



BOLLETTINO



ICF Hits the Million-Dollar Mark For Cooley's Anemia Donations

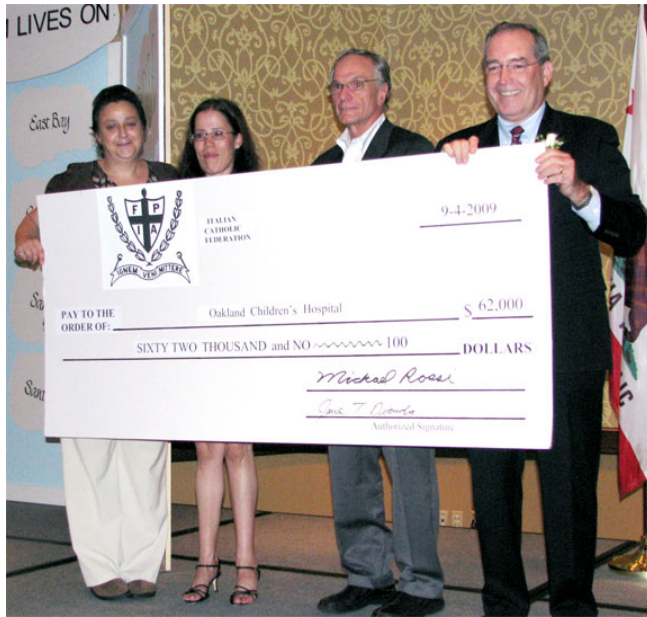
by Laurice Levine, MA, CCLS

The Italian Catholic Federation (ICF) adopted Cooley's anemia (also called thalassemia) as its national charity back in the 1980s. Since 1992, the donations for Cooley's anemia have been going to Children's Hospital and Research Center in Oakland, California, which is one of the seven specialty centers for thalassemia in North America. Over that time period, the ICF has donated a total of \$1,001,754. The funds go to the following areas:

Research and the SQUID—

Children's Hospital Oakland conducts cutting-edge research to improve the quality of life for patients, as well as to search for a cure. The ICF has also funded state-of-the-art technology such as the SQUID (also called a ferritometer) machine that measures iron in the body. Prior to the introduction of the SQUID machine, patients had to undergo an invasive surgical procedure called a liver biopsy to assess excess iron. The SQUID involves a simple scan and is completed in approximately 30 minutes. Children's Hospital also obtained a new MRI machine that enables the measurement of heart iron, when previously there was no way to do so.

Patient Events—These include our Christmas parties, retreats, camps, and family



Then Grand President Mike Rossi (right) along with then 2nd Vice President Jane Dianda (left) presented Children's Hospital Outreach Coordinator Laurice Levine and Dr. Elliott Vichinsky a "Big Check" worth \$62,000 during the 2009 Annual ICF Convention.

nights. Such events are a vital part of our comprehensive care program and build on peer relationships and support, improve understanding of treatment and disease, and give patients the opportunity to get together and have fun!

Patient Sponsorship—Many patients live in remote areas of California and/or come from around the United States to visit our center. If patients cannot afford to travel, some ICF funds are used to offset their expenses. Patient sponsorship may also include helping patients travel to a retreat, camp, or conference.

Patient Medical Expenses—The average cost of care for a thalassemia patient is approximately \$75,000 a year. This covers basic care, including blood transfusions, chelation (iron removal) therapy, doctor visits, and medications. If a patient undergoes hospitalization, then costs can escalate further. No patient is ever turned away from Children's Hospital Oakland, and patients are cared for regardless of their ability to pay. Dr. Elliott Vichinsky often sees patients for free. ICF funds help pay for basic care costs that patients and families cannot afford.

Education and Outreach—Children's Hospital Oakland has the only thalassemia outreach program in the United States—thanks to the ICF. We provide in-services to health-care providers, attend and present information at conferences, and give literature out at health fairs. We re-

continued on page 5

Scholarship Application Deadline Nears

By Deborah Rodondi
Scholarship Chairperson

Today young people everywhere, in their senior year of high school, are busy finalizing next year's college plans and filling out scholarship applications in the hopes of qualifying for one. We have the ability to grant them that wish, with our Scholarship Program. Although we have been able to give a generous amount of scholarships in the past years, there are always many we

The deadline for a student to apply for an ICF Scholarship is March 15, 2012. That date is quickly approaching. If you have a family member or friend who will be graduating from high school this year be sure to tell them about the ICF Scholarship Program.

Applications can be found online at <http://icf.org/scholarships.html>. Applications have also been sent to the high schools.

Last year, the ICF awarded 202 1st year scholarships, but received 440 applications.

have to turn away. With your continued help we can make the dreams of these young people, our future, come true.

Notice on the form you can give the gift of a scholarship for all events, get wells wishes, in honor or in memory of a special person.

What a wonderful tribute to a loved one, memorializing them with a 1st year scholarship to a deserving youth. If you are looking for a place to grant money this program is ideal. We will manage the funds per your instructions to honor or memorialize your loved one.

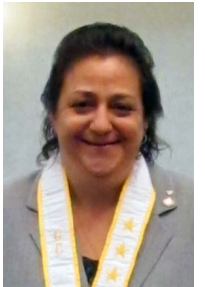
Don't forget we also award 2nd, 3rd and 4th year scholarships. To qualify for these the student had to have been awarded a first year scholarship. These are not awarded until August so there is still plenty of time if you are considering donating to them.

So remember, when you don't know what to give someone as a gift, or a loved one passes away and the family says give to a charity of your choice, please consider investing in the future of our youth by donating to the ICF Scholarship Program. No amount is too small, when put together a scholarship is created.

Grand President's Monthly Message

"Stewardship involves a change of heart, embodied not just in a single action, nor even a series of actions, but in one's entire life." — Anonymous

I have spent the past two months travelling around our wonderful Federation getting to know you, your issues, and ideas. I hear your concerns about branches with small numbers and an aging population, but what I want you to remember is that these issues are not new to the ICF—yet we evolve and keep the fire burning that Luigi Providenza and Father Bandini set ablaze.



As your Grand President I encourage you to look within your branch and see the light that shines within it. Discourage negative behaviors and negative personalities for this seed will only lead to our demise.

Take this opportunity during Lent to change what you feel is not working in your branch, and within yourself. Take an active role in helping strengthen your branch, and you will see how much more positive those around you will become if you lead the way.

There are times, however, when we do need to take a serious look at the state of a branch and decide if it is in the member's best interest to merge with another branch in order to continue the valuable services we do within the ICF.

If members from a neighboring, struggling branch come to yours and wish to join, I know you will welcome them with open arms and help them continue their mission as devoted members of the ICF. Give them a chance to share new ideas and help lead the branch to an even higher standard.

I have spent my life as an active member of the Italian Catholic Federation. One of the things I am most proud of is the dedication of our members. Your generosity of time, talent, and financial donations are awe inspiring.

Happy
St.
Patrick's
Day! 🍀

TIME SENSITIVE: PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY!

