought by our members to be given to St. Vincent's Pantry.

Our next meeting is set for Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup>.

*Happy New Year!*

*Charlyne Pacini*

## Sacramento

Auburn

#### St. Joseph, Br. 342

A big thank you to all who worked so hard to make our January Polenta Dinner a big success. We were able to serve over 340 dinners and everyone enjoyed the fun music and fantastic raffle items. We would not have been able to do it without Chef Rico and his crew, Marisa and crew who organized and put together raffle baskets, everyone who donated raffle items, and our hardworking youth servers, those who sold raffle and bar tickets, and everyone who showed up early to set up and stayed late to clean up. Great job everyone!

Our branch is honored to be hosting the Blessed Sacrament Instillation of Officers on February 20<sup>th</sup>. Mass and Instillation will begin at 10:00 a.m. at St. Joseph's Church. A BBQ lunch catered by Sierra Grill will be served in the hall after instillation. For more info, please call President

MaryAnn Mikles at 916-759-8466.

*Ciao!*

*Pam Andersen*

*Bolletino Contributor*

### Roseville

#### St. Clare of Assisi, Br. 438

We go out with the old Year and in with the new, We are going to have a very exciting year. I urge all of you to come and enjoy the fun.

Our branch had one very busy December. On Friday Dec.11th some of our members baked cookies with a lot of Christmas spirit. Bakers were also busy baking numerous assortments of goodies at home for our Annual Bake Sale which was held on Dec.12th and Dec.13th. A big thank you to Connie Terry who took the Chairmanship. Also a big thank you to all of her helpers. All of you did a terrific job.

On Dec. 18 our Christmas Party was held at Morris Hall. Past President Joe Fisher put on one delicious dinner along with his helpers Gene Moscuza and Frank DiGrande. We can't forget Lucy Fisher who made the Italian wedding soup. We thank you once again for all your hard work. Proceeding dinner Santa Claus arrived with his elf. The little ones were so excited to see him. Especially when Santa distributed the presents. Our members enjoyed the evening sharing joy and laughter with in themselves.

Sorry to see Br. # 236 close in North Highlands. Luckily we gained 6 members from that branch. A big welcome to all of you from Branch 438. We are so pleased to have you.

Please say a special prayer for Myrna Rizza who is



Branch 438 Natalie and Nina Malone Busy selling raffle tickets at the Christmas party.



Branch 438 members enjoying Christmas festivities.

recuperating from heart surgery. Get well soon we miss you. And a prayer to all of our officers who will be serving this year that we will be productive in our leadership.

*Your Reporter,*

*Yvonne Perry*

## San Diego

Chula Vista

#### St. Rose of Lima, Br. 229

Greetings!

Upcoming Branch events include the St. Joseph's Day Table in March, the July Dinner/Dance, and a meatball sausage sandwich sale in August.

Please pray for our deceased members, for those who are sick, for the unemployed, for all military personnel, and for victims of terrorism and disasters.

When you see a man or woman in uniform, please thank them for their service to our country! God bless our military! God bless America! God bless the ICF!!

*Ciao!*

*Karen Judson*

*Recording & Corresponding Secretary*



Paula and Hank from Branch 438 baking cookies for the bake sale.



Branch 438's Connie Terry doing duties as chairlady.



Tony &amp; Rosemarie Anthony of Branch 261.

## San Diego

### Our Lady of the Rosary, Br. 230

Branch 230 has been very busy for the last month. Commencing with hosting the San Diego District Installation Mass and Luncheon on January 31<sup>st</sup> and ending with the annual Lenten Fish Fry on February 12<sup>th</sup>. Both events would not have been successful if it were not for the help of so many ICF members. A huge thank you to Fr. Joseph Tabigue, District Chaplain and Pastor of Our Lady of the Rosary Church, for celebrating the Installation Mass, Cupid Catering for the delicious luncheon, the district officers, and the San Diego branch members that attended and contributed prizes for the raffle. Our gratitude also to the Central Council members that attended the installation.

The very popular fish fry on the Friday after Ash Wednesday drew the usual large crowd. While waiting for the dinner prepared by the branch's top chefs, attendees enjoyed viewing the old photos and reliving the heritage of Little Italy in San Diego and deciding which of the many gift baskets would receive their raffle tickets with the hopes that they would win.

As we begin our journey through this Lenten Season may we grow in our relationship with God and deepen our commitment to a way of life rooted in our baptism.

*God bless,*

*Maria Tollefson*

## San Diego

### St. Therese, Br. 261

THANKS to our Tony Anthony!! He has been on the team to save the Mt Soledad Veteran's Memorial...They have struggled for years to keep that Roman Cross atop Mt Soledad..The Mt Soledad National Veteran's Memorial is a place of pride and inspiration. It provides a 360 degree view of San Diego County... The Memorial is located in La Jolla... Tony is Br 261's 1<sup>st</sup> VP and a San Diego District Council officer..

Memorial plaques commemorating veteran individuals – corporations – military organizations surround the memorial....We anticipate that the cross issue will go to the Supreme Court to be resolved ..

Thanks to our ICF cooks...The meatballs, sausage and sauce were delicious...They were sold on December 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>... We netted \$1000 for the parish...The 32 oz buckets of sauce made a wonderful gift... A member contributed an additional \$500.... We and the parish are truly grateful....

Our members have had relatives & friends who served in WW 1 / WW 2 / the Korean War / and Vietnam.. One family has "gold star" from WW 1... While we ethnic Italians are proud Americans we also proudly share an Italian heritage...Italian-Americans represented the largest ethnic group in the USA military in WW 2...Its interesting to note there is Italian DNA in some of the presidential contenders: Rick Santorum, Chris Christie, Geo Patacki, Ted Cruz and Carly Fiorina... Fiorina – in her 20's - taught at the University of Bologna...

*Vic Tallarida - Br 261 San Diego*

# San Francisco

## San Francisco

### District Council

This year's Archbishop's day will be hosted by the San Francisco District Council, on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mass will be celebrated at Sts. Peter and Paul's Church, 666 Filbert Street, at 11:45. Lunch will be at the nearby Athletic Club. Please save the date and plan to attend.

*Ann Basuino*

## San Francisco

### Maria S S Immacolata, Br. 1

Dear Members:

Our recent Installation and lunch was enjoyed by all!

Upcoming: February = No Meeting.

Feb: 28 Monthly Mass ICC 10:30 am. March 2 Spuntino and Raffle. 6:30 pm Cost \$15.00 Reservations Vic Arnaudo (650) 755-1369 Please bring a Raffle Prize .

Branch 1 was saddened by the loss of long time member Olga Basso. Condolances to her family.

Happy Valentines Day!

