



BOLLETTINO



2015 Ended With Bishops' Days Around the ICF

Branch 32 Hosts A Bishop's Day For The ICF Fresno District

Branch 32 hosted the Fresno District Bishop's Day on Sunday, October 4, 2015. The activities started with Bishop Armando Ochoa celebrating the Mass at Our Lady of Victory Church. He was escorted in procession by a Knights of Columbus Color Guard in their colorful regalia. Following the Mass a luncheon was held for the presentation of the Bishop's Burse for the Seminarians. After the meal spiritual bouquets and checks were presented to Bishop Ochoa by Branch 32, the Fresno District and the Central Council as well as the Knights of Columbus.

During the lunch, Bishop Ochoa, with the guidance of our Heavenly Father, created a masterpiece right before our eyes. His artwork first resembled a chalice then the Tree of Life. It was an absolutely beautiful tribute to our members and guests. We are blessed.

Many thanks go to out to the hard workers behind the scene. A cooking party with chefs Elaine Lencioni, Corinne Abate, Monica Ficher, Maria Guglielmino, Cle'Estria Lett, Evelyn Lopez, Claire Pisching, Evelyn Nieto, Richard Romagnoli, and Patricia Vivenzi

continued on page 5



At the head table for the Bishop's Day luncheon are Crystal Watts, Bishop Armando Ochoa and Pat Mages, Member Emeritus of the ICF Central Council and Mistress of Ceremonies.

San Bernardino Bishop's Day



The Bishop's Luncheon of the San Bernardino District was held on October 28, 2015. Left to right: Leonard Zasoski, Jr.; Father Javier; Jack Grisafe; Sister Shrewbury; Bishop Barnes; Francisco Herea; Andres Rivera; and Mauro Romagnoli.

Las Vegas Bishop's Day



Las Vegas Bishops Day

The Las Vegas District held its annual Bishop's Day on November 1, 2015 with Mass at St. Francis de Sales Church and a luncheon to follow at Carrabba's Restaurant.

Most Reverend Joseph A. Pepe, Bishop of Las Vegas, presided over the Mass and was the guest of honor at the luncheon.

The Seminary Burse Donation was presented by Branch 367 President Frank Vatalare. The



Leonard Zasoski, Jr., Grand President announces the presentation of the Burses for the Fresno Bishop's Seminarians.



On this other side of the head table are left to right Leonard Zasoski, Jr., his wife BG, Rev. Daniel Avila, Director of Vocations for the Diocese of Fresno, and Claire Pisching, President of ICF Branch 32.

Grand President's Monthly Message

by Leonard Zasoski, Jr.

Another year has come and gone. As we get older it moves faster, and faster, so it seems. I have always told new parents that blink your eyes a couple of times and your child will be grown and on their own. But as time seems to move along at a fast pace we need to take a moment to step back and reflect on all the good things that happened in our lives this past year. Sure, there are sad moments, we all have them, but focusing on the good will warm the heart and soul.



Branch 281 Bakersfield has been blessed to have a wonderful and very supportive Pastor/Chaplain for 28 years, Monsignor Michael Braun. Monsignor Braun has always made our branch members feel warm and welcome in our parish. He has always supported all that we do to assist not only our parish, but also the ICF charities and our community. Without his love and support I don't know where we would be as a branch. As I stated earlier, there are sad moments. Our Pastor Monsignor Braun is retiring as of January 31, 2016 -- he will be missed, but not forgotten. Now, back to the good things; we wish Monsignor Braun many years of happiness in his retirement after all those years of hard work. We are better parishioners because of all that he has given to us as our pastor and friend.

So, new beginnings in a new year for our branch, with a new pastor and a new branch president. As with us, many branches throughout the Federation will have new officers, members, and maybe a new pastor. We need to enjoy the time that we have had with each other. As time seems to move faster and faster, we cannot go back but only forward, knowing that we have many good memories to last a lifetime.

I wish to thank all the 2015 officers for their service to the Federation this past year and for all that you have done in your parish. To the new 2016 officers, I would like to thank you for making the commitment to being a leader in your branch and taking the time to keep our organization going strong.

May you have a Blessed New Year and keep Jesus close to your heart throughout, for with Him all things are possible.

Leonard Zasoski, Jr.

Grand President



Providenza donation was made by Grand President Leonard Zasoski, Jr.

Special guests in attendance included Grand President Leonard Zasoski, Jr. and his wife Betty Zasoski, from Br. 281, Bakersfield, CA; Central Council Member Lisa Crudo and her mother Rosalind Crudo, both from Br. 343, Castro Valley, CA; Fr. Bruno Mauricci, Pastor of St. Francis de Sales Church; Fr. Sam Falbo, Branch 367 chaplain.

Reno Bishop's Day



The Reno area held its Annual Bishop's Day on November 7, 2015. Pictured here are the Most Reverend Bishop Randolph R. Calvo (center) with two seminarians studying for the Diocese of Reno. On the left is Luis Espinoza and the right is Monico Esquivel.

**Don't forget to attend
your District
Installations in 2016.**

**Make your
reservations now!**

TIME SENSITIVE: PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY!

BOLLETTINO

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UPCOMING:

2016 Bishops’ Days:

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

2016 District Installations:

- Jan. 3 Stockton
- Jan. 9 Santa Clara Valley
- Jan. 10 San Francisco
- Jan. 16 San Mateo
- Jan. 16 Joint Installation of Br. 144,
Arcata and Br. 145, Eureka
- Jan. 17 East Bay
- Jan. 17 Los Angeles (includes San
Fernando Valley, San Gabriel Valley and
Santa Barbara/Ventura)
- Jan. 19 Marin
- Jan. 23 Contra Costa
- Jan. 23 Santa Rosa
- Jan. 30 Central Coast
- Jan. 30 Orange
- Jan. 30 San Bernardino
- Jan. 31 San Diego
- Feb. 9 Las Vegas
- Feb. 13 Tucson
- Feb. 20 Blessed Sacrament
- Feb. 21 Fresno

Membership Stats as of

November 30, 2015: 10,101

Members as of July 1, 2015:

10,074 = overall gain of 27 members!

New:	315
Reinstated:	10
Transfer in/out:	24
Deceased:	-80
Cancelled:	-211
Non-payment	7

Mercy... the Year of!

Monsignor Daniel Cardelli
Spiritual Director ICF



CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY

- Feed the hungry
- Give drink to the thirsty
- Clothe the naked
- Shelter the homeless
- Visit the sick
- Visit the imprisoned
- Bury the dead

The Italian Catholic Federation in, its charitable
programs, shows mercy and has for years:

1. PROVIDENZA FUND

Providenza Fund helps support the annual
Bishop’s Day program, sponsored by the ICF
in the Catholic dioceses in California, Arizona,
Nevada, and Illinois to provide financial support
to local seminarians for religious vocations.

2. COOLEY’S ANEMIA RESEARCH

Cooley’s Anemia (Thalassemia) is the ICF
National Charity. Persons of Mediterranean
origin are particularly vulnerable to the disease,
and only recently have patients had a hope
of survival past childhood, with treatment
consisting of controlled transfusions and
administration of the drug Desfarel. Since
designating the disease the National Charity
in 1983, over \$1 million has been raised for
research at [Children’s Hospital, Oakland,](#)



[California.](#) The program originated with
donations to Cedars Sinai Hospital, Los
Angeles, California.

4. SPECIAL PEOPLE GIFTS OF LOVE
PROGRAM

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

5. ORGAN DONOR AWARENESS

An informational program whereby members
learn about the need for organ donation to help
those in need of organ transplants.

Many, if not all, the branches throughout the
Federation also perform acts of mercy in their
communities and among the members within
the branches.

May this New Year of Mercy help you bring
the love of Jesus to others and thereby, to
yourselves.

Connecting With Your Parish Ministries

Nina Malone
Membership Chairperson

As we head into this New Year 2016 and
reflect on different ways to connect our love
for the Italian Catholic Federation and our
faith, consider having your branch get involved
in the activities and programs taking place
within our parishes. When ICF members are
active participants in parish life, they become
part of a larger community. Ministries and
organizations can vary from parish to parish,
but there are two that are part of the universal
Catholic Church: RCIA and Faith Formation
(also known as Religious Education).

RCIA, which stands for Rite of Christian
Initiation of Adults, is a process through which
non-baptized men and women enter the Catholic
Church. It includes several stages marked by
study, prayer and rites at Mass. Participants in
the RCIA, known as “catechumens”, undergo
a process of conversion as they study the
Gospel, profess faith in Jesus and the Catholic
Church, and receive the sacraments of Baptism,
Confirmation and Holy Eucharist at the Easter
Vigil. “Candidates” seeking full communion
with the Catholic Church at this sacred liturgy,
are already baptized and therefore participate
in a separate, but similar program to the RCIA.

How can the ICF contribute to the RCIA
program?

-Attend the Right of Acceptance, Right of
Initiation and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday

-Invite RCIA participants and sponsors to attend
your branch meeting to share their journey

-Offer to be a sponsor if one is needed

-Host a reception, dinner or other social for
participants, candidates and their sponsors

-Give each candidate a congratulatory card
signed by the members of your branch

Faith Formation or Religious Education
(RE) – your branch can connect with this
ministry, which aims to create a climate for
faith development by providing a stimulating,
supportive atmosphere for a child to freely grow
as a disciple of Jesus Christ. This process leads
families to worship and prayer, to participate in
efforts that develop community, and motivate
children to Catholic Christian living and service
among the future adult Church.

How can the ICF contribute to the Faith
Formation/Religious Education (RE) programs?
-Adopt a class! Each month sponsor a grade
level and ask the teachers how the ICF can help.
Teachers often need assistance with special
projects and activities such as Vacation Bible
School

-Attend First Holy Communion, Confirmation
and special events

-Host a reception, dinner or social for children

High Five!

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

Santa Barbara	+87
Blessed Sacrament	+39
Stockton	+17
Santa Clara Valley	+15
Fresno	+12

making their sacraments and invite their
parents/godparents to attend. Consider doing
the same thing at the beginning of the year for
newly registered families

-Host special activities; pizza parties, movie
night, ice cream social, etc.

-Offer assistance to the parish youth group.
Volunteer wherever assistance is needed

-Host a baccalaureate for graduating seniors

There are many ways branches or districts can
support their local RCIA and Faith Formation
programs. By being faithful servants of Christ
in our parish communities, we are carrying
out the spiritual directive of the Italian
Catholic Federation; to “uphold and develop
the religious spirit among its members and to
spread that spirit among all people outside of
the organization.”

**The Ways and Means Committee announces the Theme for the 2017 Fundraiser “Daily Raffle”as:
“ Italian Catholic Federation Branch and District Heritages ”**

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

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

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

The price schedule will be as follows:

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

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

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

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

The Committee thanks you for your continued support!

Chairperson: Lisa Crudo

Members: Franklyn Lopes Jr., and Leonard Rossi

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

ICF HISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! - Do You Know the Latest News?

David Botta and Carmen Kilcullen Past Grand Presidents

It was not long after the Federation was incorporated that the founders realized that the organization needed a newspaper. A publication would highlight the growth of the Federation, advise members of ICF events and programs and publish branch reports on their activities. In March of 1925, the first issue of the Bollettino (Bulletin) was published. The early Bollettinos were book size and written mostly in Italian. ICF co-founder, Rev. Albert Bandini, was the first editor. He remained editor for twenty-nine years and, for a number of years, also served as the Grand-President. In 1936, the paper enlarged to tabloid size and, a year later, it enlarged again to the size of a city newspaper.

In 1954, Dominic Bazzanella, who had experience with the San Francisco Archdiocesan weekly paper, was appointed editor. He remained in that position until the Central Council appointed Joseph Casalnuovo and Mario Cugia co-editors in 1963. In 1967, Casalnuovo resigned and Rinaldo Carmazzi assumed the position of co-editor. The well –traveled Rinaldo introduced a new feature, titled “By-Ways”.

In 1989 Mario Cugia resigned and Rinaldo assumed editorial responsibilities for the next five years. In 1990, Lauren Kilcullen was employed as Bollettino Production Manager and named the editor in 1994.

Lauren resigned in 1996 and the Federation hired Keith Wall as the new editor. He was very well qualified as a professional writer and photographer. He proposed design and production improvements to the paper with the advent of new technology. In July 1996, the Bollettino debuted in a new, tabloid-size produced in-house by new desktop publishing software and laser printing. By 1998, the paper was no longer printed in the office, but delivered to the printer on a computer disk. Reports from branches are now submitted by e-mail, a great help for the editor.

In October 2003, Keith retired and the Federation hired Michelle Feldman (a former ICF scholarship winner) to take over the duties of editor, a position she holds to the present.

The current Bollettino contains photos and reports from 127 branches. Branch articles are the source of information for the members and should be “must” reading, especially if one has not attended many meetings. In addition, these features are included:

- Spiritual Director’s message
- Grand President’s timely article

- Branch articles to inform you about what your branch and others are doing
- Donations to the various ICF charities
- List of new members and deceased members
- History Highlights
- Branching Out
- Heritage
- Articles by the various committee members
- Book reviews
- Cooking column
- Children’s corner
- CC minutes (3 times a year)
- One issue devoted to Scholarship winners
- Special events announcements
- Lots of pictures, many in color
- Other timely articles

There is certainly something for everyone!

The *Bollettino* is the “voice” of the ICF. Changes through the years have made it a more viable tool for the organization. The present paper hardly resembles the original and continuing changes have produced a paper in keeping with contemporary times and technological improvements.

The present Public Relations Committee is developing some new ideas for the paper. As with anything new, change takes time to prepare and execute well. Stay tuned!!


Suggestion:

When you have finished reading your Bollettino, pass it on to a relative, friend or colleague. Leave it in the racks in the back of the Church (get permission first) or anywhere else where it can be picked up by someone. The Bollettino should be featured at membership drives and also be prominent on the membership table at branch events. Let’s not let this valuable asset go to waste.

Website:

The ICF also has a website which can be accessed at icf.org. It is in the process of being updated, but the basic information remains the same. Take time to research the web site and see what is available. You will be surprised at the content. Also, The *Bollettino* appears on-line and you can read it there first.


Happy Reading!



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

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

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



Late Nite Catechism will be presented at Holy Names University Regents Theatre 3500 Mountain Blvd., Oakland, CA. Performance is SATURDAY, APRIL 16TH 7:00 PM wine and cheese reception beginning at 5:30 PM Tickets are \$40.00 Mezzanine and \$50.00 for Orchestra and Box seats, discounts available for groups of 10 or more and are available by calling brown paper tickets at 1-800-838-3006 ex 1, or on-line at <http://ICFLNC.brownpapertickets.com>

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



Construction Company Inc.



