



BOLLETTINO



Welcome Back Branch 179!



• Newly initiated members of Br. 179 St. Dorothy.

On Sunday, November 12, 2017, the Italian Catholic Federation re-welcomed St. Dorothy, Branch 179 back into the Federation. St. Dorothy is located in Glendora, California.

This re-opening came to be under the guidance and leadership of the Central Council and local expansion team. The team included Anne & Richard Interrante, Lou Mages, Jerry & Carol Farrugia and Angelina & Tony Armenio.

At the initiation ceremony Central Council Member Pat Mages was the Mistress of Ceremonies, and Jerry Farrugia presented the branch with its banner. Grand President

Andy Pappani initiated the 37 charter members with help from CC Grand Treasurer Denise Antonowicz and CC Immediate Past Grand President Leonard Zasoski, Jr.

The new branch officers are:

- President: Geoff Novall
- Co-1st Vice Presidents: Susie Cagnetta & Nicole Okorochoa
- 2nd Vice President: Maria Teresa
- Recording/Corresponding Secretary: Patricia Auriemmo
- Financial Secretary: Sandy Osborn
- Treasurer: Kim Hofmans
- Orator: Josie Scarpino-Bresee
- Trustees: Dyab Alzaham & Bruce Brancato

continued on page 3



• Andy Pappani and Br. 179 Branch President, Geoff Novall, receiving the Branch Charter.



• Youngest Br. 179 member, Connor Hofmans.



• Newly installed branch officers.

Grand President's Monthly Message

by Andrew Pappani

It seems like we were just in spring. We flew through summer, now we are almost out of Fall. Where did the time go? We are in the season for being thankful for what we have, thankful for our health, thankful for our family and friends. Now it's time for giving back to the people we love, give to the homeless, the needy and the people who just need a helping hand. At the time of this writing I just attended the Los Angeles Archdiocese Bishop Day. In Most Reverend Joseph Brennan's homily he spoke



about giving, how we always give away the used items we no longer want any more or give can goods that we don't like, but, he said we should give things away that we really want and things we like give away. I also attended the reopening of St. Dorothy, Branch 179 in Glendora, Ca. Father Mark Warnstedt's homily was about forgiving others because you don't know what tomorrow will bring. Tell your spouse how much you love them; hug your kids; your parents, your friends; phone them, tell them how much you appreciate them for being part of your life. This is all part of our Catholic spirit.

Quote

"Christmas is the spirit of giving without a thought of getting. It is happiness because we see joy in people. It is forgetting self and finding time for others. It is discarding the meaningless and stressing the true values."

--Thomas S. Monson

I would like to wish all Italian Catholic Federation members and their families a safe and healthy holiday season.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Pappani Family.

Andrew Pappani

Grand President

Buon
Natale!

BOLLETTINO

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...the Best Christmas Gift, Ever!

Monsignor Daniel Cardelli
ICF Spiritual Director
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It is, of course, the birth of the Christ Child, Our Savior, in a stable in Bethlehem. Because of His birth, the world celebrates Christmas. Because of this gift of His birth, we have the Holy Eucharist, the body and blood of Jesus, the Mass, and the seven Sacraments. We have the Christmas season with the manger scene, Christmas trees, gift giving, Christmas decorations in homes and stores, Santa Claus and Christmas carols.

Many organizations and companies celebrate Christmas parties. Special TV shows are broadcasted all over the world. Huge department stores display fancy and vibrant seasonal decorations. Wrapping paper, Christmas cards, Christmas stamps, fancy bows and ribbons flood the stores. Flashing lights on houses and trees permeate the cities and neighborhoods. It is, indeed, a festive time!

Families gather together and share a Christmas meal. People donate to charitable organizations and causes. The poor and the homeless receive food baskets with all the



trimmings for a Christmas turkey dinner. It is also a popular season for young couples to get engaged. Everyone is affected in some way by the birth of Christ. Even those who are not Christian are dazzled by the vibrations of the season.

For those of us who are Christians, Jesus is in our hearts, our minds and our souls. It is a special time for us to feel the spirit of love, forgiveness and reunion.

If Mary did not give birth to the Christ Child, surely December would be a festivity free time. In truth, our entire existence would not have meaning. Fortunately for us, Mary did give birth to Jesus.