*Ciao!*

*Toni Morsello*

## San Francisco

### Sts. Peter and Paul, Br. 38

Our branch 38 has decided to make January as "SKI MONTH." With all the excitement and running around in December, we think a month to relax is needed for all of us. Therefore, we will not be meeting again until February 20th!

Out Christmas meeting/party was most enjoyable. Our food again this year was catered by SFIAC. Paul Alioto did a fantastic job. Our food was delicious...Roasted ½ Chicken/ Pasta w.Meat Sauce/Vegetables/Potatoes/Salad./Antipasto/Bread & Butter/ & Dora donated éclairs for dessert. Grazie Cosmo for picking up all the food from the SFIAC and thank you Paul for generously giving us an additional break on our quoted price! It was a really nice party...we had 20 members and friends present. We sang Christmas Carols under the leadership of Dora Varacchi...not bad this year! Of course 20 voices is much better and louder! During everything that was going on, we didn't have time to grab a phony Santa from Washington Square Park because suddenly, the real Santa appeared from the PC's restroom area. We don't know how he got in there since there are no doors to the outside! How exciting it was when Santa first appeared. Santa greeted everyone and brought presents for all the members and our friends. Our two youngest branch members Dominic & Matthew Ramsey helped Santa distribute all the gifts. The boys' did a great job...Santa was happy with all the help. A great big thank you to Santa, our members, and friends present. Special thanks to Fred, Susan, & Aaron Teali (Norma's son, daughter-in-law, grandson), Frank Lavin (Mary's son), Erin Castigliola's Mother & Aunt, and Nicola Anelli for being such major helpers & friends. Thanks also to Patrick, Tracy, Dominic, & Matthew. You're donations are too generous!

At this time I would like to continue to thank my last years officers for the wonderful help they gave me. I certainly could not have managed without you:

3 Trustees: (1) Lotte Peradotto – At every meeting, I've noticed, you can't keep s t i l l ... always puttering around doing something...either setting up or cleaning up. You're very quite, but when you say something you are always "right on." I really value your opinions.

(2) Norma Tealdi – You're 99 yrs. young now, and I wish I had your energy. I see you

still helping out when you can...your input & help at our meetings are welcomed.

(3) Virginia Aguilar -You always "watch my back"...I want you to know I really appreciate it. Thanks for also being our Br. #38 phone committee chairlady. Good job!

\*\* I will continue my "thank you's" in the next Bollettino issue!

By the time you read this in the February Bollettino, you should have received your ICF annual dues notice together with our Branch #38 Monthly Meeting Calendar. If you have not, please phone Cosmo or Mara at 1-415-392-3560.

January 9, 2016 meeting cancelled: Winter Ski Vacation

Next Meeting: February 20 (3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday), 2016 at 12:00 Noon in the PC.

*Ciao,*

*Mara Amato*

## San Francisco

### Santo Stefano, Br. 50

We are in hiatus! All is well, but our branch is not meeting in the month of January. However, we are all looking forward to our first 2016 meeting. It will be our Dinner-Meeting, to held on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Much to discuss, and many plans to make for 2016 ! So until next time,

*Arrivederci e Ciao,*

*Anstell Ricossa*

## San Francisco

### St. Elizabeth, Br. 258

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

Buon Capo Anno!

Hope 2016 will be good to all of us.

Installation of Officers will be held on January 10, 2016 at the Italian American Social Club in San Francisco. Installation at 11:30 A M and lunch at 1:30PM. The cost is \$40.00. Lunch is always great with plenty of food.

February 5th we have a trip planned for Thunder Valley Casino. We hope someone will have some luck.

Our monthly Mass will be on January 24<sup>th</sup>.

Birthdays: January 4th, Jane Cunningham; January 9th, Elizabeth Rossi; January 24th, Mary Sammut; January 26th, Ron Merkovich;

January 27th, Maria Caraffi. Many more years of much Happiness and good health!!

Remember these dates.

January 24th: Mass

January 25th: Meeting

*Ciao,*

*Eva Perata, President*

## San Francisco

### Corpus Christi, Br. 290

Dear Friends,

Congratulations to our officers for the year, 2016. May they enjoy a successful and enjoyable time in office.

President - Matt Taylor

First Vice President - Mario Quevedo

Second Vice President - Maria Mezzina

Recording Secretary - Jeannette Beeler

Financial Secretary - Mary Rowe

Treasurer - Millie Franzoni

Orator - Joyce Nuti

Sentinel - Matt Taylor

Trustees - Betty Castagnola, Louise Oneto, Josephine Wallace

Deputy - Joe Basuino

We will convene on Thursday, February 18th, for a soup lunch at noon, followed by our meeting. Please remember to bring a bowl for your soup.

Save the date of Saturday, March 5th, for our first Champagne-Bingo luncheon of 2016. Doors open at 11:00 AM, followed by lunch at noon. Price of the luncheon is \$25. Please call Mary Rowe (415) 333-7939 or Joyce Nuti (415) 685-7879 for reservations.

We ask continued prayers for members who are not feeling well.

Wishing everyone a Happy Valentine's Day!

*Ciao,*

*Jeannette*

## San Francisco

### St. Cecilia, Br. 365

Congratulations to President George who was recently nominated and approved as Delegate to Branch 38, St. Peter and Paul, San Francisco. The announcement was made at the Installation of Branch and District officers. Our branch had few in attendance, namely, George Pagni and Joe and Ann Basuino.

This year's Archbishop's Day will be hosted by the San Francisco District Council, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April. Mass will be celebrated at St. Peter and Paul's Church, 666 Filbert Street, at 11:45. Lunch will be at the nearby Athletic Club. Please save the date and plan on attending.

February 10<sup>th</sup> – Regular meeting with Valentine's Day theme, 6:30 P.M., in the Serra Rm.

March 9<sup>th</sup> – Branch meeting 6:00 P.M. St. Joseph's Table. Potluck, as usual. Liliana and Ann will chair. Please volunteer to help.

*God's Blessings,*

*Ann Basuino*

Valente Marini Perata

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## San Mateo

### District Council

Congratulations again to the District Officers for 2016! Cannot report on the Installation until next month since it has not taken place as of this writing.

Will also report on the District's Christmas and New Year potluck party to be held January 28 and hosted by Branch 173 Our Lady of Angels, Burlingame. All Branches will contribute the food.

Mark your calendars:

Sunday, February 28, 2016 Semi-Annual District Mass at Holy Angels Parish, 107 San Pedro Road, Colma. Hosted by Branch 19. Mass starts at 1:00 p.m. with social in the hall afterwards.