BOLLETTINO

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How Lent Saved a Man's Life

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

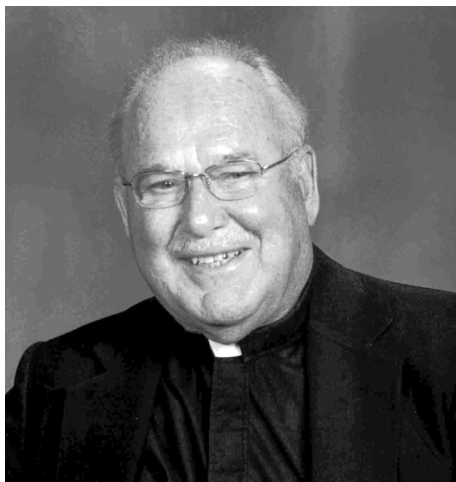
Guido (not his real name) was a hopeless drunk. He lost his job, his family, and his friends. He had no one to turn to for help and no place to go. He was now homeless. It was during Lent. It was night and cold, and the only warm place he found was a church. Guido had not been in a church for a long time. He did not even remember his prayers that he learned as a child taught by his mother. He was tired, hungry and he had no money to buy anything. If he had money, he would probably buy some liquor to numb his pain and escape his problems. The alcohol would probably kill him. He did not seem to care. He was cold and went into church just to get warm.

It was a Friday night, and people were pray-

ing the Stations of the Cross.

As he listened to the reading of each Station, he became aware of how much Jesus suffered and ultimately died for people. Guido, who felt so sorry for himself and no one seemed to care, suddenly identified with Jesus. He heard about how badly Jesus was treated and Jesus was innocent. He came into the world and did nothing but good, and they crucified Him for it. Jesus was whipped, crowned with thorns, and made to carry a heavy cross. The soldiers nailed Jesus to the cross and He hung there to die. Then Guido heard the words of Jesus read. "Father, forgive them for they do not know what they are doing."

Those words burned into Guido's heart, especially the word "Forgive them." That night Guido went home, begged forgiveness from his family, kissed his wife and children, ate a good meal, and never took



another drink again. He now is in a recovery program, has a job, goes to Mass, spends quality time with his wife and children. He is truly at peace with himself and with God.

Guido's life was saved because it was Lent and the church was conducting the Stations of the Cross.

Attracting Families and Keeping Them Active

by Roselynn Jarrett
Membership Chair

When promoting the ICF, we inform prospective members that we are a family organization. Being a catholic organization that welcomes families goes beyond having an economical family membership. Most will probably agree that \$10 per year to add your children or grandchildren is a great value.

Once a family joins your branch, what do they have to look forward to? Are there family friendly activities offered on your branch calendar? What activities are available to children and teenagers who attend meetings? Is there a children's price available for all branch and district events?

Recently, the following question was posted on our ICF Facebook page: "What does your branch or district do to bring in families and keep them active?"

Here are a few responses shared on Facebook, by email and on the phone:

Branch 39, Merced keeps their younger members active in several ways. Here, the children take turns holding the flag during the salute, they help pull raffle tickets and even have their very own age-appropriate raffle prizes to win. Each St. Joseph's Day, the younger members assist with the festivities and at Christmas, they help make ornaments out of pasta for the tree at the Merced County Museum. The pasta ornaments are a 20 year tradition in Branch 39.

Branch 214, Concord has a family movie night on the calendar this spring in hopes to bring the families together for a night of fun. Also, each year they host a Halloween carnival for members and parish families to enjoy.

Branch 291, Arroyo Grande is beginning a program to attract the parish school families. The branch will hold a couple of pasta feeds each year to raise funds to assist with the yearly registration fee required for the pre-school, elementary and junior high classes. Parish school families who are active ICF members will be eligible for receiving full or partial funding of their yearly registration, which is over \$300 per child. The

branch hopes families find this to be a great incentive for joining the ICF and being active. With this program, the branch is promoting ICF and promoting the catholic school at the same time. The branch president will be meeting with the parent's club to share our organization with them and to invite their families to join.

Branch 380, Thousand Oaks installed seven Youth Officers at their District Installation. The Youth Officers support the Branch Officers. One of the Youth Officers is the branch's Childcare Coordinator. They plan crafts for each meeting and bring a movie to show on the big screen TV. All the children sit together at dinner, too. This year, the Youth Officers will be coordinating their own fundraising event for charity.

The above ideas are just a few of the many great programs and activities offered to ICF families. Start thinking about what your branch would like to do this year to promote family togetherness in the ICF. Even if your branch does not yet have family memberships, consider placing a few activities on your calendar. This way the next time someone asks what the ICF offers for families, you will have programs in place that may interest them to join your branch.

Membership Stats as of February 2012

Members beginning July 2011:	11,698
Membership as of February 2012:	11,350
New:	552
Reinstated:	13
Non-payment:	326
Cancelled:	450
Deceased:	137

High Five!

Top Five Districts/Areas with Increased Membership:

Chicago	+60
Los Angeles	+25
Las Vegas	+7
San Mateo	+6
Santa Rosa	+6

Celebrating Mass as an ICF Family

by Jim Acitelli
Apostolate/Charity Chairman

How often we have heard the phrase "the family that prays together, stays together." The Apostolate/Charity Committee thought it would be a good idea to focus on bringing forth a "unified" ICF Communion Sunday on the 5th Sunday of the month.

All Branches would set aside the 5th Saturday or Sunday as decided by that Branch and, at a specific Mass decided by the majority of the members, would wear their ICF identification, such as shirts/badges. They would sit together at that Mass showing unity and loyalty to the Church. If possible, a display of the ICF banner would easily identify them to those attending that Mass.

After Mass, the members would go as a group to a local restaurant, again reinforcing the unity and family aspect of the Italian Catholic Federation by "breaking bread together".

We are aware that many Branches are already using this concept of the Communion Sunday and we are grateful for that but we would like to see ALL Branches participating.

If your branch
has received a
"Thank You" or
any news from a
Gifts of Love
recipient, please
let the editor
know so it can be
published in the
Bollettino.

UPCOMING:

2012 District Installations:

Apr. 26 Chicago

2012 Bishops' Days:

Mar. 25 Stockton

Apr. 15 San Francisco (San Francisco,
San Mateo & Marin)

Apr. 29 Chicago

Jun. 16 Oakland (Contra Costa and
East Bay)

Oct. 6 San Jose (Santa Clara Valley)

Oct. 7 Las Vegas

Oct. 20 Santa Rosa

Oct. 27 Monterey (Central Coast)

Oct. 21 Fresno

Nov. 18 Los Angeles

Dec. 2 Reno

From The Mother Cabrini Shrine

Patients are often brought by police and ambulance drivers because they know other hospitals will not accept them. Daily Mass is telecast in each patient's room, and many patients report that Mother Cabrini's intercession helped them get well. What will happen next?

To be continued...