“For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord.



And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.”

And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying:

“Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.” (Lk 2:11-14)

Yes, a Savior has been born. For us, His birth is the best Christmas gift, ever!

Merry Christmas! Wishing each of you a happy and holy holiday season.

UPCOMING:

2017 Bishops’ Days:

Dec. 3 Reno

2018 Bishops’ Days:

Feb. 3 Orange

Feb. 17 Tucson

Apr. 8 San Francisco (San
Francisco, San Mateo &
Marin)

Apr. 22 Chicago

Jun. 3 Stockton

2018 District Installations:

Jan. 3 San Francisco

Jan. 6 Blessed Sacrament

Santa Clara Valley

Jan. 7 Stockton

Jan. 13 Central Coast

Contra Costa

San Bernardino

Jan. 14 East Bay

Los Angeles Archdiocese
District

Jan. 16 Marin

Jan. 20 San Mateo

Jan. 21 Santa Rosa

Jan. 27 Joint Installation of Br. 144,
Arcata and Br. 145, Eureka

Jan. 28 San Diego

Feb. 3 Orange

Tucson

Feb. 25 Fresno

Apr. 19 Chicago

25 Days Until Christmas... 25 Ways to Recruit and Retain Members

Anne Interrante
Membership Chairperson
Central Council Grand Trustee

Merry Christmas! Here are 25 ways to recruit and retain members:

1. Host a membership drive after all weekend Masses with home-made Italian cookies to share
2. Hang an ICF flyer on your parish bulletin board (with permission)
3. Make a poster board to highlight the ICF programs and display at events
4. Include ICF brochures on tables at fundraisers and other sponsored events
5. Get the ICF name out there by providing hospitality after weekend Masses
6. Include a blurb about our charities and programs in the parish bulletin
7. Create a branch website and post link on parish, city and ICF website
8. Create an ICF Facebook page for

your branch and post monthly events

9. Advertise membership in local publications – newspapers, magazines, etc.
10. Advertise the ICF by participating in local parades and festivals
11. Encourage family members, friends, and co-workers to join
12. Encourage parish staff, clergy and parish school families to join
13. Send prospective members invitations to an upcoming event
14. Invite past members to reinstate their membership
15. Offer incentives to members who recruit new members
16. Offer a free or discounted branch meal during a member’s birthday month
17. Celebrate Member Appreciation Month with a special activity and meal
18. Visit members who are unable to participate due to health or age



19. Offer children’s activities at meetings and events
20. Start a buddy system to pair current members with new members
21. Raffle off an ICF Membership as a prize at parish events
22. Have branch shirts made to show your ICF spirit
23. Create and maintain a branch program that people will want to be part of
24. Create a branch calendar that includes a little bit of everything
25. Be positive, respectful and welcoming and have fun!

*The above list is an excerpt from “101 Ways to Recruit & Retain Members” which can be found on our www.icf.org website in Membership Growth in the Members’ Area.

Are You an Active Member or do You Just Belong?

by Anonymous

Are you an active member;
The kind that would be missed?
Or are you just contented
That your name is on the list?
Do you attend the meetings
And mingle with the crowd?
Or do you stay at home
to criticize and knock?

Do you take an active part
To help the work along
Or are you satisfied to be

The kind that just belong?

Do you ever go to visit
A member that is sick,
Or leave the work for just a few
And talk about the clique?

There’s quite a program scheduled
That means success if done,
And it can be accomplished
With the help of everyone.
So attend the meetings regularly,
And help with hand and heart—
Don’t be just a member,

But take an active part.

Think this over, member:
Are we right or are we wrong?
Are you an active member?
Or do you just belong?

Santa Rosa Wildfire Fund

The Italian Catholic Federation is continuing to collect for the California Wildfire Relief Fund. The deadline is December 31, 2017. We are planning on presenting a check to Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Santa Rosa at the Santa Rosa District Installation on January 21, 2018. As of November 10, \$4,190 has been collected for the fund.

Districts, branches and individuals are encouraged to donate to the fund which will be distributed to Santa Rosa Diocese Catholic Charities Wildfire Fund. The Santa Rosa Diocese covers the counties of

Sonoma, Napa and Mendocino where the wildfires caused the most damage. In Santa Rosa, over 2500 homes were destroyed. Several ICF members in Santa Rosa and Napa have been directly affected by this disaster. Please be generous and consider donating to the fund as they begin the recovery process from the devastating fire.