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Fax: (805) 316-0101
lzasoski@colomboconstruction.com
www.colomboconstruction.com

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Design/Build Services

Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza
Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations*

IN MEMORY OF:	DONATED BY:
Gino Martinucci	Mr. and Mrs. Fiore Marcheschi and Family
Abby Loftus	Officers/Members of Br. 161
Joe Donato	David and Pat Botta
Gino Martinucci	David and Pat Botta
Jennie M. Vastila	Al and Deanna De Nurra
Robert Schuler	Steve and Teri Hurlbut
Angie Mozzani	Officers/Members of Br. 229
Anne Sanchietti	Officers/Members of Santa Rosa District

GET WELL WISHES:	
Dave Botta	Giovanni and Nancy Corsi

IN CELEBRATION OF 40 YEARS ORDAINED TO THE PRIESTHOOD:	
Rev. George Aranha	Mrs. Evelyn Taravella

THANK YOU FOR OUR BISHOP’S DAY:	
Leonard Zasoski, Jr.	Officers/Members of San Bernardino District
Leonard Zasoski, Jr.	Officers/Members of Los Angeles Archdiocese District

BEST WISHES FOR MAKING BR. 191 PROUD AS GRAND PRESIDENT (JOB WELL DONE!):	
Bob Basuino	Officers/Members of Br. 191

CONGRATULATIONS:	
Bob Basuino	Mr. and Mrs. Franklyn Lopes, Sr.

IN HONOR OF:	
Deacon Tom Boyle, Br. 6 Chaplain	Officers/Members of Br. 6
Jeep Sanza	Officers/Members of Br. 12
Past Grand President Bob Basuino	Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Dianda

HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY:	
Rosalind Crudo	Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Dianda

MERRY CHRISTMAS WISHES:	
Jim and Janice Jones	Emily Corral

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

Gifts of Love D o n a t i o n s

<i>Donations Received By December 10, 2015</i>	Officers/Members of Br. 191
Branch 418	In memory of Tom Di Nuzzo
San Mateo County Columbus Day Committee	Don and Mary Merucci
Santa Teresa Catholic Church	In memory of Rose Ingravallo
Harold, Virginia and Steve Fuentes	Elaine Lencioni
Get well wishes for Robert Osorio	In memory of Barbara Faulkner
Katherine and Roland Codiga	
In memory of Jack Brown	

In Loving Memory

Report Date: 12/09/2015		BEVERLY A TRAVIS	Branch 250
MARIAN ESAU	Branch 010	LINA RICCHETTI	Branch 258
MARCELINA R MORALES	Branch 014	MARGARET HOWARTH	Branch 327
VINCENZO VULTAGGIO	Branch 036	JOSEPH NICOLETTA	Branch 382
JAMES L DE VITO	Branch 045	JOSEPH PASSANANTE	Branch 382
TERESA PERA	Branch 139	IGNATIUS S STABILE	Branch 382
ANGIE MOZZANI	Branch 229	JOSEPH F MARQUES	Branch 391

Scholarship Donations

Donations received by December 10, 2015.

Scholarship Donations - 1st Year

Jan Farren
In memory of Dina Puccinelli
Donna and Richard Pfaff
In memory of Frank Panacci
The Perez Family
In memory of Mary Ann Fernandez

ICF Is Going Green!

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

DONATION REMINDER

When writing a check out for any of our charities make the check out to Italian Catholic Federation or ICF and in the memo line put the name of the charity. DO NOT combine charities in one check, as they are all deposited into different accounts.

Benvenuti Membri Nuovi

Report Date: 12/09/2015		JOHN R CHIORINI	Branch 352
		RITA A SMITH	Branch 352
FRANCES M VIGIL BENEDETTO	Branch 007	DOMINIQUE A YANCEY	Branch 352
JOAN A LEONARD	Branch 007	AVIS B ERKEL	Branch 368
DEBORAH HOUGH	Branch 026	STYVEN J HUCKABY	Branch 368
JUSTIN HOUGH	Branch 026	DANIEL J CLARKE	Branch 391
KATLYN HOUGH	Branch 026	EVAN CLARKE	Branch 391
MASON HOUGH	Branch 026	ROSEMARIE L CLARKE	Branch 391
PAUL R HOUGH JR	Branch 026	JOHN A IMFELD	Branch 391
RYAN HOUGH	Branch 026	ROBERT E ALTIERI	Branch 443
ROSEMARY PACINI	Branch 033	DILVA BARTOLOTTI	Branch 443
REV ENGELBERTO GAMMAD	Branch 047	BLAIR CONNOR	Branch 443
PATRICIA E WESTERMAN	Branch 103	EVE EDWARDS	Branch 443
CODY CHIMENTI	Branch 139	HELEN LEDONNE	Branch 443
DWIGHT J JACKSON	Branch 139	JUDI L MAUCK	Branch 443
LORI PELLEGRINO JACKSON	Branch 139	VIRGINIA MONTERO	Branch 443
MADISON A JACKSON	Branch 139	DAVE PETRELLI	Branch 443
SAVANNAH O JACKSON	Branch 139	SHELLEY PETRELLI	Branch 443
DOROTHY JOHNSON	Branch 154	ANITA G PUSATERI	Branch 443
LORRAINE A NELSON	Branch 154	JOSEPH V PUSATERI	Branch 443
SHIRLEY C WEBB	Branch 154	BILL SGRO	Branch 443
LINDA E BENEDETTI	Branch 213	MARY LOU SGRO	Branch 443
DIANA C RENTZ	Branch 214	FILOMENA SHAW	Branch 443
MARIA MALACZKO	Branch 218		
BETH L CHIORINI	Branch 352		

IRS AND STATE OF CALIFORNIA FRANCHISE TAX BOARD

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

THIS IS IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND MUST BE STRICTLY FOLLOWED

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

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

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

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

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

Thank You,
Deborah Rodondi, Grand Treasurer

Cooley's Corner

Dear Grand President Leonard Zasoski, Jr., Central Council Members, ICF Staff, and ICF Members:

On behalf of the Thalassemia (Cooley's Anemia) program at Children's Hospital Oakland, the Thalassemia Staff, and most especially the patients and families I want to extend my sincere gratitude for your incredible generosity during the Christmas Season.

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, gift cards, 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.

Many times the act of giving only occurs during

the Christmas season. However, the ICF is unique in that the generosity extends all year round. I would like to thank each and every Central Council Member, Branch, ICF Staff person, and ICF Member for their continued support of the Thalassemia Program. Without your help, our outreach program would be non-existent. I thank you all from the bottom of my heart for your boundless generosity and your friendship. You brighten hundreds of lives!

I wish you all a Joyous, 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

Cooley's Anemia Donations

Donations received by December 10, 2015

Branch 374	Anna Barberi
Branch 418	In memory of Eleanor Frusetta
Ann Centoni	Christine Andrade
Roger and Kathy Santos	In memory of Eleanor Frusetta
In memory of Eleanor Frusetta	Officers/Members of Br. 28
Roger and Kathy Santos	As a thank you to Roger Santos
In memory of Rose Silacci	

Live to Give

Live to Give Committee

As we start the New Year, this is a great time to think about giving blood. There are four types of transfusable products that can be derived from blood: red cells, platelets, plasma, and cryoprecipitate. Typically, two or three of these are produced from a pint of donated whole blood; therefore, each donation can help save up to three lives.

A person can donate blood every 56 days, so keep this in mind for birthdays and anniversaries or in memory of a dearly departed friend.

The ICF Live to Give Committee has designed special donation cards, so when you give blood, the person you are honoring will be notified.

Please remember the next time that you are stumped and cannot think of the perfect present—go give blood and save a life! It is the gift that keeps on giving.

For more information and/or to make an appointment to donate blood:

American Red Cross:

<http://www.redcrossblood.org/donating-blood>

I, _____ (NAME) _____

donated _____ units of blood or platelets. (NUMBER) (CIRCLE ONE)

☐ In honor of Name _____

☐ In memory of Address _____

☐ As an anniversary gift to City _____

☐ As a birthday gift to State _____

☐ As a gift well wish to Zip _____

(PLEASE FILL OUT THE NAME AND ADDRESS ON THE RIGHT AND WE WILL SEND AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO THE RESIDENTS)

Special message: _____

BLOOD BANK REPRESENTATIVE _____ DATE _____

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL & BRANCH CENTER OAKLAND

Save Lives. Donate Blood.

Blood Centers of the Pacific:

<http://www.bloodcenters.org>

If you would like information on hosting a blood drive at your branch, please contact the Live to Give Committee.

Things to Ponder

Tomorrow, is the first blank page of a 365 page book. Write a good one." -- Brad Paisley

Heritage

2016 Heritage Plans

Denise Antonowicz

Grand Trustee, Heritage Chairperson

The holidays are over and the New Year is upon us. What a rich time it was for family traditions. We brought out those handwritten recipes that are stained and torn but they are something we treasure because they have been passed down for generations. We share stories of how Great Aunts and Uncles made these "special....(you fill in the blank) cookies, candies, food. How the family would get together and make enough of that recipe to make sure every family had enough to take home. 15 cups of flour or eggs were the norm.

What special times these were.

This year I'm challenging you to start something more important to pass down and give and that is your history. It doesn't have to be in a formal book. It just needs to be done. Sit and write about your family. How your parents or grandparents came to this country. Did they come through Ellis Island or some other way? Designate one of your grandchildren to be the next family historian. Take time to share with this newest historian your story. Write it, record it and share it, but whatever way you want to do it, start today and save your history for the future.

2016 1st Year Scholarship Program

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

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

These are the eligibility requirements for students:

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

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

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

Fresno

continued from page 1

rolled lasagna. Many hands made the work go quickly. That morning they were busy in the kitchen again cooking the main entrees and preparing a three course meal for the luncheon.

Gratitude is extended to Claire Pisching, chairperson, and Patricia Vivenzi, event coordinator, for their direction and support. The kitchen and hall set up crew included the afore mentioned and George Pisching, Debbie Rocha, and Martin Vivenzi. Our serving crew consisted of Yvonne Saldubere, Martha Acuna, Kathy Vitali, Carol Gentile, Evelyn Lopez, Linda Hood, and Stephanie Griffith. The OLV Guild was represented by Toni Berry who also helped with the serving. The Knights of Columbus crew, led by their Grand Knight, Michael Trujillo, were Godsenders who washed dishes, silverware, pots, and pans. God Bless these angels who chose to do God's work. Thank you all.

Pat Mages, Member Emeritus of the ICF Central Council, was the Mistress of Ceremonies. Allen Watts and Michael Cerri were our 'professional' barkeepers in their complimentary duds. We were so honored to have many of our own Fresno District members in attendance, including Leonard Zasoski, Jr., Grand President of the Central Council and Vince Piro, Grand Second Vice President of the Central Council. Thank you to all the branches that attended the celebration

and donated gifts for the drawings. One of the prize winners, Stephanie Griffith from Branch 32. She just sat down to eat after cooking for everyone else.



Michael Cerri and Allen Watts the "professional" barkeepers smile for the camera.



Bishop Ochoa joins our Official "We heard it through the Grapevine" song crew.

Family Recipes

By Deborah Rodondi

CC Grand Treasurer

Hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Years. Mine was full of family events and gatherings. Many years ago my aunt Rosemarie (Dad’s baby sister) started our annual Christmas Rodondi gathering. Through the years we have grown with the addition of each generation. So I was very busy decorating and cooking as I hosted the event for 50 to 60 family members here in my family home. We all look forward to this day, without it we would never have known our many cousins and their families. Needless to say the recipes I shared with you last month were hits at this event.

Here are the additional polenta recipe and stew I created that could be served with polenta I mentioned in November *Bollettino*.

Polenta Fritters

Place 1 pint of milk in a saucepan. Bring to a boil and gradually pour in 7 ounces of yellow cornmeal (polenta), stirring constantly

for about 30 minutes. Salt before removing saucepan from heat. (Of course I cook my polenta in the oven.) Polenta is now ready. Pour polenta on board and let stand until cool. Cut and shape polenta into about 30 small balls (frittelle). Place a slice of gruyere cheese in center of each round. Dip in 2 beaten eggs and roll in breadcrumbs. Fry rounds in oil. Maybe served hot and also used to garnish a roast.

Back when we were kids Dad went dove hunting a lot of times with uncle Manuel Mingoia in the hills of Livermore, California. He would bring back his catch to Nonie and Nono’s house in Pleasanton, where we all had a responsibility in the process of cleaning the birds. The boys plucked with Dad and Nono (that was the manly job); Mom, Nonie and I were in the washroom, cleaning the insides (at least at that point for me they no longer looked like a cute bird, so I could handle the chore). That was the extent of my knowledge regarding doves.

In 2010, my brother, Robert went dove hunting and informed me that he was bringing them over for me to cook. Having never cooked them, I searched many sights on the Internet for ideas and ingredients. I took parts from about 6 different recipes and this was the outcome. DELICIOUS!

Dove Stew alla Deborah

- 20 doves
- ½ lb. or more bacon
- 1 onion, diced
- flour
- ½ lb. mushrooms-I prefer crimini
- marsala and/or white wine
- 4 stalks celery, sliced
- 3 Tbls. parsley, chopped
- 1 can chicken broth
- salt and pepper

Cut up bacon and fry in 350 degree frying pan, you want it soft not crispy. Take bacon out of grease and set aside.

Roll or toss doves in flour, and place in hot

bacon grease. Brown doves on all sides. Remove doves from grease and place into roasting pan.

In drippings fry onion till cooked and lightly caramelized.

Add mushrooms to onions, cook a few minutes.

Add marsala and white wine to deglaze pan, then add celery, parsley, salt and pepper and chicken broth. Cook for a few more minutes.

Pour over doves and cover roasting pan.

Cook 45 minutes at 350 degrees.

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

Here is to wonderful adventures in the kitchen. Next month I will share recipes fit for your Valentine!

Boun Appetito!

La Celebrazione di Gioventu --

The Celebration of Youth

La Befana!

Submitted by Roselynn Jarrett

Central Council Life Member

La Befana is a nice old woman who flies on her broom stick every year on the night between the 5th and 6th of January, which is the Epiphany day, to bring presents to children. That is why she carries a big bag on her back full of sweets, which La Befana will use to fill the stockings kids have left by their chimney. The kids who have behaved in the past year, will find sweets and chocolates in their stocking on the day of the Epiphany. Those who didn’t behave will also get a few lumps of coal.

COLOR THE PICTURES OF LA BEFANA



DECEMBER CALENDAR WINNERS

DAY	NAME	BR	CITY	WINS
12/1	Mark & Beth Rietdorf	154	Richmond, CA	\$30
12/2	Mr. & Mrs. Gene Melone		Franklin Park, IL	\$30
12/3	Louise Segreto	28	Gilroy, CA	\$30
12/4	Trudi Jensen	14	Crockett, CA	\$30
12/5	Leroy Taddei	343	Castro Valley, CA	\$30
12/6	Most Rev. Jose H. Gomez		Los Angeles, CA	\$30
12/7	Joyce James	213	Redwood City, CA	\$40
12/8	Del Centanni	230	San Diego, CA	\$50
12/9	Gary Caropreso	31	Los Banos, CA	\$30
12/10	Midlred Papasergia	281	Bakersfield, CA	\$30
12/11	Ed & Amy Sarubbi		San Ramon, CA	\$30
12/12	Val Tarabini		Chowchilla, CA	\$30
12/13	Gloria Morris		Modesto, CA	\$30
12/14	Jean McElroy	10	Alameda, CA	\$30
12/15	Fr. Guglielmo Lauriola	1	San Francisco, CA	\$30
12/16	Mrs. Ronald K. Lagro		Mount Shasta, CA	\$30
12/17	Mark Bonino	327	San Carlos, CA	\$30
12/18	Gina Bence		San Jose, CA	\$30
12/19	Mara Amato	38	San Francisco, CA	\$30
12/20	Aaron Del Monte		Elk Grove, CA	\$30
12/21	Frank Re	139	Manteca, CA	\$30
12/22	Patrick Ramsey	38	Oakland, CA	\$30
12/23	Leonard Rossi	343	Castro Valley, CA	\$30
12/24	Branch 391		San Jose, CA	\$50
12/25	Sharon Durham	14	Napa, CA	\$100
12/26	Kathy Bornais		Glendale, CA	\$30
12/27	Sally Bompreszi	27	Madera, CA	\$40
12/28	Barbara O'Rourke	342	Newcastle, CA	\$30
12/29	Maria & Steve Richards		Pleasanton, CA	\$30
12/30	Debra Ruiseco		Miami, FL	\$30
12/31	Bettye Sollecito	36	Monterey, CA	\$50

Chicago

River Forest

St. Vincent Ferrer, Br. 358

FELICE ANNO NUOVO

Happy New Year to all our brothers and sisters and may the New Year 2016 keep you well and safe.

