



# BOLLETTINO



**Buon Anno! Happy New Year! Buon Anno! Happy New Year! Buon Anno!**



## San Diego Bishop's Day

On Sunday, October 12, 2014, the San Diego District ICF held its annual Bishop's Day Banquet at St. Rose of Lima Church in Chula Vista. The 10:00 a.m. mass was concelebrated by Pastor of St. Rose of Lima, Father Luke Jauregui, Father Pedro Rivera, Diocesan Director of Priestly Vocations and Father Bill Stevenson,

I.C.F. Diocesan Chaplain. Following mass a luncheon and program were held in the Social Center. Father Jauregui was the hosting pastor and Robert Maruca, the President of Branch 229 St. Rose of Lima was the Chairman of the event. Grand President, Robert Basuino, presented the C.C. contribution from the Providenza Fund

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## Reno Bishop's Day Celebration

Joining the members of Reno, St. Albert, Branch 135, were BG Zasoski, Grand

1st Vice President Leonard Zasoski, Jr., Bishop Randolph R. Calvo, Branch 135 President Carolyn Smith, and Branch 135 Chaplain Father Mike Mahone.



## Fresno Bishop's Day Photo Op

At the Fresno District Bishop's Day, Bishop Armando Ochoa took a photo with St. Anthony de Padua, Branch 308 members Antoinette and Angelo Pecora.



## Las Vegas Bishop's Day

The Las Vegas area held its Bishop's Day on November 2, 2014 at Our Lady of Las Vegas Roman Catholic Church. Branch 367, St. Francis de Sales hosted. Joseph A. Pepe, Bishop of Las Vegas, presided over the day's events.

Master of Ceremonies was Danny Centurioni. The Spiritual Bouquet was presented by Philomena Consiglio. The Seminary Burse donation was presented by Joe Donato (\$150 donated to Branch by member, Fr. John Assalone, Pastor of St. Francis of Assisi). A private donation was

*continued on page 24*



Pictured are Bishop Robert Vasa surrounded by ICF members, Santa Rosa District Chaplain Fr. Fergal McGuinness, Grand 1st VP Leonard Zasoski, Jr., District President Dante Corsetti, District Treasurer Sharon Hromeck, Past Grand President Robert Acquistapace, and Linda Sherman.

## Santa Rosa District Bishop's Day

Santa Rosa District Bishop's Day was held on October 19 at St. Eugene's Cathedral in Santa Rosa. Branch 198 was the host. Mass was celebrated by Bishop Vasa. Linda Sherman conducted a fine program as Mistress of Ceremonies. Fr. Fergal

McGuinness gave a good description and reason for our Spiritual Bouquet. In acceptance, Bishop Vasa thanked the ICF for our good work and asked for our prayers to assist him on his path toward peace and strength in the Church.

*continued on page 24*

## Grand President's Monthly Message

*by Bob Basuino*

**2015?** No, Really? Already? I cannot believe we are at the beginning of a New Year.

2014 was a very exciting year for the ICF and myself. Our 90th Anniversary with three wonderful Gala's attended by many of our members. Our outstanding Strategic

Planning retreat, and the first stages of the Strategic plan getting put into place. Yes, we do have a way to go yet, but we are on the right path for success. Our wonderful Convention in Oakland and, of course for me and my family, the birth of my fourth grandson Dean Basuino.



A big thank you, from the bottom of my heart, to all of the out-going officers of our branches and districts. All of your hard work has not gone unnoticed. Next, WELCOME to our new officers. New Officers please keep in mind that the Central Council is here to help you and we are only a phone call away. Please feel free to contact any one of us with any questions that you may have.

The other evening while I was doing some reading, I came across a very interesting quote from Bob Marley. Yes it is about the world, but I feel we as officers and members of the ICF need to keep this in mind. Marley stated, "When the power of love overcomes the love of power, the world will be a better place." This is no different with the ICF than any other organization.

We are here to serve our parishes and communities. We are not a part of the wonderful organization for the "power." We are part of the ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION FOR THE POWER OF LOVE to everyone we come in contact with.

May 2015 bring all of you, your families, and our branches good health, prosperity, and much happiness!!

Buon Anno a Tutti !!!

*Bob Basuino*

*Grand President*

## Central Council Meeting Minutes

**Saturday, October 18, 2014**  
Our Lady of Grace, Castro Valley, CA

**BOLLETTINO EDITION**

-The meeting was called to order at 1:00pm by Grand President Bob Basuino.

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TIME SENSITIVE: PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY!



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**UPCOMING:**

**2015 District Installations:**

- Jan. 10 Santa Clara Valley
- Jan. 11 San Francisco
- Jan. 17 Contra Costa  
San Bernardino  
San Mateo
- Jan. 18 East Bay
- Jan. 20 Marin
- Jan. 24 Blessed Sacrament
- Jan. 31 Santa Rosa
- Feb. 8 Los Angeles (includes San  
Fernando Valley, San Gabriel Valley  
and Santa Barbara/Ventura)
- Feb. 8 San Diego
- Feb. 10 Las Vegas
- Feb. 15 Orange
- Feb. 21 Tucson
- Feb. 22 Fresno
- Feb. 26 Chicago
- Feb. 28 Central Coast
- Jan. 17 Joint Installation of Br. 144,  
Arcata and Br. 145, Eureka

**2015 Bishops' Days:**

- Feb. 21 Tucson
- Mar. 7 Orange
- Mar. 28 Stockton
- Apr. 12 San Francisco (San Francisco,  
San Mateo & Marin)
- Oct. 11 Santa Rosa

**icfeditor@gmail.com**

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

# Pancho and David at the Forum

**Monsignor Daniel Cardelli**  
**ICF Spiritual Director**  
**ICFspiritDir@aol.com**

Happy New Year to all ICF members... and those who wish they were! This month I want to share with you a recent experience I had as the ICF "Public Eavesdropper." On my way to the Forum, much to my surprise, I came upon our own David Botta... doing what David does best, chatting up a fellow parishioner. In this case, it was Pancho McNeil.

David: "Hi, my name is David Botta and I represent the Italian Catholic Federation. Would you like to join our group?"

Pancho McNeil: "Well, I'm not Italian."  
David: "You don't have to be an Italian to be a member of the ICF. You just have to be a Catholic. We have a great organization. Wonderful people, wonderful outreach!"

Pancho M: "There are so many of these kinds of groups. What make the ICF so special?"

David: "Thanks for asking. The ICF was founded in 1924 to keep Italian immigrants close to their faith. That was 90 years ago, and the circumstances today are completely different. Now the ICF has evolved into an outreach group and participates in many wonderful charities. Our branches are located in Catholic dioceses in California, Arizona, Nevada, and Illinois."

Pancho M: "That's interesting. What kind of charities? Tell me more."

David: "Great! By joining a local branch, you will be joining a group of people who are excited about the idea of giving back. We are bonded by our faith, and we celebrate our diverse heritages in many ways. We know that together we can accomplish more than one can alone. We are active in various cultural events throughout the country, support our local parishes, and provide various charities with financial and other support."

Pancho M: "That sounds very good, but what does the ICF do specifically? Get to the point, David."

David: "OK, OK. OK. The ICF actively promotes and fosters ...

\* Cooley's Anemia Research. This is the main charity supported by the ICF. It is called the Thalassemia/Cooley's Anemia Program and is centered at Children's Hospital Research Center in Oakland, CA. Since 1994, the ICF has donated \$925,000 for this cause.

\* College Scholarship Programs. Since 1964, the Italian Catholic Federation has awarded over \$2,000,000 in scholarships to more than 6,000 high school graduates.

\* The Providenza Fund. The ICF donates money to support seminarians in their vocations to the priesthood.

\* Gifts of Love. This is a financial assistance program that grants funds to developmentally disabled children and adults seeking to achieve greater independence in their lives.

\* Organ Donor Awareness. The ICF promotes and encourages people to be organ donors.



Pancho M: "This is wonderful! I didn't know the ICF was such a giving, caring organization. Your group does a lot of good."

David: "You bet we do! We are proud of what we do for our charities. We also make sure we recognize people who make outstanding contributions to their communities. Every year, we give special awards to a select few who have made an extraordinary commitment to help others."

Pancho M: "Really? That too? Like what?"

David: "Well, we have quite a few."

\* Pope Saint John XXIII Award. This is the highest award bestowed by the ICF. It goes

*continued on page 3*

## Membership Retention -- Part 2

**Forrest Price**  
**CC Member Emeritus**

**The Role of the President** – The President sets the tone for meetings. The President should enjoy presiding at meetings, have a written outline of the meeting agenda but know the agenda well enough so that he/she would rarely have to refer to it. The President should welcome members with some light remarks and follow the prescribed format for conducting the meeting as set forth by the Central Council, be well-versed in "Robert's Rules of Order" and always after a motion and a second, ask if there is any discussion on the motion instead of simply calling for the question. The President should allow ample discussion on serious matters and should be courteous and fair to all. He or she should be prepared to handle amendments to the motion and "calls for the question" and voting on the motions. The wise President will also thank Committee Chairpersons for their reports and praise excellent work. Also, the successful President will make the necessary telephone calls, emails and letters that are part of the job in between meetings and also make those contacts that are a necessary part of meeting preparation.

**The Role of Other Officers** – The other branch officers also have an important role to play in the functioning of the branch. Although the performance of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, the Secretary and the Treasurer are of key importance, all of the officers, including Trustees, should competently

fulfill their duties. Secretaries need to present their minutes in a pleasant and audible voice; presenting the events of the previous meeting in a concise manner. Treasurers should also present their reports in an audible voice and in an organized manner. A pure recitation of a hodgepodge of numbers can frustrate the listener.

Also, the ideal general meeting would be followed by a meal and thereafter by a guest speaker or some form of entertainment. Along with various reports made during the meeting, a heritage report would be nice. At the close of a meeting, it is an excellent idea to recognize birthdays, anniversaries and special occasions.

**The Role of Membership** – The burden of having a successful branch does not fall on the shoulders of the officers alone. All members of a branch should do their part in volunteering to serve on committees, helping with special events and creating a special atmosphere at all events, including the meetings. Members should treat one another with courtesy and respect, especially making new members or prospective members feel welcome. Members should avoid having exclusive dining groups, always trying to include everyone, particularly new members. In the formal discussions taking place during a meeting, a member should discuss his or her opinion on a subject without becoming angry or extremely emotional. Members should always follow the "Golden Rule" in their dealings with one another.

Forrest Price, Central Council Member

**High Five!**

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

Central Coast	+34
Fresno	+24
Contra Costa	+22
San Mateo	+17
Santa Barbara	+14

**Membership Stats as of  
November 30, 2014:**

**10,440**

**Members as of July 1, 2014:**

10,454 = overall loss of 14 members

New:	265
Reinstated:	20
Transfer in/out:	20
Deceased:	-93
Cancelled:	-202
Non-payment >12 mos.:	-4

Emeritus originally wrote this article for the Bollettino in May 2014. As we begin this New Year, I decided to rerun his article in these last 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, Life Member of the Central  
Council*

Msgr. Cardelli

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to a lay person of any denomination who exemplifies humanitarian service to society.

\* Family of the Year Award. This award is given to an ICF family who demonstrates outstanding Christian service in their local community and parish.

\* Grand President’s Award. This is bestowed on a member of the ICF for his or her commitment to furthering the ideals and aims of the organization.

\* Mother Teresa Award. This award recognizes and honors a priest, nun, deacon, or brother for exemplary humanitarian work.

\* Young Adult Leadership Award. This award has been established to recognize an ICF member who is 39 years old or younger and has demonstrated outstanding leadership abilities.

Pancho M: “Wow! I am really impressed. The ICF is a busy group, for sure.”

David: “Wait! There’s more! In this NEW YEAR, we are involved in a Strategic Plan. We’re taking a good, long look at ourselves to see how we can stay viable in the 21<sup>st</sup> century as the “New ICF.” We’re now a vibrant outreach Federation focused on service to our Church and our community. We’re also a fun-loving group. We celebrate everything with food, and we have our regular dinners and dances at the same time we raise funds for our charities and parishes. Everybody should know who we are and what we are doing, Pancho. The ICF is a great Federation! So, Pancho, what do you think about becoming a member?”

Pancho M: “I am amazed! I thought the ICF was just a social group for Italians. Now I see what the ICF is all about. Yes, yes, I want to be a part of this group. I want to help. How do I become a member?”

David: “Here, I will show you. Just go to ICF.org.”

ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION  
HISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

David Botta and Carmen Kilcullen  
Past Grand Presidents

IT IS 1924 - - - -

Let us travel back in time to 1924. California is the land of opportunity for the many thousands of Italian immigrants searching for a better way of life. Even though they are intrinsically tied to their mother country of Italy, they know that their destiny now is to be found in this new land called California. However, these immigrants are often at a loss because the language is different, the customs are different and they need to learn new ways in order to survive.

Another situation has also arisen. Italians, who are, for the most part, Catholic, are drifting away from their church. Many feel alienated in the English-speaking church; others remember difficulties with their parishes in Italy, and still others decide that they do not need the church anymore.

Enter at this moment in time, a young Genoese named Luigi Providenza. And who is Luigi Providenza? He is a radical idealist who was born in Genoa and rose to the position of Chairman of Italy’s Popular Party. But, by the age of 26, the Italian Communist Party had made 3 attempts on his life. At that point, he decides to immigrate to America and settles in San Francisco. He secures a position with an Italian newspaper, L’Unione. It was while selling the newspaper to Italian families that he discovers these same Italians are abandoning their Church. This troubles him greatly and he decides that some strategy is needed to remedy the situation. After much prayer and soul-searching, he formulates a plan for a fraternal/charitable organization for these immigrant Italians.

He tries to promote his idea to influential Italians in the Bay Area, but they give him little encouragement. Not one to give up easily, Luigi approaches local priests and finds an eager evangelical spirit. He teams up with Father Albert Bandini who actually provides the structure for this new organization. (more on Father Bandini in the next issue).

In 1924, Luigi and Father Bandini set themselves to work, assisted by a number of enthusiastic and dedicated priests and laypeople. On June 15, 1924, the first organizational meeting of what would become the Italian Catholic Federation takes place. Because this is to be a parochial society, the approval of the local bishop, Archbishop Edward J. Hanna, is necessary. Prior to coming to San Francisco, Archbishop Hanna had been the Bishop of Rochester, NY where he had worked with the Italian community and was well liked by them. In 1922, the King of Italy had bestowed on him the honor of Commander of the Order of the Crown of Italy for his solicitude for Italian immigrants. Archbishop Hanna is enthusiastic about this new organization, the ICF, and gives his approval in October 1924. Soon afterwards, the Italian Catholic Federation is incorporated and Branch #1 at the Immaculate Conception Church in San Francisco is formed with 300 members. The concept of the Federation quickly catches on and many more branches follow. Luigi and Father Bandini soon realize their goal of awakening a more intense Christian life among the Italian population of California. The spirit and vitality of the organization continues to this day, not only among Italians, but many others who believe in the goals of the Italian Catholic Federation. For all of this, we are grateful to the vision of Luigi and Father Bandini.

Branching  
Out

by Anne Interrante  
CC Member, Public Relations  
Committee Member



Branch 367, Las Vegas, Nevada offers its members an Interesting Spin on Bingo.

After business concludes at the monthly meeting, members form teams of four, two teams per table. Each team gets a deck of cards – 13 cards per person. A game caller also has one deck and shouts out numbers one by one. Players who have the called numbers, place them on the table. The first player who gets rid of their hand, wins a prize.

Members bring \$1.00 wrapped gifts... nobody knows what these treasures could be until after they collect their winnings.

The game continues until the last prize is won and unwrapped. Now, another twist – there is still one more round to go and the final winner gets to steal a prize from previous winners.

This idea is definitely a crowd pleaser and encourages members to converse with each other, win prizes, and have a lot of fun in the process.

Branch 230, San Diego, California had a #1 Goal for Young Family Outreach this past year. They sponsored a booth at their parish volunteer fair where members put in extra effort to seek out families with children and share with them the benefits of joining the ICF. Also emphasized was that ICF welcomes all cultures.

Branch members also host donut and coffee hospitality after weekend Masses where an ICF Interest List is posted and information is available to all parishioners.

As new families arrive to their first meeting, they are introduced and seated with members of similar interests.

Face to face conversation is their most effective recruiting tool, as well as enthusiasm and a welcoming nature. This branch has been rewarded with 32 new members within 8 months - 2 were just born into the branch!

DECEMBER CALENDAR WINNERS				
DAY	NAME	BR	CITY	WINS
12/1	Fr. Joe Gordon	28	Morgan Hill, CA	\$30
12/2	Aurelia Bozzo	21	Hollister, CA	\$30
12/3	Mary Seghetti	343	Castro Valley, CA	\$30
12/4	Fr. Gerry Chavez		Tulare, CA	\$30
12/5	Patricia Bischof		Roseburg, OR	\$30
12/6	Joanne Alvarado	19	Daly City, CA	\$30
12/7	Susie Murphy		Merced, CA	\$40
12/8	Fr. Steve Kosinski	195	Hammond, IN	\$50
12/9	Mr. & Mrs. C.R. Flowers		Ft. Collins, CO	\$30
12/10	Sandy Barrera	213	Willits, CA	\$30
12/11	Linda & Betty Moore		Torrance, CA	\$30
12/12	Patricia Look	408	Sunnyvale, CA	\$30
12/13	Chris & Mike Leong		Daly City, CA	\$30
12/14	Vonnie Ramos	135	Reno, NV	\$30
12/15	Madeline Tucciarone		Youngstown, OH	\$30
12/16	Stella Taddei	343	Castro Valley, CA	\$30
12/17	Trish Breslin		San Francisco, CA	\$30
12/18	Fr. Vincent Scott		San Leandro, CA	\$30
12/19	Mrs. Gloria Ghirarduzzi	161	Corte Madera, CA	\$30
12/20	Branch 308		Fresno, CA	\$30
12/21	Roldan F. Vigil	7	Redwood City, CA	\$30
12/22	Nancy Santos	442	Martinez, CA	\$30
12/23	Teresa Borba		Modesto, CA	\$30
12/24	Mrs. Roberta Franchini	213	San Bruno, CA	\$50
12/25	Amy Schmid	413	Altaville, CA	\$100
12/26	Peggy Tartaglino	21	Santa Cruz, CA	\$30
12/27	Elise Marsalli	5	Santa Clara, CA	\$30
12/28	Roberta Madej	91	San Leandro, CA	\$30
12/29	Fr. Guglielmo Lauriola	1	San Francisco, CA	\$30
12/30	Paula Roller	10	Alameda, CA	\$40
12/31	Walter Costa	154	Martinez, CA	\$50



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

IN MEMORY OF:	DONATED BY:
Nello Rossi	Ms. Mary Zadra
Armandina Centurioni	Officers/Members of Central Council
Bruna Guidotti	Officers/Members of Br. 45
Antonio Legarizzi	Officers/Members of Br. 45
Dr. Ralph Isola	Officers/Members of Br. 45
Virgil Petrocchi	Officers/Members of Br. 45
William Keller	Officers/Members of Br. 45
Nello Rossi	David and Pat Botta
Jerry Caravelli	David and Pat Botta
Armandina Centurioni	David and Pat Botta
Armandina Centurioni	Roselynn Jarrett
Tom Pollicita	Franklyn Lopes, Jr.
Armandina Centurioni	Mike and Marcie Rossi
Tom Pollicita	Teresa and Cory Helfand
Tom Pollicita	Giovanni and Nancy Corsi
Tom Pollicita	The Kilcullen Family
Armandina Centurioni	Bob and Kathy Acquistapace
Tom Pollicita	Bob and Kathy Acquistapace
Albert Ranzani	Officers/Members of Central Council
Tom Pollicita	Leroy and Stella Taddei
Armandina Centurioni	Forrest and Prudence Price
Tom Pollicita	John and Donna Rossi
Rena Vallorz	John and Donna Rossi
Betty Barnacle Dillane	John and Donna Rossi
Armandina Centurioni	Officers/Members of Br. 362
Nello S. Rossi	Marty and Marcia Ciarlo
Fr. Frank Piro	Mike and Marcie Rossi
Fr. Frank Piro	David and Pat Botta
Fr. Frank Piro	Joan and Jerry Delfino
Rena Vallorz	Jim and Janice Jones
Fr. Frank Piro	Jim and Janice Jones
Armandina Centurioni	Jim and Janice Jones
Tom Pollicita	Jim and Janice Jones
Armandina Centurioni	Diana Petrolino
Fr. Frank Piro	Brenda Hughes
Nello S. Rossi	Elsie, John, Steve, Michael, Patty and Mary Anne Giuntoli
Fr. Frank Piro	Bob and Antoinette Dal Porto and Family
Thomas Pollicita	Robert and Theresa Dianda
Thomas Pollicita	Jane Dianda
Army Centurioni	Officers/Members of Br. 367
Armandina Centurioni	Officers/Members of Los Angeles
Nello Rossi	Archdiocese District
Armandina Centurioni	Lisa Crudo
Fr. Frank Piro	Lisa Crudo
Albert Teglia	Lisa Crudo
Albert Ranzani	Lisa Crudo
Tom Pollicita	Lisa Crudo
Nello Rossi	Roselynn Jarrett
Josephine Honn	Irene Sarubbi
Fr. Frank Piro	The Kilcullen Family
Chana Portillo	Jacquelyn Kivley
Chana Portillo	Jim and Janice Jones
Fr. Frank Piro	Joe and Betty Antuzzi
Louise Isola	Stephanie Lucich
GET WELL WISHES:	Officers/Members of Br. 290
Charles Vesocchi	Aline Amatisto
Kathy Acquistapace	Franklyn Lopes, Jr.
Dan Casagrande	Franklyn Lopes, Jr.
Fr. George Aranha	Mike and Marcie Rossi
Rev. Msgr. Joseph Milani	Bob and Elaine Osorio
Teresa Helfand	Officers/Members of Br. 392
Mrs. Dianne Vatalare	Officers/Members of Br. 367
THANK YOU:	
Bob Basuino, Grand President	Officers/Members of Los Angeles
CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR INSTALLATION AS PASTOR:	Archdiocese Bishop's Banquet Committee
Fr. Christopher Bennett (St. Christopher Church)	Lorraine and Mike Nunziata
HAPPY 100 <sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY:	
Josephine Camaur	The Kilcullen Family
*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.	