Sunday, February 28, 2016 Strategic Plan-Core Strategy Workshop for the San Mateo, San Francisco Districts and Marin Area. It covers Leadership, Membership Growth and Retention and Community Connections. It will be held before the District Mass from 10:00 a.m. to noon on the same day, February 28. Reservations for both parts of the day call Deborah Rodondi 650-583-0805. Deadline: February 24, 2016.

Events for 2016:

Lenten Night of Recollection, Branch 130

2nd Semi-Annual Mass, Branch 7

Chaplains Night, Branch 7

District Christmas Party, Branch 213

No dates set yet.

Happy Valentine's Day! Peace and Love.

Anne O'Brien

## South San Francisco

### Sacro Cuore, Br. 7

We would like to extend a big thank you to our new president, Jim Eli and all his helpers, for cooking and planning our January business meeting dinner.

Where has the time gone? Can you believe we are already into the second month of 2016? As we begin the second month of the year, our business dinner meeting will be on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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 Lola at 650-589-8269 for reservations.

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 2016.

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So, until next time...a few thoughts to ponder for Valentines, "A perfect marriage is just two imperfect people who refuse to give up on each other" and "To the romantic soul, the rituals of Valentine's Day echo every day of the year."

"Happy Valentines Day"!

*Sempre Avanti*

*Laurie Masetti*

## Colma

### San Vincenzo De Paolo, Br. 19

Hello everyone,

By the time you have received this we will be into the season of Lent in the Church. A

time for prayer, fasting and alms giving.

Please remember Julia Paddreddii and David Novi in your prayers for healing. Also others who are ill and alone.

Coming Activities:

February 10<sup>th</sup>: Ash Wednesday

March 14: Regular meeting and social of the Branch.

April 9<sup>th</sup>: Champagne Bingo

February 13<sup>th</sup>: The Central Council meeting will be held at Holy Angels Hall. Anyone interested in attending is welcomed.

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

May this season of Lent bring us the blessing of Your love and the gift of Your light.

*N. Thurman*

## San Mateo

### St. Matthew, Br. 163

Many Thanks to our Officers for accepting re-election and Commitment to our Branch for another year. And Many Thanks to the Members for participating in our events this past year.

We had a great time at our delicious Christmas Dinner of Ham and Lasagna cooked by our dear and Fabulous Chef Steve Fuentes followed by yummy Cookies and Ice Cream. What a nice way to end our year of 2015!

Will report on the Installation and our January Dinner Meeting next Month because they have not taken place yet.

Mark your Calendars for these coming events:

Sunday, February 28, 2016 Semi-Annual District Mass at Holy Angels, 107 San Pedro Road, Colma. Mass 1:00pm. Social in Hall afterwards. Dead line for Reservations February 24, 2016. Call Deborah Rodondi at 650-583-0805.

Remember in your Prayers our ill Members:

Richard McEachron, Anita Meister, and Rose Marie Sickle.

Our Sympathy to Ed Galli and Family on the loss of his wife, our dear Member Florence Galli. Happy Valentine's Day! Peace and Love.

*Anne O'Brien*

## Burlingame

### Our Lady of Angels, Br. 173

2015 went by so fast and now we are looking forward to the 2016 New Year and have a flurry of activities planned for the next few months.

January starts out with our meeting on the 14th at 6:30 PM with Soup, Salad and Bread along with our usual array of drinks. Thanks to Anita Cecena for chairing the dinner/meeting.

January 16 10:45 Installation of Officers at San



Thanks to John & Jean Watterson who chaired Branch 173's event.



Fr. Michael and Fr. Brian joined Branch 173 and Fr. Brian sang a son. A good time had by all who attended.



At the Branch 173 Christmas party, Dan Capodanno from Br. 403 played the accordion and all sang Christmas songs.

Mateo Elk's Club. Cocktails following with lunch at 1:00 PM.

February 11, 2016 - 6:30 PM Meeting and Ham dinner chaired by Mara Millis

February 28, 2016 Semi-Annual District Mass - Holy Angels Parish, 107 San Pedro Road, Colma 1:00 PM.

Strategic Plan Workshop 10:00 am - Noon. reservations Deborah Rodondi 650-583-0805. Deadline:02-24-16

Our deepest sympathies to Rina Cassanego on the loss of her sister and also for the family of Gloria Bracken.

We still need prayers for the recovery of several family members of our branch.

*God Bless,*

*Rosalind C. Emery*

## South San Francisco

### St. Augustine, Br. 213

Well, here we are in a new year. Sorry I missed the January Bollettino article. Welcome to our new member, Linda Benedetti, and welcome to our new



At the Branch 173 Anniversary dinner Bea Tomasello (Heritage Chairperson) and Dorene Campanile (President) presented Lorraine Rollandi a Certificate in recognition of her service with the ICF for 73 years. It was certainly a mile stone for her and the Branch. She joined the ICF November 10, 1942.

Deputy, Dorene Campanile. I'm sure they both will fit in nicely with our group!

January 12 meeting was hosted by Jackie Smith and Judy Crosetti. We still have many meeting dates that need chairpersons, so please take a date and sign up!

Thanks to all of our officers who attended the San Mateo District Installation of Officers on January 16. Branch 351 did a great job on hosting this event, with both Installation and luncheon held at the Elks in San Mateo. Change is good.

As always, please remember to keep in your prayers, our members who are unable to attend our meetings. Also pray for David Novi (husband of our past deputy, Annette Novi) and Annette's mother, Julia Padreddi, who is recovering from a fall. Call Roberta or Jackie, if you know of any members who need cards or phone calls.

Date to remember: On February 28 (Sunday), there will be a workshop at Holy Angels Hall in Colma from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon, covering ICF leadership, membership growth & retention and community connections.

All members are encouraged to attend, especially officers. Following the workshop, the San Mateo District will have their Semi-Annual District Mass



Grand President Leonard Zasoski, Jr. installing the officers of the Santa Clara Valley District.

at 1:00 PM with a light meal to follow. Please let our president, Barbara Gabriel, know if you are interested. Reservations are due by February 24.

Hope to see you all at our regular dinner meeting on February 9.

*Roberta*

### San Carlos

#### St. Charles, Br. 327

It is with great sadness that I begin this report with the death of Gayton DeRosa. Gayton was a charter member of our branch and was also the first president of Branch 327. He was co-chairperson and dedicated worker of ICF's Caring Hands group. He will be greatly missed. May he rest in peace.

The installation of officers was held on Saturday, January 16 at the San Mateo Elks Club with lunch following...a very nice event.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, February 16. Our menu will be our annual meatloaf dinner prepared by the Youngs who come all the way from Cool, CA to fix for us. Your reservation slips will be in the February newsletter.