As we enter the New Year, let us congratulate our new officers of Br. 358 – . Dr. James Izzo – President; Judith Schweickert 2nd Vice President; Vicky DeGrazia, Secretary/Treasurer; Leonora Gillette, Orator; Eugene Gillette, Corresponding Secretary; Cathy Neri, Trustees, Cathy Pope and Janet Tramelli. Let’s make this a banner year for recruiting new members.

The Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini celebration was hosted by our Br. #358 on Sunday, November 22, 2015, beginning with Fr. Charles Fanelli. The afternoon Mass was followed with a luncheon in our St. Vincent Ferrer Cabrini Room, attended by our members and 48 guests from our surrounding ICF branches. We want to thank our First Vice President, Judith Schweikert, who was instrumental in organizing this special occasion and to our members for their participation. The delicious luncheon was catered by A-Theme Events, Linda Calabrese of our ICF Br. 358 members.

A big thank to all our members and branch officers, who have contributed, and volunteered for our parties, functions, fundraisers and apostolate works for the year 2015.

Congratulations and a happy wedding anniversary to George and Pauline Nicoletti. A blessed and happy birthday to Eugene Gillette and Tito Candelario.

Someone approached me one day and asked, “Why do we pray to the Saints?” My reply to this questions was, “The saints inspire us to get through our lives and face our sorrows everyday. By touching or kissing a relic of a saint, it gives us some power and strength.

Please keep our sick members and their families in your daily prayers.

Ciao,

Caterina Renzi-Comisky

Chicago

Our Lady Mother of the Church, Br. 439

On October 11, ICF Branch 439 held its 4th Annual Dinner Dance Fundraiser at Alta Villa Banquets in Addison, IL. Fr. Scott Donahue from Mercy Home for Boys and Girls, which has been providing kids in crisis with support and guidance since 1887, was honored for his outstanding leadership and dedication. The successful event was well attended by over 200 members and their families and friends, and was truly an enjoyable evening. In November, a special Mass in honor of the deceased was celebrated by Father Augusto Feccia. Preparations are currently underway for our 4th Annual Live Nativity Mass to be held on Friday, December 18. The Mass will be followed by a reception with dinner and music in the church hall. Members and their families and friends are looking forward to celebrating this special event. The officers and members of ICF Branch 439 extend their sincerest wishes for a Blessed Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year!

Anna Tamburello

President, ICF Branch 439

Fresno

Madera

Santissimo Crocifisso, Br. 27

The November meeting was a fall themed event with a delicious dinner of spaghetti, meatballs, salad, and bread that was enjoyed by all who attended. The dessert was a wonderful selection



Branch 439 honors its President Anna Tamburello.

of cakes and, of course, a pumpkin pie. Thanks to the chairmen Jim and Carol Espinola and the committee: Gary Cavallero, Rose Meister and Kathy Parrish, Cari Beveridge, Theresa DeFrank, Jennifer Valorosi and Marcia Valorosi. Elections were held and the new officers are: Jim Cavallero, President; Jennifer Valorosi, 1st Vice President; Elsie Bottorff, 2nd vice president; Cari Beveridge, recording secretary; Kerin Cavallero, corresponding secretary; Carol Espinola, financial secretary; Carol Espinola, treasurer; Ila Schoettler, orator; Gary Cavallero, Sentinel; Jim Espinola, trustee; Theresa DeFrank, trustee; Louise Chiarelli, trustee and Mabel Willmon, District Deputy. Congratulations everyone! On December 6th members attended a buffet lunch and play at Roger Rockas in Fresno. About 20 friends enjoyed the afternoon eating and watching the play “A Christmas Story.” Plans are underway for the annual Christmas Party on December 13th. Please continue to pray for our ill and injured members.

Ciao,

Kerin Cavallero

Los Banos

Santa Lucia, Br. 31

Our branch continues to be active and busy. In August we had our annual summer potluck at the home of Rick and Terri Post. It was a lovely evening of delicious food and a spirit of camaraderie enjoyed



Members of Branch 27 enjoying the play “A Christmas Story” at Roger Rocka’s Theater in Fresno.



Louise Chiarelli and Theresa DeFrank enjoying the afternoon and play at Roger Rocka’s.



by all.

In October we lost our dear friend and member, Wayne Pricolo. Wayne was always ready to help with everything, he worked hard on our Polenta Dinner. Rest in peace, Wayne. We miss you.

Our spaghetti sauce sale was a huge success with the profit going to our local scholarship fund.

We are happy to know that Jenna Gilardi is once again the recipient of the Central Council scholarship.

November meeting was a dinner meeting with Italian sausage, potatoes and peppers on the menu.

Our Christmas dinner will be held on December 8th at the home of Rick and Terri Post.

May the spirit of the season remain in our hearts.

Felice Anno Nuovo

Ciao,

Germaine Orlando

Bakersfield

San Luigi, Br. 33

The Christmas meeting of branch 33 was short on business but long on holiday spirit. A ham dinner, with all the trimmings was enjoyed by the membership. Woolen gloves were donated by members and are destined for donation to St. Vincent de Paul for homeless clients.

President Maria Steele presented a suggestion that an Apostolic Committee be formed. Committee responsibilities would include an annual report to District on what the Branch does for charity as well as Masses that are said for ill and or deceased members. Barbara Crear volunteered to chair this committed and was quickly appointed by the President.

Natalie Steele, Heritage Committee Chair, entertained members with an Italian legend from long ago that was told to children long ago. It was said that on he twelfth day of Christmas gifts were left for good children who had behaved throughout the year. However, children who were naughty found



Br. 32 Bake Sale highlighted a variety of biscotti.



Members of Branch 308 enjoying their Christmas party.

only a lump of coal, or sometimes only sheaf of garlic on their doorstep.

The President wished all a joyous and blessed Christmas holiday and a happy New Year.

Roberta Cerri Teglia

Bakersfield

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Br. 281

Happy New Year!

On December 10, our branch held its annual charity meeting, which we all understand is extremely important since it is centered around the heart of our organization: giving. Special thanks to Lenny and BG Zasoski for hosting, and to all who brought food and treats to make the meal great. Thankfully, our branch was blessed to be able to give more financial support than we ever have to many deserving organizations.

We decked the halls on December 12 for our annual Christmas party and it was a huge success. Attendance was up and fun was had by all! There was good food, fun raffles, festive music, and even group games that inspired laughs and spread joy and Christmas spirit! I would like to thank my co-chairs, Joey Zasoski and Crystal Watts, as well as all who volunteered to help and make the event so fun and memorable. Ho ho ho!

Our next meeting will be on January 14—as has become traditional to our branch, we will have a potluck in the OLPH hall to ring in the New Year. Bring a tasty dish to share with our ICF family.

Baci e abbracci,
Kristen Watts

Fresno

St. Anthony de Padua, Br. 308

How beautiful to see some rain coming down. To see the leaves on the bushes and trees glistening from the raindrops that are falling. God has given us such beautiful things to see in this world and so many don’t take time to see even the small things. Let us be grateful for all the graces and blessings he has given us.

We had a great Christmas Dinner Party with many members in attendance on Wednesday, December 9 at Pardini’s. The Christmas trees in the rooms were beautiful decorated as were all the tables and the food was delicious from the various appetizers all the way to dessert. We had the good fortune of having Father Reggie Quijano, Father Bert Mello, and Monsignor Robert Wenzinger. Wish we could have sung some Christmas songs, but we did have Bill and Flory Randall, who were willing to show us how to waltz and other dances with the music to dance to. Antoinette Pecora announced that it was her last Christmas Dinner Party as president.

We had friends/new members sitting with us at our table, who enjoyed the evening.

Membership growth is the responsibility of EVERY

MEMBER. If everyone brings in a new member, we could double our membership and our impact. Remember to invite a friend to our January meeting.

Please continue to pray for the elderly, the sick, the unemployed, the homeless, the hungry, and for rain.

A very Happy and above all a Healthy New Year to all our members. We hope the New Year will be good to all of us.

This will be my last article to appear in the Bollettino. I want to thank those five friends/ members and they know who they are, for their assistance all these years.

Please support our new President John Mulligan by attending the dinner meetings.

Maria E. Rizzo Juarez~Garcia

Las Vegas

Las Vegas

St. Francis de Sales, Br. 367

Branch 367 celebrated Christmas on December 6 at a party hosted by chairmen, Kelly and Christine, at the beautiful Springs Preserve in Las Vegas. The food was great, the service was outstanding, and the ambiance was wholesome. Before, during, and after our meal, we called numbers for the gifts we brought, so there was never a dull moment. Thank you Kelly for a nice afternoon.

Our little branch lost another long- time member in December. Dottie Russo, mother of Gianni Russo of “The Godfather” fame, lost her battle with health issues. May she rest in peace. (Gianni Russo was the first to get “knocked off” in the movie.) So – we’ve had two deaths, (Joe and Dottie) two moves (Danny to CA and Clara to FL) and a few others who have already told us they will not be renewing in January. (The most common excuse is they don’t want to drive at night.) I don’t know how we did it, but we did manage to fill all the offices for next year. We need to get new members, but we have to go to



LA Mother Cabrini Open House in Burbank, hosted by Knights of Columbus with Boy Scouts and Sister Regina.

other churches to get them. Our nearest churches are almost all Hispanic. St. Francis de Sales already has three Spanish Masses and each one of them is overflowing. It is sad, but it is reality. Hopefully, next year we will find a group of Italians just waiting to get scooped up.

The officers and members of Branch 367 certainly want to wish ALL of you a Happy, Prosperous, Healthy New Year.

Ciao for now,
Jackie

Los Angeles

Archdiocese District

District Council

The year 2015 ended on a good note with a new Branch being installed on November 6th and a new District President being elected at the November 21st General Meeting. Best wishes to incoming President Pat Mages from the Santa Barbara/Ventura Region for a successful term at the helm of an energized and growing District.

District members are encouraged to continue working to represent the ICF at various Cultural Events throughout the Los Angeles Archdiocese. Developing awareness of our organization,



Mother Cabrini Open House, in the Library, on November 8, 2015.



LAADC Board members (and Central Council members) elected on November 21, 2015 at St. Francis Xavier Church in Burbank.

networking with other Italian American Organizations at Church and Community events and helping to get word out on our organization; that the ICF is based on Faith, Family and Friendship and welcome all community members to join ICF with their families and friends.

ICF Members are also encouraged to recognize that Saint Peter’s Church and Casa Italiana in Los Angeles give us an opportunity to develop the present and future generations of Italians and Americans of Italian descent in the former Little Italy Section of Los Angeles. ICF Branches and Members are welcome to help in this effort by joining Branch 67 at Saint Peter’s Church as a sign of solidarity and respect for traditions of the Italian Culture for all generations to enjoy. Please join Branch 67 now and help us develop this Branch together.

As we continue our faith and heritage commitment, the District maintains the Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library in Burbank. Support continues from ICF Members, Affiliated Mother Cabrini Groups and Friends of Mother Cabrini. The Monthly Madness Raffle helps to bring in funds for the repair and replacement of the existing doors and frames of the Chapel and Library. A \$1.00 donation per member was also recommended as a way to bring necessary funds for the rehabilitation of the Chapel and Library. Please bring these recommendations to your Branches and encourage members to help the Mother Cabrini Door Replacement Project by collecting \$1.00 per member at your next branch meeting. Your support will be greatly appreciated. Thank you Knights of Columbus for hosting the Open House for Boy Scouts and families on November 8th.

If I could ask anything of all ICF Members it would be to help support the above efforts by keeping the Los Angeles Archdiocese District in your prayers as we continue this journey to reorganize ICF for future generations to enjoy.

Thank you for being a leader in ICF,
Carmelo A. Sabatella AIA

Los Angeles

St. Peter, Br. 67

Branch 67 continues to work with Saint Peter’s Church and the Casa Italiana Cultural Center reaching out to all ICF Members, the Italian Community and those who are interested in



continuing an ICF presence at this beautiful Italian National Church.

On January 17, 2016 ICF will be holding its annual ICF Installation of Officers starting with Mass at 11:00 am in Saint Peter’s Church followed by the Installation of Officers from the 19 Branches of the Los Angeles Archdiocese District and Luncheon in the hall of Casa Italiana.

On January 24, Branch Board Planning Committee Meeting at Casa Italiana Basement 10:00 to 11:00 am; Mass at 11:00 am followed by brunch.

Each of the four ICF LAADC Regions will host a Communion Sunday on the following dates in the Casa Italiana basement:

- February 28, 2016 - ICF LAADC Communion Sunday Mass 11:00 am (Church) and Lunch 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm in Casa Italiana Basement (host San Gabriel Region).

- May 22, 2016 - ICF LAADC Communion Sunday Mass 11:00 am (Church) and Lunch 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm in Casa Italiana Basement (host Los Angeles Region).

- August 28, 2016 - ICF LAADC Communion Sunday Mass 11:00 (Church) and Lunch 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm in Casa Italiana Basement (host Santa Barbara/Ventura Region).

- November 28, 2016 - ICF LAADC Communion Sunday Mass 11:00 am (Church) and Lunch 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm in Casa Italiana Basement (host San Fernando Region).

Please spread the word to friends, families and members that the Italian Catholic Federation Branch 67 and Padre Pio Society will attend the 11:00 am (Italian) mass and host a Brunch at the Casa Italiana lunch room on the fourth Sunday of each Month.

Please let me know how you can help us keep the

future alive for the next generations at Branch 67 in Los Angeles. We are asking for your ideas, prayers and support.

Your help is greatly appreciated.

Carmelo Sabatella AIA

President Branch 67

South Pasadena Holy Family, Br. 108

The January 17, 2016 ICF Installation will be held in Casa Italiana at Saint Peter’s Catholic Church in downtown Los Angeles. Mass at 11 am followed by installation of Officers of the 19 Branches in the Los Angeles Archdiocese District and Luncheon.

Members and Parishioners: “Carnivale” is coming to Holy Family Church again on February 6, 2016 at the ICF Branch 108 13th Annual Wine Tasting Event in the Parish Hall. An exclusive Wine Pairing Opportunity will also be offered with limited seating for 20 persons. Contact 626 372-7812 to RSVP and for more information. Flyer upon request.