Benvenuti Membri Nuovi

Report Date: 12/12/2014		CARMEN M RODRIGUEZ	Branch 358
LILLIAN EMMETT	Branch 005	ELENA E KELLY	Branch 365
SUZANNE F BATTAGLIA	Branch 036	BETTY ANSELMO	Branch 380
GERALDINE G CORN	Branch 036	JOE ANSELMO	Branch 380
NOAH CORN	Branch 036	GARY A CAMPILONGO	Branch 390
STEFAN CORN	Branch 036	JUDY K CAMPILONGO	Branch 390
DOLORES NABER	Branch 075	DANETTE G CURTIS	Branch 395
CARLOS DE LOS SANTOS	Branch 111	JOSEPH (JOE) L CURTIS	Branch 395
JEFF GARDNER	Branch 111	STEFANI DELUCCHI	Branch 395
EUGENIA HERNANDEZ	Branch 111	DIANE MALCOUN	Branch 395
YANIRA VANEGAS	Branch 111	JEANNE E GIBEAU	Branch 425
LARRY J VOLLMAN	Branch 184	GREG M NITTI	Branch 425
DOMINIC BRAMANTE	Branch 332	LIZ F NITTI	Branch 425
		JOHN W WAGNER	Branch 432

Scholarship Donations

Donations received by December 10, 2014.	Ed and Jo Bertaccini In memory of Chana Portillo
Scholarship Donations - 1 <sup>st</sup> Year	Scholarship Donations - 2 <sup>nd</sup> - 4 <sup>th</sup> Year
Emily Corral	Deborah and Robert Rodondi
Get well wishes for Mrs. Jo Bertaccini	In memory of Al Teglia
Cecilia Tommei and Family	Deborah and Robert Rodondi
In memory of Tom Pollicita	In memory of Dean DeRanieri
Aline Amatisto	Deborah Rodondi
In memory of Sheila Agee	In memory of Tom Pollicita
Aline Amatisto	
In memory of Yvonne Amatisto	

Gifts of Love Donations

Donations received by December 10, 2014	Assemblymember Kevin Mullin
Branch 186	In memory of Al Teglia
Branch 392	Mike and Marcie Rossi
Rita, Nellie and Marie Baretta	In memory of Tom Pollicita
In memory of Albert Emhoff	Robert and Beatrice Tomasello
Officers/Members of Br. 50	In memory of Tom Pollicita
In memory of Albert Teglia	Joan and Jerry Delfino
Vic and Pat Arnaudo	In memory of Tom Pollicita
In memory of Al Teglia	Diana Petrolino
Russ and Louise Vento	In memory of Tom Pollicita
In memory of Nello Rossi	Vic and Pat Arnaudo
Russ and Louise Vento	In memory of Tom Pollicita
In memory of Al Teglia	Donna and Steve Barnes
David and Pat Botta	In memory of Tom Pollicita
In memory of Albert Teglia	Dorothy Micheletti
Franklyn Lopes, Jr.	In memory of Tom Pollicita
In memory of Al Teglia	Dianne and Roy Chiappari
Rosalie Campisi	In memory of Thomas R. Pollicita
In memory of Al Teglia	Cecilia Tommei and Family
Pat and Louis Cordich	In memory of Al Teglia
In memory of John R. Dennis and Kiely	Carolyn Cugia
Vaca	In memory of Al Teglia
Rose Vallerga	Carolyn Cugia
In memory of Tom Pollicita	In memory of Tom Pollicita
Harold and Virginia Fuentes	Officers/Members of Br. 184
In memory of Tom Pollicita	In memory of Frances Martinez
Triant Varellas	Marianne Petroni
In memory of Chris Patropulos	In memory of Tom Pollicita
Bob and Elaine Osorio	Rose Farotto-Shiplett
In honor of the 90 <sup>th</sup> birthday of Bea Cunha	In memory of Tom R. Pollicita
Officers/Members of Central Council	Bob and Elaine Osorio
In memory of Tom Pollicita	In memory of Tom Pollicita
Julia Padreddii	Mrs. Margaret De Rango
In memory of Albert Teglia	In memory of Roger Beem
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Sangiacomo	Vic and Patricia Arnaudo
In memory of Thomas Pollicita	In memory of Josephine Honn
Joan and Jerry Delfino	Cathy and Steve Lagomarsino
In memory of Army Centurioni	In memory of Tom Pollicita
Katherine and Roland Codiga	Anonymous Donation
In memory of Army Centurioni	In memory of Al Teglia
Dennis and Donna Hoffmann	Lea M. Del Rosso
In memory of Thomas Pollicita	In memory of Al Teglia
Lorraine M. Leveroni and Family	Officers/Members of Br. 435
In memory of Thomas R. Pollicita	In memory of Michael Cassidy
Forrest and Prudence Price	Anthony and Lillian La Pres
In memory of Tom Pollicita	In memory of Rena Vallorz
Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Rossi	Officers/Members of Blessed Sacrament District
In memory of Al Teglia	In memory of Albert Teglia
Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Rossi	Richard L. Miller
In memory of Tom Pollicita	In memory of his brother and his mentor
John and Kris Kaiser	Charles P. Gullo, Jr.
In memory of Joy Gallagher	In memory of Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Gullo, Sr.
Frank and Jeanette Muratore	
In memory of Thomas Pollicita	
David and Pat Botta	
In memory of Tom Pollicita	

# The 'Why' We Are in Business

Jim Jones

Past Grand President, Life Member Emeritus

Apostolic Committee Member

Dear Members,

It's been quite a while since I've written an article for the Bollettino. When Franklyn asked me to write this one for our Apostolic/Charity Program, I immediately said, "Yes." There are two things I love to do, write and give a speech! (Most of you know that)

The Apostolic/Charity Program of the Italian Catholic Federation is our primary purpose and cause. It is the "Why" we are in business. The Central Council Apostolic/Charity Committee exists as a tool for the branches and the districts to inspire, motivate, and encourage them to embrace spirituality and charity which is a big part of our mission statement.

I would like to offer you the following ideas that have worked in other branches, districts and areas that you might try in the future to promote spirituality in your branch, district or area.

1. Contact a Seminary close to your district or area and ask them if you can visit them for a tour. At recent Bishop Days, I spoke to the Leaders of the Seminarians at St. Patrick's in Menlo Park, Ca. and St. John's in Camarillo, Ca. and they loved the idea of a tour through their facilities.
2. Adopt a Seminarian at your branch. Our Seminarians not only need our prayers, most could use our support. Ask them to come to your branch and give a report on their progress.
3. Schedule a Day or Night of Recollection. Ask your Chaplain or Pastor to put on a spiritual workshop and invite your entire District or Area to attend.
4. Schedule once a year a District Mass. The Santa Clara District holds an outside Mass at our Lady of Peace Church

in June. Central Coast District also has an outside Mass in Chualar, Calif., a beautiful location just outside of Salinas. Have lunch after Mass.

5. Don't forget your Quarterly Masses. This gives you the chance to attend and pray together as a branch. Make sure you prepare a script for the attending priest so that he can explain to the community that the ICF is in attendance and what we stand for. Make sure your Banner is prominently displayed in front of the church by the Altar. Arrange to have breakfast after Mass (separate checks of course) to break bread and socialize.

6. Attend the many Pilgrimages in your areas honoring our Saints, Saint Frances Cabrini, Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton and Saint Joseph on his special day.

7. Every year the San Mateo District puts on a Chaplains' Night. This is a dinner to honor their branch Chaplains. The only hitch is that the Chaplains must work for their meal. They must either sing a song, tell a story, tell a joke, or play a musical instrument to get fed. Each branch President introduces their Chaplain and after the Chaplain works for his meal, the President gives the chaplain a small stipend in appreciation of his dedication to the branch. It is really a lot of fun.

8. Put on a special Spaghetti Feed to raise money for Cooley's Anemia, Catholic Charities, the homeless in your communities or your branches personal charity. Make sure you publicize it in your local newspaper and Catholic Newspaper.

9. The last Charity on my list that we must all support is our Church, our Pastor, and our Catholic Faith. Please don't take this request lightly.

These are a few suggestions. Getting involved and servicing others is our purpose and our cause.

Jim Jones

Member of the Apostolic/Charity Committee

## In Loving Memory

Report Date: 12/12/2014

CLORINDA ORLOVICH Branch 007  
ALBERT RANZANI Branch 014  
THOMAS R POLLICITA Branch 019  
GENEVIEVE R VONNEGUT Branch 025  
REV FRANK R PIRO Branch 039  
THOMAS R POLLICITA Branch 039  
JOSEPHINE HONN Branch 050  
HORACE J RUSSO Branch 072  
DONALD R GRANT Branch 103  
LOUIS G VICINO Branch 127  
ROSEMARY SIMERA Branch 145  
LEO VANONI Branch 169  
FRANCES MARTINEZ Branch 184

JOAN FREITAS Branch 186  
CRESCENCIA J PORTILLO Branch 191  
GUADALUPE A PORTILLO Branch 191  
ELSA M COOK Branch 195  
DR MICHAEL KOLLER Branch 195  
MARY SANTONI Branch 214  
MARY L YAKAS Branch 258  
ARMANDINA CENTURIONI Branch 362  
BETTY B DILLANE Branch 391  
RENA VALLORZ Branch 391  
BETTY J HUBBARD Branch 417  
JANET E SLAKEY Branch 417  
GERALD CARAVELLI Branch 435

## New Year

Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year.  
~Ralph Waldo Emerson

# Cooley's Corner

Dear Grand President Bob Basuino, Central Council Members, ICF Staff, and ICF Members:

On behalf of the Thalassemia (Cooley's Anemia) program at UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland, the Thalassemia Staff, and most especially the patients and families I want to express our deepest gratitude for your donations during the Christmas season. Your incredible generosity is inspiring!

I am continually amazed by the genuine care, love, and support displayed by the Italian Catholic Federation. The ICF has given so much to our patients and their families. Branches donated hundreds of toys, giftcards, and funds. I was so pleased to see a large ICF turnout at the Christmas party and I also want to extend my thanks to a couple of very dear people who made "special" appearances that evening.

Thank you for making our mission to provide comprehensive and specialized thalassemia care possible throughout the year. I would like to thank each and every Branch, ICF Staff person, and ICF Member for their continued support of the Thalassemia Program.

Wishing you all a Happy, Healthy, and Peaceful New Year!



With Love and Warm Regards,  
Laurice Levine, MA, CCLS  
Senior Thalassemia Outreach Coordinator  
Children's Hospital Oakland  
LLevine@mail.cho.org  
510-428-3885, x 5427



Is your **New Year's Resolution** to learn more about the ICF's National Charity, Cooley's Anemia (Thalassemia)?

If you and your branch would like members of the Thalassemia Team at Children's Hospital Oakland to come and speak at one of your meetings or special functions, please contact:

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

**Happy 2015!**



## Cooley's Anemia Donations

Donations received by December 10, 2014

Branch 186  
Branch 342  
Branch 392  
Vic and Pat Arnaudo  
In memory of Nello Rossi  
Laurice and Matt Levine  
In memory of Thomas R. Pollicita  
Brenda Hughes  
In memory of Thomas R. Pollicita  
Paul and Barbara Dompe  
In memory of Tom Pollicita

Clancy and Nini Freitas  
In memory of Thomas R. Pollicita  
Lisa Crudo  
In memory of Tom Pollicita  
Angelo Benassi  
In memory of Nancy Ciacco  
The Bernardi Family  
In memory of Thomas R. Pollicita  
Mary Mencarini and Family  
In memory of Merline Mencarini



## BOOK REVIEW

Vince Piro  
Branch 39, Merced

### La Nostra Costa

by Ivano Franco Comelli

Author House, 2006, 392 pp.

**L**a Nostra Costa is a captivating look back at life as an Italian American living along California's north coast from the 1920s-1980s. It begins in Nimis, a village in Friuli, Italy, in 1923 when Comelli's father, Gervasio, decides to journey to America rather than re-enlist in Mussolini's army. He settles in the North Coast of Santa Cruz, California

Often told from the perspective of Comelli's youth, the book mixes historical accounts with more personal episodes to create an intimate account of what it meant to be Italian American during the 20th century. Through a series of chapters that read as vignettes, Comelli is able to capture both the challenges and successes of the Italians who lived and worked "su per la costa" or "up the coast."

Comelli carefully documents the struggles of these immigrants. As many immigrants, these Italians worked hard, and Comelli does not romanticize it. He shows how labor becomes a dominant and often grinding force in these people's lives. The book begins with a powerful "rancere's lament," in which a rancher on the northern coast of California laments his lot in life: "I work everyday in these fields. I am ankle-deep in mud, all I smell is pattume, and in a couple of hours il vento will blow dirt and debris in my face. Next month, the rains will come; they will soak me through, and I will have to carry those wet sprout sacks up and down these muddy rows. I work ten to twelve hours everyday for very little money . . . " The lack of money is also a challenge for these new immigrants. As Comelli writes, "The ranceri suffered through hard times in the 1930s and the early 1940s. According to Louis Bettiol, who worked with Bronco on the Marina Ranch in the late 1920s, ranceri were paid two dollars a day during the Great Depression . . . When I started to work on the ranch in 1953 (I was sixteen at the time), the wage for a rancere was seventy five cents an hour, with room and board included. In the mid 1950s, the salary rose to one dollar an hour, but board was eliminated." As an account which includes historical research and a personal memory, this passage captures Comelli's writing.

Comelli also documents the challenges faced by Italians and Italian-Americans during World War II. He describes life after Italian-Americans were declared enemy aliens during the war, and recounting what happened to his family back in Italy, he documents life under Nazi occupation. The war years were trying times for Italian-Americans, torn between the love they had for their new country and familial loyalty to their ancestral land. One scene from the book captures this perfectly. Comelli remembers, "When

my father was taking his oral examination before a Superior Court Judge, the United States Attorney asked him if he had any objections to fighting for the United States against Italy. Bronco answered that he had no objections. The Attorney then asked him a rather odious question. According to my father, the question had to do with whether or not he would shoot and kill his brother, if he saw his brother on the battlefield fighting for the enemy. Bronco, who had two younger brothers still living in Italy, knew exactly what the attorney wanted him to say. However, he responded by saying that he did not understand the question. This infuriated the Attorney, who wanted the Judge to compel my father to answer. Bronco had made up his mind not to answer the question and resigned himself to the fact that he was not going to become a naturalized citizen." Bronco must have felt torn and mortified at this point. Fortunately, Bronco's teacher comes to his rescue with some quick thinking, and in the end he does become a citizen.

However, Comelli's book is not all about the struggles and challenges faced by Italian immigrants. It also chronicles the joy of family and friendship. In a chapter entitled "Famiglie Insieme," the author remembers when his family would join with two other Italian families, the Cantarutti and Taurian families, to go picnicking at Boony Doon: "As our parents sat around the picnic table eating food, drinking wine, and conversing in Friulano or singing Italian songs, the other kids and I would set off exploring through the trees, playing games and just talking." In another chapter, Comelli recounts playing games with his friends and family. "The

Degli Esposti's arriving from Italy was a very fortunate happening. Now we could really have fun playing giochi, i. e. games. In fact, we now had enough kids (just about) to play team games. We started out with the simple Cowboys and Indians and gradually advanced to playing football and basketball. In between, we played our favorite game, Rubber Guns!" The book is filled with such stories of family and friends who share good times and adventures together.

Through family and friendships, these Italian immigrant families transverse the challenges of living in a new country and become successful. Their children become leading citizens and members of the community. For example, Comelli, himself, graduates from San Jose State College, earning a bachelor's degree in policing, and serves 30 years with the San Jose Police Department. He retired from the Police Department in 1989 with the rank of Captain.

I would like to thank Norma Dinelli Wilson from Santa Cruz Branch 21 for sharing a copy of La Nostra Costa with me. Her generosity is much appreciated.

La Nostra Costa can be purchased as a paperback, hard back or e-book from the publisher's website at <http://bookstore.authorhouse.com> or from major online retailers, such as Amazon.com or Barnes and Noble.



## La Celebrazione di Gioventu -- The Celebration of Youth La Befana

Submitted by Roselynn Jarrett

Grand Treasurer

### La Befana

By: Anthony Parente (Italiansrus.com)

**L**a Befana is one of Italy's oldest and most celebrated legends. Each year on January 6 the children of Italy awaken in hopes that La Befana has made a visit to their house. This is a significant day to Italians because it marks the end of the Christmas season and the day that the three Wise Men arrived at the manger of the Christ child. Over the years the Epiphany has been a more celebrated holiday for the children of Italy than even Christmas.

As legend has it, the three Wise Men were in search of the Christ child when they decided to stop at a small house to ask for directions. Upon knocking, an old woman holding a broom opened the door slightly to see who was there. Standing at her doorstep were three colorfully dressed men who were in need of directions to find the Christ child. The old woman was unaware of who these three men were looking for and could not point them in the right direction. Prior to the three men leaving, they kindly asked the old woman to join them on their journey. She declined because she had much housework to do. After they left she felt as though she had made a mistake and decided to go and catch up with the kind men. After many hours of searching, she could not find them. Thinking of the opportunity she had missed, the old woman stopped every child to give them a small treat in hopes that one was the Christ child. Each year on the eve of the Epiphany she sets out looking for the baby Jesus. She stops at each child's house to leave those who were good treats in their stockings, and those who were bad a lump of coal.

Make sure to keep those stockings hung by the chimney in hopes that La Befana will soon be there.  
Buona Festa!

Color the picture of La Befana.



## CC Minutes

*continued from page 1*

-Opening Prayer: led by Msgr. Cardelli

-Salute to Flag/ICF Pledge: GP Bob Basuino

-Roll Call of Officers: CC Members excused: Vince Piro, Teresa Helfand

CC Life Members Emeritus and Members Emeritus present: Bob Acquistapace, Bob Dianda, Carmen Kilcullen, Jerry Delfino, Leroy Taddei

-GP Bob Basuino welcomed guests.

-Minutes for June 21, 2014 approved as corrected and August 31, 2014 approved as presented.

### Communications

- Thank you from Most Reverend Patrick McGrath, Bishop of San Jose, for the \$100 check he received as a calendar winner.

- Expression of appreciation and joy for being included in the celebration of Mass at our annual convention from Most Reverend Michael Barber, Bishop of Oakland

- Thank you from Most Reverend John Cummins, Bishop Emeritus of Oakland for gift and a wonderful convention.

- Thank you from the Most Reverend Armando Ochoa, Bishop of Fresno for the generous seminary burse presented at Fresno's bishops Day.

- Thank you from Laurice Levine for annual donation/selecting them as our National Charity for the coming year.

- Thank you from Rossi family for flowers sent in memory of Nello Rossi.

### Reports

The second Commandment asks you to Love your neighbor as you love yourself...it is easy to say but not easy to live and takes a lot of effort. We go through life with many temptations but we are flawed and we stumble. Actual Grace is the special help we get at times of temptation. The most important person in our lives is our self. Emotional feeling is not the essence of love. Love is commitment and an act of the will. You need to love your neighbor you don't have to like them. To ruin a reputation is against the 5<sup>th</sup> commandment. Two things Msgr. always said. 1) Never believe anything somebody says somebody else said (hearsay). (2) If someone comes to you and says everyone is upset about something...ask how many and who...you will be surprised at how few if any.