Heritage Around the ICF

Louise Vento
Heritage Committee

Did you know in Italy many feast and festivals are celebrated during the month of February? Carnevale is one of the most popular festivals in Italy. Carnevale comes 40 days before Easter so the date changes each year. Carnevale is celebrated all over Italy in a variety of ways. Some of the more unusual Carnevale celebrations are the orange-throwing battle in Ivrea, Albanian celebrations in Calabria and a Roman carnival in Aosta Valley. Saint Agatha's Feast Day is celebrated in Catania, Sicily (she is the Patron saint of Catania) The procession is the second largest religious procession in the world. It starts on Feb. 4 with mass at dawn, the statue of St. Agatha is placed on a fercolo, a 40,000 pound silver carriage that is pulled up Monte Sangiuliano. The festival lasts for two days and two nights with

plenty of food and a huge fireworks display. Saint Biago Day is celebrated on February 3 all over Italy. Saint Biago is the saint of the throat. It is tradition to eat leftover panettone with a glass of wine to bless your throat. In Mugnano di Napoli, near Naples the celebration includes a parade, music and a special mass and fireworks. On the first Sunday in February the Almond Blossom Fair is celebrated in Agrigento, Sicily, it is a weeklong festival. The fair is combined with an International Folklore Festival with music, parades, puppet shows. Traditional Sicilian sweets made with almonds and almond paste are served. People wear colorful costumes and the finale includes a parade of Sicilian carts and fire works. Valentine's day, February 14, is not celebrated like in the United States, but lovers do give lots of flowers and candy. The Umbrian town of Terni, who claim Saint Valentino as their patron saint, celebrate with a torchlight parade.

New Name Badges Are Here!

Branches may now order a customizable name badge for their members. A template to create your name inserts will be emailed with each order. All your branch needs to do is edit, print and insert. Name badges may include titles such as President, Chaplain, Deputy, Charter Mem-

ber, Committee Chairperson, etc. They can be worn at meetings, events, masses, festivals and other activities. Consider ordering for your branch. Name badges are available from the office for \$1 each, plus shipping.

Scholarship Focus

Korrina Ashlei Noblett

College: Regis University
Mascot: Rangers

A recipient of an ICF scholarship, Korrina Ashlei Noblett is attending Regis University, a Jesuit university in Colorado. When asked why she chose Regis, Korrina states, "Known as the Harvard of the West, Regis University offers a variety of programs integrating the Catholic faith." She also anticipated the enjoyment of meeting new people and experiencing the beauty of Colorado.

As a Pre-Medicine major, Korrina desires to help others in the field of medicine when she graduates. The ICF scholarship helped with the expenses of textbooks her freshman year. Her grandparents, Bert and Joy Gallagher, have been active members in the Burbank,



St. Francis Xavier, chapter of the ICF. To donate to the ICF scholarship fund or to learn more about the scholarship program, please visit <http://www.icf.org/scholarships.html>

Scholarship Donations

Scholarship Donations - 1st Year
June and Deborah Rodondi
In memory of Olga Viti
Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Dianda
In honor of the 60th birthday of Robert Basuino

Officers/Members of Br. 435
In honor of Loritta Johnson

JANUARY CALENDAR WINNERS

DAY	NAME	BR	CITY	WINS
1/1	Sandy Del Real	39	Le Grand, CA	\$100
1/2	Bonnie Leal	14	Rodeo, CA	\$30
1/3	Jody Landis		Modesto, CA	\$30
1/4	Nancy Souza	48	Modesto, CA	\$30
1/5	Debra McGaughey		Woodinville, WA	\$30
1/6	Lorie Mardis		Sunnyvale, CA	\$50
1/7	George & Kelly Hioco	308	Clovis, CA	\$30
1/8	Marisa & Lance Parsons		San Mateo, CA	\$30
1/9	Maureen Venturini		Modesto, CA	\$30
1/10	Gene Altobella	367	Henderson, NV	\$30
1/11	Josephine Wallace	290	San Francisco, CA	\$30
1/12	Rinaldo Belluomini	10	Alameda, CA	\$30
1/13	Marisa & Lance Parsons		San Mateo, CA	\$30
1/14	Anne-Marie Bandoni	39	Merced, CA	\$30
1/15	Anne O'Brien	163	San Mateo, CA	\$30
1/16	Elsie Borgomoro		San Francisco, CA	\$40
1/17	Delores Baima	102	Burbank, CA	\$30
1/18	Rich Brown		Merced, CA	\$30
1/19	Mr. & Mrs. Gene Melone	181	Franklin Park, IL	\$30
1/20	Robin Rodriguez		Alameda, CA	\$30
1/21	Linda Sherman	52	Santa Rosa, CA	\$30
1/22	Karen Falcone	395	Stockton, CA	\$30
1/23	Nancy Wise	379	Huntington Beach, CA	\$30
1/24	Camille R. Smaldon	236	Roseville, CA	\$30
1/25	Bonnie Leal	14	Rodeo, CA	\$30
1/26	Valerie Vote	227	Capitola, CA	\$30
1/27	Debbie Jensen		Stockton, CA	\$50
1/28	The Ragusa Family	362	Downey, CA	\$30
1/29	Rich Brown		Merced, CA	\$30
1/30	Robyn Piro	39	Merced, CA	\$30
1/31	Maryellen Mazzei	39	Merced, CA	\$30

SEE THESE FIRST ON OUR WEB SITE: ICF.ORG

FEBRUARY CALENDAR WINNERS

DAY	NAME	BR	CITY	WINS
2/1	Gemma Minetti	39	Merced, CA	\$30
2/2	Richard Puccinelli	21	Hollister, CA	\$30
2/3	Mary Matranga	393	San Clemente, CA	\$30
2/4	Richard Marchini		Le Grand, CA	\$30
2/5	Branch 115	115	San Pedro, CA	\$40
2/6	Ines Massetani	38	San Francisco, CA	\$30
2/7	Jude Campbell		Torrance, CA	\$30
2/8	Jim Dooley	14	Fairfield, CA	\$30
2/9	Diane Altergott		Bakersfield, CA	\$30
2/10	Eugene & Lydia Camozzi	150	Petaluma, CA	\$30
2/11	Father Eric Swearingen	417	Fresno	\$30
2/12	Tony Mascitti	411	Temecula, CA	\$50
2/13	Derek & Helen Petersen	14	Crockett, CA	\$30
2/14	Vince Torrente	36	Monterey, CA	\$100
2/15	Mary Ann Long	144	Arcata, CA	\$30
2/16	Sal Lipari	391	San Jose, CA	\$30
2/17	Pierina Moschella	173	Burlingame, CA	\$30
2/18	Louise Mrak		San Lorenzo, CA	\$30
2/19	Joe Cabral	14	Benicia, CA	\$30
2/20	Bea Bianco	91	Oakland, CA	\$50
2/21	Vera Ravella		San Francisco, CA	\$30
2/22	Emanuel La Torre	393	San Clemente, CA	\$50
2/23	Norma Damozonio	215	Fremont, CA	\$30
2/24	Mr. & Mrs. Newton	50	Alameda, CA	\$30
2/25	Emanuel La Torre	393	San Clemente, CA	\$30
2/26	Gianna Cattarin	163	San Mateo, CA	\$30
2/27	Yvonne Heryford		Murphys, CA	\$30
2/28	Nicole Williams		Fortuna, CA	\$30
2/29	Robert Ludlow	163	Belmont, CA	\$100

SEE THESE FIRST ON OUR WEB SITE: ICF.ORG

Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza
Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations*