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

Thank you Members, families and friends for your support of ICF and its related events. Prayers go out to those the family of long time member Anthony del Vecchio and his family who passed away in early December and to all Members and parishioners who have gone to their eternal reward and to the sick members, family, friends and Parishioners for



(Left and Above) Members of Branch 111 at the Bishop’s Banquet.

a speedy recovery.

May God bless and keep you healthy “æper cento anni!”

Carmelo Sabatella, Past President

Montebello St. Benedict, Br. 111

Ciao a Tutti. A warm hello to everyone. Tanti Auguri per un Felice Anno Nuovo a tutti! A heartfelt Best Wishes for a Happy, Healthy, Joyful, & Prosperous 2016 to everyone!

Our January General Meeting will be on Thursday, January 14, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Augustine House, 200 N. 12th Street, (corner of Cleveland Ave.) in Montebello. Come join us! We would like to congratulate all the members who celebrate their birthdays in the month of January: Anthony DeLorenzo, Rose Mercuri, Cettina Mauro, Joey Wadzinsk, Frank Gomez, Frank Salomone, Rita Estrada, and Carmelo Divincenzo. Happy Birthday to everyone!! Buon Compleanno a tutti!!

The 2016 ICF Officer’s Installation will be held at Casa Italiana in Los Angeles on Sunday, January 17, 2016 - mark your calendars, more details will follow.

Mark you calendars - our St. Joseph Table this year will be held on Saturday & Sunday, March 19 & 20, 2016 at St. Benedict Parish Hall. The monies we will raise at this event will allow us to support our parish, offer scholarships to St. Benedict Parish School graduating students, support our clergy and Seminarians, scholarships to graduating high school students, to Cooley’s Anemia, and other worthwhile charities.

We need everyone’s support to make this a successful event! Thank you for all you do for the ICF and may St. Joseph and God Bless you abundantly.

We pray for our sick members and those in need; keep them in our thoughts and prayers. Finally, I leave you with a quote from Jack Layton - “My friends, Love is better than anger. Hope is better than fear. Optimism is better than despair. So let us be Loving, Hopeful and Optimistic, and we’ll change the world!”

A Presto!

Frank Salomone

San Pedro

St. John of the Cross, Br. 115

Happy New Year to all. Thank you to all who attended our Holiday party on Dec 5th. Fun was had by all and we were introduced to the 2016 officers. On Dec 6th over 30 members attended the pilgrimage to Mother Cabrini. What a wonderful tradition our branch participates in.

As we say goodbye to 2015 we want to thank all our members and friends for their support of our branch. With your help our branch was able o donate over \$13,000.00 to Mary Star of the Sea Church and to various organizations. As we begin 2016 may we continue the work of the ICF.

Our first fundraiser for the year will be to Pechunga Casino on Jan. 14. Cost \$23.00 per person with \$3.00 discount for members. Call Pauline for reservations (310) 832-0563.

It is time to renew your ICF membership. We are thankful for our members and hope you will join us for another year. Dues are \$36.00 and can be paid at our meeting on Jan 21st at 7:30pm.

At this meeting we will be discussing our upcoming Laughlin trip scheduled for Feb 21st with stay at Aquarius casino. Call Pauline for additional information (310) 832-0563.

Also up for discussion will be our annual St John Joseph of the Cross March 5th dinner dance. This year’s menu will include BBQ swordfish, shrimp, linguine with clams, Spumone ice cream for dessert and wine. Music will be provided by Tony Ciaramitaro Band. What a bargain for \$40.00



Branch 115 Christmas Party with Santa Claus aka Jerry Di Leva.



2016 officers of Branch 115 introduced by President Neal Di Leva at the Christmas Party.

SPONSORED BY THE
ICF BRANCH 108

Saturday, February 6th, 6:00pm- 10:30pm
HOLY FAMILY PARISH HALL
1527 Fremont Avenue, South Pasadena, CA 91030

Come and join us for our Carnevale-themed wine tasting event. New this year, we are offering the chance for 20 individuals to experience an intimately guided, exquisite and exclusive food and wine pairing*) The wine portion of the evening features recent vintages from local winstners that provide the experience of wines from the grapes of the foothills of San Pasqual to the vineyards of the San Gabriel Valley, coupled with Italian wines procured from D'Aquino Italian Importing Company.

MENU

- Regional, home grown wines from special local winstners
- Pasta al Forno, sausage, dinner salad, roll, dessert and a beverage

***\$50** PER PERSON
Special Food & Wine Pairing
Only taking 20 reservations!

\$25 PER PERSON
Wine Tasting & Dinner

\$15 PER PERSON
Dinner Only

Please make reservations before January 15, 2016. Raffle, gift baskets, and more!

Contact Theresa Sabatella Shaw - 626-403-6102 or 626-379-0629 - theresa@holyfamily.org

Delicious food, the Wine Tasting, benefit many charities such as Ronald M. Donald House, Gifts of Love, God on the Stairs, and the Cooley's Anemia Fund.



(Above) Branch 115 Christmas Party at Mary Star of the Sea auditorium Dec. 5. Complimentary dinner to all members. Lots of fun with games, piñata, sing along, free raffle and Santa Claus.

(Below) Branch 115 Christmas Party, Fr. Kaspar hitting the piñata.



a person. With the change in menu we will need additional help with BBQing the fish. I know we have many great men who love to BBQ. Please call Neal for ticket information and to offer help (310) 433 1044.

There is still time to join our branch as we cruise the California Coast on the Crown Princess. The ship will sail from San Pedro on April 23. Please call Letizia Chaparro to reserve your cabin (310) 832-0140.

On a sad note our branch lost long time member Tommy Iacono, husband to charter member Pauline. May he rest in peace. He will be missed.

Please remember our ill and deceased members in your prayers.

Anita Gioiello Trujillo Treasurer

Gardena

St. Anthony, Br. 237

Happy New Year!!

Our branch has had a busy few months. We joined with Branch 440 to host a Cooley’s Anemia information day.Thanks Laurice for your time and great knowledge.

We all sure learned more about Cooley’s and will continue to support this organization.

Nov. 17 we participated with the Parrish Thanksgiving Baskets, working and presented the Parrish with our annual donation.See photo.

In December we joined with St. Anthony’s Elementary school and our Parrish to conduct our first annual sock drive for the LA Mission. They give away 100 pairs a day!!! Thank you St. Anthony for your support.



Deacon Antonio,Assoc. Pastor Elmer receive Branch 237’s check for the Thanksgiving Baskets from Treasurer Rose Marie Naso.



Members of Branch 118 at the recent Bishop’s Banquet.

Finally, on Dec. 20th we hosted our many patrons and members for our annual Christmas Mass and party. The children were visited by good old St. Nick.Our junior chairperson John Roa planned the children’s activities, a pinata, crafts and a goodie bag was requested to Rose Moore our special events chair, Great job John and Rose, all had a wonderful time.

“Yet those who wait for the Lord will gain new strength; They will mount up with wings like eagles, They will run and not get tired, They will walk and not become weary” Isaiah 40:31

Respectfully,

Micheal Bohannon-Roa

San Gabriel Valley Region

Arcadia

Holy Angels, Br. 218

A very happy New Year to everyone! Our Christmas party was a great success and I would like to thank Karen, Jerry , Kraig for arranging the Nativity, and our new Santa – Joe Lanera and everyone else that helped.

Upcoming: January 10 – our regular meeting, January 17 – installation of officers at St Peter’s Church, January 24 – donut sale, January 30 – setup for pancake breakfast, Jan 31st – the pancake breakfast.

Watch for Jeane’s newsletters on the details. Hope to see everyone at our meeting.

Lolly M.

Temple City

St. Luke, Br. 326

Happy New Year to all of our members!

Our Annual Christmas Party was held on December 13 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 27, 2016 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: Mary Lou Lemoine, Roberta Nangelo, Mary Jacobs, Eva Arrighi, Pat Buccola,



Members of Branch 326 enjoying a Thanksgiving celebration.

Herminia Saez, and Ann Primising. And, let’s not forget to pray for our deceased members.

Happy January Birthday: Andrea Scorsone, Jo Anne Disney, Gabriella Giannini 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

Santa Barbara/Ventura Region

Thousand Oaks

St. Paschal Baylon, Br. 380

Our branch had a wonderful December meeting commencing with our fun family Christmas Party. This year’s celebration was especially fun! An excellent pasta and meatball dinner was wonderfully prepared by Remo Iezza and his kitchen team. Tom Donley and Andy Tortorici set up our refreshment station and many elves worked on the decorations: Cathy Pantess, Natalie Alessanderino, Amelia Metz, Joyce Alessandrino, Nanette Metz, Cathie Lawrence, Jody Bruno, Jean and Adriana Bridges and Joann Fontana all helped set up and decorate the hall. We had live music and a vista from Santa who brought a ton of gifts for all the kids!! We are so fortunate to have some many wonderful people in our branch to make these events happen. A special thanks to Anne Interrante for exceptional organizational skill in putting the party together every year!

Were looking forward to a great year for our branch. We hope that all of our members can find a way to contribute to the continued success of our branch throughout the year. Looking forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting in January.

Happy New Year!!

Ciao,

Jean Fontana Bridges

Corresponding Secretary



Branch 380 Christmas party.



Monterey

Salinas

Nostra Signora Del Sasso, Br. 25

We hope your holiday season was all you wished for and that you have a very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

November 24, 1912 is a date worth noting as it is the birth date of Mary Vaccaro, our longest active member. Mary joined the ICF on November 8, 1944 and recently celebrated her 103rd birthday with a quiet party among her family and friends. Happy Birthday, Mary and God Bless you.

The Officer’s Installation will be hosted by Branch 21 in Santa Cruz on January 30, 2016. We would very much like to have our full complement of officers attend if possible, so please come if you can. Branch 21 does a great job as host.





Branch 291 held their annual Christmas Party at the Madonna Inn and this year there were a record-breaking number of young members in attendance! Shown here are some of the school-age members from Branch 291 (the future of the ICF!) with Santa.



Branch 291 recently held their Christmas Party Luncheon at the Madonna Inn in San Luis Obispo. Pictured here is the Christmas Party Committee with Santa! Back row: Sylvia Nasholm, Joanna Van Blaricom and Pres. Pete Gallagher. Front row: Jim Scudder (Santa) and Kathleen Sullivan.

some great raffle prizes, and a big thank you to Billy Reynolds who announced the winning tickets and to his little “elves” who delivered the prizes to the lucky winners! As we feasted on our delicious lunch, we were entertained with the beautiful voices of the Pacific Horizon Chorus. Thank you to our Christmas party committee, Joanna Van Blaricom, Kathleen Sullivan and Sylvia Nasholm, for working so hard to make this event a fun and festive afternoon for our members!

As our President Pete Gallagher reminded us at our Christmas party, our first Lenten fish fry is right around the corner! Our popular fish fries begin on Friday, February 12th from 4-7pm in the St. Patick’s Church Hall and run through March 18th (there will not be a fish fry on March 11th due to the annual St. Patrick’s Dinner held that weekend.) Please join us for a delicious fish dinner if you’re in the area!

Please keep the following ICF members from Br. 291 in your thoughts and prayers: Barbara Badasci, Sr. Carol Carter, Dianne Clees, Homer Clees, Stevie

Hall, Margot Ochoa, Gayle Quain, Sharon Reed, Lorraine Spargo, Helen Summerfield, Joanna Van Blaricom, Sonia Wagner and Jens Wagner.

Happy New Year!

Keely Sanchez

Recording Secretary

Paso Robles

St. Rose of Lima, Br. 354

While we are now in the midst of preparing for the celebration of the Birth of Christ and the New Year, this publication probably will not be read by members until 2016. We send out our best wishes to all for peace, contentment, happiness and good health in the coming year.

Our Christmas party at the Madonna Inn was celebrated on December 5, and as in the past, was a beautiful occasion. President David Zanini, wife

Irma and family provided a festive setting for our party. Lunch was delicious, and we had raffle prizes for all along with warmth and congeniality among friends.

Our Pasta Dinner in November was the biggest ever. David and dedicated kitchen crew turned out 600 dinners!! We commend them also for making over 1,000 meatballs, and with the supervision of Esther Lombardi, they were delicious. Thank you again Father Roberto who persuaded so many parishioners and friends to buy tickets. God bless him.

Our appreciation to Yvonne Maddalena and her helpers for the artistic and beautifully decorated tables and to the entire ICF Paso Robles members and friends who worked so hard to accommodate and provide dinners for this crowd. Students from St Rose School served guests with great diligence and care. Thanks to all who helped with this successful event.

We ask your prayers for healing and recovery of our valued member Alice Mastagni who recently fell and broke her hip.

Please God, let there be peace in this troubled world.

Theresa Sollazzo

Correspondence Secretary

Oakland

East Bay

District Council

What a nice turn out we had for the district Christmas party. Thanks to Lisa Crudo for setting up a great meal at Buon Appetito and to Melody and Gary Klever for sending us home with a tasty treat.

Just a reminder that installation is Jan. 17,2016 beginning with Mass at 3 P.M., hope that many of you plan to attend.

The Crab Feed is still on for Jan. 29,2016, make those reservations early as this is usually a sell out.

For those of you who thought you missed out on “Late Night Catechism”; relax, it has been rescheduled for April 16,2016. Check the new fliers for all the updated information. Get a group together and have fun!

Welcome to 2016. Please keep ICF upper most on your calendar and join us for as many things as you and your family are able. Think of ICF as your extended family and there will always be someone to do things with whenever you want.

New Years Blessings.

Oakland

Santa Rita, Br. 40

Wishing you and your family a very Happ New Year. We welcomed at our December meeting a new member. Her name is Anne Marie Grader who is the daughter of Rita Marie Dykes. January promises more new members and ideas. There has been a change regarding one of the officer positions. David Rose will be our Treasurer for 2016. Dues for the year 2016 are due. Cathy Kapper will be sending out notices by the end of January.

Upcoming:

January 9: Branch party celebrating the Epiphany. 2PM to 4PM at Sacred Heart Parish Hall.

January 17: Monthly meeting at 6:15PM. Important meeting to discuss fund raising and meeting changes. All members are encouraged to attend.

Our thoughts and prayers to Robert Franco and family, on the passing of his mother Ada Franco. She was devoted to her son, family and friends. God Bless Her.

Happy Birthday to Deanna De Nurra, Mary DeVincenzi, Catherine Kapper and David Rose. Remember in your prayers the sick and the convalescing.

A prayer and a wish that this Holy Season finds you and your loved ones enjoying health and happiness. May your blessings be many and may they only

increase during the new year.

Ciao,

M. Francis and L. Francis

Livermore

St. Michael, Br. 285

We begin the New Year with grateful hearts and ask God to bless the charitable work that we do in 2016. Our new officers are excited about the upcoming year and we thank the following for taking on these responsibilities to serve our Branch.

President - Judy Wellbeloved

1st Vice President - Carolyn Cardinalli

2nd Vice President - Joe Buonsante

Treasurer - Elaine Meier

Secretary - Pauline Kirk

Orator - David Wellbeloved

Sentinel - Anna Yocham

Trustees - Gail Rocca, Ed Rocca & Bobbie Farrington

The Christmas party at the Zepher Grill in Livermore was well attended. A farewell gift from the Branch was presented to Don & Mary Merucci, who will be moving to Sparks, NV.