We are in the ICF for the purpose of LOVE... of God, our neighbor, our members, those that we serve and each other.

### Grand President – Bob Basuino

#### ATTENDED:

- Gala's: June 22 SF, June 29 LA,
- Executive Committee: July 11, August 8, September 12 and October 10
- Golf Tournament July 25
- August 27-Sept 1 Convention
- Bishops Day: October 12 San Diego, October 8 Andy Pappani attended Inland Empire District, October 12 Leonard Zasoski attended Fresno.

- October 18 CC meeting

#### TO ATTEND:

- Bishops Days: October 19 Santa Clara, October 26 Central Coast; Leonard Zasoski to attend Santa Rosa October 19 and Blessed Sacrament October 26

- October 25 Br. 184 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Grand Treasurer –Roselynn Jarrett

- Met with UBS last week and went over investments. We are meeting our benchmarks, our existing plan is good for our portfolio. Next bond matures Oct 2015.

- At convention there were questions about our investments. Explanation went into Bollettino.

- Reviewed 2014 budget to date.

- Liability insurance-looked at several other companies our current company was the best choice.

- Bishops Day GP expenses come out of apostolate funds.

- Postage should go down now that the quarterly reports are online. As of today not one branch has asked for a paper copy of the quarterly reports.

- When Computer Services contract comes up in February will try to renegotiate the contract.

Deputy Chairperson – Leonard Zasoski  
co-chair Andy Pappani

- Meetings with District Deputies will start by conference call Nov 8, will discuss forms and putting them online; putting term limits on Deputies and District Deputies; what should they be looking for at the branches; adjusting how often/when to attend branch meeting.

### Committee Reports

#### Apostolate/Charity – Franklyn Lopes

- Working with the Strategic Plan to educate and communicate with the parishes and pastors. Also asking CC members to talk to parishes in their Diocese.

- Committee will be reviewing the apostolate report.

#### Awards-Jim Friebe

- Committee met this morning. Will be contacting Districts and Branches for possible candidates for the awards. Will review the applications as they come in making sure they are complete and will send for additional info if needed.

- Will again try to pursue a celebrity but this does not make them a guaranteed winner.

#### By-Laws and Rituals – David Botta

- Had lunch today with the 3 new CC members went over statutes and CC responsibilities.

- By-laws books ready to be printed.

- The Committee moved to accept the following changes to the Rituals (changes in bold):

- 1) Page 4-Reading of the Minutes-Proposed change: President: The secretary will please read or summarize the minutes of the last meeting. (If the minutes were provided via e-mail or made available at the meeting, the members may dispense with the reading of the minutes by a vote.) President: Are there any errors or omissions in the minutes? There being none, the minutes stand approved as read (or corrected).

- 2) Page 5-Application of New Member-Proposed change: President: Are there

# Ways and Means Article

Lisa Crudo

## Ways & Means Committee Chair

Happy New year from the Ways and Means committee. We have several exciting events and fundraisers in the planning stages for the upcoming year. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your continued support of this wonderful organization. The sales for the 2015 calendars are going well, and we hope there are lots of winners among our members this year.

Hopefully you've seen the flyer regarding our plans for the design of the 2016 calendar. Included in the calendar will be pictures, biographies and anecdotes about famous, (and infamous) Italian Americans. We invite you to participate in the creation of the calendar in several ways: First share special stories, or biographies of your favorite Italian American in history. You can research and provide information and pictures if you wish, or just submit a name, and we'll do the research! We will pick the most popular 12 names submitted. We also invite you to participate in the listing of not only birthdays (yourself, your children, grandchildren, parish priests and chaplains, or even friends) but also anniversaries (weddings, Branch founding, Priest's ordinations, etc.) You may include your branch and district events as well.

Another exciting event is our first

(hopefully of many) ICF trip. A lovely 10 day cruise to Alaska. Aboard the beautiful Golden Princess. Leaving San Francisco on May 22, 2015. If interested there is still room available. Contact Julie Graham at: (925) 997-5922 or

Click here for more information on the cruise: <http://www.grahamsgetaways.com/sailing/10-nights-princess-cruises-golden-princess-5-22-15>. This is an easy and exciting way to raise money for the Italian Catholic Federation without doing anything but enjoying yourself! I believe we have a wonderful group of at least 12 members signed up, ready to enjoy the high seas.

Look for future information about our "Night's for the Seminarians" events, and hopefully a wonderful surprise event next Fall. There are lots of opportunities to raise money for our many different charities. I encourage you to keep donating to our charities for those special occasions and in memory of loved ones.

The Ways and Means Committee wishes all of you and your families a very happy and prosperous New Year. May God continue to bless you and Bless the ICF. Thank you for your generosity now and in years past!

*Lisa Crudo, Leonard Rossi and Franklyn Lopes, Jr. - Your Ways and Means Committee*

any applications for new members? (The Membership Chairperson or Secretary may read the application(s)). If there is no initiation, the President should welcome the new member(s) and ask them to say a few words about themselves. (If the Branch chooses to have an Initiation, it follows at the time and is found on page 9.)

3) Financial Report and Payment of Bills-Replace "Are there any errors or omissions?" with "Are there any questions? Hearing none, I declare it approved.

4) Page 6 Deputy Report-put this on Page 7 after New Business.

5) Page 10-Part 2 Add this paragraph at the end...Below the cross you see these Latin words "IGNEM VENI MITTERE"- "I CAME TO LIGHT A FIRE". This is the motto of the Federation.

6) Back Cover-currently states "Farewell to a Member (optional). To be used with approval by Pastor and Family. Change to: "To be used at a Branch Meeting or at the Funeral Services. If used at the services, approval of the Pastor and Family is necessary". We are gathered here (today/ tonight) to pay our respects....."

7) Replace current Mission Statement with the new Mission statement.

8) Above changes PASSED.

Discussion also followed on the Federation Pledge making it optional how often it is read. Committee will discuss further and possibly make revisions to the pledge for consideration next year.

### Convention Directors – Steven Fuentes

- Thank you to committee and the East Bay District for a successful convention.

- In February will start working with Las Vegas.

- Bob Acquistapace commented that 1st time delegates were pleasantly surprised on the real value of the convention. Sending new delegates is a positive for the branch. Nina Malone agreed. Bob Basuino added it was also the Chaplains in attendance that had a positive experience.

- Survey results will be presented at the February CC meeting.

Mike Rossi reported on open forum workshop.

- Steve Fuentes said we should research the delegates voting for CC officers...He believes there are legal guidelines that need to be followed. We need to put it out in the Bollettino so everyone understands. Mike Rossi will run the information by the executive committee before printing in the Bollettino.

- Bob Basuino stated we are incorporated in the State of California. To change we would have to reincorporate. 99% of non-profits the delegates vote in the Board Members (CC) the Board Members (CC) vote in the officers.

- San Diego feels that there should be representation from all areas on the CC. Many areas have representation in life members emeritus and members emeritus who represent them. If an area feels they are not represented they need to get someone

*continued on page 8*

## CC Minutes

*continued from page 7*

from the area to run.

- Also discussed: ABC and raffle rules; GP being more than 2 year term; elected CC members hold 2 year terms; how National Charity is selected; raising CC retirement age.

### Expansion – David Botta

- Working on Oakdale area, Half Moon Bay and Las Vegas for possible branches.
- We need to look at our branches having problems and assist in strengthening them.
- Bob Acquistapace attended Br. 103 Sonoma last meeting...full slate of officers for 2015.
- Cloverdale Branch- gained 12 members, working strong and moving along.
- Forrest Price is working with the San Diego Branch.
- Currently we have 6 active branches with 14 or less; 10 branches with less than 25 members. Some branches have a large number of delinquents. When you review the status report on membership look at your District branches if there is a large delinquency contact that branch. This is something to cover with Deputies and get their assistance also.

- Los Altos Br. 186 voted to close Dec 31<sup>st</sup>. Letters will be going out to let them know where they can transfer. When we close branches the general fund goes to CC.

### Gifts of Love –Pat Mages

- San Diego Bishop's Day was a deaf mass.
- March meeting will be in San Diego.
- Even though the application was changed, still getting one third of the applications for scholarship.
- Hoping that by going to the different areas will raise awareness of the program and strengthen it.
- Motion from Pat Mages regarding an addition to the CC statutes.
  - PROPOSED ADDITION OF Article 6B to Chapter VI, Article 6 - Futures Fund
  - Article 6B - A fee of fifteen percent (15%) shall be charged by the Central Council from the Gifts of Love to administer the fund.
  - RATIONALE:
  - Currently two other programs, the Hospitalization and Providenza Funds, are charged an administrative fee by the General Fund to cover administration expenses. Staff responsibilities for the Gifts of Love Program include record and deposit donations, acknowledgement letters to donors and applicants, issue checks to recipients and maintain a database.
  - Roselynn Jarrett amended motion second by Lisa Crudo to: a fee of 1% shall be charged by the Central Council from the futures fund to administer the Gifts of Love, National Charity and Scholarship programs. The one percent (1%) administrative fee shall be divided equally among these three charitable programs.
  - Discussion followed: Steve Fuentes-we need to relook at this it should be prorated by dollar amounts received by each charity.

Jerry Delfino spoke of Gifts of Love and how we pride ourselves on 100% going to the charity. Deborah Rodondi reported on the effect of the proposed fee on scholarship program...the fee would take most of the partial donations made by individuals through the year, since you would not be able to take the fee out of full scholarship donations...Deborah Rodondi felt that it would put an end to partial donations and donations made in honor/memory of individuals. Carmen Kilcullen agreed.

- Pat Mages withdrew the motion.

- David Botta stated amendment is still on the floor. Roselynn Jarrett withdrew amendment.

### Heritage-Jim Friebe

- Parade float building: Sept 5<sup>th</sup> Santa Rosalia Festival and Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> Columbus Day Parade in SF
- Put together a heritage letter to District and Branch for name of committee chair.
- Possibly will be at Sutter Creek and the Feast of San Gennero in LA next year.
- Heritage video to possibly go on website.
- Bob Basuino thanked Jim Friebe for supplying trailer and trucks for parades.

### Hospitalization – Nina Malone

- Trying to build up the plan. 409 current members
- As of September 30, 2014: BofA \$29,863.68, UBS \$869,838.44; Dues income \$9,075.00; Claims \$7,335.00
- Committee made motion to transfer 30k (3.4%) from the Hospitalization funds to the general fund. Pat Mages made a motion to amend to 4% which would be \$34,793 second by Roselynn Jarrett. Amendment PASSED. Motion PASSED

### Membership – Nina Malone

- October 1 committee had a conference call meeting and met yesterday Oct 17.
- Strategic plan: biggest task is retention. To create a new member welcome packet.
- Wants to design a membership drive.
- Intends to focus on the younger members.

### Live to Give- Jane Dianda

- 1 unit of blood can save 6 people.
- A branch in Contra Costa is having a blood drive tomorrow so far 20 are signed up and Laurice Levine has the goodie bags.

### Public Relations –Anne Interrante and Lauren Killcullen reported for Vince Piro

This year the PR committee has assigned primary areas of responsibility to each committee member. Lauren Kilcullen-the Bollettino; Anne Interrante-the website; BG Zasoski-operations and procedures manual; and Nettie Descalso-Del Nero-Public Relations.

### Bollettino

- The paper is to be reviewed for revisions and updating.
- New columns will be added to the paper, including Seminarian Focus and History of ICF.
- New features will be added to the paper, including a list of Central Council committee chairs twice a year and a What's Due to ICF Office sidebar.
- Online subscriptions starting in

December. Announcements will be made in paper and on Facebook when ready.

### Website

- Website has been updated with new officer and CC member information. (Personal contact info not included for privacy reasons.)
- Two web designers have applied to replace Arthur Bloch. Committee will be meeting soon to review applications and make recommendation to Executive Committee. Richard Interrante is serving as interim web designer. Website will be redesigned and updated when new web designer is hired.
- New Presidents' Portal has been added to hold Quarterly "Mailings."

### Operations and Procedures Manual

- BG Zasoski has created a first draft of the Public Relations Policy/Procedures for the Bollettino and Website.
- Publicity/PR
- Press releases are being sent to Italian American and Diocesan newspapers and organizations.

- We are sending the paper to seminarian libraries in the areas where the Federation is established.

- Dante Galeazzi brought up again about the logo for the convention book being provided for all candidates to use on gift handouts, and when using an advertisement do not use a current CC member running.

### Scholarship – Deborah Rodondi

- Trying to defray cost of mailing rather than mail out to the students who do not get a scholarship will try contacting them by email. Would save about \$200 in postage alone.

### Task Force – Leonard Zasoski

- Committee procedures report due by the end of the year. Will be on ICF main computer and can be updated with changes.
- Strategic Plan...now in the implementation part of the plan. Vince Piro will monitor the core value committees: Finance, membership, apostolic and leadership. 3 areas: Chicago, North and Southern California. Should have set up by the end of the year and to start going to branches and districts the beginning of the year. Deputies are our eyes and ears.

### Ways and Means –Lisa Crudo

- Hoping to do 3 nights for the Seminarians, funds will go to the Providenza fund.
- In May there are 8 people signed up for the Alaska cruise.
- Asking for CC's help to sponsor a 1-day trip in their Districts as a CC fundraiser.
- Ornaments still available.
- Looking to establish online shopping for aprons, t-shirts etc.
- July 24, 2015 will be next golf tournament, Monterey again agreed to host. Monterey Branch would help with advertising in the Monterey area.
- Workshop-Dante Galeazzi
  - Dante Galeazzi will work with Leonard Zasoski to avoid overlap of Strategic Plan and Workshop meetings in areas.
  - Will work with other committees if a

District has something specific to discuss.

- Workshop is 90 minutes max, talk on up to 3 topics. Usually held at the District level.

### Finance Committee - Roselynn Jarrett

- Committee moved to accept proposed donations from the Providenza Fund for the Bishops Days for 2015. PASSED (2 opposed)
- Roselynn Jarrett made motion seconded by Lauren Kilcullen to have one signature for checks under \$300. Steve Fuentes amended that the signer does not sign own check seconded by Deborah Rodondi PASSED (one no)
  - CHANGE TO Chapter VI, Article 7B
  - EXISTING STATUTE:
  - Article 7B - Two signatures are required for each check disbursed from the Central Council funds.
  - PROPOSED CHANGE:
  - Article 7B - Two signatures are required for each check disbursed from the Central Council funds that exceed \$300.00.
  - RATIONALE:
  - Requiring one signature on checks for expenses that are minimal will reduce the turnaround time for items including Central Council reimbursements, calendar winners and supplies.
- Motion made by Roselynn Jarrett to add Article 7c to Chapter VI seconded by Denise Antonowicz PASSED
  - PROPOSED ADDITION OF Article 7C to Chapter VI, Article 7 - Signatories
  - Article 7C - Signatories must ensure that proper documentation, such as a receipt, contract or invoice verifying the total to be reimbursed, is provided.
  - RATIONALE:
  - The statute addition is to serve as a reminder that the I.C.F. Central Council requires receipts to issue reimbursement. Documentation is necessary when conducting our annual review with the CPA.
- Reviewed the accounting procedures: Carmen Kilcullen stated \$500 start up money for a new branch needs to be added to the procedures. Once it is corrected than all CC must sign saying they have received and understand procedures.
- 2015 budget Presented.
  - Bob Acquistapace mentioned the Bollettino is a deficit of 27k needs to be studied. Roselynn Jarrett stated it is being studied and we are hoping to convert many to an online edition.
  - Dante Galeazzi made a motion amending the budget to increase scholarship back up to 10k second by Deborah Rodondi...Roselynn Jarrett noted scholarship is the only charity to get money from general funds. Dante Galeazzi pointed out that this money is for 2, 3 and 4<sup>th</sup> year scholarships. Deborah Rodondi brought up the loss of \$2,000 is equal to an 11% drop in the total funds for 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year scholarships ... Mike Cannady feels that the scholarship should not be decreased.
  - Steve Fuentes called for the question on amendment. 6 votes yes; 12 opposed AMENDMENT FAILED.
  - Roselynn Jarrett through committee made motion to accept the budget for 2015 as presented. PASSED (one nay)



**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 2014 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 2014 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, 2015. 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, 2014. 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,  
Roselynn Jarrett, Grand Treasurer

# Chicago

**Calumet City**

**St. Victor, Br. 195**

Dr. Michael Koller, a dearly loved member of Br.195, a brilliant MD Internist at Loyola Hospital, Chair and Dean at Loyola University, MD to many members of the clergy in the Chicago and Joliet Archdiocese, a multi talented musician and Director of St. Victor Choir and Music Program (when Br.195 was host to the Chicago District Mother Cabrini Celebration, Rev Charles Fanelli, Chicago District Spiritual Director, commented that the rendition of Noi Vogliam Dio by the St Victor Choir and Musicians led by Dr. Koller was one of the finest he ever heard), a lifetime member of St.Victor Parish. The preceding sounds as though a super human individual is being described and one who is bigger than life itself; however, the description of Dr. Mike Koller, who passed away on November 11, 2014, has only just begun and to all he touched, he was bigger than life in an unassuming, gracious, loving manner which made him all the more impressive as a man: his heart, his kindness and generosity, his

humility, his caring personality, his unique sense of humor, his love for family, friends, St. Victor the Church and St. Victor, the Choir. To say that he touched many lives and will be greatly missed is an understatement. Dr. Mike will always be our special angel looking out for us. We miss you, Mike, your indelible handprint has left your mark on all of us.

*God Bless,*

*Jo Merlo*

**River Forest**

**St. Vincent Ferrer, Br. 358**

FELICE ANNO NUOVO A TUTTI –

A blessed and happy New Year to all our members and their families. May the year 2015 bring peace, happiness and good health.

What a joy and delight to have a wonderful Archbishop in our Chicago diocese, Archbishop Blasé Cuprich. We welcome him with open arms .

January 4<sup>th</sup> is the Epiphany of our Lord and this is the day our relatives in Italy exchange their Christmas gifts and celebrate this feast. I am told by my cousins in Calabria that they keep this day as a special time during their holidays, especially the children who look forward to opening their presents and enjoying their home made cakes, cookies and candy. What a wonderful occasion.

A blessed and happy wedding anniversary to George and Pauline Nicoletti. A blessed and happy birthday to our Pastor, Fr Tom McDermott, Tito Candelario and Eugene Gillette.

Thank you Judith Schweikert, our first vice president for organizing our Christmas party at Jim & Pete’s Italian Restaurant.

Please keep our members and their families in your daily prayers, especially Elaine Syrek, Teresa Cairo and Philomena Frishberg.

Our next meeting will take place on February 17, 2015.

Remember – one smile starts another smile.

*Ciao,*

*Caterina Renzi-Comisky*

**River Forest**

**St. Vincent Ferrer, Br. 358**

There is a very interesting story on how Val-

entine’s Day came about – around the 3rd century there lived in Rome a priest by the name of Valentine. One of Fr. Valentine’s duties was to marry couples. Fr. Valentine really enjoyed doing this however, the Emperor Claudius passed a law that all men were to volunteer in his army but, of course as you might have guessed, not many men signed up because they had wives or were going to be married and they didn’t want to leave their bride. Claudius was furious so he decided not to allow any more marriages. Young couples thought this was a cruel law so Fr. Valentine performed the ceremony in secret, he would whisper the vows to the couples in a secret ceremony, listening all the while for the steps of soldiers.

One night he was caught and was thrown in jail. Fr. Valentine tried to stay cheerful and many wonderful things happened. Young people came from all over to visit him and they brought flowers and notes to his window. They wanted Fr. Valentine to know that they too believed in love.

On the day Fr. Valentine was to be released from prison he wrote a note thanking all his friends for their friendship and loyalty. He signed it “Love from your Valentine” and that day was February 14. Every year on this day people remember their loved ones and close friends with a Valentine card meaning that no one can stand in the way of love because they know love can’t be beaten.

Happy Valentine’s Day to all!

Happy Birthday!

Dr. James Izzo

Thayron Gillette

Dr. Santina Litturi

Diane Picciola

Happy Anniversary!

Cathy & Rich Neri

*Amore,*

*Caterina Neri, Br. 358*

# Fresno

**Los Banos**

**Santa Lucia, Br. 31**

At our September 15th meeting we had convention reports from delegates Gary Caropreso and Terri Post. Our Branch received two certificates 1) 1st Place branch for increasing membership from 36 to 60 members 2) 100% member retention this past year.WOOHOO! 2015 Convention to be held in Las Vegas and 2016 in Fresno.