Sunday, February 28 is the first semi-annual District Mass. It will be at 1:00 pm at Holy Angels Parish, 107 San Pedro Road, Colma. There will be a social in the hall following the Mass. Please let Tom Malaspina know at the February meeting if you plan to attend.

Preparation is underway for our annual St. Patrick's Day Anniversary dinner. Please save the date, Saturday, March 5. The price is \$35.00 per person. More information to follow.

And I was remiss in not mentioning that the wonderful November meal was prepared by new members Christine King and Donna Mackay with an assist from Rose Beall. Thank you all.

*Ciao,*

*Virginia Malaspina*

### Millbrae

#### St. Dunstan, Br. 403

At our February meeting we were served our annual delicious soup dinner prepared by our Past President Carla Del Carlo.

We are looking forward to our installation of officers which will take place on February 16 at the San Mateo Elks Club. Our officers for this year are as follows: President-Mary Vella Treseler, 1st.Vice Pres.-Dan Capodanno, 2nd. Vice Pres.-Paul Larson, Treasurer-Eunice Danli, Recording Secretary-Lois Agresti, Corr. Secretary-Rose Marie Morando, Orator-Roy Fry, Trustees-Jack Gardner, Lorrie Kalos-Gunn, Helen Habeeb, Sentinel-Ann Gardner. We thank Past President Lorrie for her hard work, dedication and commitment to our Branch.

We invite you to join us in celebrating our 26th Anniversary on February 21 with dinner in our parish center at 5:00PM. Dinner will consist of chicken with pasta con pesto, antipasto, salad, wine and dessert for \$25 per person. For reservations send check payable to Branch #403 to Dan Capodanno, 325 San Jose, Millbrae, CA 94030 by February 16, 2016.

## Marin

### Larkspur

#### St. James, Br. 161

Remember on February 16 will be our monthly meeting in Healey Hall. That evening Grand President Leonard Zasoski, Jr. will be installing the officers.

One of our members gave us 88 pieces of toiletries (from his recent travels) which in turn we will donate to the needy. If you travel and you get the toiletries, please save them and donate them to us and we will donate to others.

Our deepest condolences to the family of Eva Ceccotti who recently passed away.

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

Wishing everyone a very Happy Valentine's Day.

Hope to see you at the meeting.

*Ciao,*

*Anna Biggio*

# San Jose

## Santa Clara Valley

### District Council

Congratulations to all of the Branches for successfully having their officers installed at the wonderful installation mass at Resurrection Church. Grand President Leonard Zasoski presided with assistance from other central council dignitaries. GP Zasoski also gave his "State of the ICF" talk highlighting the accomplishments of 2015. Then off to a Buffet luncheon at Mariani's all part of the day's arrangements provided by President Ric Shimshock and Branch 408, District President Denise Antonowicz was Master of Ceremonies at the Luncheon. Elaine Osorio and Andy Pappani received a well-deserved Deputy of the year Award.

The SCV District meeting was held at Transfiguration Church with all branches represented. Branch reports indicated a positive start for the year. Thanks to Louise Vento for sharing early Santa Clara Valley history. The annual "Christmas in the Park" tree trimming, spearheaded by Bill Greco and Antonowicz family, went well. All Presidents are reminded to provide an Event Calendar and contact information to Sec. Marie Yurosko.

Branch events include the following:

Br. 368 – Santa Teresa Parish Crab Dinner - 2/5

Br. 391 – Valentine Dinner Dance – 2/13

Br 47 – Crab Dinner – 2/27

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

*Mike Nunziata*

### San Jose

#### Holy Cross, Br. 4

I hope you all had a great Holiday Season. Now



Smiling faces of No. 184 officers, waiting for Installation to start, following Mass at the Church of the Resurrection. Pictured are Norma Buonaccorsi, Marie and Joe Yurosko, Barbara White, Lucy Amico, Rose Arnaudo, Marie and Michelle Antonowicz, and Julie Klem Brusco.

it's time to get back to work!

You should have received your Calendar for the year, and your Dues notice. Our Financial Secretary Connie will not be collecting dues for a while, so please pay them at the meeting, or mail them to Bill Greco at his home address.

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to Connie. She fell and broke her hip, and is in Rehab.

Feb 3- Dinner meeting

March 2- Dinner meeting

April 6- General Meeting Phone Committee will call with Meal information and reservations.

Please try to attend the meetings. Dinner is at 6:00, Meetings start at 7:00.

Our sincere thanks to Andy Pappani who was our Branch Deputy for the past few years. We will miss you and your lovely wife, Sid.

Please remember our sick members in your prayers.

Best Wishes for a Blessed and Healthy New Year!

*Ann Fitzgerald*

### Santa Clara

#### N.S. Assunta, Br. 5

Thanks to all members who have paid their dues for 2016. Members can also pay at our next dinner meeting and/or mail it to the Financial Secretary.

Officers are making plans for this new year - 2016. The yearly informational packet will be available to all members and will be handed out and/or mailed as soon as possible. Your attendance at the meetings is so important, in keeping you informed, reconnecting with friends, and giving input into making this an enjoyable year for all.

Volunteers are always needed for the dinner/meetings, to set up, serve, pass out desserts, and cleanup.

Ash Wednesday, the start of the Lenten season, begins on February 10, 2016. Valentine's Day is on February 14, 2016.

Happy Valentine's Day to all members, guests, and families.

*Ciao,*

*Marlene J. Rotolo*

### Gilroy

#### Santa Maria Ausiliatrice, Br. 28

Happy Valentine's Day to all our members.

Our February dinner meeting will be on February 22 due to the President's Holiday on our usual date.

Ash Wednesday is on February 10.

Our Scholarship Breakfast will be on Sunday

March 6. Support scholarships for our children. We give out 5 scholarships each year. Two to college bound children, one for the second year college student, and two to St Mary School eighth grade students. If you have a grandchild or child who has received a scholarship or will be applying for one, you need to come and join us on March 6. We will also have a bake sale, so get out your baking utensils and bring down a delicious creation for our sale. And don't forget to pick something up for a tasty treat for home. The breakfast is from 7AM to 11:30AM in Cullen Hall. Adults \$8.00 and children 12 years and younger \$4.00. We need your support. Bring your family and friends and have a nice visit over really good food served by our expert kitchen crew.

*See you at our breakfast,*

*Anna Barberi*

### Los Gatos

#### St. Mary, Br. 184

Officers for 2016 were installed after Mass at the Church of the Resurrection in Sunnyvale on January 9. Luncheon followed at Mariani's Restaurant, where Denise Antonowicz was the Master of Ceremonies. Everybody is ready to take on the New Year. Hello 2016 - let's roll up our sleeves and get to work!