IN MEMORY OF:	DONATED BY:
Matthew Bartley	George and Diana Bacigalupi
Jean Lombardi	Fomer Members of Br. 243
Edith Lopopolo	Officers/Members of Br. 308
Leonora Cuneo	Officers/Members of Br. 342
Rev. Salvatore Giacomini, SDB	Officers/Members of San Francisco District
Angela Voigt	Officers/Members of Br. 290
Joe O'Dea	Officers/Members of Br. 327
Nuni Radicchi	Leonard and Karen Rossi
Nuni Radicchi	Franklyn Lopes, Jr.
Richard Greco	Franklyn Lopes, Jr.
Annunziata Radicchi	Dan and Diana Petrolino
Nuni Radicchi	Bob Basuino
Carlo Ambrosini	Bob and Kathy Acquistapace
Bob Dodds	Jim and Janice Jones
Richard Greco	Jim and Janice Jones
Nuni Radicchi	Jim and Janice Jones
Rose Cuva	Rosemary Los Lieberman
Sabino Salvino	Officers/Members of Br. 367
Nuni Radicchi	Julie and Chuck Boccone
Annunziata Radicchi	The Gatti Family
John Raphael	Nello and Cookie Rossi
John Raphael	Beatrice Bianco
John Raphael	Leonard and Karen Rossi
Angelo Gardella	Leonard, Karen and Janet Rossi
Dan Petrolino	Officers/Members of Central Council
GET WELL WISHES:	
Josephine Pearson	Officers/Members of Br. 161
Ann Casarotto	Officers/Members of Br. 290
Victor Sarro	Officers/Members of Br. 290
Norma Spagnolia	Officers/Members of Br. 367
Teresa Guidace	Jim and Janice Jones
Michael Cannady	Officers/Members of Central Council
Mike Cannady	Larry and Elise Marsalli
Mary Ann Rickard	Larry and Carmen Kilcullen
Peter Cassidy	Officers/Members of Br. 435
Michael Cannady	Leroy and Stella Taddei
Vito Borella	Officers/Members of Br. 290
HAPPY BIRTHDAY:	
Nancy Brunner	Joe Bonino
Most Reverend Stephen E. Blaire	Officers/Members of Br. 390
HAPPY 85TH BIRTHDAY:	
Elia D. Bonino	Floyd J. Bonino

*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.

In Loving Memory

Report Date: 02/15/2012		
ANNUNZIATA RADICCHI	Branch 021	ELDA TONELLO Branch 169
CATHERINE RASCONI	Branch 036	JOHN P TOMAC Branch 186
PHILIP J SALOMONE	Branch 036	CARLO AMBROSINI Branch 198
PAT BERTELLI	Branch 051	RICHARD BAPTISTA Branch 198
ANNA CORTOPASSI	Branch 051	ANGELA VOIGT Branch 290
ELIZABETH BREWER	Branch 054	LAURA MPOLING Branch 319
CHRISTINE M LOPEZ	Branch 070	PAULINE DIAZ Branch 351
JOHN G RAPHAEL	Branch 091	ANNELLA AVELLA Branch 380
ROBERT ZWIENER	Branch 103	HENRY TINELLI Branch 380
NANCY COSTA	Branch 115	ASSUNTA PETRALIA Branch 408

— Live to Give —

Why Give Blood?

By Laurice Levine, MA, CCLS

One person every 2 seconds in the U.S. will have an accident, a heart or kidney transplant, a major surgery, cancer treatments, or suffer from an injury and will need blood. An automobile accident victim may use 50 units of red blood cells. An organ transplant recipient may use 60 units of red blood cells, 6 units of platelets and 50 units of plasma. A person with Cooley's Anemia/Thalassemia requires a lifetime of blood transfusions. A cancer patient may use 8 units of platelets per week. A bone marrow transplant recipient may use 20 units of red blood cells and 120 units of platelets. A person undergoing heart surgery may use 6 units of red cells and 6 units of platelets.

??TRIVIA CHALLENGE??

Be the first person to answer this trivia question correctly and win a prize:
How often can a person donate red blood cells?
To answer the trivia question or for more information of blood donation please contact:
Laurice Levine, MA, CCLS
LLevine@mail.cho.org
or call 510-428-3885 x 5427
Answer to February's blood trivia challenge:
What percentage of the community will need to receive a blood product in their lifetime? 95%
What percentage of the general population actually donates blood? 5% (2-4% in the Bay Area).

BENVENUTI MEMBRI NUOVI

Report Date: 02/15/2012

BRIANA E KIEVLAN	Branch 021	FRANKAMALFITANO	Branch 115
JOHN GOLDSMITH	Branch 026	JIM UPTAIN	Branch 135
JANICE L DE COSTA	Branch 028	YVONNE A CHIMENTI	Branch 139
BC DOYLE	Branch 028	JEFF MILLS	Branch 144
MARY E HUMPHREY	Branch 028	ISOLINA GALASSI	Branch 173
NIKIE PAPPANI	Branch 028	DENNIS M KOENIG	Branch 173
CARMEN AMPARAN	Branch 031	MARISA KOENIG	Branch 173
ANNABOFFA	Branch 031	GEORGE MORI	Branch 173
MARIO BOFFA	Branch 031	MIRANDA MORI	Branch 173
HELENA A BOFFA-MARCIOCHI	Branch 031	DINO PALADINI	Branch 173
PEGGY DE GREGORI	Branch 031	JANICE SPANIER	Branch 173
SANDY GRECO	Branch 031	TIM SPANIER	Branch 173
CHESTER P GUENTINI	Branch 031	BRENDA WEMIZ	Branch 173
MARIE L GUENTINI	Branch 031	EMILIANO WEMIZ	Branch 173
DOROTHY MALLONEE	Branch 031	GARY WEMIZ	Branch 173
ROBERT MC DONALD	Branch 031	MARIANO WEMIZ	Branch 173
LISA MIANO	Branch 031	CHRISTOPHER C CHELBANA	Branch 195
GEORGE A OHLENDICK	Branch 031	CHARLENE AMORATTO	Branch 198
PAMELA J OHLENDICK	Branch 031	JOSEPH A HUG	Branch 209
ANTHONY W PRICOLA	Branch 031	SARAH M TROUB	Branch 209
ROSEMARY PRICOLA	Branch 031	MARIA TERESA IOELE	Branch 218
JOANNA M NAPOLI	Branch 036	GORDON H HALL	Branch 291
CHRISTINA M SERCIA	Branch 036	STEVIE HALL	Branch 291
ROSEMARIE BRUNO SMITH	Branch 036	LORI HAYS	Branch 291
BILL WEBER	Branch 036	MARK C HAYS	Branch 291
MARIA WEBER	Branch 036	DONALD J NASHOLM	Branch 291
ANDREA C WILLIAMS	Branch 036	SYLVIA A NASHOLM	Branch 291
KAITLYN M WILLIAMS	Branch 036	JOSE L OCHOA	Branch 291
LOIS BALDOCCHI	Branch 050	MARGOT A OCHOA	Branch 291
JOSEPH E FIGONE	Branch 050	JANE ROCHA	Branch 291
YVETTE MARTIN	Branch 054	JOE ROCHA	Branch 291
SARAH F CHAMBERS	Branch 067	JAMES SCUDDER	Branch 291
MARY C DALLI	Branch 073	THROCK SCUDDER	Branch 291
CAROL DELAGNES	Branch 103	ALPHONSE J VAN GUILDER	Branch 291
JIM KENEFICK	Branch 103	ARTIE CHAVEZ	Branch 308
FRANCINE VERDIER	Branch 103	MONICA A MC BREARTY	Branch 308
JORGE R MURILLO LOPEZ	Branch 111	BERNIE A SQUEO	Branch 308
DAVID R TARAZON	Branch 111	MATILDE YONKERS	Branch 308

continued on page 23

Ever Wonder What Happens With Your Cooley’s Anemia Donations?