We hope to have a survivor of Cooley’s Anemia speak at our branch in the near future. Plans were made to sell pasta sauce and biscotti as a fund-raiser in December. ICF Calendars were sold.

At our October 20th meeting we enjoyed Panini sandwiches, salad and desserts. President Caropreso had the following announcements

Officers for 2015

PRESIDENT - GARY CAROPRES

VICE PRESIDENT - ANNA BOFFA

TREASURER - PAM OHLENDICK

FINANCIAL SECRETARY - TERRI POST

RECORDING SECRETARY - CATHY CAROPRESO

TRUSTEE - PAUL RISO - ALAN COTTA -

SENTINEL - RICK POST

SUNSHINE REPORTER - GERMAINE ORLANDO

BRANCH COMMUNICATION - TARA



Members of Branch 308, Fresno, enjoyed a festive Christmas celebration.

#### BRENNAN - JEFF BONDI

Thanks to Sarah Sagouspe for the wonderful job she has done as recording secretary.

As we approach the season of giving thanks, let us offer prayers of thanksgiving for the many blessings in our lives.

*Ciao,*

*Germaine Orlando*

#### Los Banos

##### Santa Lucia, Br. 31

On December 6th and 7th we held a very successful spaghetti sauce and biscotti sale. Proceeds from this sale will be used for our local scholarship fund. Thanks to all who worked so hard on this fund-raiser.

Seventy members attended our Christmas Party on December 9 at the warehouse of Rick and Terri Post. It was a wonderful festive celebration with good food and good friendship. We are grateful to the Post family for hosting our social events. Raffle tickets were sold and gifts were distributed. The proceeds will be given to our local 'ANGEL TREE' project.

We were blessed with 12 new members. Our branch has truly flourished!!

Get well wishes to Paul and Cynthia Riso and to Rosemary Pricolo. May God bless them with renewed health.

Our Chicken Polenta dinner will be Saturday, February 28th. Tickets were distributed at the Christmas Party.

As the holiday draws near we pause to reflect on the birth of Jesus, and we strive to follow his teachings of love and peace.

*Ciao,*

*Germaine Orlando*

#### Fresno

##### Our Lady of Victory, Br. 32

Our Spirit of Christmas Sale was a huge success thanks to the wonderful members who donated goods, worked, and manned tables. Fresh baked muffins, ICF calendars, jellies, biscotti, chocolate chip and persimmon cookies, and fruit were the best sellers. We are grateful to all the parishioners who supported our efforts.

We were honored to have our administrator, Fr. Dan Avila, and Deacon Kurt attend the November meeting. Feisty Rose Caglia was on hand to supervise the turkey carving. Roasted turkey and many side dishes contributed by the members made for a delightful feast.

We are happy to report Peggy Barbato is better and living in her own apartment. Larry Scott spent time in the hospital again. We extend

our condolences to Larry on the loss of his younger brother. Please pray for Martha Acuna, as she cares for her very ill brother. Our dear Franee isn't up to par and daughter, Gayle, can not drive Franee and Tony down from Friant. God Bless you, Beverly Follet, for a healthy recovery from open heart surgery. Maria Guglielmino is having difficulty being mobile. She's such a trooper and like the energizer bunny. Ashli Quirarte is worn down with strep throat, double ear infections, and high fevers. Members, take care of yourselves. Winter is upon us.

We are looking forward to a great 2015 with a new and enthusiastic board under the leadership of Claire Pisching.

Happy New Year to all and peace in the world.

#### Bakersfield

##### San Luigi, Br. 33

Branch 33 held its December Christmas dinner in the St. Francis Church hall. A ham dinner complete with all the trimmings, including homemade pumpkin pie, was cooked and served by Kirt Moore. A visit from Santa Claus surprised our members and guests. Members commented that Santa bore somewhat of a resemblance to long time member, Bobby Lencioni. After dinner, the meeting was called to order by President Charles Linenbrink. It was announced that new officers will take office at the next meeting.

Planning for the annual St. Joseph's Dinner in March is underway and will be discussed at the January meeting. Member were reminded to turn in their dues by the end of the month.

The last three calendars allotted to Branch 33 were sold at the meeting and once again Branch 33 hit the 100% mark in sales. Claudia Castro was thanked for a fine job handling the calendar sales. Remaining business was dispensed with and carried over to the January meeting. President Linenbrink closed the meeting by thanking all who supported him during the past year and wishing all members and their families a holy and joyful Christmas and a New Year of peace and prosperity.

Buon Natale e un meglio principio a voi tutti!

*Roberta Cerri Teglia*

#### Merced

##### St. Cecelia, Br. 39

In December, we held our biscotti cookie sale at St. Patrick's. As usual, we sold out in just a few Masses. A big thank you goes out to all those that baked, bagged and sold cookies. Your dedication and commitment to the branch is much appreciated. We also had our annual Children's Christmas party,



held in conjunction with the Italo-American Lodge. Children and adults were entertained with games, carols, Christmas stories, and a visit from Santa.

Officers for next year are as follows

President - Robyn Piro

1st V.P. - Lori Sutton

2nd V.P. - Stephanie Lucich

Treasurer - Janet Pugliese

Fin. Secretary - Janet Pugliese

Rec. Secretary - Gina Pugliese

Trustees - Loretta Symes, Ann Marie Bandoni, Maryellen Mazzei\*

Sentinel - Nick Pugliese

Chaplain/Orator - To be filled

On a sad note, we suffered the loss of our orator, chaplain, spiritual advisor, and friend, Rev. Father Frank Piro. He will long be remembered for his dedication to and love for our branch. He befriended many of us in both good times and bad, and he reminded us that our path is the way of the Lord, Jesus Christ. We will miss him.

#### Clovis

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

Our annual Christmas party was held December 9. Everyone brought appetizers and a white elephant gift. Each gift could be stolen a couple of times, so the evening was a rousing success. Everyone had a good time.

A very dear member, Loretta Benedetti, passed away December 6. She and her husband, Mike, who preceded her in death, were charter members of our Branch. Also, another very active member, Ernie Dalton, passed away December 2. Ernie was 61 and just recently retired. He and his wife, Sylvia, have been members since 2003. Please pray for the repose of their souls and that God's love may be a comfort to Sylvia and the family and to Loretta's sons, Michael and Anthony,

and daughter, Michelle, and their families.

Prayers are also requested for and Beverly Travis who is ill. We pray that she will be back with us very soon.

Birthday greetings go out to Gary Christensen (1/11), Verona DeLuca (1/6), Tony Rainaldi (1/2) and Ron Travis (1/11).

"A new year is unfolding—like a blossom with petals curled tightly concealing the beauty within.

Lord, let this year be filled with the things that are truly good—with the comfort of warmth in our relationships, with the strength to help those who need our help and the humility and openness to accept help from others.

As we make our resolutions for the year ahead, let us go forward with great hope that all things can be possible—with Your help and guidance." (Anonymous)

We wish you all a blessed New Year!

*Ciao!*

*LeAnne Lavagnino*

#### Bakersfield

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

On December 9<sup>th</sup>, we had our annual charity meeting in which we discussed the most important aspect of our federation—the support of charities. It was a great meeting hosted at the home of Leonard and B.G. Zasoski, and our branch was blessed enough to provide significant donations to many deserving organizations, new and recurrent. As the ICF is a charitable association before anything else, it was wonderful to see many of our members at this meeting, engaging in this important discussion and demonstrating their passion for service in the ICF.

Our annual Christmas party on December 13<sup>th</sup> was a great sensation. Members and their families enjoyed a wonderful meal, festive music, as well as raffles and games for all ages. As its organizer, along with Joey Zasoski and Crystal Watts, I would like to thank all





On December 7, 2014 ICF held its annual Mother Cabrini Mass, Pilgrimage and Luncheon at Saint Francis Xavier Church in Burbank. This year was the first time in over 30 years that members processed first to the Chapel for Mass and Benediction.

who attended and all who donated their time to ensure the party's merry success.

Our next meeting will be held in the parish hall on January 8<sup>th</sup>. It will be a potluck, so please bring a dish to share with the branch to kick off the New Year in a delicious way.

*Baci e abbracci,*

*Kristen Watts*

## Fresno

### St. Anthony, Br. 308

Happy "2015" to all. It seems like we were just preparing for the holidays and now they are over for 2014. Are you exhausted from all the hustle and bustle of the season? Anyway to all, I hope you had wonderful festivities going on in your life and that you enjoyed the Christmas season with all of your family. Hopefully, the spirit of the past season will hang on.

By the time you read this, we had on Wednesday, December 10th our Christmas Dinner Party, which was held at Pardini's Banquet Room. The festivities started at 6:00 p.m. with all of the members seated at lovely white, red, and green tables of ten and beautifully decorated Christmas trees. Each member brought an unwrapped Christmas gift/toy for patients at the Children's Hospital so a big "THANK - YOU" to all 60 of you. Members enjoyed a delicious five course meal served by terrific waiters. We had a wonderful time with our dear friends and new members, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Di Cecco at our table. Great Fellowship and good cheer were had by all. Among our invited guests were Monsignor Rob Wenzinger and Father Bert Mello.

Safe travels for those members, (especially those going to New Jersey and New York) that are traveling for the holidays.

Continual prayers for all of our members and friends that are ill ( Jim Watson who has cancer and is undergoing treatment, E. Toni Edwards, who broke her neck and had to have staples/stitches on her head and the left side of her face, and Genevieve Ochinerio) and especially for those who care for them. Birthday wishes go out to Ann Scaroni (Dec. 8), Sister Flor Azevedo (Dec. 9), our friend in New York, Pasquale Giacobbe (Dec. 16), Kathy Gambero (Dec. 22), Tom Ryno (Dec. 24), Delores Leon (Dec.30), and Deanne Hannart (Dec. 31).

May your New Year be filled with joy, special moments, good health and many, many blessings in the New Year!

*Happy New Year,*

*Maria E. Juarez~Garcia*

*Rec. Secretary*

# Los Angeles

## Archdiocese District

### Los Angeles Region

ICF Los Angeles Archdiocese District Council President Carmelo Sabatella and wife ICF Branch 108 Board Member Linda Sabatella joined Federated Italo Americans of Southern California at a Welcome Reception in Casa Italiana, downtown Los Angeles on December 10th for the Honorable Antonio Verde, Consul General of Italy in Los Angeles. The Consul General indicated that he represents Italian interests in California, Nevada, Arizona and New Mexico and was very receptive to the ICF Mission and Values.

On December 7, 2014 ICF held its annual Mother Cabrini Mass, Pilgrimage and Luncheon at Saint Francis Xavier Church in Burbank. This year was the first time in over 30 years that members processed first to the Chapel for Mass and Benediction followed by a Luncheon in the Parish Hall. The weather was cool with light clouds and periodic sunshine allowing the ICF Mother Cabrini Committee to start the program with the Pilgrimage first, reminiscent of the days the Chapel was located on the adjacent hill. The presiding priest, Monsignor Cacciapuotti was ecstatic when he learned that the Mass would be held at the Chapel and gave a beautiful and moving homily moving the audience to applause at the conclusion.

It was interesting to note that the monsternace used at this event was last used in 1970 at the final pilgrimage from the former Villa Cabrini Chapel and up the hill to the Chapel. It was then purchased and kept in storage over 38 years, donated to the Chapel Library two years ago and brought out of retirement to celebrate the first Mass at the Chapel since the Chapel was moved to the Saint Francis Xavier Church property in 1974.

On December 3rd, two former Villa Cabrini Academy teachers toured the Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library with Sister Regina of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Sister Geraldine (MSSHJ, NY, 1st Grade Teacher) and lay teacher Angelina (7th Grade Teacher) of San Bernardino visited the Shrine and shared their experience at the Villa and their devotion to Mother Cabrini. Each Teacher located their photos with their students in a 1969 Cabrini School Yearbook recently donated to the Chapel Library two weeks earlier.

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



ICF Los Angeles Archdiocese District Council President Carmelo Sabatella and wife ICF Branch 108 Board Member Linda Sabatella joined Federated Italo Americans of Southern California at a Welcome Reception in Casa Italiana, downtown Los Angeles on December 10th for the Honorable Antonio Verde, Consul General of Italy in Los Angeles.



Please remember our brothers and sisters of our armed services in your prayers to keep them out of harm's way.

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

*Carmelo Sabatella, President*

*Email: cas1810@aol.com*

## South Pasadena

### Holy Family, Br. 108

Thank you members for making the ICF Christmas Party on December 14th, ICF Christmas Party a success again this year. Special thanks to Branch 108 Staff for making this a beautiful event. Thank you also to Santa and Mrs Claus for visiting Holy Family and spreading Christmas cheer.

Thank you ICF Members Tad and Theresa Shaw, Linda Sabatella and Diana Plescia for volunteering your time to help distribute meals to over 700 hungry visitors in the Parish Hall. Holy Family Church welcomed Our Lady of Guadalupe to Holy Family Parish on December 11, 2014 with food, period music and dancing. Archbishop Jose Gomez blessed the painting of Our Lady of Guadalupe assisted by Bishop Sartoris and Father Jose Paranthanal.

Thank you members for joining fellow Branch Members from throughout the LAADC in celebrating Mother Cabrini's Feast Day at Saint Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Burbank on December 7th at the annual Pilgrimage to the Chapel for Mass and Benediction followed by a Luncheon with excellent food and service in the Parish Hall. (See story in the LAADC Los Angeles Region Article in this issue).

Thank you ICF Members, families and friends for your support of the ICF and its related events. Prayers go out to those Mem-



On December 3rd, two former Villa Cabrini Academy teachers toured the Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library with Sister Regina of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Sister Geraldine (MSSHJ, NY, 1st Grade Teacher) and lay teacher Angelina (7th Grade Teacher) of San Bernardino visited the Shrine and shared their experience at the Villa and their devotion to Mother Cabrini. Each Teacher located their photos with their students in a 1969 Cabrini School Yearbook recently donated to the Chapel Library two weeks earlier.

bers and parishioners who have gone to their eternal reward and to the sick members, family, friends and Parishioners for a speedy recovery.

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

*Carmelo Sabatella, Past President*

*ICF Branch 108 Email: cas1810@aol.com*

Save The Dates:

- January 11, 2014 - Branch Bocce Practice Tournament (1:00 pm to 2:30 pm), Lunch Social and General Meeting (3:00 pm to 5:00 pm) in the Parish Hall.

## Save The Dates:

January 11, 2014 - Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library Open House at Saint Francis Xavier Church at 3801 Scott Road in Burbank from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm hosted by the Villa Cabrini Alumni Association. ICF Mother Cabrini Chapel Committee meeting from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm in the Chapel Library. Call 626 372-7812 for more information.

February 8, 2014 - ICF LAADC Officer Installation at Saint Francis Xavier Church in Burbank. Mass at 10:30 am followed by the Installation Program and Luncheon in the Parish Hall. Call 626 372-7812 for more information.





The Officers and Members of Branch 108 enjoyed a beautiful Christmas celebration with great food, cheer, and Santa and Mrs. Claus!

- February 8, 2014 - Mother Cabrini Open House from 9:00 am to 10:30 am and after Installation and Luncheon on request. Call 626 372-7812 for more information.

### Montibello

#### St. Benedict, Br. 111

Ciao a Tutti,

Happy New year ICF-World! hope everyone had a wonderful and safe Holiday Season.

Branch 111 attended the annual Bishop Banquet held on 11/09/14 at St. John's Seminary and also Mother Cabrini held on 12/06/14. Both were great events that support our cause.

Branch 111's Christmas Party was held on Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. We had a surprise guest stop by and present gifts for the children in attendance. It was fun getting together with family and friends enjoying great food.

Happy birthday to all our November birthdays Rene Mata, David Estrada, Giselda Arenas, Joe Canzonieri, Thomas Enrico, Patrino Pizzorno and our December birthdays to Armando Arenas, Mario Mauro, Sal Franco, Domenica Orofino, David Tarazon, Yanira Vanegas. Buon Compleanno a tutti!

This year's branch 111's St. Joseph Table is



LA Branch 111 President Franco Salomone and ICF member Domenica Orofino at Mother Cabrini.

scheduled for March 21 & 22, 2015. Please plan to attend and participate. Let's make this year's St Joseph's table a successful event.

This month's I leave you with a quote from Bruce Lee – "If you love life, don't waste time, for time is what life is made up of." Always Believe.

*Thank you and God Bless,*

*Giuseppe Veneziano*



Members of LA Branch 111 at the Annual Bishops Banquet.



Branch 115 participated in the Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini Pilgrimage on December 7 in Burbank. An outdoor Mass was celebrated followed by a luncheon. Members of Branch 115 carried the statue. From (L-R) Frank Colonna, Sal Mattered, Jerry Di Leva and Isidoro Amalfitano.



Branch 115 President Neal Di Leva and his wife Vice-President Anna Di Leva at the Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini Pilgrimage in Burbank. Branch 115 brought 26 people by bus to this memorable annual event.

### San Pedro

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

Happy New Year to all! It is hard to believe that the Holiday Season is behind us.

I would like to thank all who attended my Viejas Casino fundraiser. With your help we raised \$960.00 which will be donated to the American Cancer Society Relay for Life.

In addition our branch donated over \$1650.00 to various charities. A warm and heartfelt



Branch 115 Christmas Party December 6. (L-R) Carmela Gioiello, Santa Claus (aka Jerry Di Leva), Carmela D'Ambra (front), Carmen Andreanelli (rear).



Branch 115 Chaplain Fr. Manuel Bravo tries to hit the pinata at the Branch Christmas Party.

thank you to all our members who make these donations possible.

Our Christmas Party held on Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> was a huge success and enjoyed by all. We enjoyed a wonderful dinner and were visited by Santa Claus. Thanks to all contributed their time and talents for another great event.

We had a wonderful turnout and great weather for our annual pilgrimage to Burbank to honor Mother Cabrini. A beautiful Mass was celebrated outdoors and a great lunch was enjoyed by all.

There is still time to join us on our Las Vegas trip. We will staying at the Golden Nugget Jan. 26 to the 28<sup>th</sup>. Price \$135.00 double occupancy \$185.00 per single occupancy. Call Pauline Iacono for reservations (310) 832 0563.

Please plan to attend our 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the year on Jan 11<sup>th</sup> at 730pm. We will be discussing our upcoming Crab dinner which will be held on March 7<sup>th</sup>. Music will be provided by Tony Ciaramitaro. Tickets will be \$40.00. Please call Neal DiLeva for tickets (310) 433- 1044

Potluck meeting will be held on Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>. Please call Carmela Gioiello to let her know what tasty dish you will be bringing.

Please remember our ill and deceased members in your prayers

*Ciao,*

*Anita Gioiello, Trujillo Treasurer*

### Gardena

#### St. Anthony of Padua, Br. 237

Happy New Year!

Our Branch had a great Christmas Celebration with Santa and the children of all ages. Central Council member Anne Interrante of Branch 380 Thousand Oaks and her husband joined us as well. Thanks Anne for your support and encouragement!

As we looked over last year's charity work we were surprised to see that \$5000 in donations to scholarships and other major groups were made possible by a very small but mighty group of loyal members.

Our goal this year is to add one new member





(Above) Branch 237 at the Bishop's Day Celebration.



(Left) Connie Bohannon of Branch 237 and Bishop Wilkerson.

man Catholic Church in La Canada Flintridge, California at the branch Christmas party last month.

Pictured left to right are: Ron Baisley, incoming First Vice President; Distinct Council President Carmello Sabatella; outgoing past branch president and new Los Angeles Regional Vice President Al Restivo, and incoming branch president Mark Mannarelli. The officers were together at the branch annual Christmas party held in the Parish Center. Restivo who served as branch president for the past two years will now be the branch second vice president and responsible for planning and programs. (Photo below) Branch 374 photo by Penny Baisley.

Al Restivo, long time member and leader of the Italian Catholic Federation, Branch 374 at St. Bede the Venerable Roman Catholic Church in La Canada Flintridge, said his farewell to members of the branch at the organization's annual Christmas party this past week. He served as president for the past two years. He had previously served in the same role in 1988-1989. The past president, pictured her on the right, was presented with a sterling silver crucifix by incoming President Mannarelli.

Dr. Restivo now will assume the role of Regional Vice President of the Los Angeles Region of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles District Council. In his role he will be responsible for the oversight and leadership of the nine of the branches in the Los Angeles region. As regional vice president he and



Members of Branch 218 enjoyed time together at their Christmas party and celebration.



three other regional leaders (San Gabriel, San Fernando, and Santa Barbara) will report to Carmelo Sabatella, LA Archdiocese District Council President. (Photo below) ICF photo by Penny Baisley

## San Gabriel Valley Region

### Arcadia

#### Holy Angels, Br. 218

On November 17th Larry Rovarino and his wife Mary of branch 67, Linda Sherman, Connie Davis, Angie Capobianco, Frank and Sandy Bermel, Anne and Tony Armenio and Jo Anne Howell attended the Polenta Dinner hosted by branch 67 at Casa Italiano. It was a delicious dinner and fun was had by all.