Elaine Meier was also presented a thank you gift for serving as our president this past year. The evening ended with a sing-a-long of Christmas carols.

Members, Philomena & Joe Buonsante, welcomed a new granddaughter, Vitalia Josephine Buonsante who was born on Thanksgiving Day. Congratulations to the parents, Patrick & Sarah Buonsante & “big sister” Francesca for this special blessing.

Upcoming events will include our the Installation Dinner on Jan. 17. Our regular meeting on Jan. 15 with guest speaker Phillip Lascola, a Frank Sinatra aficionado, who will present a program about Sinatra. You won’t want to miss this!

February 27 is our yearly Bingo Bash at St. Michael’s in Livermore.

Call Helen Wirtenson at 462-3798 for tickets.

Our continued prayers for members of our Branch who are ill.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!

Ciao, Judy Bates

Castro Valley

Our Lady of Grace, Br. 343

Well this year we did it! In spite of the rainy weather we were able to have our branch Christmas party as planned. The much needed rain came before and after the meeting, which was well attended, and we were even able to welcome a new member. Dinner was prepared by a relatively new member, Rich Bittlecome and his crew of elves, and enjoyed by all. Thanks, Rich. We would like to thank all for the many baby gifts donated to Birthright in the true spirit of giving.

Time to get ready for the New Year and the many upcoming activities, the big one being installation of officers on 1/17/16. This is a good time to meet your peers in other east bay branches. And there are also district activities to keep you busy, the 1st one is the Crab Feed on 1/29/16.

We are sad to report the death of two of our long time members, Liz Griffith and Jennie Vastila. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

As we sail into the New Year, please keep time in your busy schedules for our monthly dinner meetings and various activities. Looking forward to seeing more of all of you on that 2nd Thursday!

The Happiest New Year to All.

Pat



Members from Branch 14 , Crockett coming home winners from casino bus trip. Great time!



Members from Branch 14 helping the Crockett Community bring in the Holiday Season . Merry Christmas.

Contra Costa
District Council

We have been very busy in our district. Night of Recollection was held in October. We enjoyed dinner followed by Father Larry’s inspirational talk. On November 15 we had our district Mass at Good Shepherd church in Pittsburg. We followed it with a luncheon at the Olive Garden restaurant. We celebrated the feast of St. Francis Xavier Cabrini at this event. Next was our District Christmas party on December 5 in Richmond. All of these events were enjoyable and we thank all those responsible for planning them. Now we move forward to our District Installation of officers which will be held at the Brentwood Golf course on Saturday January 23. We will have a Prayer service, Installation and luncheon starting at 12 noon. This event will be hosted by our Brentwood branch.

Reservations are needed and can be made by your branch President.

At our last District meeting election for 2016 district officers took place.

The following officers were elected.

President -- Gene Simonetti

First Vice -- Patty Jarrett

Second Vice -- Joann Thilgen

Secretary -- Roberta Healy

Treasurer -- Walter Costa

Orator -- Carole Padlo

Trustee -- Marilyn Simonetti, Deanna Carone, Judie Van Muren

Sentinel -- Peggy Aiello Hagerthy

Past President -- Joseph Flores

Chaplin -- Father Larry Young

We thank all outgoing officers for their hard work and dedication especially our past President Joseph

Flores. He was our President for three years. We appreciate all that he has done. I have personally worked with Joseph as the First vice and enjoyed working with him these past three years. We will continue to ask for his guidance and support.

May God bless each of our branches and may we all have a successful year.

A very Happy New Year to all.

Patty Jarrett

Crockett
San Carlo, Br. 14

And so, we begin again. Buon Anno a tutti! (Happy New Year Everyone.) I remember last year wishing everyone a happy, healthy, peaceful 2015. I wish that again in 2016, and put an emphasis on peace for this troubled world.

The Christmas decorations are put away for another year and the young patients at Children’s Hospital continue to enjoy the toys so many members generously donated. Thanks to Donna Hoffmann, David Botta and John Valentini for delivering them. Additional thanks to those who brought food items for the Crockett Christmas Basket Committee. December was, fortunately, a month of giving by our branch.

Our Christmas party was as festive and merry as always, and Santa arrived with a bag full of presents. The children, as well as the adults, love him! Thanks much, Mike Kirsch, for your jovial spirit.

Thanks from Donna Hoffmann to last year’s officers. Begin the ICF 2016 year “spiritually correct,” by attending Mass at 5:30 on January 12, our first meeting. Then enjoy a fabulous homemade (actually, church-hall-made) gnocchi dinner. (If you want to help, or to learn how to make this rustic Italian dish, be at the Hall at noon on January 10.) Panettone and Tom and Jerry’s follow dinner. What a great way to begin a new year. The meeting begins at 7:30, and January 30 Polenta Dinner tickets go on sale after the meeting.

Also in January is Installation of 2016 officers in Brentwood, January 23, and the District Meeting, January 28. We certainly don’t miss a beat, do we? Seems January is as busy as December.

Ciao,

Diane Bottini Thomas

Pittsburg
San Domenico, Br. 72

Our branch hosted the District Communion Mass on Nov. 15. Members from the District went to Mass together at Good Shepherd church and we celebrated the feast of St. Francis Xavier Cabrini. A luncheon followed at the Olive Garden Restaurant. We thank our chairperson Helen Politakes and Roselynn Jarrett for making our Mother Cabrini Holy cards.

On Dec 5 we enjoyed the District Christmas party at the Galileo club in Richmond. Dinner was delicious and was followed by a raffle and dancing. Santa Claus made a visit for the children.

Our Branch Christmas party and Potluck was held on December 13. We enjoyed a great meal and celebrated the holiday season with one another. We also honored our hostess Josie Leontini, bus trip chairperson Joann Thilgen, Deputy Peggy Aiello Hagerthy and Patty gave a honorable mention to Helen Politakes to thank her for all of her ongoing help.

Upcoming:

Sunday, January 10 -- Branch meeting and Happy New Year’s party at 2:PM at 17 Marks Blvd in Pittsburg

Saturday, January 23 -- District Installation, Prayer service and Reception at 12 noon in Brentwood.

Thursday, January 28 -- District Meeting at 7: 30 PM in the conference room at St. Isidore in Danville.

As mentioned above the District Installation will be held on Saturday January 23. If you want to go to the luncheon send your check for 30.00 to our

Treasurer Helen Politakes at 953 Veterans Drive Martinez, Calif. 94553. Make check out to ICF Branch 72. Helen will write one check from our branch to send to the district. Helen will need your check and RSVP by January 5.

You should have received your 2016 dues renewal form and branch calendar. Please send your dues in the envelope that was provided. We look forward to having a great year in Branch 72.

Happy New Year!

Sempre Avanti

Patty

Richmond
St. Raymond, Br. 154

The December meeting opened with a scrumptious polenta dinner. Thanks to Walter Costa and Toni Reeder for a delicious meal, the Jobs for the tasty dessert and thanks to everyone who contributed their help to make this a festive holiday meal.

The district Christmas party was held at the Galileo Club in Richmond. A delicious dinner of salad, pasta, roast beef and ice cream was enjoyed by all who attended. Thank you to Walter Costa for making the arrangements.

Installation of officers will be held on Jan 23rd, 2016 in Brentwood. Reserve with Walter by January 09, 2016. More details to follow.

Please pick up a branch calendar for the coming year if you have not done so already. The next scheduled meeting is January 11th 2016. Pizza and salad will be served. Eggnog and Spirits to follow the meeting! Cost is \$8.00

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 or mail it to her.

Happy New Year!!

Lorraine Acuña

Concord
Todos Santos, Br. 214

includes following parishes: St. Agnes, Queen of All Saints, St. Francis & St. Bonaventure

We have a New Banner!! Our old banner was from 1967; and very worn. We have to decide how to store it and its beautiful memories.

As we begin the New Year - We congratulate our Branch Board members for 2016, as all were voted in for another term. We welcome many new members and the hope of more to come. Opening up the year with fresh ideas, friendships and group support in all we do.

We keep members: John & Lilian Whalen, Wanda Smithson, Diane Lorenzetti, Mary Ann Furco and Anna Raefield in our prayers. God Bless our Military & Veterans.



Branch 214 members Ed & Jo Lee, Ray & Joanne Doorack & Ron & Chris Artale having



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Allison McGuirk, Branch 214 President Roberta Healy, Ed McGuirk & Jo & Ed Lee at the Christmas party.

Happy New Year!!

Christina/correspondence secty.

Danville

St. Isidore, Br. 352

December found the members of Danville Branch 352 enjoying a very festive, well-attended Christmas Pot Luck, complete with songs of the season. As usual, wonderful food & wine aplenty was enjoyed, as we celebrated with new members and rekindled longtime friendships - the perfect way to set the tone for the Christmas Season!

As the New Year begins, we again want to thank our 2015 officers for their hard work over the past year and welcome our new 2016 Board. They are already busy planning this year’s activities for the membership and it looks like January kicks off as a very busy month! First, we have our monthly meeting on Monday, January 18th. Plan to join us for dinner at 6pm, with the meeting at 7pm. Immediately following on Saturday, January 23rd, is our Champagne Bingo & Dinner, beginning at 5pm in the St. Isidore Room. Dinner will be catered by Boston Market and the price of entry is \$20. Come join us for an evening of Bingo fun – and you might be one of the lucky winners who take home some prizes!

Ciao – and Buon Anno,

Marianne Bordogna

Brentwood

Immaculate Heart of Mary, Br. 432

What better way to end the year then reviewing what a truly wonderful year 2015 was and reminding us of how Blessed we are.

January began 2015 with our Branch meetings, again, being held at Mountain Mike’s Pizza. On the 17th we held our installation of officers in concert with other Branches of the Contra Costa District at St. Agnes Church in Concord. After the installation, all reconvened at La Veranda Cafe in Clayton to partake in food, drink and an enjoyable time.

February saw us host the first of many free pancake breakfasts for the Parishners of IHM. It also saw the buzz of excitement as First Vice President, Philomena Sawko, kicked off the preparation for the St. Joseph Celebration.

March saw the first ever St. Joseph Celebration held on a Saturday. Not surprisingly, it was a huge success. Sumptuously prepared food was in great abundance, Deacon John said Grace and the celebration began.

April, the branch meetings continue at Mountain Mike’s and had us hosting the Pancake breakfast. April also saw preparations began for the Branch’s

Scholarship Awards presentation and Banquet.

May found the Branch meeting again at Mountain Mike’s.

June, our turn again for the pancake breakfast. On June 29th the annual Scholarship Dinner was held. In concert with the Knights of Columbus, winners and their families were treated to a gala evening of food and celebration. Also, our President and his wife were selected as the Branch’s representatives to the 2015 ICF Convention in Las Vegas.

July, with much happiness we returned to the IHM hall for our monthly meetings.

August saw the branch hosting the pancake breakfast. Later in the month ICF’s Contra Costa District held their annual “family night at the ballgame.” Those in attendance saw the Oakland A’s and a Star Wars fireworks display. Branch 432 was well represented.

September brought another successful Festa d’ Italia. Over 50 classic cars were on display to be enjoyed by the many automobile enthusiasts in attendance. Coupled with a great pasta dinner and plenty of liquid refreshments, a great time was had by all.

October was our turn again to put up the Parish breakfast. October also saw the nomination and election of 2016’s officers. A new wrinkle for officers was the election of Co- Presidents and Co-First Vice Presidents. Decidedly a first, at least for us.

November, getting ready for the Branch Christmas party was it.

December, found us serving the final breakfast of the year. Later in the month we had a rollicking good time at our annual Christmas Party. Plenty of good cheer and good food at Sweeny’s where we reminisced about the year just past and what the new year would bring.

A Blessed Christmas for all and for 2016, may it be filled with God’s Blessing’s for each and every one of you.

la vita è buona

Pleasant Hill

Christ the King, Br. 442

“Wow, what a turn out!” Remarked Paul to Ann, “Who would have imagined we would sell out our Anniversary Dinner; I think we have better than 200 members and guests!”

“Yeah, you can really feel the energy in the room and I love the live music” added Ann.

The room looked just how we remembered the ICF dinners of our youth, long tables set in green white and red, baskets of treasures for the raffle and the sweat smell of gravy simmering back in the kitchen. The scene was set with Monica and Gino running the kitchen (under Monica’s iron fist) and the amazing



Branch 442 celebrating the holidays with a delicious feast!

Judi Dallara, Chair of the Event, directing the army of volunteers who make the October night perfect!

“Ann, do you think Monica will let me take an early taste of dessert? That torta is my favorite!”

“Now-now, Paul, You will have to wait until after dinner, you know Monica is by-the-book!” laughed Ann.

The smell of roast turkey with gravy filled the Hall. It was a cool November evening and Branch 442 had a sizable turnout for a Monday night meeting. Paul turned to Matt, “I think everyone is excited about the branch elections tonight!” Matt laughed, “You know that the turnout is for all the Thanksgiving side dishes!”

“Ok, maybe you’re right…” Paul agreed sheepishly

After a round of “firsts” and some “seconds” of the Thanksgiving bounty the meeting got started with the Branch elections as the center piece of our agenda. And what do you know…there was wonderful interest from the Branch to get involved as officers. By the end of the night we had officers for all our posts and everyone was excited for our President Elect, Matt Dallara! We know he will expertly lead our Branch and the collection of new and returning officers assures both continuity and magnificent new ideas! Paul remarked to David as they closed down for the night “David, do you know what I am Thankful for? All the great people I have gotten to know because of ICF at Christ the King!”

David smiled as he put his hand on Paul’s shoulder, “You know Paul that is exactly what ICF is all about!”

Scenes of ICF brought to you by:

Paul M. Nuti

Past President Branch 442

Orange

Irvine

St. Thomas More, Br. 423

Happy New Year!!

The Mother Cabrini Mass was held on November 14 at St. Thomas More. Father John once again challenged us with a question about Mother Cabrini. He asked us to name the continents where she did her missionary work. They are: North America, South America, and Europe. Afterward, we had a delicious dinner hosted by Rosario Cipolla. We dined on appetizers, bread, salad, lasagna, and dessert.

We had a Thanksgiving themed dinner complete with turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, and all the trimmings on the November meeting. The dinner was hosted by Hermi Gonzalez, Maureen Melvold, and Wendy Cennamo.

Elections were held at the November meeting.



The elected officers are as follows: President-Donna Stahl; Vice President-Kelly De Leo; 2nd Vice President-Tony Gonzalez; Orator-Hermi Gonzalez; Treasurer-Tom Farrell; Sentinel-Lynn Goldstrom; Secretary-Maureen Melvold; Trustees-Bev Leinwebber, Rosario Cipolla, and Frank Gianantonio.

Our Christmas party was held on the evening of December 6. Mina Brooks and Lupe Montejano co-chaired the event. Members brought hearty appetizers and desserts. The evening’s festivities included a fun gift exchange with opportunity to “steal” a gift. Some of the gifts were highly sought after!

Installation of officers scheduled for February. Details to come.

Ciao,

Miranda Gibson

Sacramento

Sacramento

St. Mary, Br. 45

Happy New Year!

Branch 45 will host the first District meeting of the year on February 7, 2016 at 1PM in Giovanni Hall. Light meal to follow the meeting. Also on tap for the month of February is Officers’ installation on February 20 at 10AM; installation will be held at Branch #342, St. Joseph, Auburn.