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Research & SQUID</u>	<u>Patient Events</u>	<u>Patient Sponsorship</u>	<u>Patient Medical Exp.</u>	<u>Educ/Outreach</u>	<u>Special Projects</u>
Sept. 2011	\$77,000*	\$53,000	\$8,000	\$5,500	\$7,500	\$3,000	
Sept. 2010	\$58,000	\$42,000	\$4,000	\$2,000	\$9,000	\$1,000	
Sept. 2009	\$62,000	\$44,000	\$4,000	\$3,500	\$9,000	\$1,500	
Sept. 2008	\$57,000	\$39,000	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$3,000	\$0	
Sept. 2007	\$54,000	\$35,000	\$10,000	\$4,500	\$4,000	\$500	
Sept. 2006	\$52,000	\$30,000	\$8,000	\$6,500	\$4,000	\$1,500	\$2,000: Live to
Sept. 2005	\$113,154	\$65,000	\$10,154	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$8,000	Give Video
Sept. 2004	\$45,000	\$23,000	\$3,000	\$3,500	\$12,000	\$3,500	
Sept. 2003	\$51,000	\$25,000	\$2,000	\$6,000	\$8,000	\$5,000	\$5,000-Conference
Sept. 2002	\$56,000	\$52,000	\$4,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Sept. 2001	\$49,000	\$27,500	\$5,500	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$2,000	
Sept. 2000	\$52,000	\$32,000	\$8,000	\$6,500	\$4,000	\$1,500	
Sept. 1999	\$53,000	\$35,000	\$4,000	\$5,500	\$6,500	\$2,000	
Sept. 1998	\$58,000	\$39,000	\$6,000	\$3,500	\$8,000	\$1,500	
Sept. 1997	\$53,000	\$35,000	\$5,000	\$4,000	\$3,500	\$5,500	
Sept. 1996	\$50,000	\$33,000	\$5,000	\$4,500	\$6,000	\$1,500	
Sept. 1995	\$50,000	\$33,000	\$5,000	\$4,500	\$6,000	\$1,500	
Sept. 1994	\$11,600	\$11,600	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
TOTALS	\$1,001,754	\$654,100	\$101,654	\$87,000	\$112,500	\$39,500	\$7,000

Notes *
\$30,000 extra was presented by Nettie Descalso-Del Nero from a grant at the 2011 Convention

Cooley’s Corner

continued from page 1

cently published the third edition of the Thalassemia Standards of Care for Providers, and we will soon publish the 2012 Research Update. Our Perspectives newsletter, which often highlights the ICF, is published twice a year. (Please contact Laurice Levine if you would like to be put on our mailing list.)

Special Projects—ICF funds are often reserved for special projects such as our 2006 “Live to Give” video. (Please contact Laurice Levine if you would like a copy.) ICF funds have also helped pay for conferences that

educate the thalassemia community.

Thank you, ICF, for your hard work, generosity, and continuing support. We are so grateful to remain your national charity—you enable us to maintain a high-quality program, and you have had a positive impact on countless lives.

For questions or more information, please contact:

Laurice Levine, MA, CCLS
Thalassemia Outreach Coordinator
510-428-3885, x 5421
LLevine@mail.cho.org

Cooley’s Anemia Donations	
Branch 4	Officers/Members of Br. 236
Branch 26	Get well wishes for Nina Malone
Branch 198	Bob Basuino
Branch 227	In memory of Richard Greco
Don and Helen Bonnel	Richard Vote
Mark Shaban	In memory of The Rovera Family
In memory of Vince Cusella	Rosa Radicchi
Officers/Members of San Mateo District	Happy New Year Wishes
In honor of Grand President Jane Dianda	Officers/Members of Br. 130
	In memory of The Deceased Members of Br. 130

News From Gifts of Love

Donations Make Gifts of Love Successful

Andy Pappani
Grand Trustee
Gifts of Love Chair

I am very happy to report that we have had two of many donations that we have received for the Gifts of Love Programs. One was from The Wanda Antonelli Trust Fund for \$36,674.63. She was at one time a member of Branch 343, Castro Valley.

The other donation is from the The Shirley Silva Trust Fund for \$300,000.00 to be divided – per her direction — between the Cooley’s Anemia fund and the Gifts of Love Program. That we may use up to a maximum of 5 percent of the fund income or \$30,000.00 annually, whichever is greater, until the fund runs out.

Shirley was member of Branch 28 of Gilroy, and a past branch president and branch treasurer. Shirley was also one of the people that spear headed the start of Branch 435 in Morgan Hill where she was also the treasurer.

Our Deaf/Hard of Hearing Program at Santa Teresa of Avila Church in San Jose, California, is a continued success. We now have it arranged that the 10am Mass on the first and third Sunday of the month are signed. The San Jose Dioceses provides a sign language priest to facilitate the 1:30pm mass on the last Sunday of the month.

If you are interested in starting a Deaf/Hard of Hearing Program within your dioceses please call or email me and we will get the ball rolling.

If you are interested in the Gifts of Love Program and want one of the team members to come and speak at your branch meeting or event please contact me directly.

On behalf of my committee, I wish to express my gratitude for the continued donations that you make to the Gifts of Love Program. Without you, the program would not work.

Please contact me at 831-801-0557 OR pappani1@yahoo.com

Gifts of Love Donations

Branch 4	In honor of Br. 285’s 2011 Officers -
Branch 186	Judy Bates, Ed Rocca, Gail Rocca, Helen
Lorraine and Mike Nunziata	Wirtenson, Elaine Meier, Mary Merucci,
In honor of the birthday of Fr. Christo-	Phyllis Boccoleri, Carolyn Cardinali, Anna
pher Bennett	Yocham, Melva Gracia and Deputy Karen
Al and Fran Teglia	Rossi
Get well wishes for Nina Malone	Al and Fran Teglia
Albert and Frances Teglia	Happy New Year Wishes for Tom and
In memory of Vincent Marchi	Marisa Poggi and Family
Aldine Grisenti	Officers/Members of Santa Clara Valley Dis-
Get well wishes for Sam Taormina	trict
Mara Millis	In honor of Grand President Jane Dianda
In memory of Raymond Weiss	Joan and Jerry Delfino
Eva Stern	In memory of Olga Viti
In memory of Richard C. Greco	Frank and Virginia De Pasquale
Pat Mueller	In memory of Edith Lopopolo
	Officers/Members of Br. 184

In appreciation and thanks for Past	In memory of Luisa Cantore
Deputy Bill Greco	Eva Stern
Bob and Elaine Osorio	In memory of Marie Murray
In memory of John Tomac	Officers/Members of Br. 130
Bob and Elaine Osorio	In memory of The Deceased Members of
In memory of Dick Greco	Br. 130
Aurelia Bozzo	Dan and Diana Petrolino
In memory of Nuni Radicchi	Get well wishes for Michael Cannady
Rosalie Campisi	David and Donna Ballard
In memory of Annunziata Radicchi	In memory of Dick Greco
Al and Fran Teglia	Mrs. Rose Santanocito
In memory of Olga Sarah Viti	Get well wishes (speedy recovery) for
Al and Fran Teglia	Sam Ackerson
Thank you to Lola Migliore for your 10	Bob and Elaine Osorio
years of service to the ICF	In memory of Marie Murray
Elizabeth and John Cooke	Joan and Jerry Delfino
In memory of Olga Viti	Get well wishes for Mike Cannady
Joan Selna and Knut Ojemark	