If anyone has questions about scholarships, give our chairperson Rose Arnaudo a call (408 354 2016). We received a beautiful letter from Anna Arnaudo, PhD, thanking us for awarding her our scholarship for four years at Bryn Mawr, from which she graduated in 2002. She went on to earn a Masters and Doctorate in Molecular Biology. We are so proud of Anna, who has been coming to our ICF dinners with her parents since she was a little girl!

Speaking of dinners, save February 27 for our Spring Dinner Dance. More information to follow.

Please keep member Marcia Green in your prayers. She is helping at St. An's Orphanage in Viet Nam with a group of her fellow nurses. We pray for the good health of all of our members and their families.

*Wishing you all a Happy St. Valentine's Day,*

*Lucy Amico*

### San Jose

#### Santa Teresa of Avila, Br. 368

The saga of the unopened parish hall goes on. There it sits, gleaming in its newness, ringed by a wire fence. The unused hall reminds one of a brand new, striped freeway with its entrance ramps blocked. We hope to have the electricity turned on soon.



Joe Lillig and Branch 435's new President Giulia Gallego, presenting a donation to St. Vincent De Paul.

We are happy to report that our Christmas food drive successfully served 150 families with Christmas meals, gave out gifts for 85 families, and provided clothes for many in need. Joyce and Phil Robba once again so capably chaired this event, largely staffed by our ICF branch members.

Congratulations and thank you again to our 2016 officers, duly installed on January 9th after Mass at the Church of the Resurrection in Sunnyvale. Our branch member Elaine Osorio was honored as Deputy of the Year for our district. Congratulations, Elaine! We know of your dedication and enthusiasm for our Federation. Thank you for all you do!

After the installation we enjoyed a beautiful lunch buffet at Mariani's Restaurant in Santa Clara.

That's it for this month. Happy Valentine's Day!

*Ciao,*

*Judy Zahn*

## San Jose

### St. Martin of Tours, Br. 391

The annual Valentine Dinner Dance fundraiser starts at 6:00pm on February 13th, and includes no host cocktails, mouth watering steak dinner, and dancing. We hope you can attend the largest annual fundraiser. Money raised supports scholarship, seminarians, and many of the non-profits to which #391 annually donates. Please arrive at St. Martin's gym at 6:00pm on February 12th if you are able to help Jesse Romero and Pete Sanchez set-up for the dance.

Congratulations to Branch #391's three new members: Paul Robles, George Delucchi, and Lynda Vallorz. Welcome to the ICF! We are proud to be the 5th largest branch in the organization.

Congratulations to Mike Rossi, our new branch president on hosting the first meeting of the new year. Louise Vento presented an interesting Heritage Report about the local fruit orchards tended by immigrant families. If you have any photographs or information you would like in #391's branch report, please contact Bianca Vallorz prior to the 10th, for it to appear in the next months newsletter. Please submit scholarship applications to Sal Lipari by March 15th for review and consideration for the 2016-2017 academic year. Be sure to submit your 2016 branch dues to Tina Rossi.

*Ciao,*

*Bianca Vallorz*

## Sunnyvale

### Resurrection, Br. 408

Ash Wednesday and ICF Lenten Soup is rapidly approaching. We look forward to kicking off this important devotional preparation for Easter in this Papal Year of Mercy

The Stanford Blood Bank Congratulates once again congratulates Br. 408 for hosting the collection of nearly two hundred units of Blood in past year of 2015. Thanks to all who support this important Community Service.

Our enthusiastic Raffle ticket sellers were able to raise \$170 in support of our Seminarians. Thank you for your efforts.

Please remember to mail in your dues statements for 2016.

Installation of 2015 Br 408 Officers was held at Resurrection on Jan 9th in a beautiful Mass Presided by Msgr Milani, Fr. George Arahna, and Fr. Phong.

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

## Morgan Hill

### Santa Caterina D'Allessandria, Br. 435

December was a busy month for our branch. Rich and Joan Della Maggiore were our wonderful cooks who treated us to a delicious ,amazing dinner of Pork Roast with all the trimmings, along with yummy Tortellini. Thank you so much for a remarkable dinner. We also had many nice desserts and a beautiful cake that Denise and Sal Campagna treated us to complete our wonderful dinner.

This year we also gave a generous donation to Joe and Carol Lillig (who are big advocates and organizers to the free dinners here at St.Catherine's every Monday night)

This donation was a gift to St. Vincent De Paul, this organization has been a big part of St. Catherine's ministry and Church.

We also brought toys to donate to St. Vincent De Paul. I'm sure we made many children very happy. Thank you to all the members who donated toys.

This year instead of Santa Claus we had 2 action hero's. First we saw Iron Man, and later Captain America appeared. Under these costumes was Danny Curry, whose mom Annamarie built and designed these amazing costumes, with help from Danny. Fran Scalzo is Danny's Grandma (Nana) A lot of hard work went into this project, Danny and other Action hero's visit many children's hospital in the Bay area.

Wishing all our friends and families a Happy, Healthy and Blessed New Year.

*Donna Basilin*

# Santa Rosa

## Santa Rosa

### Santa Rosa, Br. 18

Our 2016 calendar of events to date-some additional information to come;Jan.6 Regular Meeting,refreshments by Thom Ngyn-Doreen O'Rourke's friend.January 17<sup>th</sup>-Installation of Officers for Branches 144 Arcata&145 Eureka. Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>,Installation of Officers for all other branches of our District. Host Branch 103,President Tom Wurst, Lila Boragno,Financial Secretary,tel: 996-3448. New District President Spence Burton,Br.127 Petaluma welcomes all to these important district events.Jan.23<sup>rd</sup>; Location; St.Francis Solano Church,469 Third Street West,Sonoma. Mass@ noon, followed by Installation. Each branch is responsible for their officers' regalia. Branches are invited to bring hors d'ourves to share at the pre-luncheon social hour. Branches are asked to bring a raffle prize valued at

a minimum of \$25.00. Reception-Fr.Roberts Hall behind the church following Installation.Should an officer be unable to attend they must provide a proxy.Cost , \$20.00.Members to RSVPTo Lila Boragno ,996-3448 or Marie ,431-0563 by January 18<sup>th</sup>. The District Directory,2016 edition ready to hand out by Installation. Further updates to Branch 18 2016 calendar of events in future monthly branch 18 newsletters and Bollettino articles. Benvenuto,newest member,Bill Occhipinti!

*Ciao,*

*Marie Canale*

## Healdsburg

### St. Francis de Sales, Br. 52

We celebrated our 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a branch and initiated new members at the January 16 Polenta Dinner. Thank you to Richard Passalacqua and his crew for cooking the delicious dinner. Photos from the event will be in the March Bollettino. This was our last Polenta Dinner of the season. You'll have to wait until November, for the next one.