Condolences to the family of Branch member James Devito who passed away on Oct 26, 2015, at age 68. Jim was an avid supporter of all Branch activities and will be missed. May he Rest in Peace.

Buon Compleanno to Barbara Davidson, Matthew



Branch 342 members were feeling very festive during their Christmas party.

Ebert, Steven Robison

and Eric Bush, our January birthday celebrants.

We want to thank all our members and their guests for supporting us in 2015; we appreciate your attendance and participation.

Ciao!

Mary Jo

Roseville

San Vito, Br. 73

The evening of 14 November, Branch 73’s polenta/ chicken dinner was attended by some 250 persons. We trust they departed thinking:

This was a real nice clambake;

We’re mighty glad we came.

The vittles we ate,

Were good you bet;

The company was the same.

We thank Tony Barsotti and his kitchen crew for preparing an excellent meal. We also thank the people who prepared the hall,manned the bar, and sold dinner, bar, and raffle tickets. Also to be thanked are the members who brought prizes for the raffle.

The afternoon of 6 December, a much smaller number of members and guests attended the branch Christmas party. The dishes brought by those attending, and the ham and cake furnished by the branch, satisfied everyone’s desire for food. The members attending brought prizes for a raffle, and \$60.00 was raised to be donated to Cooley’s Anemia.

In a few weeks 2016 will have made its appearance, and we hope the coming year will be marked by good health and much happiness for all the members of Branch 73 and their families. The first branch meeting of the new year will be in the Convent at 7:00 on 19 January.

Buon compleanno e tante belle cose a tutti I soci della Sezione 73 nati nel mese di gennaio.

Robert Delpippio

Auburn

St. Joseph, Br. 342

Happy New Year! Can you believe that it is already 2016? Our board is busily planning the 2016 calendar for our branch and we hope that you will be able to join us for all of our fun activities. We will be having our January, February and March meetings on Sunday afternoons at 3:00 in the conference room at St. Joseph’s. We hope this change in schedule for the winter will allow more members to join us and participate in the meetings. Be on the lookout for e-mail notices of these meetings.

We hope you will be able to join us for our world famous polenta dinner on Saturday, January 16 at St. Teresa’s Hall. The evening will begin with no-host cocktails at 5:30 followed by dinner, dancing, and a great raffle. Tickets are \$20.00 and can be purchased from Dolores at (530) 823-9125. This event is a

sell-out, so get those tickets ASAP!

Pam Andersen

Bolletino Contributor

San Bernardino

Redlands

Sacred Heart, Br. 217

From Branch 217 in Redlands, California, a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all branches and districts of the ICF! Our December meeting was filled with wonderful food, a beautiful ham lovingly prepared by Trish Thompson and all the delectable fixin’s befitting of a true, traditional Christmas meal. Diana Hill passed out multiple choice “quiz” pertaining to our Italian heritage, and each table discussed the possible answers. It was fun and educational as well. The members are preparing for our upcoming installation Mass and dinner. We will also be planning another sausage sale in March or April, so stay tuned.

We cannot forget the tragic events of December 2nd in our beautiful, quiet county of San Bernardino. Our parish (The Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Community) is situated in Redlands, where the shooters lived. We mourn the loss of so many innocent lives and we have faith that they are now resting peacefully in the arms of the Lord. We know that there are now many more beautiful angel voices singing God’s praise. The memories from this horrific terroristic attack on our own people are still fresh, and we know it will take time to heal, so please keep us in your prayers. God bless America.

San Diego

District Council

On Monday evening, November 23, 2015, the San Diego District I.C.F. held its last general meeting of the year at Santa Sophia Church. District President, Richard Barker conducted the meeting. During the meeting the officers for 2016 were elected. They are: Richard Barker, President; Christine (Chris) Murphy, 1st Vice President; Jim Cardinale-Hill, 2nd Vice President; Maria Tollefson, Recoding Secretary; Pat Postal, Corresponding Secretary; Sherry Thurston, Financial Secretary and Treasurer; Jody Balestrieri, Orator; Prudence Price, Tim Smith and Rose Marie Anthony, Trustees; and Forrest Price, Sentinel. The nominating Committee was composed of Jody Balestrieri, Maria Tollefson, Pat Postal and Forrest Price.

The date of our District Installation was confirmed as Saturday, January 31, 2016, at Our Lady of the Rosary Church Social Center following the 11:00 a.m. mass.

Forrest Price



Members of Branch 261 hard at work.

San Diego

Our Lady of the Rosary, Br. 230

May all of the blessings of the New Year be with you and your family. Branch’s 230 Christmas Party held on December 12 was a huge success. The meal was delicious, the singing merry, and the feelings of festive holiday spirit were very evident. Thank you to all of the members attending that contributed toys and canned food for Catholic Charities.

The New Year will begin with a general meeting to be held on Friday, January 15 where plans for a membership drive will be discussed. Branch 230 will also host the San Diego District Installation Mass (10:30 a.m.) and luncheon on Sunday, January 31. The annual and very popular Fish Fry will be held on Friday, February 12 from 4:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Congratulations to the branch officers for 2016: President Delfina Centanni; 1st V-P Jim Cardinale-Hill; 2nd V-P Theresa Cutri; Secretary Maria Tollefson; Financial Secretary Amanda Morris Cassidy; Treasurer Mary Lou Terramagra; Orator Michael Paluso; Trustees Martha Cardinale-Hill, Rachael Bentley; Sentinel Patrizia Vigili and we welcome our new deputy Tony Anthony.

God bless,

Maria Tollefson

San Diego

St. Theresa, Br. 261

Our members began the demolition - pneumatic hammers - backhoes were provided by neighbors at no cost to the parish ...Seeing our members - Mike Del Vac & Vic Tallarida Jr - ride that backhoe was memorable...Just like a rodeo event!!

With the professional plumber the work progressed in a timely fashion....

Besides a new trench - we required a large hole for the grease containment vessel...Also concrete would be required to replace a sidewalk and cover the containment vessel... Again we called a parishioner for aid...All he said how much do you need and when do you need it ???

We also remember the two city inspections – all the inspector said – “It sure looks like a Pro was here!”

We’ll never forget the ICF ladies who provided needed meals... Digging into the earth is intense labor...

The restoration of the kitchen floor was the last major effort...

The workers did leave markers in the concrete.... for posterity....

Prologue: About one month after the job was completed we received a call from the kitchen..it was reported that the containment vessel covers were expelling water... Mike Del Vac did inspect the site and discovered that we neglected to remove one of the pipe covers installed for transport....

Vic Tallarida

San Francisco

San Francisco

District Council

A reminder about the District and Branch installation of officers.

Sunday, January 10, 2016, Italian American Social Club, 25 Russia Ave.

11:30 Installation, fllowed by no-host cocktails. Lunch at 1:30. Cost is \$40.00 per person.

Our next meeting will be on January 14, at 6:00 PM. At Taraval District Police Station.

Have a healthy and happy 2016.

Ann Basuino

Secretary

San Francisco

Maria S. S. Immacalata, Br. 1

Dear Members:

Our recent Christmas Party was enjoyed by all!

Upcoming events:

January -- No Meeting

January 10 -- Installation of Officers, Italian American Social Club, 11:30am

January 24 -- Branch Mass, 10:30 am, I.C.C.

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

Our Banch 38 hopes all our “amici” throughout our ICF world had a wonderful Natale and a Felice Buon Anno. After all the parties and excitement, we’re ready to start the New Year 2016. As I’ve often said, our branch members are few, but we are an eager bunch! We can hardly wait to get started.

Our Thanksgiving meal was delicious, but we had too much food. We thought more members would be present, however the food did not go to waste. I’m sure the Salesian priests had a mini Thanksgiving that night at the Rectory and our members present had turkey for dinner too! Many thanks for the food preparations by Cosmo, Dora, Norma, and Lottie. Norma’s son Fred Tealdi came to North Beach just

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Branch 50 celebrated its 80th anniversary and Christmas with George Bacigalupi, Father Ken Westray, Diane Bacigalupi, and George Campi.

to help us. Fred came from Walnut Creek on Bart. . . WOW how good is that?!! Fred, we truly appreciate all your help. Thank you also to the members present, you always pitch in to help.

Maria Gloria reminded us of our Salesian Jubilee when Fr. Armand Oliveri, Fr. Mario Rosso celebrated 75 yrs. Profession of Faith and Sr. Antoinette Pollini celebrated 60 yrs. as a Salesian Sister. Maria also brought to our attention “the Italian connection with the Indians.” To top the whole Thanksgiving subject up, she gave each one of us a colorful plush Turkey stuffed animal. Grazie Maria...really cute!

Fr. Al, we are sorry you missed our Thanksgiving feast, but we are happy you were in Italy on your vacation visiting with your family. We know you will be at our Christmas party, and we are looking forward to hearing your stories about your wonderful trip.

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

VP Cosmo Amato- you were my right hand man from moving furniture, preparing & buying lunch, running all kinds of errands, helping in so many ways.

R Sec. Dora Varacchi - you have been such a huge help. I count on you so much. Not only are you a great Secretary, but also the PC always looks so warm & inviting with your decorations, & I appreciate all your help in planning the agendas.

Treas. Madeline Torre - Grazie for taking the responsibility for mailing/collecting our yearly dues & raffles from home. I never had to worry about the job being done.

** I will continue my “thank you’s” in the next Bollettino issue!

**Our next meeting will be February 20 (3rd Saturday) 12:00 Noon in the PC.

***January 2016 “NO” meeting: Br. 38 is taking a Ski Vacation!

Ciao, Mara Amato

San Francisco

Santo Stefano, Br. 50

Happy New Year Wishes from all our members !

In December, instead of our usual meeting, we celebrated Christmas and our Branch’s “80th Anniversary” with a festive Lunch-Party at the San Francisco Italian American Club.

We were sorry that our Past Pres. Liana Figone was unable to attend, as she is still recovering from her bad fall in October.

Our President George Bacigalupi and his wife Diana made arrangements for this beautiful celebration. The delicious, four course Lunch was served in the Parkview Room at the Club. Very aptly named as it looks out onto Washington Square and the beautiful S.S. Peter & Paul Church. Accordionist, George Campi provided music that added to the festivity throughout lunch. His music of old-time favorites



George Bacigalupi, Mary Alasia (who is 100 years old), and Fr. Ken Westray.

had everyone clapping and singing, and everyone joined in with singing Christmas Carols.

To add to the festivities, was the presence of Mary Alasia. She was celebrating her 100th Birthday, and everyone was thrilled to be able to sing Happy Birthday to her.

All members brought gifts: Personal items to be distributed to St. Anthony’s or unwrapped toys for “Toys for Tots”. All gifts to be distributed by our President and his wife.

Lovely Poinsettia plants, used as our table decorations, were graciously accepted by our Pastor, Father Ken Westray and Father Ling Nguyen for the altar at St. Vincent de Paul Church. We were so happy that they were able to join us on this very special day.

May the New Year bring Peace and Blessings to each and everyone.

Ciao,

Anstell Ricossa

San Francisco

St. Elizabeth, Br. 258

Our Christmas luncheon was, again, a big success. We had 65 in attendance. Our Turkey lunch with all the trimmings was so delicious.

Our December 7th trip to Modesto to visit the Mc Henry Mansion, Duarte Farms and lunch at Concetta’s Italian Restaurant was fantastic. We all received a Beautiful Poinsettia plant. Thanks, Florence, for another beautiful trip. We are fortunate to have you as a great trip planner.

We all hope and pray that our shut-ins have a speedy recovery. We also pray for our deceased and their families.

Our sincere sympathy to the Lena Rechetti family. Lena passed away in November. God bless you Lena and may the Blessed Mother keep you in her care.

Congratulations to our incoming Officers: President: Eva Perata; 1st V. P.: Mary Perata; 2nd V.P.: Rose Moisant; Sec.: Florence Mangion; Treas. Barbara Bottarini; Trustees: Jane Cunningham and Mary Sammut; Orator: Mary Sammut; Sentnnel: Tony Sammut. To our outgoing Officers thank you for a job well done.

We hope you all had a Merry Holiday with your families.

Hope and pray that 2016 is good to all or us.

Sincere thanks to my Officers and members for your assistance during 2015. It is greatly appreciated.

Happy to see that David Botti is doing well. Missed you at the Testimonial dinner.

Dates to remember:

January 4: Officers meeting.

January 24: Mass

January 25: Monthly meeting.

Ciao,

Eva Perata, President



St. Elizabeth Parish and Br. 258 celebrated the Feast of St. Elizabeth on November 22, 2015. Auxiliary Bishop William Justice celebrated the Mass with Pastor and Br. 258 Chaplain Fr. Charito Suan.



San Francisco

Corpus Christi, Br. 290

Our January meeting will be held on Thursday, January 21, in Corpus Christi Parish Hall, following lunch at noon.

Our annual Crab Feed has been canceled this year due to high levels of toxins in the bay that make local crab unfit to eat.

SAVE THE DATE

The ICF Installation luncheon will be held on Sunday, January 10, at the Italian-American Social Hall. The installation of officers will take place at 11:30 AM, followed by lunch at 1:30 PM. Hope to see you there.

Happy New Year to all! May 2016 be filled with many blessings for all our members.

Ciao,

Jeannette

San Francisco

St. Cecilia, Br. 365

We trust that everyone had a Blessed and healthy Advent and Christmas season.

We know that everyone enjoyed the Christmas luncheon at Harding Golf Course. There were a total of 31 members and friends in attendance. Thanks to Florence who again worked very hard to make this party the success that is was. Thanks also to Liliana for the lovely cake.

Election of officers was held at our November meeting. The same officers were elected, except for the office of Sentinel, which was filled by Vince Russo. Thank you, Vince.

San Francisco District and Branch installation of officers will take place on January 20, 2016, 11:30, at the Italian American Social Club, 25 Russia Avenue. No host social followed by lunch at 1:30. Price for the lunch is \$40.00 per person. Deadline for reservations is January 4, 2016.

Officers, please make an effort to attend and be installed. You need not stay for the luncheon.

Best wishes for a very happy and healthy 2016.

God Bless,

Ann Basuino

San Mateo

District Council

Welcome to the New Year 2016. Hope everyone had a joyous Christmas. Wishing you all many blessings. Many thanks to Branch 173, Our Lady of

Angels, Burlingame who will be hosting the District Christmas/New Year party at our regular meeting January 28. It is a pot luck and all Branches will contribute. Stay tuned for time etc.

Mark your calendars:

Saturday, January 16, 2016, San Mateo District Installation of Officers for 2016. Hosted by Branch 351 Menlo Park. Both Installation and lunch to be held at San Mateo Elks Club. Installation 11:00a.m. Cocktails following with lunch at 1:00 p.m. Entree choices: Cross Rib Roast, Chicken Marsala, Petrale Sole with Lemon Butter sauce. Price \$38. Reservations to Cory Roberts, 5 Chateau Drive, Menlo Park, 94025. Deadline: January 9.

Sunshine: Our dear Roberta Franchini. Call her if you know of anyone we should send a card to 650.355.0813. bertie @sanbrunocable.com.

Please send Father Frank Murray a card, Nazareth House, 245 Nova Albion Way, San Rafael, 94903.