Donations will be accepted until December 31, 2017. Please send a check to the ICF office made out to Italian Catholic Federation. On the memo line, write Wildfire Relief. Italian Catholic Federation, [8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110, Oakland, CA 94621](mailto:8393.Capwell.Drive.Suite.110.Oakland.CA.94621).

Hurricane Relief

This is the final month to send in a donation for the Hurricane Relief Fund. As of November 10, \$2,924 has been collected for this effort. Thank you for your generosity..

Districts, branches and individuals are encouraged to donate to the fund which will be distributed to Catholic Charities USA for their Hurricane Relief Fund.

Donations will be accepted until December 31, 2017. Please send a check to the ICF office made out to Italian Catholic Federation. On the memo line, write

Hurricane Relief.

Please be generous and consider donating to the fund as our fellow Americans in Texas, Florida and other locations begin the recovery process from the devastating hurricanes.

Please send all donations to:
Italian Catholic Federation
8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110
Oakland CA 94621

Thank you for your generosity!

New Branch

continued from page 1



• Br. 179 members and guests enjoying the Inauguration banquet

- Co-Sentinels: Ronnie Hogue & Kathleen Holmes
- Chaplain: Fr. Mark Warnstedt
- Branch Mentor: Jerry Farrugia

ICF branches in attendance for the inauguration were Br. 218 Arcadia, Br. 380 Thousand Oaks, Br. 67 Los Angeles, Br. 281 Bakersfield, Br. 28 Gilroy, Br. 184 Los Gatos, Br. 317 St. Denis & Br. 319 Claremont.

There were 60 members and guests in attendance for the inauguration. This is a

branch re-opening. Originally, this branch closed in 2005. At the inauguration, members from the original branch joined again and a couple of those members have become officers. The youngest member of the branch is a few months old and his mother and grandmother are also officers.

The next branch meeting will be Saturday, December 9 with a Christmas Party at 6:30pm. For more information about the branch please contact Branch President Geoff Novall at geoff@geoffnovall.com

NOVEMBER CALENDAR WINNERS

DAY	NAME	BR	CITY	WINS
11/1	Margaret Woosley		Bakersfield, CA	\$50
11/2	Frank Re	139	Manteca, CA	\$50
11/3	Barbara & Xavier Irias		Walnut Creek, CA	\$30
11/4	Louise Vicino	127	Petaluma, CA	\$30
11/5	Branch 33		Bakersfield, CA	\$30
11/6	Craig Collins	281	Bakersfield, CA	\$30
11/7	Andrea Delsid	14	Crockett, CA	\$30
11/8	Edgar Dias		Richmond, CA	\$30
11/9	Tom Kingshill		Belmont, CA	\$30
11/10	Branch 18		Santa Rosa, CA	\$30
11/11	Gerald Fuentes		Redwood City, CA	\$50
11/12	Rev. Roberto Vera	354	Paso Robles, CA	\$30
11/13	Marylou Collaco		Daly City, CA	\$50
11/14	Roland & Catherine Codiga	28	Bend, OR	\$30
11/15	Donna Rossi	391	San Jose, CA	\$30
11/16	Branch 281		Bakersfield, CA	\$30
11/17	Tom & Sue Rossi		Tahoe City, CA	\$30
11/18	Pat McDermott		Bakersfield, CA	\$30
11/19	Pat Buccola	326	Temple City, CA	\$30
11/20	Sharon Cunial	139	Manteca, CA	\$30
11/21	Linda Galassi	191	San Jose, CA	\$30
11/22	Natalie Steele		Bakersfield, CA	\$30
11/23	Mario McGhee		Modesto, CA	\$100
11/24	Mary Zadra	1	San Francisco, CA	\$40
11/25	Robert Thompson	12	Napa, CA	\$30
11/26	Mary Jane Vierra	25	Salinas, CA	\$30
11/27	Candy Peters	209	Sebastopol, CA	\$30
11/28	Virginia Fuentes	327	Belmont, CA	\$30
11/29	Helen Politakes	72	Martinez, CA	\$30
11/30	John & Susie Vicari		San Jose, CA	\$30

Apostolate – Charity Committee

Robert Acquistapace
Past Grand President

Each month, the Apostolate – Charity committee will have an article regarding some part of the ICF's apostolic and charitable activities. This month, I asked Past Grand President Robert Acquistapace to write an article about an apostolic activity that we encourage all districts to have, a Day of Recollection. – Lauren Kilcullen, Apostolate – Charity Committee Chairperson

HAD A DAY OF RECOLLECTION? YOU SHOULD!!