Upcoming Events:

Feb. 2: Branch meeting, 7 PM at the Rectory.

Feb. 19: Our 2nd Annual Fish Fry. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending. This event sold out last year. In addition to the delicious dinner, we will have a silent auction, raffle and buy-ins. Reservations a must by calling Mary Madden 431-0438, or Nancy Seppi 433-4708.

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

We will also be hosting one of the Soup suppers during Lent.

If you haven't paid your 2015 dues, yet, please send them to Bill Jones. We'd like to have all members paid in full by the end of March. As of February, 85% of our members have paid their dues. Thank you!

*Happy Valentine's Day!*

*Lauren Kilcullen*

## Cloverdale

### L'Anunciata, Br. 75

We're beginning The New Year with some changes in our branch. Carmen Kilcullen will no longer be our Branch Deputy. The office will be filled by Robert Aquistapace who relinquished his membership with us in order to satisfy the requirement that The Deputy must be from outside the branch. We said goodbye to Carmen at our Christmas party and presented her with a gift of thanks for serving Cloverdale for over seven years. Many thanks, Carmen, and best wishes in your new commitments to Healdsburg, Branch 51, and all the other things you do for The District and Central Council.

Our December Christmas party was wonderful!..... festively decorated by Ceil and Kris....and the potluck with so many delicious entrees couldn't have been better. It was fun to take care of our business in an informal manner and just take time to relax and play. Our gifts for The Wallace House targeted the children who were given items that overextended parents would be unable to provide like theater tickets, popcorn and candy. The director told us that movies were a favorite because the theater is close and easy to access within walking distance of their shelter. Many other items brought in reflected the thoughtfulness of our members and the beauty of the season. We added Joe Dellaquila to our officers' slate when he agreed and was approved as a Trustee.

Father Mario Valencia, who has only been our pastor for several months and who became an enthusiastic member of the branch has been reassigned to various parishes in the Lakeport/Clearlake area. We will be welcoming Father David Galeana from Eureka in a couple of weeks. Many "shifts" in the diocese are being made because of the death of Sonoma's Father Michael Kelly. It's a period of adjustment for us, as well as Sonoma; please accept our condolences; once again, we will

be experiencing our third change of a pastor in just a couple of years. Father Mario's theatrics, humor and general, "joie de vivre" will be sorely missed! Yes, I know, Napa.....you missed him first!!! We feel your pain now that it's happened to us! He has told us that he's leaving us in good hands with Father David!

Our January Meeting will focus on our major fundraiser, The Chicken/Spaghetti Dinner held February 13th, the weekend of The Cloverdale Citrus Fair. Of course we will also be wrapping up details to attend The Installation of Officers in Sonoma on the 23rd of January. We wish to congratulate Robert and Kathy Aquistapace on the 50th anniversary of St. Eugene's Branch198; since it was sold out, I would imagine it was a rousing success!

We're looking forward to seeing many of you in Sonoma and to those of you who will not be attending, we wish you a year filled with faith, family, friends, food and fun! Happy New Year!!

*Patsy Buchignani*

## Sonoma

### St. Sebastian, Br. 103

Branch 103 sadly announces the sudden passing of our beloved chaplain Father Michael Kelly in December. We thank all the members of the Federation for their prayers. Father Mike was a holy and caring priest and is greatly mourned in the entire Sonoma and San Francisco areas, as well as other places throughout the USA where he had many family members and friends. He was accompanied to Ireland by members of his family and friends where he was buried with his mother and father. May he rest in peace.

It was a great turnout for the District installation on January 23, at St. Francis Solano Parish in Sonoma. Branch President, Tom Wurst, welcomed the branches of the District to the Mass, installation and luncheon. It was a grand gathering with all the branch officers wearing their officer status ribbons. Pictures will appear in the next "Bollettino" since the print deadline was already past for this month.

Our next dinner will be on February 9, 2016. For dinner reservations, call Lila at (707) 996-3448.

*Tanti saluti,*

*Marie-Therese Denning*

## Petaluma

### St. Vincent, Br. 127

Greetings from Petaluma!

Isn't it wonderful to see the rain. We prayed and our prayers have been answered. We finally have the rain and the abundance of snow in the mountains. God is good.

The year 2015 went by so fast. Our new year has started and we already have busy schedules. The Officers of the Branch and the District are already busy with their new agendas and the new meetings.

Our Christmas Party was attended by many members and everyone had a great evening. After dinner we sang a few Christmas carols. Our thanks to Kathleen Walker and Denise DiGirolamo for putting the dinner together.

The Petaluma Branch has already had their soup/dessert night, which I missed due to out of town guests. But I am sure that the cooks did a great job and that everyone who went had a wonderful dinner. Thank you to the cooks and all who helped to make the dinner and the meeting a success.

Feb. 8th - Regular Meeting - Room 9

Petaluma Branch will be hosting the first District Meeting of the year which will be on February 21st at 1:00 p.m. in St. James Church Hall. We will be needing help for this meeting so if you can help call Lucy -769-7389

As always during Lent, we will be holding our annual St. Joseph's Table/Dinner (Festa di San Giuseppe) on Saturday, March 19th. The dinner will be held at the St. James Parish Hall, 125



Ninety people attended the 50th Anniversary dinner for St. Eugene's Branch 198 in Santa Rosa on January 9, 2016. In attendance were Grand President Leonard Zasoski, Grand 2nd Vice President Vince Piro, Grand Secretary Lauren Kilcullen, Grand Trustee Anne Interrante, Past Grand President Carmen Kilcullen, Past Grand President and President of Branch 198 Robert Acquistapace. Grand Parliamentarian and Past Grand President David Botta served as the Master of Ceremonies. David Botta addresses the guests and members of Branch 198.

Sonoma Mountain Parkway, Petaluma. Doors open at 6:00PM. Antipasti and cocktails: 6:15PM. The traditional all meatless "baked salmon" dinner will begin by 7:00PM (includes salad, pasta, baked salmon, dessert and wine). This event is open to the public, though seating is very limited! No tickets will be sold at the door. Reservations and Tickets MUST be purchased in advance. Cost Adults: \$25. Children under 12: \$10.

For more information - Phone: 707-763-9082, Email: Spence@ItalianCatholicFederation.com (leave a phone number (email address) at which you can be reached.) Mail your checks to ICF #127, P.O. Box 5522, Petaluma, CA 94955-5522. Checks should be made payable to: ICF #127.

Glad to hear that Barbara Crescenti is doing better after being in Rehab. Sorry to report that Settimo Torrano, past member, has passed on. Miss Tula Bologna since she has moved to San Mateo to an Assisted Living facility.