Peace and Love,

Anne O'Brien

South San Francisco

Sacro Cuore, Br. 7

Our first business meeting for the year will be January 6, 2016. 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 2, and 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

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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 2016. They are: President, Jim Eli; 1st Vice President, Diana Ferrari; 2nd Vice President, Lola Migliore; Recording/Corresponding Secretary, Open; Financial Secretary Dean Balestieri; Treasurer, Donna Smith; Orator, Leonore Armanino; Sentinel, Jeanette Acosta; Trustees, Marie Pariani, Robbie Huerta, Barbara Demattei, and Phyllis Feudale. Delegates for District Meetings are: Kelly Teglia, Lola Migliore, and Diana Ferrari. Alternates: Donna Smith, Tony Parenti.

Regarding our future fundraising event, the Crab Cioppino Dinner, which is usually held in February, as of this writing we are waiting to set the date pending the availability of crab. More information will follow.

Branch 7 would like to welcome our new members Frances Benedetto-Vigil and Joan Leonard. (Kelly’s mother)

So, until next time...a thought to ponder...”What the New Year brings to you will depend a great deal on what you bring to the New Year!”

Happy New Year!

Sempre Avanti,

Laurie Masetti

Colma

San Vincenzo De Paolo, Br. 19

Buon Anno to everyone. Another New Year and a lot of great things to do and be part of. We are starting off the New Year with a great set of Officers for 2016. They are:

President: Cheryl Simon

1st Vice Pres.: Kathleen Trevizo

2nd Vice Pres.: Deborah Rodondi

Secretary: Christine Prudenciado

Financial Sec.: Joann Sangiacomo

Treasurer: Donna Barnes

Trustees: Annette & David Novi

Sentinel; Joe Sangiacomo

Many thanks to the Officers who served so faithfully in 2015 and to those willing to serve this year. A huge thanks to all the members who chaired a project and those who helped with the projects; you are what keep us strong.

Coming Activities:

Monday, January 14 – Regular meeting and social.

Saturday, January 16 – 11:00 a.m. Installation of Officers at the San Mateo Elks Lodge. To make reservations contact Cheryl Simon (650) 755-0878 (voice mail) or email cas94015@yahoo.com.

Saturday, January 23 – Pedro Tournament \$30.00. Contact Joe Sangiacomo at 756-5969. Donation of a salad or dessert would be appreciated.

Coming Event:

February 28~ San Mateo District Semi-Annual Mass hosted by Branch 19 with Spuntino following in the hall. Contact Cheryl Simon (650) 755-0878 (voice mail) or email cas94015@yahoo.com. Also advise what you can make to help with the food.

God’s blessings from Heaven above to make this a happy year, filled with joy and peace and love.

N. Thurman

San Mateo

St. Matthew, Br. 163

Hope you are all ready to begin another busy and eventful year. Our River Rock Casino Trip was a successful event. Everyone had a great time and lots of fun. I wish it could have lasted a little longer.

We have not had our Christmas Party yet so I cannot comment on it at this time, but I will do so next month.

2016 calendars are still for sale. They are great

Christmas gifts. See Virginia or call her at 650 591-3545. Only \$25 and a chance to win every day of the year. The Branch keeps \$5 per calendar.

Mark your calendars:

Thursday, January 14 – Meeting and dinner with sandwiches and salads. We will have a small fundraiser: A New Year’s Raffle. Cost is \$5 for 7 tickets and \$10 for 14 tickets. Many prizes.

Saturday, January 16 – Installation of 2016 Officers at the San Mateo Elks Lodge at 11:00 am. Lunch at 1:00 pm. Entrée Choices: Cross Rib Roast, Chicken Marsala, or Petrale Sole with lemon butter sauce. Price for branch member is \$33.00. Call Virginia Fuentes for reservations before January 9th. Make checks payable to Branch 163.

Wishing you all a very Happy and Blessed New Year!

Peace and Love.

Anne O’Brien

Burlingame

Our Lady of Angels, Br. 173

Our November Anniversary Dinner was a big success and thanks to Lori Clyne who chaired the event. The food was catered by Esposto’s and delicious. Thanks to the servers, Anita Cecena and Maria Camicia who helped in the kitchen and Brenda and Gary Wemiz for covering raffle items and after dinner kitchen cleanup.

At the dinner we were able to honor one of our members, Lorraine Rollandi who has been a member of the ICF for 73 years. We are lucky to have her husband, Carl, in our Branch also.

We are all looking forward to our potluck Christmas dinner being chaired by Jean and John Watterson this month and wish all of our members a joyous Christmas Season.

Special thanks to our president, Dorene Campanile who works so hard to make us the close branch that we are and also to those who assist at every meeting by setting up the tables and

for the dinners. They are: Bob Bacich, Jean Watterson and Jim and Lucy Witherspoon.

Please pray for the families of some of our members who need prayers regarding health issues. We are also very lucky to have Father Michael work so closely with our branch and he could use an extra prayer too!

God Bless,

Rosalind C. Emery

San Carlos

St. Charles, Br. 327

A big shout-out to our board members who provided all the wonderful goodies for our December Christmas meeting. It was a welcome event and was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone who attended. Thank you!

On Saturday, January 16 the San Mateo District will hold the installation of officers of all the branches in our district. The installation and luncheon afterwards will be held at the San Mateo Elk’s Club, 223 West 20th Avenue, San Mateo. The installation will be at 11:00am;

cocktails following the installation; lunch will be at 1:00pm. The entrée choices are: Cross Rib Roast, Chicken Marsala or Petrale Sole.

The price is \$38. per person. Please send your reservation to: Barbara Borra, 908 Bauer Drive, San Carlos, CA 94070 by January 6, 2016.

All branch members are invited to attend. This event is being hosted by Branch #351, Church of the Nativity, Menlo Park.

Our first meeting of 2016 will be held on Tuesday, January 19. The menu for the meeting is still being determined so you will receive your reservation slip in the January newsletter with the dinner choice at that time.

May you all have a wonderful, healthy and

prosperous New Year!!!

Ciao,

Virginia Malaspina

Millbrae

St. Dunstan, Br. 403

It is with sadness that I report that an active, longtime member, Kay Lucio recently passed away. Kay was a member of our branch for over 20 years and she faithfully attended all meetings and projects, helping in any way possible. May her soul rest in peace.

We had our Christmas Party on December 1, 2015, which was attended by 50 members and guests. We had a wonderful dinner followed by Christmas caroling, accompanied by accordion music by Dan Capodanno. It really made for a fun-filled evening and put everyone in the Christmas spirit. We collected monetary gifts for a needy family and we wish to thank our members again for being so generous.

Installation of Officers will take place on January 16, 2016 at the San Mateo Elks Club.

We wish to thank our President Lorrie for her hard work, dedication and commitment to our Branch and well wishes to our new President Mary Vella Treseler.

Rose Marie Morando

Corresponding Secretary

Marin

Larkspur

St. James, Br. 161

Hope your Christmas and New Year were a happy one.

Our Christmas Party was a success. Thank you to Jeanne Asdourian and Lucia Della Santina for co-chairing the event. Everyone had a great time, the food was delicious and the hall looked fantastic. Thank you to everyone who donated money towards the basket raffle. Also thank you to Imma Sottile for making so many jams and sweets to sell. Also thank you to Mr. & Mrs. Santa, Erin and Patrick Loftus Sweetland

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 19, 2016. That evening Grand President Leonard Zasoski, Jr. will be installing the officers.

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

Hope to see you at the meeting.

Ciao,

Anna Biggio

San Jose
Santa Clara Valley

Santa Clara

N.S. Assunta, Br. 5

The joint Christmas potluck and party was held in the St. Clare Parish Hall on December 5, 2015. Everyone had an enjoyable time. We would like to thank the Knights of Columbus for making this a combined holiday experience with ICF Members.

The ICF Br. 5 Officers for 2016 were installed on January 9, 2016. We look forward to a wonderful year. We hope all members will participate and volunteer in this “Year of Mercy.”

The next ICF Dinner/Meeting will be on January 28, 2016.

If you have not paid your dues for 2016, please do so as soon as possible.

May you continue to have a peaceful and healthy New Year.

Ciao,

Marlene J. Rotolo

Gilroy

Santa Maria Ausiliatrice, Br. 28

Happy New Year, Buon Capo d’Anno to everyone.

As we begin our new year, our wishes for our newly elected board for another prosperous year ahead.

Our best wishes to our new President, Gennaro Filice, and some of the new faces on the board. Of course our thanks to those whom are serving again.

A large thank you to outgoing President Roger Santos and his right hand helper Kathy for a fantastic job they both did these past years.

Please post these dates on your calendars:

January dinner meeting January 25, 2016

February dinner meeting February 22, 2016

Remember these two months our dinners are on the fourth Monday to avoid the Holidays on our regular Mondays.

Spring scholarship breakfast and bake sale: March 6, 2016

Taste of Italy dinner fundraiser April 9, 2016

It isn’t too early to start thinking about our breakfast in March and our dinner in April. We need the members to attend and support our fundraisers. Remember we donate 5 scholarships during the year, so we need attendance at our breakfasts. Our bake sale did very well this last time, so make note that we will need your baking skills again this year.

See you at our meetings.

Anna Barberi

Los Gatos

St. Mary, Br. 184

Dear Members: Thank you for keeping our Branch well and alive. For always being there when we need help. Whether it is setting tables, brings items for the layette, marching in parades, stirring Polenta or just being there for each other, we have shown that although our numbers are small, our giving is great! We belong (some of us for 50 years) to an organization that looks outside, sees a need and we act to make it better. We each bring our own talents and personalities to create our Branch. A big Thank you especially to my Board; Julie, Marie A (Mom), Marie Y, Lucy, Donna, Michelle, Barbara, Marcia, Rose, Norma, Joe, Eileen, and Janet and to all of you who bring raffle prizes and support our events, may God bless you all.

A special Thank You to Marie and her Chickadees, who braved the cold and marched in the Los Gatos Christmas Parade on Dec. 5th to represent the Italian Catholic Federation. Left to Right: Eileen Fritch, Michelle Antonowicz, Denise Antonowicz, Victoria Nguyen, Marie Antonowicz (our Chicken), Donna Pfaff, Marie Yurosko, Marcia Green, Fran Filice and Cupcake.

Denise Antonowicz, President

San Jose

St. Frances Cabrini, Br. 191

It is time to take a step back and thank all our members for a wonderful 2015. Without our present and past members and their families it would not have been possible to have celebrated our 50th anniversary last year. May God continue to bless us with such wonderful and dedicated people.

The year 2015 was also the 60th Anniversary of St. Frances Cabrini Parish. Mass for the occasion was celebrated on October 18th. Our branch led the procession into the church followed by Bishop McGrath and several priests. After Mass, parishioners crowded into the hall for a delicious luncheon.

Welcome to our newest member, Val Gomes, who was initiated into the branch at the October meeting

Congratulations to Gloria Garcia who received the Recognition Award for her dedication to the branch. Her welcoming smile and thoughtfulness, as well



Santa had to leave his hot shower when he visited Branch 391 at their December holiday dinner.



Branch 391 member, Michael Amato, helped prepare the polenta for the branch November fundraiser.

as, her participation in branch activities are always a blessing.

November and December we joined with the Men’s Club, school children and their parents, and other organizations of the parish for the annual food and clothing giveaways. Donations not only helped the needy of our parish, but were shared with the parishes of Our Lady of Refuge and Star of the Sea in Alviso.

As we begin the New Year with great expectation, we start by focusing on our first project, our polenta dinner/dance. More information will be in next month’s Bollettino.

*Happy New Year and God bless,
Rosemary Janis*

San Jose

Santa Teresa of Avila, Br. 368

Our thanks go to Sue Gillio, Joyce Robba, and Robin Schlice for hosting our November meeting, which fell on Veterans’ Day. In his spiritual reflection Ed Wendler discussed the meaning of this special day, called Remembrance Day in Canada. At that meeting we also completed our election of officers. We appreciate the time and talent our 2015 board shared with us, and we thank those who have agreed to serve in 2016. Noreen Gillio is now our past president, and Mike Nunciata is our new president; having been our president before, he says he is just being recycled. Our first vice-president is

Mary Ridi, and our second vice-president is Joyce Robba. Paula Radzinski continues as recording secretary, as do Barbara Ruffner as treasurer and Robyn Schlice as financial secretary. Ed Wendler has agreed to another year as orator, and Paul Butler and Joanne Opp will serve as trustees again. Phil Robba is our third trustee, and Ron Sanchez is our new sentinel. Father George Aranha, thank you for being our chaplain, and Tina Souza-Dutra, thank you for continuing as our branch deputy! Congratulations and thank you to all our branch 368 officers!

On December 9, at our Christmas celebration, we enjoyed an Italian dinner catered by Tony and Alba’s Restaurant. We are pleased to report that two members of both our parish and our branch won our Christmas raffle: Bobbie Gallegos won the nativity set, and Mary Mavroudis took home the garden cross.

Wishing you and yours many blessings in the New Year!

Judy Zahn

San Jose

St. Martin of Tours, Br. 391

Per tradition, December was a dinner and no meeting, which started out with a prayer and message from Fr. Abe. He spoke on Christmas being a time for rediscovery and for coming home to God.

Santa Claus made another visit to Branch #391 to deliver laughs, gifts, and holiday cheer. This year, Santa had to rush over to the branch dinner and wasn’t able to change out of his bathrobe and shower cap. Everyone enjoyed watching Santa and his yearly antics.

Dinner was a juicy pot roast, mashed potatoes, vegetables, bread, salad and assorted pastries for dessert. While dinner was free for members, people donated money towards St. Martin’s annual Celebration of Life, which raised \$940. Donations were also given to St. Martin’s parish and priests, Layette, Gifts of Love, Sacred Heart Nativity School, St. Vincent de Paul, and St. Martin’s food box program.

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

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

*Baci,
Bianca Vallorz*

Morgan Hill

Santa Caterina D’Alessandria, Br. 435

Our branch had a wonderful Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings. We enjoyed a variety of side dishes that were supplied by members of our branch. They were

All different and delicious.

The new officers for the coming year are:

President—Giulia Gallego

2nd Vice President—Ken Ravissa

Recording Secretary—Gloria Subocz

Corresponding Secretary—Gloria Subocz

Orator—Loretta Wilson

Trustee—George Gugliemo

Trustee—Sylvia Sorci

Trustee—Helga Brooks

Sentinel—Fran Scalzo

Branch Deputy—John Gillio

We will be having our December board meeting at Mama Mia’s Restaurant in Morgan Hill.

Our Christmas dinner meeting will be on December 10th, and we will be bringing toys to donate to St. Vincent De Paul Society.

Donna Basilin



Santa gives gifts to the children of Branch 52.



Some of the youngest family members of Br. 52 enjoy the branch’s Christmas Party and help with serving the dinner.