On November 23rd we held our annual Bouquette and Sausage/Meatball sale. Thank you Karen Berardi for Chairing the event and to all of the members who helped make it a huge success and exceeding our goal!

The branch was also represented at the St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Pilgrimage held on

December 7th.

Our members Christmas party was held on December 14th with their families. Santa Claus was there for our little ones and we had a procession of the holy family.

Health and happiness in the New year to all ICF members and their families!

*Blessings,*

*Kerri DiMichina*

*Heritage Chair*

### Temple City

#### St. Luke, Br. 326

Happy New Year to all of our members!

Our Annual Christmas Party was held on December 14<sup>th</sup> and it was fantastic! Everyone had a good time sharing each other's company. The food was fabulous! Thank you to Frances Scorsone for setting up and decorating the tables. I am sure the Friends of Foster Children enjoyed all of their gifts that members donated.

Our next General Meeting will be held on January 28, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. Dessert and coffee will be served at 6:30 p.m.

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

Happy January Birthday: Andrea Scorsone, Jo Anne Disney and Gail Rector.

May the New Year bring us all health and happiness.

"Friendship is a special jewel that you choose to wear each day; it gives out a shine and sparkle in the things you do and say. Friendship is the little pebble that you found along the shore, that was different from the others, but you treasure evermore. Just as both the moon and stars are the friends of God above, friendship here on earth is precious for He blesses it with love." (Edna Fontaine)

*God Bless,*

*Jo Anne Disney*

each month. We are the only branch in the South Bay Area so we have much room to roam! We are looking forward to the future with new eyes and a heart full of hope.

Pictured is our president, Connie Bohannon with Bishop Wilkerson at the annual Bishop's Day Celebration at St. John's Seminary in November.. Also pictured are members Rose and John Moore with Connie and husband Don and Sean Morales in his first year of religious studies. It was a very eventful Day.

We have a couple of Trips (turn-a-rounds) scheduled in the next few months and our annual trip to Laughlin in April Dates will be finalized soon. Stay tuned..

*Respectfully,*

*Micheal Bohannon Roa*

### La Canada Flintridge

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

Los Angeles Archdiocese District Council President Carmello Sabatella welcomed Mark Mannarelli as new incoming president of Branch 374 at St. Bede the Venerable Ro-



Al Restivo of Branch 374 steps down as ICF Branch President as Mark Mannarelli assumes leadership.



Carmello Sabatella welcomes new Branch 374 leaders.





Branch 380's Thanksgiving feast was complete with a pie eating contest!

## San Fernando Valley Region

Burbank

St. Maria Goretti, Br. 102

Happy New Year!

May the New Year bring good health, happiness and prosperity to each of us.

A warm welcome to our new members, Louis Darin, Michael Shifflitt, Melanie Bellomo, Lucila Caro, and Angelo Bellomo.

We're so happy to have you. It was so gratifying to see so many members and friends at our annual remembrance Mass honoring our departed members, and sadly, including Joy Gallagher and Florence Granata.

May their souls rest in peace.

Remember January 10 - our general meeting in Cabrini Hall at 12 Noon

Ciao,

Dina Tomei

## Santa Barbara/Ventura Region

Thousand Oaks

St. Paschal Baylon, Br. 380

Our branch had an excellent meeting in November. A wonderful Turkey dinner was served from a local restaurant and everyone really enjoyed. We had really fun pie eating contest!

Our branch is looking forward to the upcoming holiday festivities including our annual Family Christmas party which will be on Sunday December 21 this year. At large dinner, fun crafts, deserts and many prizes will be raffled off. We are also expecting a potential visit from Santa...

We are grateful that we have our wonderful ICF family to share the holiday season with each and every year.

Officer Installation will be on Sunday, February 8, at St. Francis Xavier Church in Burbank. Mass is at 10:30 and installation and Lunch will follow. At this event, we install all officers (adult and youth) from all branches in the Los Angeles District. We are looking forward to a great year with a lot of new faces on our board.

Boun Natale Tutti!

Jean Fontana Bridges

Corresponding Secretary

## Monterey

Santa Cruz

Branch 21

Happy New Year, One and All. We hope that you had a beautiful and inspirational Christmas. Though Christmas is past, I'd love to share with you the wonderful time everyone had at the ICF Branch 21 Christmas Dinner on December 5<sup>th</sup>. Holy Cross Hall was packed with parents, grandparents, and children; the atmosphere was filled with happy chatter and laughter. After dinner, Sister Noella led all in song and at the sound of "Jingle Bells", Santa and Mrs. Claus (Don Giudici and Joanne Juhl) surprised everyone when they walked in bearing gifts for the children. There are so many to thank for helping make this evening such a success from those who set up the beautifully decorated tables, to the cooks and barkeeps, to those who brought raffle gifts and sold raffle tickets, to the servers and cleanup crew. Thank you so much; you made it a fun time for everyone.

In 2015, we plan more celebrations and dinners. In January, we hope to initiate the many new members who have joined our Branch this past year. On March 15<sup>th</sup>, our Branch has the honor of hosting the District Meeting. In May, we will have our annual Mother's Day dinner Dance. So stay tuned for e-mails or snail mail announcements as each event unfolds.

Remember, our meetings are friendly and food-worthy! Next meeting at Holy Cross Hall

## Armandina "Army" Centurioni passed away peacefully on November 10, 2014 in Alta Loma, CA.

Army was a longtime member of the ICF. She was one of 15 children born to Jesus and Refugio Navarro. She attended Malabar Street School, Belvedere Jr. High, and Sacred Heart High School, graduating in 1944. Following high school, she attended Frank Wiggins School of Business and then worked for Nelson's Women's Apparel on 4<sup>th</sup> and Broadway in Los Angeles. She served as a clerk in the 6<sup>th</sup> Army Transportation Corps, and then later worked at Mode-O-Day. She married former Central Council Member, Alexander Centurioni, in 1948. They raised 6 children together. Thereafter, Army was employed at El Monte High School as an Administrative Assistant/PBX Receptionist. Her favorite part was being able to talk to the



students and have them share their stories with her. She retired from El Monte High after 26 years of service.

She was devoted to her faith, family, and friends. Army is predeceased by her husband, Alexander, and son, Stephen. She was a loving mother of Daniel (Victoria), Elaine (Patrick), David, Therese (Chuck), Jacqueline and her daughter-in-law Agnes; "Noni" to 21 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren, and 1 great-great-grandchild. Army enjoyed going to daily mass at St. Peter & Paul and enjoyed watching the "Price is Right" every day. She will be greatly missed. - Submitted with love by her first grandson, Danny Centurioni, Branch 367 Las Vegas.

will be at 5pm on January 6<sup>th</sup> and I understand it is going to be extra special. We hope to see you there. In closing, here is a quote by Joey Adams: "May all your troubles last as long as your New Year's resolutions." Finally, we wish you a blessed and safe New Year 2015.

Patty Morelli

Secretary Branch 21

Salinas

Nostra Signora Del Sasso, Br. 25

At this writing, the Christmas Party had not yet been held. However, knowing the location and the preparation that has gone into past parties, it's certain this one, too, was a big success. And so, another Christmas has passed and it is time to look to the new year.

Our council has been asked to host the District Installation on February 21, 2015. We will need volunteers, so please help if you can. Details will be provided at the next branch meeting on January 13th.

The polenta luncheon was a definite success; thanks to all who volunteered to prepare and serve the polenta. There were a number of

positive comments about the meal, and the Californian wrote a wonderful article about the event. We served over 560 meals. Thanks to all of you who helped make it a success.

It is time to collect dues for 2015. Dues are now \$40 per member. Checks made out to ICF Branch 25 can be mailed to PO Box 2797, Salinas, CA, 93902. Better yet, bring them to the meeting January 13th. We meet at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 270 Rianda Circle at Noon.

And talking about New Year's resolutions, how about this one.

A New Year's Resolution is something that goes in one year and out the other.

Author Unknown. No? How about, May all your troubles last as long as your New Year's resolutions. ~Joey Adams

Happy New Year!

Ciao,

Roy Frontani



Monterey Branch 21 Santa and Mrs. Claus with children at Branch 21 Christmas Dinner on December 5, 2014.

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ICF 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration: Branch 21 Nonagenarians (90 years and older): Seated: Left to Right: Marie Medina, Aurelia Bozzo, Virginia Stagnaro, Ezzio Mazzei, Dina Vaggoli, Lena Silva, Erma Delbesio, Rosalie Campisi, Standing: Left to Right: Josephine Pista, Lina Gemignani, Lido Marietti, Ermino Orlando, Giovanna Orlando, Paul Quilici



The wonderful volunteers for Branch 21's ICF's 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

**Monterey**

**Santa Rosalia, Br. 36**

Happy New Year!

Our Christmas Dinner Dance was so much fun and absolutely filled

with members, guests, and the following from Central Council: Jim and Mary Ann Friebel, Marco and Diane Galeazzi, Dante Galeazzi, Andy and Siria Pappani, Michael and Donna Cannady, we always are grateful for their constant support.

Besides delicious food, U.S. Express Band, Antonia Ihnot and JuneSerrano bought and donated a Christmas tree with lights, decorated it with ornaments, raffled it off and donated all of the money to our Br. #36. Thank you Antonia and June, you two had a wonderful "money maker".

Lenten dinners are coming fast, however, before they begin our Thank You Volunteer Dinner will be January 22, (2015). After a great meal you will have a short meeting with the group you volunteer with, and God bless you for all that you do, year end and year out. You volunteers are the backbone of our branch.

Calendar:

Jan. 8 - Monthly meeting

Jan. 22 - Thank you Volunteer Dinner

Feb. 5 - Monthly meeting

Feb. 20 - 1st Lenten Dinner

Feb. 27 - 2nd Lenten Dinner

Mar. 6 - 3rd Lenten Dinner

Mar. 8 - St. Joseph.s Celebration

Mar. 13 - 4th Lenten Dinner

Mar. 20 - 5th Lenten Dinner

Mar. 27 - 6th Lenten Dinner

Mar. 28 - REST!

Our deepest sympathy to Lorrie Canepa on the loss of her daughter, Susan Marie Saunders, may she rest in peace with no more pain.

Never save something for a special occasion, everyday in your life is a special occasion. E-mail from George Mika.

Peace be with you and we can thank God for a new year, makeit count.

*Bettye Sollecito*

**Castroville**

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

Happy New Year!

Our Christmas Party was another magical fun filled evening. I think the magic is created by this holy and wonderful time of the year. Also, the gathering of friends and family helps us enjoy this togetherness and our burdens and cares seem to disappear for a few hours. There was plenty of food, laughter, the gift exchange and more food (Branch #51 enjoys good food) we are truly blessed.

As we begin this New Year our board is busy planning events for this coming year. First on the agenda is our annual fundraiser which is tentatively scheduled for March 1<sup>st</sup>. Our chefs Paul, Dave, D.L. and Jeff are planning their menu, which already has our mouth's watering, (I wonder what new surprises they

have for us). The fundraiser will be held at La Scuola.

Another event will be the St. Patrick's Dinner and hopefully a barbeque sometime in the year. We plan to celebrate our Branch's 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary later this year.

The Board is also looking into perhaps making some changes in the dues and other areas.

We pray for all our members that are ill and those that are recovering.

Lord, as we turn another page and begin a new chapter on our journey, our prayer is that we all have good health, peace in the world and thank God for our blessings.

*Ciao,*

*Leonora Barlow*

**Pacific Grove**

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

Everyone enjoyed a tasty potluck dinner, and afterwards we had a brief meeting. Our annual Christmas party and meeting will begin at 3:00 PM on December 12, 2014, and we will try to get everyone out early enough so they do not have to drive home in the dark. We decided on this time so that more of our members will be able to attend. The number of attendees has been low lately, and we would love to get those numbers up again.

The Members are asked to pray for all the Members and their families who are ill.

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

*Sarah Jane Amoroso, President*

*Marjorie McClure, Recording Secretary*

**Capitola**

**St. Joseph, Br. 227**

Congratulations to the new officers for 2015:

President – Bob Montanye

1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President – Ellen Pauley

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President – Richard Kotila

Secretary – Deanna Musler

Financial Secretary – Jane Kotila

Treasurer – Jim Smith

Orator – Bruce Dunn

Trustees – Ron Castle, Bob Martinelli and Vicky Howell

Sentinel – Mary Harrison

Get well wishes go to Gene Pauly who is at home after open heart surgery.

Welcome to new members Marilyn Beck, Joni Sampson, and Rita Ferreri

A big thank you to Ed Lavarone and his crew for preparing the ham dinner for 160 members and guests at our Christmas party. This year members of the Catholics in Commerce (CIC) joined us for the festivities, which featured the traditional Tom and Jerrys.

Congratulations to Father Wayne Dawson on his incardination and installation as pastor of St. Joseph's on January 10. He was honored at a reception in which our branch participated. We joined with CIC to serve meatballs and Italian sausage.

The Fish Frys begin on February 20. Ellen Pauly has agreed to serve as coordinator again this year, and she will have sign-up sheets at the January and February meetings. It takes lot of help to put on these dinners, so please be generous with your time.



Branch 291 would like to congratulate former member, Christina Muscarella, and her husband, Robert Light, on their recent wedding.

**Arroyo Grande**

**St. Patrick, Br. 291**

Branch 291 celebrated the Christmas season with a fun and festive luncheon at the Madonna Inn on Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>. Members and guests enjoyed a delicious lunch, entertainment by the Pacific Horizon Chorus and lots and lots of great raffle prizes! Joanna Van Blaricom, Kathleen Sullivan and Sylvia Nasholm did a wonderful job putting together our luncheon and we thank them for all their hard work!

As our President, Pete Gallagher, reminded us at the Christmas luncheon, Easter is right around the corner, which means it's time to start planning our Lenten Fish Fries. Our first fish fry will be on Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>, so we hope to see you all there!

Our Branch would like to congratulate our former member, Christina Muscarella, and her husband, Robert Light, on their recent wedding. They were married at the Cathedral Basilica in St. Augustine, FL on Nov. 8, 2014. We wish them many years of happiness and blessings!

Please continue to keep in prayer Sr. Carol Carter, Dianne Clees, our newest member Zorka Drenger, Annette Grimaud, Stevie Hall, Jean & Emil Minicucci, Joe Slavin, Lorraine Spargo, Sonia & Jens Wagner, Delfina Zarate, Mary Ann Zogata and all members of ICF and their families who may be experiencing pain or heartache.

We wish you all a very healthy and happy 2015!

*Keely Sanchez*

*Recording Secretary*

**Paso Robles**

**St. Rose of Lima, Br. 354**

Our branch has had a full plate of events during this holiday season beginning with our November meeting honoring the Armed Force's members. President Irma and husband David provided hot dogs and apple pie a la mode. World War II veteran Hud Banks recalled having rescued a one year old child floating in a local swimming pool, lost touch with her, and 72 years later, they were reunited-such a heartwarming story for the occasion. Deputy Pete Gallagher w/wife Abby reminded us their branch has been busy with their school registration project raising money with three pasta & meatball dinners. Father Marc closed with a beautiful prayer.

Our semi-annual pasta dinner far exceeded our expectations. Loyal branch members, together with assistance from dedicated volunteers, served almost 500 dinners. Thanks parishioners, friends, St. Rose School servers, and Father Roberto, our top ticket seller. We are now able to repair and replace

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folding chairs used for various parish hall events. Thanks also to Yvonne Maddelena for the lovely Fall table decorations and to Missy Ellsworth who with Hope and Brooke completed the table settings.

During these busy times, we remember our members Tony Salvia with prayers for his continued recovery following surgery at Stanford Hospital and our President Irma, who despite her Achilles heel surgery (w/ help from her family and David), put on the crowning event- the Christmas Party at the Madonna Inn in a forest of lights, music, and beautifully decorated trees. Each member selected a gift from a table filled with everything from wine, food, and flowers. Thank you for a memorable event.

Finally, a quote from Ronald Reagan, "If we ever forget that we are one nation under God, then we will be a nation gone under." We thank God for families, friends and blessings He sends us.

*Theresa Sollazzo, Correspondence Secretary*

## Oakland East Bay

### District Council

Hopefully your holidays were Merry and Bright and that your New Year's resolutions included time for ICF.

Thank you to all who ran for district office and were elected and welcome to Al Raineri, who will be replacing Giovanni Corsi who moved away, as a new delegate. This leads me to our first official function in 2015, installation of new and returning officers on Sunday, Jan. 18th. We will begin with Mass @ 3 P.M. at the Fratellanza Club, followed by installation and then dinner. What a positive way to begin the new year and a fresh start for all branches.

Plans for the Crab Feed to be held Friday, Feb. 6, 2015 at St. Philip Neri are under way. We will once again be asking the branches for their help in making this a successful fund raiser. We will need both hors d'oeuvre trays and raffle baskets, and might I add a B-I-G thank you in advance.

Looking forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming functions.

### Alameda

#### Nostra Signora Delle Grazie, Br. 10

Branch 10 welcomed 103 guests to its annual Christmas Party on Friday evening, December 5 in Monsignor O'Brien Hall in Alameda. Santa Claus made his regular appearance and visited --for a long time--with the children who were present. Mary Peterson and Gina Foster organized a craft table for the young people. Chef Ben Ratto prepared a delicious dinner of salad, rolls, spaghetti and meatballs and ice cream bars.

Our next social event and fundraiser will be the annual Polenta Dinner on Saturday night, January 24, in Monsignor O'Brien Hall. Festivities will start with social hour at 6:00 p.m., and dinner will be served at 7. For further information, including cost, you may contact JoAnn Dorn, (510) 710-6959.

We are also planning for our Fish Fry's during the season of Lent. The tasty dinner will be provided for a very modest price each Friday evening following Stations of the Cross at Saint Philip Neri Church, High Street at Van Buren Street, Alameda. The Fish Fry's were very well-attended in Lent of 2014, and this year we hope to vary the type of fish from week to week.

Alameda author and retired (after 40 years) educator Donna Marie Ferro will discuss her recently-published book "Italy, the Em-

bracing Circle: Il Circolo" in the Alameda Main Public Library on Saturday afternoon, January 24 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The book tells the story of the immigration of the author's family from the Ligurian region of Italy to the Bay Farm Island area of Alameda in the early 20th century. Donna Ferro is the granddaughter of Antonietta Rusca Ferro, who founded Branch 10 in the 1920's. While she does not belong to the Branch, Donna Ferro remains a friend of many of our members.

You can make Saturday, January 24 an ICF day by taking in Ms. Ferro's talk, then attending 5:00 Mass at Saint Philip, Neri Church and finally joining us for our Polenta Dinner.

### Oakland

#### Santa Rita, Br. 40

Wishing you and your family a very happy New Year. Dues for the year are due. You can send your check in the amount of \$36, made out to ICF Branch 40. Please mail it to Catherine Kapper, 20700 Tuxedo Ct., Castro Valley, CA, 94552. Any questions call 881-0616.

Upcoming

January 18 -- Installation of officers, 3pm Mass. Installation 4pm. Dinner 5pm.

January 20 -- Monthly meeting, 6pm.

February 18 -- Monthly meeting, 6pm.

Happy birthday to Mary Devincenzi, Deanna Denuraa, Catherine Kapper, and David Rose.

God Bless you all. Remember in your prayers the sick and the convalescing.

Thought, there can be no peace with out love.

*Ciao,*

*M.A. Francis, L. Francis*

### Fremont

#### St. Francis of Assisi, Br. 215

Our branch Christmas dinner held on 12/09/2014 was quite a success. We had 50 people in attendance! Thank you to Scott and Judy Schiechl, Jack and Carolyn Navarra and Joan Lampe for all your hard work making sure a good time was had by all. We were especially pleased to have our chaplain, Father Sergio Lopez, join us along with seminarian, Javier Ramirez. Thank you also to those members who provided canned goods for the Christmas baskets to be prepared by the St. Vincent De Paul Society of Corpus Christi Church.

The next important date to mark on your calendar is the Installation of Officers. This will be held on 1/18/2015 at the Fratellanza Club in Oakland. Branch 215 is the host branch this year. Mass will begin at 3:00 p.m. with Installation at 4:00 p.m. and dinner at 5:30 p.m. Branch officers will have half of their dinners paid by Branch 215. Our own Genevieve Vanek will be the Mistress of Ceremonies. Joan Lampe will be providing the center piece. Price of the dinner is \$40.00 and make your checks payable to the Branch 215. A branch check will be given to the East Bay District at it's next meeting on 1/12/2015.