Thinking of Frank and Roseanna Cresci and the Orlando family, especially when we think of the St. Joseph Table and all the hard work and many donations they made to the Branch in the past years..Love you and miss you.

Get well wishes to anyone who is ill. Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary wishes to all celebrating this month. Happy St. Valentine's Day to all. Don't forget to tell your sweethearts you love them.

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

*Ciao,*

*Louise Vicino*

## Eureka

### St. Ambrose, Br. 145

Welcome to 2016! As I reflect over 2015 and all of the events we accomplished we have been pretty busy. From the beginning of last year we started out with a March Madness fund raiser and hope to continue with another one this year. We also participated in a peanut and jelly drive for Betty Chinn who feeds countless numbers of homeless everyday. We had an overwhelming response. Another example of giving back to our community. During April our scholarship committee had the task of selecting our local scholarship winner. May was pretty busy as well with a pizza potluck and the introduction of our scholarship winner. We also had a successful biscotti sale, which funded our cocoa with Santa in December. During the summer months we hosted the Mezzo Agosto picnic. Everyone had a great time eating, drinking wine, visiting, and last but not least, playing bocce.

Our biggest event of the year was our September scholarship fundraiser spaghetti dinner. We are a

small crew, but with the dedication of our members it was a great success! Thank you to all members who set up, prepared the food, to serving, to the "ever dreaded" job of clean up. Also thank you Jerry Colivas for preparing the delicious sauce.

Also in September we had a fund raiser at Applebees Restaurant. It is also a good way to show the community what we are about.

Our year ended with our traditional cocoa with Santa. The children have a great time and the adults always enjoy our delicious brunch.

Reflecting back over the year I have I have concluded that we may be small in numbers but working together we are MIGHTY. Thank you to all of our members for your hard work and your commitment to the ICF. Happy New Year!

Please continue to pray for all members and their families.

*Peace and good health to all,*

*Nancy Paoli*

## Santa Rosa

### St. Eugene, Br. 198

January was a big month for our branch. Longtime President Bob Acquistapace became 1st Vice President and Gene Zingarelli became President. All other officers maintained their positions. On January 9, we celebrated our 50th Anniversary with a special mass, celebrated by Rector Frank Epperson, cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and a fine dinner for 86 members and guests at The Villa, an Italian restaurant in Santa Rosa. Several local branches and the Central Council members including the Grand President attended. David Botta, former Grand President, was the MC. Four charter members were honored: Bob and Kathy Acquistapace were awarded a plaque for 50 years of service to our branch, the Santa Rosa Diocese District and the Central Council. Mary Desideri and Rose Anderson were awarded with certificates for their 50 years of support and service. The Central Council awarded our branch a 50 Year attachment for our banner.

We look forward to a very good 2016, our 51st year, with our officers installation at Sonoma's St. Francis Solano Church on January 23. Our next meetings are February 1 for St. Valentine and March 7 for our St. Patrick Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner.

*Gene Zingarelli, President*

## Sebastopol

### St. Michael, Br. 209

At our January meeting, members enjoyed an "Italian Potluck" and, as usual, no doubt the food was great!!

There is not much to report at this writing, so this article will be pretty short.

Dues are now payable. Please mail your check to: Gerrie Goin, 1883 Paradise Lane, Santa Rosa, CA 95401.

Upcoming:

February 2 -- 6 p.m. - Board Meeting

February 9 -- 6 p.m. - Regular Meeting

February 20 -- Chicken & Polenta Dinner - 6:30 p.m. Call Lona (527-1021) for tickets.

Happy St. Valentine's Day to everyone!

*Ciao,*

*Lona Bertoli*

# Stockton

## District Council

The first District meeting will be Sunday, February 21, 2016, hosted by Br. 390 Tracy, Fr. Fleming Hall, St. Bernard Church, 163 E. Eaton Ave., Tracy. 1:30 p.m. \$8/person Presidents, call Ida Queirolo with a count of attendance and send your payment to: Ida Queirolo, 18424 Queirolo Road, Lathrop, CA 95330

BISHOP'S BURSE - SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 2016 - Attend the event of the year! Join us as Branch 413, Angels Camp, hosts this year's Bishop's Burse Mass and Dinner. Most Reverend Bishop S. Blaire will be presented a spiritual bouquet and a monetary donation to educate our diocesan seminarians. The mass begins at 10:15 a.m. at St. Patrick's Parish, 820 South Main Street, Angels Camp, Ca. The festivities continue in the Hall following mass with a dinner and presentation of gifts. \$25/adults, \$12.50/ children under 12. Presidents should send one check for their branch attendees to Ida Queirolo, 18424 Queirolo Road, Lathrop, CA 95330 by Feb. 28.

*Karen Rosson*

## Modesto

### St. Stanislaus, Br. 48

We had a very nice turnout for the Installation of Officers. Thanks to all the Central Council members for their support. Thanks very much to our branch members and our sister branches for all their help. We could not have done it without them. I placed the layout for the tables, the table coverings, scissors, the decoration and said this is what I would like to have done and in a flash everything was done. They also were just a efficient when it came time to put everything away. The desserts the branches brought were delicious.

Thanks to Father Daniel for saying the mass, Deacon Karl Welsbacker for his assistance, Joseph Pachinger as alter server. John Zamora for playing the piano, Joe Schiemmer for cantering, Karen Rosson and Anna Mello for doing the readings and communion ministers Frank Re and Josephine Weber. Tom Silvaggio was the sacristan.

Thanks to Karen Rosson who was our MC. She did a great job as usual. Thanks to Connie Gonsalves the caterer.

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

Mass for our deceased members will be Sunday, February 14, 2016 and March 20, 2016 at the 8:00 am at the Maze Blvd. Church.

Coming up:

Feb 10 7:00 - Meeting St Stanislaus Hall 7th and K Streets Modesto

Feb 21 1:30 - District meeting Br 390 Tracy

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

March 20 -2:00 pm St. Joseph's Table Potluck and drawing

*Cecelia McGhee*

## Tracy

### St. Bernard, Br. 390

Polenta was the star attraction at Branch 390's January monthly meeting, followed by chicken cacciatore all cooked to perfection by Mike Bacchetti and his staff. Even chief bartender Joe Bacchetti, his brother, complimented him as he prepared take-home containers for the many who purchased more of the perfection to take home!