Healdsburg

St. Francis de Sales, Br. 52

It was a holly, jolly Christmas Party that Branch 52 held on December 4. Second Vice-President Teri Rolleri chaired the festive event for over 170 guests. Cheryl Rettig prepared a delicious red and green pasta dinner with Caesar salad, and served ice cream and candy canes for dessert. Santa made an appearance and presented the children with St. Nicholas bags, filled with traditional items: chocolate “gold coins,” an orange, walnuts, wooden ornament and story about this saint. Poinsettias were given to the staff and teachers of our St. John the Baptist school and canned food items were collected for the Food Pantry. Thanks to those who supported our 2015 events, we were able to present our pastor, Fr. Sean Rogers, with a check for \$4,500 for the parish, and one to St. John School Principal James Brandt for \$1,200. Our next polenta dinner will be January 16; the last one sold out, so make reservations early by calling Mary Madden, 707-431-0438. February 19th will be our Second Annual Fish Fry. Last year’s dinner was such a success, that we expect this one to sell out, as well. We wish you all Buon Anno! Marie Butler, Recording Secretary

Sonoma

St. Sebastian, Br. 103

Happy New Year to All!!

Branch 103 was privileged to host the District Council’s Christmas party in Sonoma with over 60 members attending.

Branch 103 elected the following officers for the year 2016: President, Tom Wurst; 1st VP, Ken Marshall; 2nd VP Jo Grant; Recording Secretary, Marie-Therese Denning; Financial Secretary, Lila Boragno; Treasurer, Eleanor Berto; Orator, Jo Grant; Trustees, John Boragno, Maureen Mignacco-Dutil and Carol D’Agostini; and Sentinel, Jim Olson. The members look forward to a great year.

The members thank Margo Kosta for her outstanding leadership as president to the branch during 2015. Way to go, Margo!!

Our first dinner in 2016 will be held on January 12. For dinner reservations, call Lila at (707) 996-3448.

Santa Rosa

Napa

St. John, Br. 12

Christmas celebration at our December 7th Dinner/ Meeting. Delicious soups were prepared by our members. Garlic bread, dessert and wine completed the meal. Due to illness we were a bit short on attendees. We look forward to the District Installation on January 23 in Sonoma.

A very Merry and Holy Christmas to one and all.

*Ciao,
Juliann*

Santa Rosa

Santa Rosa, Br. 18

Our calendar of events for 2016 is in process ;possibly three dinners, some with dance music, same location as far as we know at this point. Please contact us if you have helpful information and suggestions for our 2016 events. We continue with our many community service projects .

Before Christmas we help wrap gifts for residents of local assisted living homes. Branch 18 has been involved with this since the 1970s. Edyth Regan is making a good recovery from her fall. Call Marie,431-0563 if you know of anyone in need of prayers. New members-always welcome at Branch 18. Many thanks to all who helped make our November 21 Festa D’Autunno polenta & stew dinner dance a most enjoyable and successful event. Keep January 23,2016 in mind, our District’s Installation of Officers hosted by Branch 103 Sonoma. Call us if you can attend. NOTE: all incoming branch officers are required to be there. If not able to attend, you must provide a proxy.

Buon Capo D’Anno a tutti!

Marie Canale



Preparing for District Christmas party VP Ken Marshall, Branch 103 and District Board Member.

Please keep our Chaplain, Father Mike Kelly, in your prayers during his time of illness.

Felice Anno Nuovo,

Marie-Therese Denning

Petaluma

St. Vincent, Br. 127

Greetings from Petaluma!

I hope that your Christmas Holiday was a beautiful time spent with family and friends. That the spirit of the Christ child’s birth was present in your homes as well as in your hearts. May God bless all of you and your families with lots of good health, much happiness and lots of love.

Our first meeting of the year, Monday, January 11th at 6:00 p.m. in St. James Church Hall will be our soup/dessert night. Cost is \$5. Plan to attend and please be on time. The meeting will follow.. Please try to attend the monthly meetings and our fund raisers and festivities this year. Give your Branch President Bruno the support he needs to have successful meetings and dinners. You will find it rewarding to meet with other members and make new friends.

Jan 23rd - Installation of Santa Rosa District Officers to be held at St. Francis Solano Church, Sonoma. All officers should attend this installation.

Feb. 8th - Regular Meting

Feb..21st - Santa Rosa District Meeting to be held at St. James Church Hall. More information at meeting. We will need help for this meeting as we are the hosts.

As always during Lent, we will be holding our annual St. Joseph’s Table/Dinner (Festa di San Giuseppe) on Saturday, March 19th. The dinner will be held at the St. James Parish Hall, 125 Sonoma Mountain Parkway, Petaluma. Doors open at 6:00 PM. Antipasti and cocktails: 6:15PM. The traditional all meatless “baked salmon” dinner will begin by 7:00PM (includes salad, pasta, baked salmon, dessert and wine). The event is open to the public, though seating is very limited! No tickets will be sold at the door. Reservations and Tickets MUST be purchased in advance.

Cost: Adults: \$25. Children under 12: \$10. For more information - Phone 707-763-9082, Email: Spence@ItalianCatholicFederation.com (leave a phone number (email address) at which you can be reached.) Mail your checks to: ICF #127, P.O.Box 5522, Petaluma, CA 94955-5522. Checks should be made Payable to: ICF #127.

Get well wishes go to all who are ill at this time. Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary wishes to all celebrating this month.

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

Ciao,

Louise Vicino

Eureka

St. Bernard, Br. 145

Our December 8 meeting was a great potluck dinner. We began the evening with cocktails and



Br. #144 held a Baked Goods For The Holiday Sale ,weekend of 11/14 & 15. (LtoR) Marie LaBanca,Rosemary Melendy,Barbara Vanni,Toni Green.

horderves. The dinner was wonderful. Thank you to all members who provided their special recipes for us to enjoy.

Lora and Joel Canzonieri gave a talk about Joel’s experiences with his mother on making home made cannoli. Then they concluded with it with serving us cannoli made by the both of them. They were deliciosa! Thank you both for sharing your history and experience in making cannoli.

After dinner we had a brief meeting just to finalize plans for our cocoa with Santa. Please bring treats for all to share. It will be right after Mass.

Future dates for your calendar are the ICF installation dinner on January 16th. Mass is at 5:30 p.m. followed by cocktail hour and then dinner at seven. The cost will be twenty dollars. Arcata will host the dinner. Hope to see you there.

The rest of the evening was spent playing bingo and having fun. Thank you to all members who set up, decorated and cleaned up afterwards.

Our next meeting will be January 12.

Pray for all our members and their families especially Nancy Brunner.

Many Blessing to all,

Nancy Paoli

Santa Rosa

St. Eugene, Br. 198

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

On January 9, 2016 we will celebrate 50 years as a branch of the Italian Catholic Federation. Over these last 50 years we have donated to our Parish and elementary school, supported our Seminarians and given to Catholic Charities, St Vincent de Paul and Life Pregnancy services.

We have contributed to the Providenza College America and Gifts of Love funds. We lead all branches in donating scholarships to high school graduates.

Leadership has been a key to our success. We have had our members serve as district president, district deputy and Grand President of the Federation from 1978-1981.

But more than any of these accomplishments, we have a Branch in which our members REVERE THEIR FAITH, RESPECT HERITAGE AND MOST OF ALL LOVE EACH OTHER AS BROTHERS AND SISTERS.

These are the things that keep us going. Congratulations to Branch 198.

Happy New Year

Lorraine Castelli

Sebastopol

St. Michael, Br. 209

On December 5, 2015, Branch 209 celebrated its 49th Anniversary with a Ravioli Dinner. Thanks to all who attended and, also, thanks to everyone who helped make the event a success!!

We continued to enjoy this festive season at our December 8 social meeting with members furnishing appetizers/finger food. Homemade Tom & Jerrys



Members of Branch 433, Tucson enjoying a holiday gathering.

were prepared by Lona Bertoli and Lorraine Vannetti and served by our bartender, Gene Vannetti. Many thanks to our “Santa” Jerry Sanchiotti and “Mrs. Santa”, Lillian Sanchiotti. Great job!!

Lucky members who were winners in our Christmas attendance drawing were: Candy Peters, \$100; our youngest member, Chance Campbell, won 2016 dues paid; Lona Bertoli, 2016 ICF Calendar.

The following members were elected as 2016 officers: President: Barbara Bidia; 1st Vice President: Pam McAlvain; 2nd Vice President: Yvonne Watson; Recording Secretary: Lona Brertoli; Financial Secretary: Gerrie Goin; Treasurer: Lorraine Vannetti; Orator: Jackie Corsetti; Trustees: Bud Polley, Pete Peters and Nancy Stedman; Sentinel: Kathy Campbell.

Branch #209 would like to thank Mike Falvey, who has served as our 2015 Branch President. We will miss seeing Mike on a regular basis as he and his wife, Debbie, will be taking some time off to enjoy traveling. Mike was presented with a gift in appreciation of his time serving as our President.

Upcoming:

January 5 -- Board Meeting

January 12 -- Regular Meeting

January 23 -- District Installation of Officers – Sonoma Branch 103

January 31 -- Quarterly Communion

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE!!

Lona Bertoli

Stockton

District Council

Happy New Year as we enter the Year of Mercy.

The new District officers have been elected and installed. Thank you to all branch and district officers for your dedication to the ICF as we begin a new year. Thank you to Br. 48 for hosting the event at St. Stanislaus Church in Modesto. A special thank you to our Past President Annette Elissagaray for her many years of leadership as our President.

Our first District meeting will be February 21, 2016 (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

BISHOP’S BURSE – SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 2016 - Attend the event of the year! Join us in presenting Our Most Reverend Bishop S. Blaire with a spiritual bouquet and a monetary donation to educate our diocesan seminarians. The Mass begins at 10:15 a.m. at St. Patrick’s Parish, 820 South Main Street, Angels Camp, Ca. The festivities continue in the Hall following Mass with a luncheon and presentation of gifts. More in next month’s Bollettino.

Please keep all of our sick members and their caregivers in your daily prayers.

Karen Rosson

Modesto

St. Stanislaus, Br. 48

We had a very small group for our Christmas Potluck but the food was great and we had a great time visiting. We even took care of a little business too since we are getting ready for the installation officers.

Our Officers for 2016 are: President - Tom Silvaggio, 1st VP - Ida Dusi, 2nd VP - Mary Jennings, Recording Secretary - Cecelia McGhee, Financial Secretary - Carla Wagner,

Orator - Nancy Souza, Trustee - Mary Souza, Sentinel - Marie Bertolotti.

Mass for our deceased members will be Sunday, January 10, 2016 and February 14, 2016 at the 8:00 am at the Maze Blvd. Church.

Coming up:

Jan. 3, 2016 – Installation of Officers.

Jan 13 7:00 - Meeting St Stanislaus Hall 7th and K Streets Modesto

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

Feb 21 1:30 - District meeting Br 390 Tracy

Happy New Year! I hope everyone has a great New Year.

Cecelia McGhee

Manteca

Nostra Signora del Buon Viaggio, Br. 139

Elections wer held for our 2016 Branch officers and the following members were selected: President - Frank Re; First Vice-president - Elizabeth Demichelis; Second Vice-president - Risa Hernandez; Secretary - Linda Bertuccio; Financial Secretary - Anna Mello; Treasurer - Marilyn Amoral; Orator - Lillian Pauletto; Sentinel - Joe Pellegrino; Trustees - Yvonne Chimenti, Fred Golisano and Rosemary Hekl. They will be installed on January 3 in Modesto.

Our annual Christmas party will be held on December 6 at Cucina Queirolo with Chef Tony in charge. Prime rib (and pasta, of course) will be on the menu.

Anna Mello and her crew of bakers are busy making the popular biscotti for sale during the holidays.

Buon Natale a tutti!

Mariano

Tracy

St. Bernard, Br. 390

We were singing “Santa Claus Is Coming To Town” and guess what? First Mrs. Claus and then SANTA entered our monthly dinner meeting and greeted the almost 40 children who attended our December 10 event. Not only did Santa and his bride pose for charming photos of families and their children sitting on Santa’s knee, they handed our cute little bags filled to the brim with candy and candy canes. We were as excited as the children that Mr. and Mrs. Claus visited us during their busiest time of the year. We also wished Santa a Happy Birthday as he departed, when we learned his birthday was



Branch 395 members at the Thalassemia Holiday Party in Oakland: Lori Arena, Santa, Mary Ann Piana Chapman, Josephine Weber and Elf Jim Jones.

approaching on December 24th, of course.

Sunday January 3 is the installation ceremony and Mass for Stockton District officers, with Modesto branch hosting. More about our contributions to that board next month.

Woo Hoo and hooray for polenta! We will serve polenta and chicken cacciatore brilliantly brewed to perfection by Mike Bacchetti and his fab crew at our monthly dinner meeting on January 28. We should serve this menu every month because as soon as our parishioners hear Mike's cooking it, our attendance numbers skyrocket. We will also initiate our new members.

Wishing everyone a healthy, happy and safe New Year!

Ciao for now,

Betty Hollars

Stockton

Church of the Presentation, Br. 395

At our October meeting Branch officers were elected for 2016. They are as follows:

Chaplain – Msgr. Lawrence McGovern

President - Josephine Weber

1st Vice President - Roger Roman

2nd Vice President – Robert Zanoni

Secretary - Carol Quijada

Financial Secretary – Lori Arena

Treasurer - Geoff Lin-Cereghino

Orator - Sharon Roman

Trustees: Bernice Nickols, Marilyn Ramacher and
Becky Vergano

Sentinel - Patricia Bertilacchi

At our November meeting, members enjoyed a pot luck dinner and two potential members were in attendance. We also voted to gift \$100 each to our Seminarians. Several members of our branch attended the annual Thalassemia Christmas Party in Oakland and had a wonderful evening. On December 5, Branch 395 enjoyed our annual Christmas luncheon with a delicious catered lunch. It was very well attended. Members and guests played a Catholic trivia game with generous prizes won. We also initiated eight new members. We are now actively planning our Annual Polenta/Chicken Cacciatore dinner to be held February 11, 2016

Upcoming Events:

January 3, 2016 – Installation of Officers, St. Stanislaus, Modesto

January 14, 2016 – Branch meeting

February 4 – Branch Meeting

February 7 – Quarterly Communion 8:45 am Mass

February 11 – Polenta/Chicken Cacciatore dinner

February 14 – District Meeting, Tracy

Buon Natale and many blessings to all!

Josephine Weber, President

Tucson

Tucson

Fr. Eusebio Kino, Br. 433

The Christmas season was opened by Branch 433 on Sunday, Dec6, 2015, with a Christmas luncheon at the home of Henry and Maria Fleischmann. There were 25 members including family members, Branch Deputy Stephany Brown and guest, guests from Branches 425 Green Valley and 434 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton present as well as prospective members Wayne and Marie Corso. Fr. Crino blessed the food and all present and was then presented with a Branch monetary gift for all that he has done for

our Branch. A beautiful white chocolate Christmas centerpiece created by Maria Fleischmann was won by our newest member Julie Horton.

The “home cooked” luncheon was prepared by Henry and Maria Fleischmann and included chicken, ribs, sausage, penna pasta, salad and desserts too numerous to mention!! We did “Mangia! Mangia” !!! Maria, you out did yourself! Henry, thanks, for being the “official” taster.


This is our last meeting of the year 2015. Our new officers will take their positions as of January 1, 2016. Our next meeting will be at Ss. Peter and Paul Madonna Hall on Sunday, January 20, 2016, at 12 Noon!

We wish all our friends and ICF family a most Blessed Christmas and a very happy New Year — may your Branches continue to grow and prosper!

Bette Acitelli, Recording Secretary

Dan Casagrande, MBA

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