BOOK REVIEW VINCE PIRO

ALSO ONLINE AT ICF.ORG

Extra Virginity: The Sublime and Scandalous World of Olive Oil

By Tom Mueller

W. W. Norton and Company, 2011.
256 pp.

In *Extra Virginity: The Sublime and Scandalous World of Olive Oil*, Tom Mueller explores the world of olive oil. He visits various farmers, regulators, archaeologists, agronomists, botanists, and others involved in the productions and sale of olive oil. On the one hand, what he finds is a world full of zealots, dedicated to producing high quality oil for consumption, people who approach the making of olive oil with an almost religious fervor. On the other hand, he also finds those who are less than scrupulous, willing to sell lesser quality oil marked as high grade “extra virgin” or even willing to label cotton seed oil as oil olive. It is these characters — the fanatics and the thieves — who make up the core Mueller’s book.

In the book, the reader meets Grazia and Saverio De Carlo, “the Lady and the Farmer,” who grow olives and produce olive oil in Puglia, Italy. Mueller describes Grazia as “immaculate in her pleated skirts, cashmere cardigans, gold bracelets, and a string of fat pearls.” Saverio is a contrast, “layered



in flannel and polar fleece [wearing] the clothes of a man who spends most his time outdoors, in all weather.” Grazia and Saverio appear as opposites, yet both share a love of olive oil that makes them fanatical in their pursuit of producing high quality extra virgin olive oil. Their love of olive oil comes from their earliest memories as children. Grazia remembers walking through the olive groves with her mother, watching the pickers celebrate the beginning of harvest with their annual rites, which included toasting bread in olive oil. Saverio remembers his childhood spent at his father’s mill, watching the mule that turned the grinding the stone and listening to the workers as they sang Italian folk songs. Today, they are not only producers of high quality olive oil; they are also outspoken advocates for it. They describe to anyone who will listen the health and medicinal benefits of extra virgin oil, and they rail against the producers of cheap, low-grade oils who label their product as the highest-grade olive oil. Saverio sees extra virgin olive oils sold below cost in supermarkets and demands, “. . . behind the fancy label, I want to see what’s really in the bottle . . .”

Much of Mueller’s book also advocates for

high-grade olive oil and exposes an industry that is fraught with scandal and fraud. The standards set by the European Union for high-grade olive oil are regularly ignored by some distributors and not enforced by government regulators. This results in the intentional mislabeling of low-grade olive oil as the highest grade, extra virgin, which misleads consumers around the world. It also makes it difficult, if not impossible, for producers of real extra virgin to turn a profit.

The reader also meets Andreas Marz, who “has produced extra virgin olive oil at a farm called Balducci in the hills outside of Pistoia,” Italy. Marz “has the bulky, permanently stained hands of a farmer, yet his exuberant handlebar mustache, weather worn vest, and red neckerchief suggest a character from the Old West — a steamboat gambler, or a Texas Ranger.” Marz was so fed up with the olive oil industry that he wrote a series of articles “which denounced the poor quality olive oil bottled — though rarely made — in Italy.” He exposed how “major international brands had been caught selling adulterated oil. And he repeatedly pointed out that many big Italian producers were breaking international law, labeling oil as extra virgin whose taste and aroma were far inferior to legal requirements for the extra virgin grade.” He also convened tasting panels to blind test various olive oils. When he found the results less than satisfactory, he published the findings. His articles were met by legal intimidation, with large olive oil companies suing the tasters and testers. Marz, himself, was sued for libel when he published an interview with agronomist Marco Mugelli that was critical of the Italian olive oil industry. However,

Marz’s love and passion for high quality olive oil remain. He still prunes his own olive trees and produces his own oil despite little financial reward. He fervently says, “As far as I am concerned, the only honest oil makers are those who grow their own olives. By now, it’s a war between growers like us and the oil traders, who just buy, mix, and sell other people’s oil . . .”

Mueller’s own descriptions of olive groves are evidence of a deep appreciation and love of olive oil. The author describes Marz’s trees with an almost spiritual and reverent tone: “About a meter up their short gray trunks, a few gnarled limbs curved outward and upward, creating a chalice to catch the sunlight. The branches were densely covered with small, oval leaves, gray-green above and silvery beneath, which glimmered when a breeze turned them.”

The reader will appreciate Mueller’s extensive references to and descriptions of olive oil throughout history. He is clearly a man who knows his subject, past and present. Moreover, he is a journalist who has thoroughly investigated his subject. Mueller’s investigation into the world of olive oil takes him around the world, and the final chapter of the book focuses on the author’s visits to farmers and producers in Australia and the United States, especially in California.

For anyone who has ever tasted olive oil or used it in cooking, *Extra Virginity* makes not only for a fascinating and interesting read, but it acts as a clarion call to consumers who are being deceived by large corporations that are more concerned about profit than producing high quality olive oil, woven into the fabric of many cultures and rich in tradition.

La Celebrazione di Gioventù -- The Celebration of Youth

Celebrate St. Joseph’s Day on March 19

St. Joseph’s Day is a big Feast for Italians because in the Middle Ages, God, through St. Joseph’s prayers, saved the Sicilians from a very serious drought. In his honor, the custom is for all to wear red, in the same way that green is worn on St. Patrick’s Day.

Traditionally, to celebrate St. Joseph’s Day, a big altar (“la tavola di San Giuse” or “St. Joseph’s Table”) is filled with food contributed by everyone. Different Italian regions celebrate this day differently, but all involve special meatless foods: minestrone, pasta with breadcrumbs (the breadcrumbs symbolize the sawdust that would have covered St. Joseph’s floor — he was a carpenter), seafood, desserts, and fava beans, which are considered “lucky” because during the drought, the fava thrived while other crops failed.

The table — which is always blessed by a priest — will be in three tiers, symbolizing the Most Holy Trinity. The top tier will hold a statue of St. Joseph surrounded by flowers and greenery. The other tiers might hold, in addition to the food: flowers (especially lilies); candles; figurines and symbolic breads and pastries shaped like chalices, fishes, doves, baskets, St. Joseph’s staff, lilies, carpentry tools, etc.; 12 fishes symbolizing the 12 Apostles; wine symbolizing the miracle at Cana; pineapple symbolizing



hospitality; and lemons for “luck.” When the eating is done, three children dressed as the Holy Family will knock on three doors, asking for shelter. They will be refused at the first two, and welcomed at the third, in memory of the Holy Family’s seeking of hospitality just before Christ was born. This re-enactment is called “Tupa Tupa,” meaning “Knock Knock.”

The day ends with each participant taking home a bag that might be filled with bread, fruit, pastries, cookies, a medal

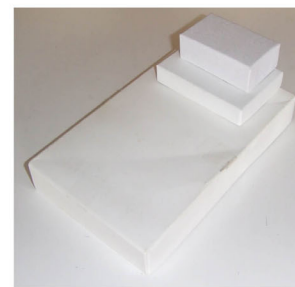
of St. Joseph, a Holy Card and/or a blessed fava bean. Keep your “lucky bean,” and let it remind you to pray to St. Joseph.