Officers of the new year for our district were installed at a ceremony on Sunday January 3 with Modesto hosting. From Branch 390 we welcomed branch president Lucy Orsi, first vice-president Joe Bacchetti, 2nd vice-president Alena Chappell, recording secretary Anita Ridolfi, corresponding secretary, yours truly, financial secretary Annette Elissagaray, treasurer Serena Martocchio, orator Betty Hollars and trustees Nancy Schlemmer, Letty Fornasero, Mary Gualco, and sentinel Stephen Ridolfi. At the Stockton District posts from branch 390 are Lucy Orsi first vice-president, Betty Hollars recording secretary, Serena Martocchio financial secretary and trustee Annette Elissagaray. A beautiful Mass was said prior to the installation, followed by a great lunch provided by Modesto branch 48. Thank you!

Our branch 390 board meeting was held on Tuesday, January 12 to make decisions for the new year. More information will be provided next month. Also on the agenda for next month is the Stockton District meeting on Sunday, February 21 in Father Fleming Hall at St. Bernard's Church.

Wishing everyone a healthy, happy and safe New Year!

*Ciao for now,*

*Betty Hollars*

## Stockton

### Church of the Presentation, Br. 395

On January 3 a good number of our members attended the Installation of Officers held at St. Stanislaus Church in Modesto and our officers were initiated. An enjoyable day was had by all with the mass, installation and dinner. At our meeting on January 14, we had a potluck dinner and our guest speaker was Laurie Levine, Outreach Coordinator for the Thalassemia Program at Children's Hospital in Oakland. Our branch surprised Laurie with a baby shower on that night. Branch 395 is busy preparing for its annual Polenta/Chicken Cacciatore Dinner to be held February 11. If you have not done so, get your tickets from Karen Rosson by contacting Karen at (209) 465-8074 or [karenrosson@comcast.net](mailto:karenrosson@comcast.net).

Upcoming Events:

February 4 - Branch Meeting

February 7 - Quarterly Communion 8:45 am mass

February 11 - Polenta/Chicken Cacciatore dinner

February 14 - District Meeting, Tracy

March 6 - Stockton District Bishop's Burse

We hope your 2016 if off to a great start.

*Josephine Weber, President, Branch 395*

# Tucson

## Tucson

### Our Lady of the Valley, Br. 425

Nine new ICF members were inducted into ICF at the November meeting...one in December... Five more thus far this year...for a total of fifteen new members. We believe that our activity level...



**Late Nite  
Catechism™**  
by Vicki Quade & Maripat Donovan

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

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

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



*Late Nite Catechism* will be presented at Holy Names University Regents Theatre 3500 Mountain Blvd., Oakland, CA. Performance is SATURDAY, APRIL 16TH 7:00 PM  
wine and cheese reception beginning at 5:30 PM

Tickets are \$40.00 Mezzanine and \$50.00 for Orchestra and Box seats, discounts available for groups of 10 or more and are available by calling brown paper tickets at 1-800-838-3006 ex 1, or on-line at

<http://ICFLNC.brownpapertickets.com>



Branch 425 cookie sales team wait for after-mass crunch. (right to left Judy Cummings, chair; Bill Cummings & Barbara Barton). Sale netted \$1,390.

work hard...play hard...is largely responsible...

**Play** 26 of us carpoled to the Gaslight Theater to learn how the pure of heart overcame the forces of evil to "save" Christmas (It happens every Year.) Following the theater we had dinner at Quail Creek. Our Christmas brunch and gift exchange was held at the Desert Diamond Casino. Many of us choose to attend nine o'clock mass and then go to breakfast as a group...sometimes 20 strong... seated together. We are family.

**Work** Our ICF Christmas Cookie sale was an outstanding success...earning \$1,390 for as many as 60 dozen cookies. Planning is underway for our annual major fund raiser ... a Sit Down dinner for 225 and Take- Away Lasagna Dinner for 250 in February. It takes many hands to prepare and serve a complete meal (60 baking pans of lasagna.) We are gathering ideas for improving the participation at our St. Joseph Table dinner held in March. Another cookie sale at Easter Time. We just finished with our meatball Dinner Take-Out for 425.

**Business** Branch 425 provides funds that become Holiday meals ... presents under the tree. We currently sponsor 4 college scholarships. We are joining with Tucson Branches 434 and 433 on February 13th for a memorable Bishops Day with far greater attendance. We are family.

Barbara Barton, reporting

### Tucson

#### Fr. Euscibio Kino, Br. 433

Believe it or not, it is COLD here in Tucson with snow on the mountains where we like to keep it!!! Brrrr!!!!

At the regular meeting of Branch 433 held on Sunday, January 10, 2016 the members were welcomed back with good wishes for the New Year. New officers and Branch Deputy Stephany Brown took their positions at the head table and began their work for the coming year.

A warm welcome was given to our newest member Marie Corso; unfortunately her husband, Wayne, was not able to be present. Maria gave a brief history of the couple which led them to Tucson and the ICF.

President Melissa Rodriguez asked 1st Vice President Jim Acitelli to chair the Branch Apostolate Committee as he had previous experience gained while a Central Council member and serving as a member and then chairman of the ICF Apostolate Committee.

Vacancies in two officer positions were filled with Debby Gomez filling the position of 2nd Vice President and Julie Horton becoming the 3rd Trustee.

Twelve members indicated they would be attending Bishop's Day at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish on Saturday, February 13, 2016. We will attend the 5 pm Mass and then the dinner and installation of officers. Our Branch will provide the salad and rolls for the meal.

Discussion was held on future fund raising and "fun raising" events. Our next meeting will be Sunday, February 14, 2014, in Madonna Hall at Ss. Peter and Paul Parish.

## ICF Is Going Green!

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

## ICF Hospitalization Plan

Annual Cost – Only \$25

Eligibility – ICF members who join before their 70<sup>th</sup> birthday

### Benefits

- \$100 per use of operating room in hospital or surgical center
- \$75-1<sup>st</sup> day, \$50-2<sup>nd</sup> day, \$25 each day thereafter per hospital stay
  - \$500 per calendar year/\$500 per illness

### Features

- Membership continues beyond the age of 70 yrs. old
  - Payments are made directly to you
  - No medical examination is required to join
- Claims are accepted up to 1 year after hospital stay and/or surgical procedure

To apply now, visit our website [www.icf.org](http://www.icf.org) or call

1-888-ICF-1924

## Dan Casagrande, MBA

Local Reverse Mortgage Expert



## My Approach is Simple

*I treat my clients as I would treat **my own family**. The same level of care, education and service that I would provide my own.*

### Home Equity Conversion Mortgage Program:

- Available to eligible homeowners 62 and older
  - No required monthly mortgage payments\*
  - Eliminate existing mortgage payments
    - FHA insured loan
  - Flexible payout options
- You retain ownership & title to home
- Improve monthly retirement cash flow
  - Increased flexibility and choice

\*Borrower must reside in home as primary residence and remain current on property taxes and insurance.

Call me today for a free no-obligation quote

408-297-0000

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