Another date to mark on your calendar is 2/10/2015. Laurice Levine, the Community Outreach Coordinator of the Cooley's Anemia Unit at Children's Hospital Oakland will be speaking at our branch meeting that evening. President Fran is working with Father Sergio to try and open this speaking engagement to members of Corpus Christi Parish. More details will be discussed at our 1/13/2015 branch meeting.

Please keep Vicky Marlar in your prayers. She had successful breast cancer surgery performed on 12/9 to remove a stage 1 cancer



Branch 285, committee members of the Nativity Display; Dave Wellbeloved, Philomena Buonsante, Anna Yocham, Elaine Meier, Judy Bates and Chuck Meier.

### Livermore

#### St. Filomena, Br. 285

December 2014, was a joyful and busy time for our branch. Forty five of us enjoyed Christmas Dinner at Castlewood, on December 3rd. The evening began with delicious hors d'oeuvres, continued with a bountiful dinner and finished with the singing of Christmas carols.

Sunday, December 7th, was the fourth year we displayed Nativity creches at St. Elizabeth Seton Church. This year, we had 90 different creches. Our thanks to the committee, monitors and all who brought their precious Nativities to be on display.

We thank our outgoing officers of 2014, and the members who gave of their time and talents to make our meetings, outings and fundraisers so much fun, well attended and successful. Our new officers, who will be installed in January are:

President, Elaine Meier; First VP, Judy Wellbeloved; Second VP, Joe Buonsante and Chuck Meier; Financial Sec. and Treasurer, Dave Wellbeloved; Recording Sec., Carolyn Cardinalli; Orator, Mary Merucci; Sentinel, Bobbie Farrington; and Trustees, Gail Rocca, Joe Buonsante and Don Merucci.

Our meeting, Friday, January 16, 6 p.m., St. Elizabeth Seton, will be an Italian pot luck hosted by Ellie Sahlin and Kathy Elm. Pauline Kirk and Ed Rocca are preparing a heritage program. What a great way to start the year!

Saturday, Feb. 21, is our Bingo Bash, at St. Michael's. Keep this date open for lots of fun for a good cause! More information next month.

"Congratulations!" to new grandparents, Melanie and Ray Calabrese! Granddaughter, Cali Olivia, was born November 11, 2014, to Princess and Ron D'Amato. Proud parents and baby are doing well!

May 2015, bring peace and prosperity to you and yours.

*Ciao,*

*Mary Merucci*

### Castro Valley

#### Our Lady of Grace, Br. 343

As we ring in the New Year and make those resolutions, let's try to include time for working harder to make this a successful and caring branch. We are off to a good start with our donations to both Birthright and the Christmas party @ UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital. Thank you everyone.

At our first meeting in Jan. we will be asking for some of your time. First for installation of new/returning officers on Sunday, Jan. 18, 2015, at the Fratellanza Club, beginning with Mass at 3 P.M., followed by installation and dinner.

Next we will need your creative cooking skills to help make our Super Bowl Sunday bake sale another big success. And still along those lines the district will need us to not only attend the Crab Feed @ St. Philip Neri on Feb. 6, 2015, they will also need raffle baskets and plates of hors d'oeuvres. Plenty of time to plan ahead, (an other resolution).

Time to get on those running shoes so we can all help and stay ahead of the game.

Here's to a healthy and happy 2015!



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Members of the Contra Costa District enjoyed a festive Christmas party.

## Contra Costa District Council

The Contra Costa District held their Christmas Party on Dec. 11th at the Old Spaghetti Factory in Concord. Everyone had a good time!

Our District Installation of officers for 2015 will be held on Sat. Jan 17. The Mass and installation will take place at St. Agnes Church in Concord at 10:00AM It will be followed by a luncheon at La Veranda Restaurant in Clayton. Lunch is \$30.00 per person. Ask your branch president for the deadline to pay for your lunch. Each branch will then give one headcount and payment to our district treasurer. All officers should attend and everyone else is welcome as well.

Our next district meeting will be held on Thursday Jan 29 in Danville at our regular conference room at 7:30 PM. All branches should be represented.

Here we are so blessed to welcome in 2015. This year its best to try to look at others from the inside out,for God made everyone!s heart the same color. Happy New Year to all. brances from Contra Costa District.

*Joann*

## Crockett San Carlo, Br. 14

Happy 2015 Everyone! May this New Year bring good health, goodwill and much happiness to our members, and peace and harmony, at long last, to this troubled world.

We bid a fond farewell to Albert Ranzoni. Al has continuously been a member of our branch since June 4, 1940, even though he lived in Terre Linda for many years. Al was a Past Grand Sentinel of the Central Council. We send sincere condolences to his daughter, Elaine, on the passing of our dear friend.

What does the New Year have to offer? Well, we begin on January 13th, with Mass at 5:30. Wouldn't attending Mass be a good way to begin this year? At 6:30 dinner, a delicious piping hot soup and a tasty salad will be served, followed by our once-a-year Tom and Jerry treat with panetone! After the 7:30 meeting, our February 7th Polenta Dinner tickets will be sold.

January 25th is our branch communion and continental breakfast after the 9:00 Mass. It's free to members; all we ask is that we all sit together as a group at the center front of the church.

Our branch ends January on the 30th, with our famous Bingo and Hot Dog Night. This has become a much looked-forward-to social event. Come join the fun!

Again, a very Happy New Year (Felice Anno Nuovo) to all!

*Ciao,*

*Diane Bottini Thomas*

## Pittsburg San Domenico, Br. 72

We finished the year with a Christmas party on Dec 14. We had a great dinner, raffle and a lot of fun. We also gave thank you gifts to our hostess Josie Leontini and deputy Peggy Aiello Hagerthy. We presented a special thank you gift to Joann Thilgen. For many years all funds come from the bus trips that Joann chairs. Joann also donates her own money to make the bus trip proceeds higher. Our branch no longer has fundraiser's because of low ticket sales. If we did not have Joann's bus trips the branch would have zero funds.

Our branch has lost one of its own. Member Diz Russo passed away. We gave the ICF farewell salute at his funeral. Please pray for his wife Jane Russo and her family during this sad time.

Upcoming events:

Sunday Jan. 11---- Branch meeting and News Years party at 2:PM

Saturday Jan 17--- District Installation of officers. Mass and Installation at 10:AM at St. Agnes church in Concord. Lunch to follow at La Veranda Restaurant in Clayton. You will receive menu choices. Mail your check made out to ICF Br. 72 and mail it to treasurer Helen Politakes by Jan. 6. Lunch donation is \$30.00. It was voted by the members to have the officers pay \$25.00. All officers should attend the Mass and Installation but the event is open to all.

Thursday Jan 29---District meeting in Danville at 7:30 PM

You should have received your dues ship for 2015. Please mail your dues check to Treasurer Helen Politakes at 953 Veterans Drive Martinez, Ca. 94553

Happy New Year.

*Sempre Avanti,*

*Patty Jarrett*

## Richmond St. Raymond, Br. 154

The meeting opened with a scrumptious polenta dinner. Thanks to Walter Costa and Toni Reeder for a delicious meal and thanks to everyone who contributed their help to make this a festive holiday meal. Special thanks to Terry and Dick Ventin for the wonderful handmade raffle gifts.

Father Mora from St. Cornelius Church has



Santa s helpers from Branch 14 Crockett delivered gifts to Children's Hospital from branch members. Thank you John Valentini, Donna Hoffmann and David Botta.

given us the name of a family in need. We are contributing clothing, toys and food to make this an extra special holiday for our "adopted" family.

The following are the newly elected officers for 2015.

President: Lorraine Acuña

First Vice-president: Michael Cannady

Second Vice-president: Carole Jobes

Recording Secretary: Dee Rosier

Financial Treasurer: Lori Framstad

Treasurer: Toni Reeder

Trustees: : Domenica Yonke, Gino Martinucci, Julian Acuña

Sentinel: Diana De Simoni

Orator: Alan Paolini

Please pick up a calendar for the coming year if you have not done so already. The next scheduled meeting is January 6<sup>th</sup>2015. Pizza and salad will be served. Eggnog and Spirits to follow the meeting!

Don't forget your dues are payable at the next meeting. Annual dues are \$35.00 and Hospitalization is \$25.00. Make your check payable to the ICF and give your check to Lori Framsted.

Installation of officers is January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015, hosted by the Concord Branch 214. Mass at 10:00 am, Installation and lunch to follow. Reserve with Walter Costa 510-385-9953.

*Lorraine Acuña*

## Concord Todos Santos, Br. 214

**St. Agnes, St. Bonaventure, St. Francis of Assisi, and Queen of all Saints**

No December meeting. Members celebrated with a Christmas brunch at a restaurant in Clayton, which was absolutely wonderful. November - Election of Officers, most of the Board remained the same. We have a New Treasurer Janine Judge; & Veronica Peery will be in charge of Newsletters. We Thank our past board member Barbara Faircloth.for her great service on the Board.

We Welcome new member JoAnn Lee. Thank You JoAnn for helping our branch grow.

Prayers for our sick, elders and one another in the New Year.

God Is the Blessing in Our Lives.

Happy New Year to One and All!

*Christina, correspondence secty.*

## Danville St. Isidore, Br. 352

Our newly nominated officers are looking forward to the Installation of officers taking place January 17, 2015, 10:00 AM, Mass at Saint Agnes Church, Concord, CA. Luncheon will follow at LaVeranda Restaurant,

Clayton, CA. (\$30 per person).

Happy Birthday to all our January birthday members.

*Ciao,*

*Madeline A. Cefalo*

# Orange Irvine

**St. Thomas More, Br. 423**

Happy New Year!! Here are the happenings from Branch 423:

Our branch hosted the Mother Cabrini Mass on November 15. Frank Gianantonio read the first reading in Italian. Bob, Randy, Roberto, Hal, David, and Tony carried the baldacchino inside the church before the members went in.

We had a scrumptious Thanksgiving dinner at our November 21 meeting. We dined on roast turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, broccoli and brussels sprouts gratin, salads, and assorted desserts. Big thank you to Mary Ann, Mina, and Lupe for making the delicious meal!

Cris Gianantonio read about the history of the baldacchino and Mother Cabrini for the heritage report. In addition to being the patron saint of the ICF, Mother Cabrini is also the patron saint of crops. She also reported that there is a Mother Cabrini Shrine in Los Angeles, California. A pilgrimage is held on the first Sunday in December.

Installation of officers for the district will be held on February 15 at the 11:15 am Mass at St. Thomas More parish.

Bishop Dinner will be held on March 7. The district is still in the planning stages for this event. More details to come.

Tom and Peggy Farrell hosted our annual Christmas party on December 7. Members brought hearty appetizers and desserts. Afterwards, we participated in a gift exchange game.

*Ciao,*

*Miranda Gibson*

# Reno Reno

**St. Albert, Br. 135**

We were delighted to welcome 50 members and guests to our annual Bishops Dinner on Sunday evening, December 7. This dinner gives us an occasion to honor our Bishop and to present him with monetary gifts to fund the education of the Seminarians of our diocese.

Special thanks goes to Bob and Suzanne Capurro, Frank and Lydia Brunelli, Mel Sullivan and Carolyn Smith who prepared and served appetizers and a delicious dinner of Chicken Cacciatore, polenta, vegetables, salad and for dessert, homemade chocolate chip cake by Maggie Marino.

Special guests attending included Leonard Zasoski, Grand 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President of Central Council and his wife BG, and Bishop Randolph R. Calvo, Bishop of Reno.

Leonard Zasoski of Central Council presented a \$1,500 check to the Bishop from Central Council's Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund for the education of the Seminarians of our diocese. The gifts from Branch 135 presented by President Carolyn Smith were a gift of \$1,500 to Bishop Calvo for his seminary fund and a gift of \$300 for his TV ministry.

Members attending this annual dinner event brought many "bags of food", which will be given to Saint Vincent's Pantry, whose ongoing mission is to feed the "homeless and hungry" in our Reno community.



Next meeting is January 4, 2015.

We wish all our members and their families a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

Capo D'Anno a Tutti!

*Charlyne Pacini*

# Sacramento

## Sacramento

### St. Mary, Br. 45

GOODBYE 2014 – HELLO 2015 and HAPPY NEW YEAR

As we say goodbye to 2014, we want to thank all our members and friends for their outstanding support of Branch 45 through their attendance at our dinners and other activities this past year. We look forward to seeing all of you in 2015.

Joint Installation of Officers will be on January 24th at St. Clare (Branch 438) in Roseville. Branch 45 officers elected for 2015 are President, Janine Orsi; 1st Vice President, Tina Tallman; 2nd Vice President, Ted Georguson; Recording/Corresponding Secretary, Bonnie Lally; Financial Secretary/Treasurer, Lisa Bandaccari; Orator, Mary Jo Lee; Trustees, Arlene Gianatasio, Eric Bush and Marie Leonard; Sentinel, Mary Ann Heinen.

We are sad to report of the passing of Rose Riolo last month. Rose was an enthusiastic supporter of our chicken and polenta dinners, always hosting a table full of friends. We extend our condolences to her family.

Buon Compleanno to January Birthday celebrants, Barbara Davidson, Matthew Ebert, Alvina Waldron, Steven Robison and Eric Bush. Best wishes for many more years.

CALENDARS are still available; please contact Janine at 916-508-1199 to purchase one.

Up coming next month is the District Meeting on February 8th, hosted by Branch 45.

Ciao and Happy New Year!

## Auburn

### St. Joseph, Br. 342

Thank you so much to all those who worked so hard to make our annual Christmas party a great success!! A big thank you to chefs Lynne and Lisa for preparing a wonderful pasta dinner, those who helped decorate and set-up, Marisa for preparing the raffle baskets, and those who helped at the event. A special thank you goes out to Santa for making time in his schedule to come and visit us. At the dinner, we were able to collect donations for the Auburn Food Closet and give checks to the youth groups, religious education programs, and St. Vincent de Paul Societies at St. Theresa's and St. Joseph's Parishes. A wonderful evening indeed!

Our next big event will be our Polenta Dinner on January 17, 2015. Please note that this is a Saturday evening. Once again, Chef Rico and his crew will prepare and serve a delicious polenta, chicken, and sausage dinner. This dinner is always a sell-out, so please get your tickets from Dolores (530-823-9125) or Trish (530-878-6814) as soon as possible.

Branch 342 would like to wish their fellow ICF members a new year filled with health and happiness.

*Ciao!*

*Pam Andersen, Bollettino Contributor*

## Jackson

### St. Katharine Drexel, Br. 428

Branch 428, members and guests enjoyed their annual Christmas Dinner, December

9, at Mel's restaurant in Jackson. The Prime Rib was superb and everyone had a great time. The table were set with the Christmas Theme. The Branch is looking forward to 2015 New Year and our Taste of Italy series dinners for our monthly meetings. Recruitment of new members is high on our list. Maybe a better theme for 2015 should be, "Think Italian" as so many people are so busy they forget their heritage.

We hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas Season and may the New Year bring success and happiness to all.

*Marilyn (Bertorello) Anderson*

## Roseville

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

Branch 438 members were busy throughout December, when 13 volunteers spent a morning rolling shaping and twice-baking hundreds of biscotti and cutting and baking hundreds of Christmas shaped & decorated sugar cookies sold by two dozen more volunteers during our hugely successful 2nd annual parish-wide Bake Sale. Proceeds from the sale were happily received by St. Clare Parish Social Concerns Ministry which used the funds to provide food baskets and Christmas presents for less fortunate families throughout our large Parish.

St. Clare Branch is proud to host the Blessed Sacrament District Installation of officers on January 24th for the 2015 ICF program year at St. Clare Church, 1950 Junction Blvd in Roseville. All ICF Branches throughout the area are welcome to attend, please call Joe Fisher at 530-673-3984 for reservations. Branch members are happy to be provided the additional honor of watching the installation of Branch 438 Past President, Paula Scarpelli as the new Blessed Sacrament District President. Branch 438 extends to all ICF Branches, our wish for your prosperous and productive new ICF year. Felice e prospero anno nuovo!

# San Diego

## Chula Vista

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

Wishing all of you a Happy and healthy 2015!!

Mark your calendars for the Super Bowl Meatball Sausage Sandwich Sale scheduled for February 1, 2015 after the morning Masses. Cannoli will also be sold.

Also, St. Joseph's Day Table is scheduled for March 15, 2015.

Please pray for our deceased members, for those who are sick, for the unemployed, and for those in need.

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*

# San Francisco

## San Francisco

### SS Immacolata, Br. 1

Dear Members:

Our recent Christmas Party was enjoyed by all!

Upcoming events:

January = No meeting



Celebrating Christmas at Branch 428 are (right to left) Linda Cook, Marilyn Anderson, Alba Arosio and Connie Pagaru.

Jan. 11 -- Installation of Officers. Place SFI-ASC Info: Call Vic Arnaudo at (650) 755-1369

Jan. 25 -- Branch Mass, ICC, 10:30am

Continue prayers for sick members.

A happy and Healthy New Year to all Branch 1 members and their families!

*Ciao!*

*Toni Morsello*

## San Francisco

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

Wishing our Branch 38 members, our ICF brothers & sisters, our families and friends a very HAPPY NEW YEAR. It's hard to believe that 365 days or 12 months have past already. It seems like only 12 weeks have flown by! Why is it that when we were young 12 months was a very long time, and now that we are older, time flies by so fast!

Do you remember how we all looked forward to the new millennium year 2000...now we are already at 2015. Where did all these years go!

We already have an IMPORTANT change in our next year's calendar. Please take notice: our JANUARY MEETING has had to be CANCELLED because of major construction on the Salesian Boys' & Girls' Club. As you may already know, the work is going on full time and the gym facility cannot be used, therefore on Saturdays, for the time being, the Club needs to use the Parish Center for their Marshall Arts program. I'm sorry for the mix-up, but it cannot be helped! We'll go back to normal in February.

To our dear branch members who are unable to attend: our sick and homebound, we wish you all a speedy recovery, and we hope you all will be able to join us again soon.

\*\*Madeline Torre, our Financial Treasurer... who works on our ICF fiancés from home, we miss you at our meetings. Get well, and join us again soon.

P.S. Don't forget to pay your 2015 Membership Dues!

Your "Branch Monthly Activities Calendar" will be sent with your dues notice.

Our next meeting will be on Saturday, February 14, 2015

11:30 am meeting in the PC.

12:30 am lunch: "Valentine's Day Party,"



Branch 438, St. Clare Bakers Dozen help ICF Parish Bake Sale.

details by phone, and Bingo Games!

*Ciao!*

*Ci vediamo il 14 di febbraio!*

*Mara Amato*

## San Francisco

### St. Elizabeth, Br. 258

Our Christmas lunch, December 12th, was another huge success. Everyone enjoyed their Turkey lunch and visiting with their friends.

It is with great sadness that we report the death of our dear member

Mary Yakis. Mary was a member of Br. 258 for 31 years. Mary was a very generous member. She always made sure we had enough prizes for all our raffles. Mary, you will be greatly missed by all our members. May God and the Blessed Mother keep you in their care.

Please keep our ill and deceased members in your prayers.

Our sincere sympathy to Rose Moisant and her family on the death of her son, Ernie. May God keep you in his care.

Happy Holidays to all our members and their families. We hope the New Year will be good to all of us.

Auguri di un Buon Santo Natale e Felicissimo Anno Nuovo

Remember these dates:

Jan 5th: Off. Meeting

Jan 25th: Mass

Jan 26th: Meeting

*Ciao,*

*Eva Perata, President*

## San Francisco

### Corpus Christi, Br. 290

Branch 290 mourns the death of Louise Isola, a charter member of Branch 290. Louise will be remembered as a loyal and supportive member of our Branch. She will be greatly missed, especially at our Champagne-Bingo luncheons. May she rest peacefully in the arms of the Lord.

Our January meeting will be on the 15th of the month at 12:00 noon. The meeting will follow lunch.

SAVE THE DATE! Branch 290's annual Crab Feed will be held on Saturday, February 7th in the Parish Hall. Doors will open at 6:00 PM, and the Crab Feed will begin at 6:30pm. Price of this event to be determined.

Happy New Year to all. May 2015 be filled with many blessings for all our members.

*Ciao,*

*Jeannette*



## San Mateo

### District Council

Welcome to the New Year 2015. Hope everyone had a joyous Christmas. Wishing you all many blessings. Many thanks to Branch 163 St. Matthew's, San Mateo for hosting the Annual District Christmas party at our Lady Of Angels, Burlingame, on December 18. Thanks also to the Branches for donating the delicious food. A great time was had by all who attended.

Mark your calendars:

A Reminder: Saturday, January 17, San Mateo District Installation of Officers. Hosted by Branch 403. 10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Dunstan's Church, Millbrae. All officers should arrive at 10:00 a.m. Lunch to follow at the Terrace Cafe, El Rancho Motel, El Camino Real, Millbrae. Price \$36.00. Reservations to Dan Capodonna, 325 San Jose Avenue, Millbrae, CA 94030. Reservation Deadline January 12, 2015.