While most of the branch articles in our Bollettino have information about past or future dinners, parades or festivals that give emphasis to the ITALIAN in Italian Catholic Federation, a Day of Recollection gives emphasis to the CATHOLIC. If your branch or District does not have a Day of Recollection, you should, and it's easier than you think.

For over 20 years, the Santa Rosa District Council has sponsored a Day of Recollection. It has been held on a day of its own or held in connection with a regular District meeting.

Here is what we did in our District on August 27, 2017 at Br. 198, St. Eugene's. Mass was celebrated at 12:00 pm and a pizza and salad lunch was served in the Parish Life Center at 1:15 pm. We then

had three presentations: 1:45 – 2:00 pm – The History of the Diocese of Santa Rosa; 2:00 – 2:15 pm – The Mother Superior on the Marion Sisters in Santa Rosa; 2:15 – 2:30 – “Christian Love.” We took a break from 2:30 – 2:45 pm and from 2:45 – 3:00 pm there was recitation of the Rosary. We served ice cream sundaes for dessert at 3:00 pm and the District meeting began at 3:30 pm. We charged \$10.00 per person for the day. (The menu and the price has varied from year to year.)

Over the many years we have held this event, we have presented several topics: The Missions of California, Great Cathedrals of the World and the U.S., a history of the Saints for which the branch was named (Br. 18 – St. Rose of Lima, Br. 145 – St. Ambrose, Br. 198 – St. Eugene); the history of our two patron Saints; Lauren Kilcullen talked on her trip to Jerusalem; Deacon Mike Heinzelman talked about the vestments for deacons and priests (names, colors and their use during the Church year.); the Carmelite Monastery in the Napa Valley; the history of religious orders (Franciscan, Jesuit and Ursuline) and many others.

Please consider a Day of Recollection for your branch or District. You can shape it to fit your times and facility. If you have any questions, please call me at 707-545-7376 or plan to join us in 2018 when we hold another Day of Recollection.

Fresno Bishop's Day



Fresno's Bishop's Day was hosted by Branch 281, Bakersfield and Branch 33, Bakersfield at our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Bakersfield, California on Sunday, October 22, 2017.

Seen here are Leonard Zasoski, Jr. -- Immediate Past Grand President
Allen Watts -- Fresno District President
Vincent Piro -- Grand First Vice President
Armando Xavier Ochoa, Bishop of the Fresno Diocese
Robyn Piro, Fresno District Treasurer and wife of Vincent Piro
Crystal Watts, Branch 281 President and wife of Allen Watts
Betty Zasoski, wife of Leonard Zasoski, Jr., Immediate Past Grand President



Dr. Thomas Coates, the thalassemia team at Children's Hospital Los Angeles; patients and families,

Laurie, Matt, and Benjamin Levine would like to wish the members of the Italian Catholic Federation a Merry Christmas.

May your New Year be filled with peace, good health and joy.

We are sincerely grateful for your friendship, generosity, and support.

Christmas Word Find

G C P M E H E F F N Y Y A S E
V F I O G K N O C Y R R I L B
Z H S J Z X U H E G A B Z N B
H A T I D U R X S Z M E I P E
R P L R S I L E N T N I G H T
R K O Q S N E M E S I W A J H
Y L X T Y Z S W C Z S P E P L
M I M F H F N P N S J V E K E
J A B T T B A R I O R S X Z H
S A I Y L Y T E K V O F L W E
H A Y E Y T I G N J I O E E M
F A M K R H V N A E V U G P E
M A A N W A I A R S A S N O E
C I H O T C T M F U S O A H F
D J E D K Q Y S V S W T E K Q