Color the picture of St. Joseph.

3D Color & Cut Virtual St. Joseph Altar Instructions

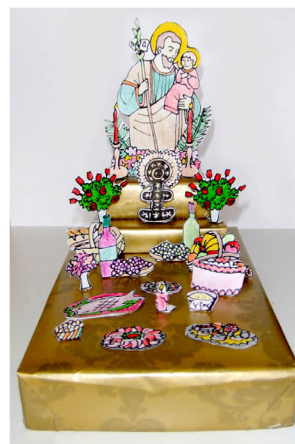
To construct Altar:

- you will need 3 small boxes or box lids in 3 different sizes
- decorating your boxes: paint, color, wrap in colored paper, or drape with fabric & be creative!
- stack your boxes to create the three levels of the Altar as shown here
- tape or glue in place



Altar items:

- color items and cut out
- fold base tabs under altar items and glue in place on the Altar
- items without tabs are simply glued flat to the altar



Printing Altar items on card stock is recommended and will result in a sturdier Altar

Convention ByLaw Submission Procedure

by Leonard Rossi
Parliamentarian

Now comes the time of year that we must solicit proposals and/or amendments to the Branch bylaws. The following is a brief review of the procedure followed in the ICF to accomplish this process and bring the proposals and/or amendments to the floor of the Annual Convention of the Italian Catholic Federation.

All Branches are urged to consider, discuss and formulate a proposal to change, modify or abolish a bylaw as it pertains to all the Branches of the ICF. According to the Branch bylaw Chapter XVII Art. 3 G proposals and/or amendments to the bylaws shall be submitted in writing (signed by the Branch President and Recording Secretary) to the Central Council Office not later than April 30, 2012. Branch bylaw change proposals may also come from the Central Council through the Bylaws Committee.

Such submitted proposals and/or amendments are forwarded to the Central Council Bylaws Committee for review, as to form and content. If a question exists relating to the submitted proposal, the Chairman of the Bylaws Committee will contact the submitting Branch for clarification and if necessary revisions to make the proposal acceptable.

It is helpful to present the original bylaw followed by a copy of the modified or changed bylaw with the changes in bold type. The insertions should be in *italics* and the deletions either in strike out text or underlined. The proposal must be accompa-

nied by a well-reasoned rationale for the proposed change.

The Central Council through the Bylaws Committee is authorized to eliminate proposals: (1) that are unconstitutional, discriminatory (except as to the age for benefits) or infringing on the fundamental principles of the Federation, (2) proposals defeated at the immediate previous Annual Convention cannot be presented at the immediate next Convention, except if the Central Council approves the proposal for representation.

Once the proposal is found to be constitutional and acceptable in wording and content, the Bylaws Committee will present the proposals to the Central Council at the June meeting for their information. At this point the Bylaws Committee will “certify” the proposals, and announce they will be presented to the delegates at the next Annual Convention. The order of discussions of proposals at the Annual Convention are prepared in advance by the Parliamentarian and approved by the Central Council.

The proposals to be presented at the Annual Convention will be sent to the Branches in advance of the Convention for their discussion and consideration. At the Convention the proposals will be presented to the delegates for their vote. Matters presented by the Central Council will have precedence in the order of discussion.

Once passed by a majority vote of the delegates at the Annual Convention the adopted bylaw change is immediately effective.

Results for Prizes as of Feb. 10, 2012

Top Selling Branches in each of 3 categories receive Five (5) 2012 Calendars
Branches placing 2nd and 3rd in each of 3 categories receive One (1) 2012 Calendar

Top Selling Individual receives Five (5) 2012 Calendars
Individuals placing 2nd and 3rd receive One (1) 2012 Calendar

Category 1: 1 – 99 Members

1 st Place:	Branch 33, Bakersfield	Sold 60 calendars
2 nd Place:	Branch 48, Modesto	Sold 40 calendars
3 rd Place:	Branch 413, Angels Camp	Sold 36 calendars

Category 2: 100 – 199 Members

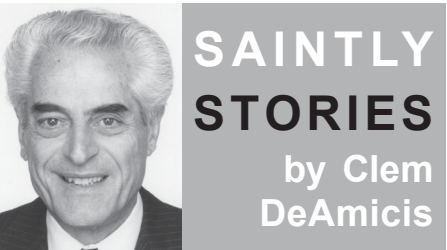
1 st Place:	Branch 10, Alameda	Sold 95 calendars
2 nd Place:	Branch 28, Gilroy	Sold 66 calendars
3 rd Place:	Branch 281, Bakersfield	Sold 46 calendars

Category 3: 200+ Members

1 st Place:	Branch 39, Merced	Sold 115 calendars
2 nd Place:	Branch 14, Crockett	Sold 87 calendars
3 rd Place:	Branch 191, San Jose	Sold 49 calendars

Individuals

1 st Place:	Carol Salmeri – Br. 39 – Merced	Sold 109 calendars
2 nd Place:	JoAnn Dorn – Br. 10 – Alameda	Sold 95 calendars
3 rd Place:	Louise DeTomasi – Br. 14 – Crockett	Sold 87 calendars



Frederic Ozanam Founder of St. Vincent De Paul

Beginning in the early fifties and lasting for eleven years, Groucho Marx hosted a quiz program called You Bet Your Life. I enjoyed the program and noted that Groucho never let a guest leave without winning some prize money. Whenever a guest answered every question wrong, Groucho would throw him a leading question such as, “Who is buried in Grant’s tomb?” It was interesting to watch the guest snap off an answer—often incorrect.

I had the same happen to me when I recently watched a quiz show host ask a contestant, “Who established the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul?”

Without hesitation I blurted out, “Saint Vincent de Paul, of course.” Wrong! It was Frederic Ozanam, and of all people, I should have known better. St. Vincent de Paul, the holy man of France, stands as a symbol of the Society, but its founding and its values derive from Frederic Ozanam, who originated the Society as the Conference of Charity in 1833.

As one British biographer remarked, Ozanam was quite a chap. He was born in

1813 in an upper-middle class family in Milan, which was then a French province. He was one of fourteen children. His father started a career as a merchant but, after suffering financial reverses, he established a practice as a physician in Lyons.

During his teens, Ozanam took a course in Philosophy, which led him to doubt his faith in God. However, through a mentor and spiritual guide, Frederic subsequently resolved the doubts which plagued him; he promised God to devote his life to the services of truth—a vow which he kept for the rest of his life.

Ozanam was a highly intelligent youngster. At the age of 18, he wrote a treatise, Reflections on the Doctrine of Saint-Simon, which was an anti-Church, social doctrine preached by followers of the Utopian Socialist, Saint-Simon. At the request of his father, Frederic went to Paris and studied law at the Sorbonne, where he found an extremely hostile, anti-Christian climate.

However, there, he had access to a number of great Catholic minds of the day who influenced him greatly. Ozanam and a few of his friends joined Sister Rosalie Rendu, a Daughter of Charity, who was working to assist the Paris poor. The Sister directed Frederic to visit some poor families; she also provided fuel, food and rent money to many of the poor. Ozanam was sickened by the squalor and desolation which he saw among the poor.