Please send the name of your Marshall for the Installation ceremony to Debora Rodondi. Entree choices: London Broil, Fillet of Sole and Stuffed Chicken Breast.

In our thoughts and prayers: Father Frank Murray, Family of Al Teglia, Family of Mary Elizabeth Ghiorso (Mother of our San Francisco Diocesan Chaplain Father David Ghiorso.) If you have a moment, send Father Frank Murray a card or call him. He would love to hear from you.

*Peace and Love,*

*Anne O'Brien*

### South San Francisco

#### Sacro Cuore, Br. 7

Our first business meeting for the year will be January 7, 2015. We hope you all had a peaceful and holy holiday season. It is time to begin again. But first a quick look back to thank the entire kitchen team for the wonderful holiday dinner they prepared on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and also thank everyone who donated to "A Very Special Toy Box!"

We also want to thank the many "Unsung Hero's" who make and bring raffle items, our bartenders, who set up, serve and clean up, our lovely ladies, who sell tickets...raffle, drink, and dinner tickets and all the individuals that volunteer every month to cook our dinners. We would not be so successful if it were not for all of you!

Congratulations all of our newly elected officers for the year 2015. They are: President, Kelly J. Teglia; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Marc Teglia; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Diana Ferrari; Recording/Corresponding Secretary, Jeanine Acosta; Financial Secretary Dean Balestieri; Treasurer, Donna Smith; Orator, Leonore Armanino; Sentinel, Jeanette Acosta; Trustees, Marie Pariani, Carol Tassan, Barbara Demattei, and Phyllis Feudale.

Mark your calendars for our future fundraising event. We will have a Crab Cioppino Dinner on February 21<sup>st</sup>. For more information contact Norma at 650-583-3643.

We would like to offer our condolences to the Clorinda Orlich's Family. Cloinda joined Branch 7 in 1969.

Branch 7 would like to welcome our new member Jeanine Acosta. (Lovely daughter of Jeanette Acosta)

So, until next time...a thought to ponder... "Always pray to have eyes that see the best in people, a heart that forgives the worst, a mind that forgets the bad and a soul that never loses faith in God!"

*Sempre Avanti,*

*Laurie Masetti*

### Burlingame

#### Our Lady of Angels, Br. 173

Our Christmas potluck dinner party will be held on 12-11-14 and our Financial Secretary, Jean Watterson and her husband John will again do the honors of chairing this event. This year it will be held in the gym and we are asking for food for the needy as well as food to share.

We have a lot of earth angels in our club who work hard to make our dinners interesting and a special thanks to all. We can't forget our chefs, Bob Tomasello Gary Wemiz and our servers Bea Tomasello, Brenda Wemiz, and Sandra Bennett along with Mariano and Emiliano who lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

To all of the officers a huge thank you for all of your efforts

and we all look forward to making 2015 an even better year!

Please keep the Giusti family in your prayers as we lost Lido recently. Also, I would like to thank my ICF family for their prayers, cards and Masses for my son, David, who recently passed away.

*God Bless,*

*Rosalind C. Emery*

### Millbrae

#### St. Dunstan, Br. 403

The San Mateo District Installation of Branch Officers will take place on Saturday, January 17, 2015 at St. Dunstan Church in Millbrae at the 10:30 Mass. Lunch reception will follow at the Terrace Cafe at the El Ranch Inn in Millbrae. The cost is \$36 per person. Lunch choices are: London Broil, Red Snapper or Chicken Breast. Reservations are due by January 12, 2015. Please make check payable to ICF San Mateo District, indicate your lunch choice and mail to Dan Capodanno, 325 San Jose, Millbrae, CA 94030.

## Marin

### Larkspur

#### St. James, Br. 161

Our Christmas Luncheon with Mr. & Mrs. Santa was very nice and well attended. The food was delicious and the room looked wonderful. People had a great time catching up with friends. The children had a wonderful time sitting on Santa's lap and telling him what they would like for Christmas. We thank the two co-chairs, Lucia Della Santina and Jeanne Asdourian for putting it together. We also thank everyone who helped to set up and to clean up, and everyone who donated money for the basket raffle. Thank you for all of your support. Mark your calendars for a crab dinner on Saturday, January 24 at St. Patrick's. There will also be a basket raffle. It will be catered by Debbie Ghiringhelli Catering. Call Lorraine Iavarone for reservations.

Our next meeting will be January 20 with installation of officers.

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

Wishing you and your families a very Happy New Year.

*Ciao,*

*Anna Biggio*

## San Jose

### Santa Clara Valley

#### District Council

The district Annual Christmas celebration was hosted by Noreen Gillio's Branch 368 And was an enjoyable evening. Fr. George presided over the opening Mass and afterwards all members sat down for an abbreviated meeting.

President-Elect Denise Antonowicz presented Three-term president John Gillio with a gift and acknowledged his three years of successful leadership of the district. District Deputy, Jerry Delfino announced branch deputy reassignments.

All members then enjoyed an excellent dinner catered by Diane and Al Vallorz (Tony & Albas). Afterwards, Jim Jones read a poignant story of a Highway Patrolman and various encounters he had during his Christmas Eve shift. Then Jim passed-out song sheets he had prepared with popular Christmas Carols. Accompanied by Fr. George on guitar all members joined in singing the carols.

Key Dates: Officer Installation – St. Martins, January 10, 2015 and Next District Meeting at Branch 47 Sunnyvale Church, January 12.

Keep Monsignor Milani and Frank Bausino in your prayers.

*Buon Natale & Felice Anno Nuovo.*

*Mike Nunziata*

### San Jose

#### Holy Cross, Br. 4

The Christmas party was enjoyed by all that attended. The "Old Lady of Christmas" read stories to the children.

Thanks to all who brought toys for Oakland Children's hospital. I'm sure much joy was brought to the Children.

The officers for the 2015 year are : President Anna Greco, 1st Vice Marie Greco, 2nd Vice Chuck Gullo, Recording Secretary Ann Fitzgerald, Financial Secretary Connie Barretta, Treasurer Bill Greco, Trustees Melanie Lara Ho and Kathy Breymer. Orator Walter Phillips and Sentinel James Ho. Let's get behind the officers to help out for dinners and other events.

It would be greatly appreciated if all members could take a turn helping out.

Jan 7- dinner meeting

Feb 4- fundraiser, more later

The program for the year will be mailed to you soon.

Get well wishes to our sick members. Hope you all have a happy, healthy New Year!

*Until Next time,*

*Ann Fitzgerald*

### Santa Clara

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

Congratulations to all ICF Officers for 2015. The installation is on January 10, 2015. New ideas are welcome in the planning of the new year.

Membership dues are currently due for 2015. Cost: \$38.40 per member.

Please mail in your payment as soon as possible, or bring it to the January Meeting.

When you get your handout for 2015, please mark your calendars for the year, so that you will not miss out on the many events sponsored by the ICF. Guests and prospective members are always welcome. Speaking of calendars, it is not too late to purchase the wonderful ICF calendars, which provide great recipes and a chance to win money every month.

New Year's resolution: More New Members.

Happy Birthday to all those who will be celebrating during this first month of the new year.

*Ciao,*

*Marlene J. Rotolo*

### Gilroy

#### Santa Maria Ausilatrice, Br. 28

Happy New Year to all of our ICF members.

Hope everyone had a good Christmas holiday.

*Valente Marini Perata*  
*& Company* FD-100

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Thank you to Santa and Mrs. Clause for dropping in at our December Christmas Party. I know the children appreciated seeing both of you.

Roger Santos wishes to thank the board and the members for their support that made for a very successful 2014.

Remember our January and February dinners are postponed one week to the Fourth Monday of the month so as not to conflict with the holidays. January 26, and February 23. Same time same place.

Our first fundraiser will be our annual Polenta Dinner on March 7. Invite your family and friends and spread the word about our delicious dinner. Reserve your tickets now, as we always have a mad scramble for tickets at the last minute, so get yours early. We also need gifts for the raffle, as this is a big asset to our ability to raise funds.

Pray for our sick and homebound members and our sympathy go out to the family of Nancy Ciacco who passed on in December.

Anna Barberi

Los Gatos

St. Mary, Br. 184

2014 was a fine year and passed so quickly - here's hoping that 2015 will be kind to our families, our State and our Country! The weather cooperated enough not to rain on the Parade, so our little chicken, Marie Antonowicz, didn't get her feathers wet at the Los Gatos Christmas Parade! She and her family hurried home to prepare for our branch Christmas Potluck that same night. It was a great success, good food and lots of time to visit with members.

I am sorry to report that long time member and supporter of our Branch, Frances Martinez, passed away. May she rest in peace. Past President Dom Norcia had surgery in December, and we pray for his full recovery!

Holy Cross Church, the Parish of our Deputy Maria Greco, suffered a devastating fire. Thank God that there were no people in the Church at the time, and that the Crucifix was saved. We pray for their community to be restored.

Blessings to all in this New Year, as we continue to pray for peace and good health for our families and friends. Mark your calendar for Saturday, March 21, our next Polenta Dinner Dance.

Be safe, stay dry,

Lucy Amico

San Jose

St. Frances Cabrini, Br. 191

Every Fall our board chooses one member to recognize for their contribution to the branch. The 2014 recognition award went to Tony Spagnola. Congratulations Tony.

In December Sgt. Chris Schenck USMC,

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son of members Joan and Charles Schenck, met with SFC's BSA Cub Scout Pack 334 to speak about "respect. He also met with the 7th graders where he talked about Honor, Commitment and Courage. As part of his presentation, Chris shared a slideshow of boot camp.

The first board meeting for 2015 took place on January 5th. Reviewing and finalizing the calendar for the New Year was the main focus of the meeting.

Our first quarterly Mass and breakfast is scheduled for January 18th. Breakfast will be at the Hickory Pit after the 8 AM Mass.

January's branch meeting is on the 28th. A dinner of spaghetti and meatballs will be served by the board. Discussion at the meeting will be the upcoming polenta dinner/dance on March 7th and St. Joseph Mass and luncheon on March 15th.

This year is Branch 191's 50th anniversary. Plans are in the works to celebrate this monumental event in June. Anyone who has pictures of our past events and would like to share them at the anniversary dinner can contact Aldine Grisenti at 408-559-1242.

Happy New Year!

Rosemary Janis

San Jose

Santa Teresa, Br. 368

Our special thanks go to our meeting hostesses, Evelyn Taravella for our October 8 meeting and Mary Ridi, Cheryl and Ron Sanchez, and Rosa Traina, for our November 13 meeting. We enjoyed delicious buffets both months.

Heartfelt thanks also goes to Gus Mavroudis, who consistently provides us with his age-appropriate music, ranging from Italian to pop. The music adds so much to our events. Thank you, Gus!

Another person who deserves our sincere thanks is Aldine Grisenti, our branch deputy for the last four years. As she retires, we want her to know that we really appreciate her enthusiasm for our branch and her encouraging and instructive monthly reports. I think Christ might say, "Well done, my good and faithful servant." Thank you, Aldine! Come and visit us sometimes!

At our November meeting we were treated to Mike Rossi's descriptions of the Holy Land, which he toured with several members of our branch, other parishioners, and Father George. Mike, former Central Council Grand President, spoke of the sites they visited, where major events of Our Lord's life occurred. He strongly recommended that we each put a trip to the Holy Land on our bucket lists.

On November 22 Joyce and Phil Robba directed our Thanksgiving distribution of food to the needy. Many of our branch members participated in this parish project. Joyce and Phil have been co-chairing the activities of our food pantry for many years. Thank you, Joyce and Phil!

Blessings for 2015!

San Jose

St. Martin of Tours, Br. 391

Santa Claus made another visit to Branch 391 to deliver laughs, gifts, and holiday cheer. Unfortunately, Santa hurt his leg in a Tahoe skiing accident, so his very patient elf had to push him around in a wheelchair. Everyone enjoyed watching Santa and his yearly antics.

Per tradition, December is a dinner and no meeting, which started out with a prayer from Fr. Abe. After prayer, Christmas gifts

were presented to different people and organizations to further their good work and continuing fulfillment of Jesus' call to action.

Dinner was a juicy pot roast, mashed potatoes, string beans, bread, salad and cannoli. There were also plenty of appetizers to enjoy before the main course. Dinner was free for members, and any donation was given to St. Martin of Tours' annual Celebration of Life.

The evening ended with beautiful holiday Christmas carols led by Marcie Rossi, Donna Rossi, and Bianca Vallorz.

We hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and has a happy and healthy new year!

Baci,

Bianca Vallorz

Sunnyvale

Resurrection, Br. 408

Dio ci benedica nel nuovo anno!

We pray for God's Blessings in the coming New Year !

The Stanford Blood Bank Congratulates Br. 408 for hosting the collection of over 150 units of Blood in past year of 2014. This Effort has more than doubled the number of useable units provided to the local Community from our Parish Community.

Please remember to mail in your dues statements for 2015.

Installation of 2015 Br 408 Officers was held at Saint Martin of Tours on Jan 10th in a beautiful Mass Presided by Fr. George Arahna.

Branch 408 will host it first Quartely Communion Breakfast at the 8:30 AM Mass on January 25th.

Branch 408 will kick off the Parish Lenten Soup on Friday 20 February – We will need 10 soups for distribution to the Parish.

Please remember to include our sick members in your prayers - especially for Monsignor Milani, Fr. George, Edith Novak, Al's wife Syd, Carolyn O'Connor, John Parker's wife Barbara, Susie Quaglia, and Aldo Lucaratti.

Morgan Hill

Santa Caterina D'Alessandria, Br. 435

It is with a heavy heart I have to announce the passing of our beloved president Jerry Carravelli. Our branch has lost a wonderful, caring and hard working gentleman. Out of respect for Jerry and his family we did not have an October dinner meeting. A special memorial service was held at St. Catherine's church with father Mark paying tribute to Jerry along with his family sharing stories about their dad.



Branch 191 Caption: Tony Spagnola Branch 191's Recognition Award recipient for 2014.

Our new officers for the 2015 year are:

Chaplain= Rev. Mark Arnzen

President= Andy Pappani

First Vice President=

Second Vice President=Ken Ravizza

Recording Secretary=Gloria Subocz

Correspond. Secretary=Gloria Subocz

Financial Secretary=Giulia Gallego

Treasurer= Giulia Gallego

Orator= Loretta Wilson

Trustees= George Gugliemo, Sylvia Ritchie, Chris Monahan, Helga Brooks

Sentinel=Ann Freibel

Branch Deputy=John Gillio

Our next board meeting is on Jan.5th, and the next dinner meeting will be on Jan.15th.

After many years of serving on our board in many different positions Denise Campagna has resigned from the board. She will still be a member of our branch. A big THANK YOU to Denise for all her hard work and unselfish dedication to our branch. She will be truly missed on the board.

Michael Cassidy brother of Peter Cassidy has passed away. Our condolences to Peter and his family.

Wishing all a Merry, Blessed Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year.

God bless,

Donna Basilin

Santa Rosa

Napa

San Giuseppe, Br. 12

Our Branch celebrated our Christmas Party at Fume Restaurant on December 8<sup>th</sup>. There were 16 members who enjoyed a delicious dinner and friendship.

We are looking forward to the District Christmas Party on the 14<sup>th</sup>.

Brother Paul McCarty has joined our Branch and is our new Chaplain. We are so pleased to have him at our meetings. He also is interested in working towards new members, in particular families joining. A very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to one and all.

Ciao,

Juliann

Santa Rosa

Santa Rosa, Br. 18

We enjoyed a record turnout at the November 22<sup>nd</sup> Festa D'AUTUNNO dinner dance, good food by Randy Apel, great dance music by Show Case. It is always an uplifting experience to help with the gift wrapping at Resurrection Parish Altar Society. The donated gifts are plentiful. They are delivered to local care homes. We have been helping with this event for at least thirty years. Our heartfelt sympathy and prayers to our President, Lynn Stornetta Green on the recent passing of her dear mother, Jeanne Ballatore of Valley Ford. She was one hundred and three years old. We also send prayers and sympathy to our Branch Deputy, Louise Vicino. Her husband, Lou, Past Santa Rosa District Council President passed away December 7<sup>th</sup>. Get well prayers for our ever-faithful First Vice President and Orator, Martha Rusake. We are looking forward to a year of new members, successful and most enjoyable fund-raising events. Stay well and join in the fun.

Marie Canale, Buon Capo d'Anno



## Healdsburg

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

On December 5, we had our Christmas Party with over 160 people in attendance. The festive evening was enjoyed by all, especially by the children who enjoyed a visit from Santa. Thank you to Cheryl Rettig and crew for cooking the wonderful pasta dinner. We presented Christmas donations of \$4000 to St. John's Church, \$1000 to the school, \$2000 to St. Vincent DePaul Society and \$10,000 to the St. John School Endowment Fund. Fr. Sean is most appreciative of our donations and the hard work the of the ICF members. Thank you to everyone who came and supported the Golf Tournament, dinners and raffles throughout 2014. Without members support, Br. 52 could not support St. John's Parish, School and ICF charities, like we do.

#### Upcoming Events:

Jan. 17: Polenta Dinner. Bar: 5:45 PM. Dinner: 6:30 PM. Price: \$15.00 members, \$18.00 non-members. This is the second and last polenta dinner of the season. For tickets, call Karla Lippincott: 237-1308 or Mary Madden: 431-0438. Deadline: Jan. 12. Wear your crazy hat for the crazy hat contest! We will also initiate new members.

Jan. 31: Santa Rosa District Installation at St. Peter's Church in Cloverdale. 10 AM Mass with installation and lunch following. Price: \$20.00. For tickets, call Carmen or Lauren: 577-7304

Feb. 3: General Meeting in the Rectory. 7:00pm

March 27: First Annual Lenten Fish Fry. Mark your calendars for this first time event.

*Happy New Year!*

*Lauren Kilcullen*

## Cloverdale

### L'Annunciata, Br. 75

With Christmas just a couple of weeks away, we're looking forward to our December Christmas Party at which we will dine extraordinarily well, enjoy one another's company, and bring some relief to others by donating gifts to The Wallace House, Cloverdale's local shelter and outreach to the needy in our community. Our Youth Group has already held a diaper drive for this facility so we hope to add other needed items such as blankets, sleeping bags and coats.

A few days prior to this, several of us will attend The District Christmas Party/Meeting at St. Eugene's in Santa Rosa.

Gearing up for the New Year, in addition to our regular third Thursday meeting on January 15, at which Cooley's Anemia, spokesperson, Laurice Lavine, will speak, we will also host The District Installation of Officers on Saturday, January 31st, which begins with Mass and is followed by hors d'oeuvres, a no-host-bar and a Chicken Cordon Bleu luncheon. Please contact your Branch President for tickets!



St. Rose ICF Branch 18 members Christmas party.



Members of Branch 391 enjoying a festive Christmas dinner.

Our branch wishes your branch a happy, holy, Christmas and a prosperous, fulfilling, New Year!!!

## Sonoma

### St. Sebastian, Br. 103

President Margo Kosta has taken the helm as president of Branch 103, together with a great staff of officers. After a most enjoyable Christmas party, the members are ready for a prosperous year in 2015. The branch will be discussing fund raisers and is looking forward to attracting many new members.

Chef Klauber continues to present tasty and exciting menus, so members are encourage to make reservations for the January dinner by calling Lila Boragno at (707) 996-3448.

*Felice Nuovo Anno a tutti,*

*Marie-Therese Denning*

## Petaluma

### St. Vincent, Br. 127

Greetings from Petaluma!

By the time you read this article, the holidays will be over. I hope that you had a wonderful Christmas and now I wish you a very blessed and a wonderful New Year!

Congratulations to last years Officers of Branch 127 for a job well done. The following are the new officers for 2015, congratulations to all of them with wishes for a successful year to come: President Bruno Fomasi, 1st VP Spence Burton, 2nd VP Lucy Spingola, Recording Secty. Sharon Cresci, Financial Secty. Sharon Hromek, Treasurer Eileen Griffith, Orator Rita Boynton, Sentinel Mary Ellen Higgins, Trustees: Mary Ann Ciabattari, Denise DiGirolamo, Louise Vicino, Chaplain Father Michael Culligan and Branch Deputy Ken Marshall. Plan to attend our meetings and functions this year and support your President and your Branch.

The Christmas Party this year was a success. Anyone who attended enjoyed themselves. Thank you Kathleen for making all the arrangements.

