

IN TOUCH

Italian Catholic Federation

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District Deputy Newsletter

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A MESSAGE TO ALL DEPUTIES

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for your dedication and service to the I.C.F. this past year. 2016 should be an exciting year for the Federation.

As a Deputy, you hold the important job of being a Mentor. You are someone who has seen it all before and you can share your experience and teach valuable lessons.

Hopefully, by now, all Branch Officers should have been elected for the New Year. I am aware that there are many first time officers, including some in the office of the President this year. Deputies, please sit with the Branch Officers, go over the responsibilities of each office and give them the support they will need. If possible, please try to attend the first board meeting of your assigned Branch and make sure the Branch has a calendar of events and a budget for the coming year.

You can help the Presidents and their officers conduct business smoothly and efficiently by offering your support and knowledge. Please give a Deputy Report but also spend time, one on one, with the President. Make suggestions that have worked for you and been successful at the District and Branch levels.

Mentoring is a great skill and can be an enjoyable experience.

Please remember to be a POSITIVE influence and don't forget to send in your reports to me in a timely manner.

BISHOPS' DAYS 2016

Again this year, I want to encourage all Districts and Branches to start early preparing for their Bishop's Day.

Plan special fundraisers to increase the Bishop's Burse donations from the Branches.

I have given this information before regarding the cost of educating seminarians. This was provided to me by our I.C.F. Spiritual Director, Monsignor Daniel Cardelli, BUT we need to keep these amounts in mind. So, PLEASE share this with all of the members AGAIN.

The Diocese pays for the seminarians. Most come from other countries and don't have the ability to contribute to the cost of education and formation. Here's a summary of the cost per seminarian per year

Tuition	\$12,795
Room and Board	\$10,532
Medical Insurance	\$ 5,028
Books/Retreat	\$ 950
Personal Living	\$ 1,575
Total	\$30,880

Start early to encourage more members to attend Bishop's Day. Our presence shows our Bishops respect, support and appreciation.

COMMITTEE REQUESTS

The **Awards Committee** is asking that the Branches start early to submit names for the 5 Awards to be given out at Convention: Pope Saint John XXIII, Grand President's, Family of the Year, Mother Teresa and Young Adult Leadership Awards.

The deadline is May 1, 2016. When you receive the application forms, please read them completely. The Central Council Awards Committee needs all of the required material for the packet to be complete.

The **Public Relations Committee** is asking those members that write the article for the

Bollettino to send them in by e-mail. This will help to speed things up, save the expense of having to re-write the articles and allows the Editor to communicate earlier with the P.R. person in the Branch. We realize that some Branches do not have a P.R. person with a computer or computer skills. Write your article as you usually do and ask a friend to send the article in using their computer. That way you visit a friend and at the same time help the Bollettino Editor. Michelle Feldman's home phone is (925) 693-0471. E-mails should be sent to icfeditor@gmail.com.

WORKSHOPS

Your I.C.F. Workshop Committee is ready and Available NOW for a presentation to your District. They will demonstrate any 60 to 90 minute presentation on many of the I.C.F. Programs. Your District President should discuss this with the Branches and select at least two or three topics for a presentation by the Workshop Committee. The topics include Spiritual Activities, Membership Growth, Awards Program, Heritage/History, Financial Reports Fundraisers for Charitable Programs, Officers'/Deputies' Duties or any other topics of interest. The Workshop Committee would like to schedule your workshop during the months of March, April or May. Contact Andy Pappani via e-mail at pappani1@yahoo.com or cell # 831-801-0557. The Workshop Committee consists of Robert Acquistapace, David Botta, Vince Piro and Robert Pachinger.

WANT TO BE A DEPUTY?

Please keep an eye out for individuals who can serve as a Branch Deputy. Many members will not come forward and volunteer to be a Deputy. However, I have noticed that when a member is asked to serve as a Deputy he/she more than likely accepts the invitation.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DEPUTIES TO SPEAK ON AT BRANCH MEETINGS

- Membership Retention and Payment of Dues.
- Make sure that a list of the newly elected District/Branch Officers is sent to the I.C.F. office.
- Make sure each Branch has a published yearly calendar of events that has been given to every member and encourage each President to have Chairpersons for all Branch Committees.
- Encourage all Branch members to attend the District Installation of Officers. Insist that all Officers, or a Representative, attend the District Installation of Officers' Ceremony.
- Encourage Members to join the Hospitalization Program.
- Information on our Scholarship Program has been mailed to all of the high schools where the Federation is located.

Encourage Branches to contribute at least one full scholarship if they have the means. Partial scholarship donations are also accepted and encouraged. Encourage members who have children or grandchildren who are high school seniors and meet the criteria to apply. March 15th is the deadline for donations and applications.

•Encourage Branches to increase donations to the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Year and Italian Studies Scholarships this year. The need is great for our advanced Scholarship Program.

•Encourage members to make contributions to the Providenza Seminary Fund, Cooley's Anemia, Gifts of Love and Scholarship Programs. Donation cards are available through the I.C.F. office.

•Remind Branches to: pay the Per Capita Tax when the bill is received. Consider now how to have sufficient funds (try fundraisers) to send their Delegates to the Convention this year over Labor Day Weekend.

MEMBERSHIP AS OF 12/31/15 BY DISTRICT

Gain/Loss since
6/30/15

Central Coast	1423	- 25
Santa Clara Valley	1101	+ 7
Fresno	1046	+ 5
Santa Rosa	829	- 12
Contra Costa	811	- 13
San Mateo	775	- 5
Los Angeles	576	- 1
Chicago	466	- 71
Blessed Sacrament	420	+25
Stockton	395	+19
East Bay	394	- 4
San Diego	339	- 2
Santa Barbara/Ventura	289	+80
San Francisco	269	- 3
Marin	256	- 4
San Gabriel Valley	232	+ 2
Tucson	123	+ 7
Orange	118	- 2
San Fernando Valley	66	- 3
San Bernardino	57	- 1
Reno	45	- 2
Las Vegas	40	- 1

Total membership as of 12/31/15 **10,070**

New Members	363
Reinstated	12
Cancelled/Non Payment	274
Deceased	105
Dues Not Paid 6 – 8 months	21
Dues Not Paid 9 – 12 months	363