At the same time, Frederic and some of his friends were members of a student study



society which discussed and debated social teachings of the Gospel. During one of the meetings, while Ozanam and his colleagues were defending attacks on Christianity, some of the young Saint-Simonians challenged the Christian students to show what efforts they were making to help the poor. The confrontation prompted Frederic and his friends to organize and enlarge the volunteer work they were already doing with Sister Rosalie. They formed the Conference of Charity and began engaging, very earnestly, in the practical works of charity for the poor.

From the original group of eight students, the group soared to over one hundred, one year later. In 1835, two years after the initial meeting, the Conference of Charity had its own official rule and a new name: the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul.

As the work of the Society became known, its membership increased until it became so large that it had to be split into sections. As members moved from Paris or returned home or sought employment, they started other conferences. In just a few years, the Society became international.

Meanwhile, Frederic spent much of his time traveling, teaching, writing and helping the poor. His intellectual achievements were many. He was awarded a Doctorate in Law from the Sorbonne in 1836, and he was awarded a Doctorate in Literature from the Sorbonne, three years later. He authored a brilliant thesis on Dante which was consid-

ered a masterpiece. Along with his Doctorate, he was given the Chair of Commercial Law at Lyons, and later he became a full-tenured judge.

He won great praise for his literary efforts in defense of the faith, which displayed a brilliant intellect, profound spiritual insight and outstanding eloquence.

Unfortunately, Frederic spent his last years in pain because of a lingering ailment. He moved to a seaside cottage in Italy in an attempt to recuperate.

However, within a few months, he decided to return to France, and died on the birthday of his mentor, Sister Rosalie Rendu, at the age of 40. Pope John Paul II beatified Ozanam for his works on August 22, 1997.

Throughout his life, Frederic Ozanam’s simple hope was to “become better—to do a little good.” He and his fellow students did more than a little good: from the humble origins of the Society he established, there are now approximately 4,400 units of the Society in America with a membership of more than 60,000 laymen and women devoted to personal service to the poor through spiritual and corporal works of mercy. The Society also acts worldwide in more than 130 countries and has more than 800,000 members, many of them are handicapped persons employed in renovating goods and in store operations. Additionally, the Society operates food distribution centers, shelters and community rehabilitative programs.

Comments concerning Clem’s columns may be sent to his attention at the ICF office; email users may reach him at DeAmicis@Pacbell.net.

Make Your Reservations For “A Night For The Seminarrians”

The Italian Catholic Federation Central Council will be hosting the 3rd Annual “Night for the Seminarrians” on Saturday, April 14, 2012.

Enjoy an evening of dining and dancing while supporting the seminarrians and their education. It will be a “Black Tie Optional” event held at St. Paschal Baylon Hall, 155 E. Janss Road, Thousand Oaks, California. This is the home of ICF Branch 380. From 5pm to 9:30pm you will get to enjoy appetizers and the music of Mark Tortorici ‘Torch’ and his combo. A sit-down dinner of Veal Picata will be followed by an Italian Pastry Buffet, with a special music performance to enhance your dining experience. After dinner and dessert continue the evening with dancing to Mark Tortorici and his Combo. The price per person is \$50.00. An RSVP is needed by March 30, 2012.

Please send reservations with seating requests to:

Pat Mages — CC Ways & Means Committee Member and Br. 380 member
1158 Calle Pinata, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
email: pat.lou.mages@gmail.com;
call: (805) 492-9658

Important Information Regarding Dual Membership

By-Laws and Ritual Committee

The By-Laws and Ritual Committee has become aware of problems in implementing the By-law that was recently adopted at the 2011 Convention concerning Dual Memberships. There was no problem with the original proposal. However, there are problems implementing the amendment that accompanied the original proposal.

The amended proposal indicated that a person may be a member of an Auxiliary Branch by paying the Regular Dues, minus the fees for Public Relations and Apostolate.

We have been informed by the office staff that administering this will be extremely costly and difficult. The present computer per capita billing program cannot eliminate the fees for public relations and apostolate. Our programmer indicated that if a new program could even be created, that it would be very costly and difficult to do. He stated that it would be a “programming nightmare.” If done by hand, every Branch would have to be checked in order to identify an individual who is a dual member. The Financial Secretary of each individual Branch would also have to indicate the dual membership fee for that individual member and highlight their name for the per capita billing. This will produce a substantial delay in the per capita billing process. This will also cause a high degree of error for both the office staff and the individual Branch.

The By-Laws and Ritual Committee was not aware of these problems associated with administering the amendment portion of this proposal when it was discussed at the Convention. We now conclude that the Delegates were not able to make an informed decision in terms of its administrative process concerning this proposal.

Because of this lack of information in making an informed decision concerning Dual Membership, the By-Laws and Ritual Committee recommended to the Executive Committee to rescind **Chapter II – Dual Membership** from the By-laws.

A motion was made and passed by the Executive Committee to rescind Chapter II from the By-laws.

A member desiring to belong to more than one (1) Branch may continue to do so by paying the entire membership fee for each Branch.

Please forward any questions or comments to the Parliamentarian of the Central Council, Leonard Rossi, by writing or calling the Central Council office.

“A NIGHT FOR THE SEMINARIANS” RESERVATION / SPONSOR FORM (Sit Down Dinner with Appetizers)

NAME	BRANCH #	PHONE NUMBER

Total # of Reservations _____ x \$50.00.
Donation as a Sponsor _____.
A check is enclosed in the amount of _____.
Please mail this form and your check, payable to Italian Catholic Federation, no later than Friday, March 30, 2012 to:
Pat Mages – CC Ways & Means Committee Member
1158 Calle Pinata, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
email: pat.lou.mages@gmail.com; call: 805-492-9658

The Ways and Means Committee announces the Theme for the 2013 Fundraiser Calendar as “I Villaggi E Le Città Da Dove Siamo Venuti / The Villages And Cities From Which We Came.”

The Ways and Means Committee would like you, the members, to send us articles written by you about the villages and cities your families emigrated from to come to the United States. The articles should be about 200 words in length and you can send us pictures that you may have so we can include some in the calendar. These articles do not have to be only stories about coming from Italy, but may also include other places in the world that our diverse member families have originated from.

Please use the following outline as a guide to your article:

My Village or City’s Name, Location, Population, Elevation, Architectural Interest, Festivals, Popular Foods, Something Produced by the Town, My Favorite Memory from the Town and Something Unique or Memorable About the Town.

Also, we invite you once again to participate in the listing of birthdays - for a donation of \$10.00 (per name) we will list the names of members, your family or friends in the calendar on their birthdays. The deadline for the articles, names and payments to be sent to the I.C.F. office will be **May 1, 2012**.

Mail your article, list of names with birthdates and a check made payable to the I.C.F. to:

Italian Catholic Federation
8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110
Oakland, CA 94621

Things to Ponder

Repentance is the doorway to the spiritual life,
the only way to begin. It is also the path itself,
the only way to continue. Anything else is
foolishness and self-delusion. Only repentance
is both brute-honest enough, and joyous enough,
to bring us all the way home.

Frederica Mathewes-Green, The Illumined Heart:
The Ancient Christian Path of Transformation