Jan. 12th will be the first meeting of the year. At that time we will have our Soup/Dessert Night to be held in the Church Hall. This notice may be too late in getting to you, however, a report on it will be given at the next



Br. 52: In the first photo, our youngest members serenade the grownups with "Jingle Bells", as the children wait for Santa Claus at Br. 52's Christmas Party. In the Second photo, Br. Pres. Nancy Seppi presents Fr. Sean Rogers with a check for \$10,000 for the new St. John's School Endowment Fund. This was one of the many donations, we made at the Christmas Party.

meeting.

Jan. 17th - Spaghetti Dinner - St. James Church Hall - 6:15p.m. O'erderves, 7:00 p.m. Salad, spaghetti, dessert and Wine, Coffee - Cost \$16 Adults \$5 Children under 12 yrs. Denise DiGirolamo is the Chairperson in charge. Make reservations with Spence - 763-9082 or Louise - 769-7389.

Jan. 31 - Installation of Officers. Plan to attend, it is being held in Cloverdale Branch.

Keep the date of February 21st open, there will be an all you can eat crabfeed, Menu: o'erderves, crab, garlic bread, dessert, wine. \$40 Adults \$10 Children under 12years. Reservations should be made with Spence 763-9082 or Louise 769-7389.

We will be charging a few dollars more for our dinners, as the price of everything has risen on everything we purchase.

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers and cards sent to my husband, Louis who passed away on December 7th. I truly appreciate all your phone calls and cards as well. He loved the ICF as much as I do and he was proud to be President of the Branch for three years and proud to serve as President to the Santa Rosa District of the ICF. He also served as Deputy for the Cotati Branch.

Please continue to keep Frank Cresci in your prayers. Also get well wishes to our First Lady Judi Fomasi and to anyone else who is ill.

Wishes to anyone celebrating a birthday or an anniversary this month. Also Happy Valentine's Day in February.

*Ciao,*

*Louise Vicino*



Br. 52: Happy 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday! Josephine Camaur recently celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Pictured with Josephine are Br. 52 members, Richard Passalacqua, Miria Garfagnoli, Mary Del Monte, John Del Monte and Carmen Kilcullen. Also picture is Josephine's granddaughter. Congratulations, Josephine!



## Eureka

### St. Ambrose, Br. 145

Our December 10th meeting was a delicious potluck dinner. Everyone who attended had a great time enjoying each others' company. Thank you to Lora Canzonieri for her beautiful decorations, everything was so festive! After dinner we all had desserts, and good conversation with each other.

During our November 11th meeting President Joe Bonino gave us an updated report on the proceeds from our October spaghetti dinner. We did very well with the help of so many people, members and non members who volunteered their time. Thank you all for giving of yourself to our cause of helping young people who are preparing for their first year of college.

Marian Griffin reported that Betty Chinn is still in great need of peanut butter and jelly. We will be planning a drive for her need in coordination with Super Bowl Sunday, however no need to wait until then. You may make your donations now as well. Contact Marian or Joe Bonino for more details

New dates for your calendar are the installa-



tion dinner to be in January; no date set yet. Our anniversary dinner will be on April 18th. Arcata Branch will host. Again more details will follow.

Our January meeting will be on the 13th at 1:00. Please plan to attend.

Please pray for the family of Rosemary Simara who recently passed. Also pray for all our members and their families and also for our sister Anita Pera who is still recovering from a fall.

I wish you all safe travel, good health and much peace for the new year,

*Nancy Paoli*

### **Santa Rosa**

#### **St. Eugene, Br. 198**

Dear Brothers and Sisters

Welcome to 2015. This is the start of our 50th year in the

I.C.F. and we know it will be our best.

The Christmas party on December 1 was outstanding. With

Bill Scinto's egg nog, Randy Apels wonderful dinner, the

many toys collected for the Catholic Charities "Family Support Center", it was an evening to remember.

Our officers will be formally installed on Saturday, January 31 at 12:00 noon at St. Peter's in Cloverdale.

Nancy Azevedo handed our the 2015 dues notices along with a copy of our schedule for the year and the approved budget.

Please pay your dues to Nancy as soon as you can. It will help her with our record keeping and insure your continued membership in our branch.

We are very pleased that Central Council member Lauren Kilcullen of Branch #52 Healdsburg has accepted to be our Deputy starting January 1. Welcome to St. Eugene's Lauren we look forward to your visit each month.

Please pray for our members who are ill or in need of our support.

Everyone should say a special prayer for RoseAnne Sikes.

*Happy New Year to Everyone.*

*Lorraine Castelli*

### **Sebastopol**

#### **St. Michael, Br. 209**

On December 6<sup>th</sup>, Branch 209 celebrated its 48<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a Ravioli Dinner. Thanks to all who attended and, also, thanks to everyone who helped make the event a success!!



Christmas Cheer, Branch 103

Celebrating table, Branch 103



We continued to enjoy this festive season at our December 9<sup>th</sup> social meeting with members furnishing appetizers/finger food. Homemade Tom & Jerrys were prepared by Lona Bertoli and served by our bartender, Gene Vannetti. Lona & Gene were "supervised" by Lorraine Vannetti who is recovering from ankle surgery. Santa arrived to distribute gifts and candy canes. Many thanks to our "Santa" Jeff Clark (and his mother/helper, Lillian Sanchietti) for taking on the role of Santa on such short notice. Our longtime Santa, Jerry Sanchietti, was ill and unable to attend.

Lucky members who were winners in our Christmas attendance drawing were: May Gregori, \$100; Loudean Becchetti, 2015 dues paid; Pete Peters, 2015 ICF Calendar.

The following members were elected as 2015 officers: President: Mike Falvey; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Pam McAlvain; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Yvonne Watson; Recording Secretary: Lona Bertoli; Financial Secretary: Gerrie Goin; Treasurer: Lorraine Vannetti; Orator: Jackie Corsetti; Trustees: Bud Polley, Pete Peters & Corbin Goin. Sentinel: Debbie Falvey.

Branch #209 would like to thank Barbara Bidia, who has served as our Branch President for the last three years. Outstanding job, Barbara – we love you!!

#### Upcoming:

January 13 -- Regular Meeting

January 31 -- District Installation of Officers – Cloverdale

Best wishes to everyone for a Happy & Healthy 2015!!

*Lona Bertoli*

## **Stockton**

### **District Council**

Happy New Year to all of you! By the time you read this the Christmas tree will be in the box or in the gutter and we'll all be on a diet. Here's hoping your holiday season was filled with love.

The new District officers have been elected and installed. Our first District meeting will be February 15, 2015 (Sunday) 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

MARK YOU CALENDAR: Branch 43, St. Stanislaus Church Modesto, is busy finalizing the Bishop's Burse Mass and dinner to be held on March 28, 2015 (Saturday). Bishop Blaire will be the guest of honor to receive the burse and spiritual bouquet for this annual event. A pork loin dinner will follow Mass. More details in next month's Bollettino.

*Karen Rosson*

### **Modesto**

#### **St. Stanislaus, Br. 48**

The members that came to our Christmas potluck enjoyed some great food. We had a nice visit and a short meeting to make sure we were ready for the installation.

The Stockton District Installation will be Sunday January 4, 2015 at old church at 709 J Street. Mass will be at 1:00 pm with the installation to follow. Dinner will be at approximately 2:45 pm the menu will be Chicken Cacciatore, Polenta, Green Salad, Mixed Vegetables and bread and Dessert. The cost is \$15.00.

Branch 48 will be hosting The Bishop's Burse for Stockton District Saturday March

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28, 2015 starting with Mass at 12:00 noon at the new church at 1200 Maze Blvd. A social hour and dinner will follow Mass at the community center next door. Please save the date. Bring your family and friends. More details will be in the following bollettinos.

Mass for our deceased members will be Sunday January 4, and February 1, 2015 at the 8:00 am at the Maze Blvd. Church

Happy New Year!!!

Coming up:

Feb 11 – 7:00 pm - Meeting St. Stanislaus Hall 7 & K Streets Modesto

Feb 15 – District meeting – Tracy

Mar 11 - 7:00 pm - Meeting St. Stanislaus Hall 7 & K Streets Modesto

Mar 15 – 2:00 pm St. Joseph's Table Stanislaus Hall 7 & K Streets Modesto

Mar 28 - Bishop's Dinner Mass 1200 Maze Blvd – Dinner Community Center

*Cecelia McGhee*

### **Manteca**

#### **N.S. Buon Viaggio, Br. 139**

Installation of our new officer will take place Jan. 4, 2015 at the St. Stanislaus Church in Modesto on 709 J Street at 1:00 pm. Our new officers are Frank Re as President, Elizabeth Demichelis as 1st. Vice-Pres., Risa Hernandez as 2nd. Vice-Pres. Linda Bertuccio as Secretary, Lisa Compton as Financial Sec., Marilyn Amoral as Treasurer, Lillian Paulletto as Orator, Joe Pellegrino as Sentinel, and the Trustees are Yvonne Chimenti, Fred Golisano & Dino Cunial. Congratulations and best wishes for a successful year.

Our newly elected President, Frank Re, will be hosting a Branch Social Night at his home on January 10, 2015 at 6:30 pm. It is his wish to get know his members better and more personally and play pedro. This should be fun; so try to attend.

The Holiday Biscotti Sales went quite well. We sold hundreds of cookies. Thanks to all who help bake, donate ingredients, and sold these delicious cookies. The chairperson for this event was Anna Mello and she was very grateful to all for making this a success.

Our club will be preparing and serving the Lenten Soup on Monday, February 20, 2015. Your help will be needed.

All are invited to our next branch meeting with dinner on Tuesday, January 27th at 6:30 pm in the St. Anthony's School cafeteria. Hope to see you there!

Best wishes for a great New Year. Pray for a speedy recovery to all our ill member.

*Ida Queirolo*

### **Tracy**

#### **St. Bernard, Br. 390**

Mr. and Mrs. Claus were the highlight of the party at our December meeting to the surprise of the many children in attendance. The sweet duo brought treats and gifts for the children and then they were given gifts and decorated cupcake treats. Meanwhile, everyone feasted on the dinner selection for this month: Ravioli, Tri-tip, salad and started the night with appetizers brought by ladies on the board and ended with desserts as well. We said a special prayer of thanks for the much-needed rain on behalf of the many members of the ICF community that are farmers in our Tracy area, and a special thanks to the dedicated men and women who prepare our fantastic dinners every month - what would we do without them? They are the best!

The new Stockton District officers were installed in Modesto on Sunday January 4. All Branch #390 elected were in attendance. Our own officers for 2015 have been elected and will be installed at the January 29 dinner meeting. That meeting will include a dinner of polenta, an all-time favorite of our attendees.

We have announced to our members that the 2015 ICF scholarship applications are available to all members who have children with the appropriate qualifications. We are also encouraging past recipients to apply for continued scholarship assistance to carry them through their next year of college.

*Ciao everyone,*

*Betty Hollars*

### **Stockton**

#### **Presentation of the BVM, Br. 395**

At our November meeting, we welcomed two new members and received applications from an additional two members. Members enjoyed a delicious pot luck dinner as we were treated to a wonderful slide show presentation by member Bob Zanoni on his recent trip to Italy and Croatia. One of our members Angelo Stagnaro is recovering at a rehab facility from a fall and we hope to see him back soon. Members Bob Zanoni, Carol Quijada and Lynn Hoffman all recently lost their sisters. We pray for their souls and may they rest in peace.

Upcoming events:

January 8, 2015 (Thursday) regular branch meeting

May you all have the most wonderful and blessed Christmas. Buon Natale!

*Josephine Weber, President, Branch 395*



# Tucson

## Green Valley

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

Our November meeting was highlighted with the introduction of thirteen dinner guests, prospective new members all. We hope that these guests observed the vitality of our ICF community, sensed the opportunity to be of service and will soon become new members.

The November meeting was further treated to a presentation by the Amado Youth Group on coping with drug abuse in their community. With assistance of counselors, they have developed a seven point plan to avoid drug use which they share with others. They have integrated this issue and other youth concerns into a mural that is on display at their community building. It is encouraging to witness our modest financial support in action. We will keep them in our prayers.

In December we held another successful cookie sale. These funds, plus the proceeds from last month's "take out" Lasagna Dinner will be allocated in our Christmas sharing tradition at the December meeting.

We (45 strong) made our annual pilgrimage to the Tucson Gaslight Theater to discover how, once again, good triumphs over the forces of evil in The Secret Santa melodrama. Most of us proceeded from the theater to the Macaroni Grill for a group dinner. Branch 425 members wish you and yours a happy, holy holiday season.

Barbara Barton, reporting

## Tucson

### Father Eusebio Kino, Br. 433

We hope everyone enjoyed their Christmas holidays. We wrapped up the 2014 year by electing our 2015 officers. Current president Melissa Rodriguez was reelected to serve another year as president, Debby Gomez-Rasadore was reelected as 1st vice, Larry Masi as acting 2nd vice, Henry Fleischmann was reelected as treasurer, Frances DeChaine, Mary Pellegrino and Mary Andersono were elected as branch trustees and Gail Masi-Moreno as orator. Our long time branch deputy, Jim Actelli will be stepping down from his office and we want to thank him for all of his hard work and service he has given to our branch. We had a productive officers meeting following elections, where we planned out our 2015 calendar, including our February 21 Bishop's Day being hosted by branch 425 in Green Valley as well as monthly outings and outreach for our parish and the Tucson community. The branch had an amazing annual bake sale, selling all of our parishioners favorite Italian sweets. On December 7, we had our annual Christmas party at The Macaroni Grill and were honored by our pastor, Father Crino's presence as well as a guest from Italy.

Our up coming dates to remember are:

Bishop Day February 21 in Green Valley. We supply dessert.

St. Joseph Table on March 22, planning on that.

Lets make 2015 a safe enjoyable year.

Melissa Rodriguez and

Henry J. Fleischmann

## Tucson

### Elizabeth Ann Seton, Br. 434

ICF Branch 434 participated in the first St Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish Ministry Fair was held October 26, in the parish hall. The event was very well attended. It was inspiring to learn about other parish ministries.



Branch 433 enjoying some Christmas cheer!

ICFmembers baked cookies, set up and staffed our information tables, and distributed ICF literature.

Many parishioners expressed interest in ICF. We decided to invite those who were interested to our next meeting, the last one of the current year. In spite of the very short time we had to prepare for our potluck dinner/meeting November 19, the evening was a great success. The food was delicious and

conversation was lively. We gained four new members. We anticipate more new members when we resume meetings in January.

We were delighted that our friends from Branch 425, Green Valley joined us. It was wonderful to see Al Bernardi, who brought ICF to Arizona, looking so well.

Our pre-Thanksgiving bake sale was held on Sunday, November 22. We are pleased to note that our Christmas dinner party will be held



Branch 434 ICF members Kim and John Upston staffing the ICF Branch 434 information table...and guarding the cookies!

at Carrabba's restaurant. We plan to relax and enjoy the evening, thanking God for blessing our branch with wonderful people who work together, play together, and pray together.

We wish all our ICF family a blessed Christmas and a peaceful, happy new year. I am deeply grateful to all who helped and supported me during my terms as branch president. I pray that our newly elected officers will have a healthy, successful year.

Sincerely,

Kathy Gatto

## Important Announcement!

### You Might NOT Qualify for a Reverse Mortgage after March 2, 2015!

Starting March 2, 2015, HUD, the governmental body that regulates Home Equity Conversion Mortgage (HECM) also known as a Reverse Mortgage insured loan, will require a Financial Assessment of all applicants. This will include a review and analysis of your income and credit status. This Financial Assessment could result in less cash available at closing or possibly not qualifying at all.

Currently, a HECM has minimal income and credit qualifications. The basics require you to be at least 62 years of age, own and occupy the home as your primary residence.

### Qualify for a Reverse Mortgage before March 2, 2015

Call me today at 408-297-0000 before the new Financial Assessment requirement takes effect. I can answer all your questions about a Home Equity Conversion Mortgage (HECM), these new requirements, and assist you with the application process. There's no obligation, just the opportunity to unlock the equity in your home and make the most of your life.

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ICF # 227 - Member





## San Diego Bishop's Day

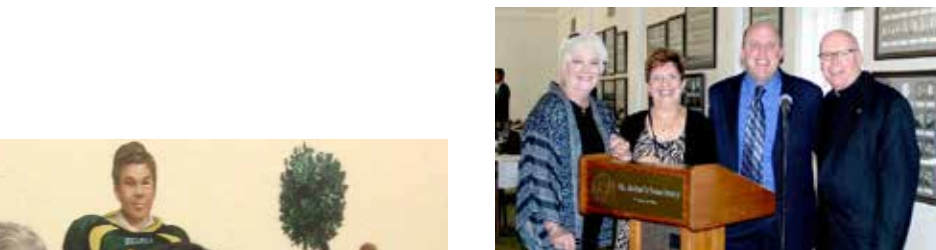
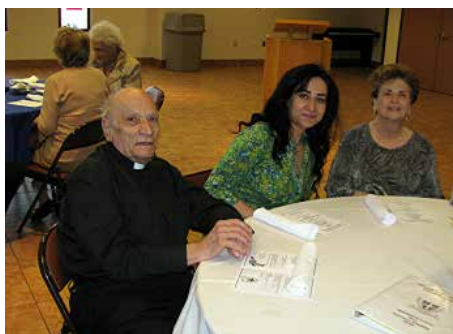
to Father Pedro Rivera. District President, Richard Barker presented the branch and district contribution to Father Rivera. The branch presidents also presented spiritual bouquets to Father Rivera. The Master of Ceremonies was Richard Barker, President of the San Diego District I.C.F. Catering was handled by Mario Maruca and Spinelli Catering. Maria Tollefson was in charge of decorating and Patricia Postal prepared the program. C.C. representatives present besides Grand President Bob were Pat Mages and her husband Lou Mages, C.C. Life Member Emeritus Jody Balestrieri and Ed Mendoza, C.C. Member Emeritus Forrest Price and his wife, Prudence Price and C.C. Member Emeritus Mary Alesi and her husband, Jim Alesi. Jody Balestrieri closed the event by leading the group in singing the Federation hymn. The Banquet was dedicated to the Memory of Bishop Cirilo Flores, the recently deceased Bishop of San Diego.

## Santa Rosa Bishop's Day

The Spiritual Bouquet was presented by District President Dante Corsetti. The Seminary Burse from the District was presented by Sharon Hromeck. The seminary burse totaled \$2,240. The Providenza Donation was presented by Grand First Vice President Leonard Zasoski, Jr., and totaled \$2,000.

Central Council members in attendance included Grand Trustee Lisa Crudo and her mother, Rosalind, Anne Interrante, Lauren Kilcullen, Past Grand President Robert Acquistapace and District Deputy Kathy Acquistapace and Past Grand President Carmen Kilcullen and her husband, Larry. Betty Zasoski accompanied her husband, Leonard.

## Sacramento Bishop's Day



## Las Vegas

made by Branch 367 members Manny and Tina Valle. Grand President Bob Basuino made the Providenza donation to Bishop Pepe.

Bob Basuino, Grand President from Branch 191, Santa Clara, CA; Denise Antonowicz, newly elected Central Council member from Branch 184, Los Gatos, CA and her sister, Michelle; Lisa Crudo, Grand Trustee of Central Council from Branch 343, Castro Valley, CA, and her mother Rosalind; Pat Mages, Central Council member from

Branch 380, Thousand Oaks, CA and her husband Lou; Charles and Diane Lamon from Loma Linda, CA; Bishop Joseph A. Pepe, Bishop of Las Vegas; Fr. Gerry Grupzinski, Pastor of Our Lady of Las Vegas Church; Fr. Rich Philposki, Parochial Vicar of St. Joan of Arc Church; Fr. Samuel Martinez, Parochial Vicar of St. Joseph, Husband of Mary Church; Fr. William Ortiz, Parochial Vicar of Prince of Peace Church; Fr. Sam Falbo, retired Chaplain of ICF Branch 367; and Deacon Al Paduano, MC assisting Bishop Pepe.

## Los Angeles Bishop's Day

Thank you members for making the ICF Bishop's Day and Chaplain's Recognition Mass and Luncheon at St. John's Seminary in Camarillo on November 9th a success. Over 110 members representing 23 Branches including 10 Central Council Members joined over 65 Seminarists and three Clergy for lunch in the Dining Hall.

Thank you to Regional VP Pat Mages for Chairing this event and to ICF and St. John Seminary staff for their help in making this event a success. Thank you also to CC Member Franklyn Lopes, Jr. who did an excellent job as Master of Ceremonies and to Auxiliary of the San Fernando Pastoral Region Bishop Gerald E. Wilkerson, St. John's Seminary President Marc Trudeau and Director of Human Formation and Evaluations Reverend Leon Hutton for making this a very special day. Reverend Hutton also thanked ICF for donations totaling more than \$180,000 from ICF to St. John's Seminary in support of Seminarists over the years.