JESUS
MARY
JOSEPH
WISEMEN
MANGER
NATIVITY
BETHLEHEM
CAMEL
DONKEY
STAR

HAY
ANGEL
FAITH
HOPE
FRANKINCENSE
MYRRH
SILENTNIGHT
LORD
SAVIOR
CHRISTMAS



Cooley's Anemia Donations

Donations Received by November 10, 2017
Branch 163 (Closing Donation)
Branch 261
Branch 342
Charles P. Gullo, Jr.
In memory of Br. 4
Antoinette and Angelo Pecora
In memory of Debra Caglia
Antoinette and Angelo Pecora
In memory of Mary Anne Prody
The Vincent Saso Family
In memory of Tony Taormino
The Vincent Saso Family
In memory of Frank Segreto
Roger and Kathy Santos
In memory of Frank La Corte
Roger and Kathy Santos
In memory of La Donna Elam
Roger and Kathy Santos
In memory of Tom Lewis
Roger and Kathy Santos
In memory of David Jeske

BOOK REVIEW

Vince Piro

Grand 1st Vice President
Branch 39, Merced

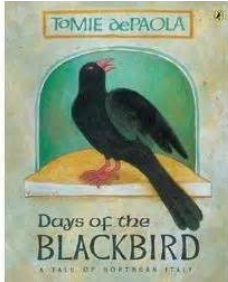
Children's Books

This is my annual list of recommended children's books that can be given as Christmas presents to children or grandchildren. Over the years, I have had the opportunity to present many wonderful books for children in the December issue of this paper, and this year's selection is by no means exhaustive. However, they represent some great books that the child in your life should enjoy receiving. (See past issues of the Bollettino for more recommendations.) Books are such a great way of passing on heritage, culture, and traditions to the younger members of our family. Below are the publishers' descriptions of this year's selection.

Picture Books:

Days of the Blackbird : a Tale of Northern Italy by Tomie DePaola

In this elegant tale, Tomie dePaola imagines how the Days of the Blackbird in northern Italy came to be. Gemma and her father, the Duke of Gennaro, live in a house with a courtyard that fills with birds of all colors through the spring and summer. When the Duke falls ill at the end of summer, Gemma begs the birds to stay to raise his spirits with their song. However, as snow and fierce winds begin to swirl down on the village, the birds must fly south to stay warm, and eventually only one loyal bird remains.



The Neptune Fountain : the Apprenticeship of a Renaissance Sculptor

by Taylor Morrison

Bored with working at his father's shoe shop, Marco goes in search of something more, convinces a talented sculptor to have him as his apprentice, and, soon after, begins to develop his art and create a glorious work of art.

Fiction:

Daughter of Venice by Donna Jo Napoli

In 1592, Donata is a noble girl living in a palazzo on the Grand Canal. Girls of her class receive no education and rarely leave the palazzo. In a noble family, only one daughter and one son will be allowed to marry; Donata, like all younger daughters, will be sent to a convent. Donata longs to be tutored like her brothers and to see the Venice she has glimpsed only on the map. What is the world beyond her balcony, beyond what she sees when she glides, veiled, in a gondola down the canal? She dresses as a boy and escapes the palazzo on the Grand Canal to see the world before she is shut away, and to try to find a way to escape her fate. Donata risks everything; she changes her life, and her family's life, forever when she walks through the door and encounters a Venice she never knew existed.

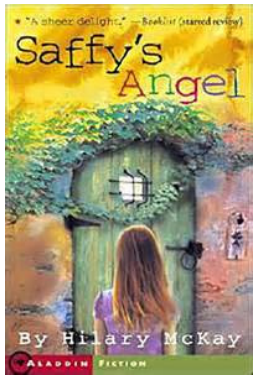


Saffy's Angel by Hilary McKay

The four Casson children, whose mother, Eve, is a fine-arts painter, have all been given the names of paint colors. Cadmium (Caddy), is the eldest; then Saffron (Saffy); Indigo, the only boy; and Rose, the youngest. When Saffy discovers quite by accident that she has been adopted, she is deeply upset, though the others assure her that it makes no difference at all. Saffy is the daughter of Eve's twin sister, who lived in Siena, Italy, and died in a car crash. Grandad brought Saffy, as a very small child, back from Siena.

At Grandad's death he leaves something to each of the children. To Saffy, it is "her angel," although no one knows its

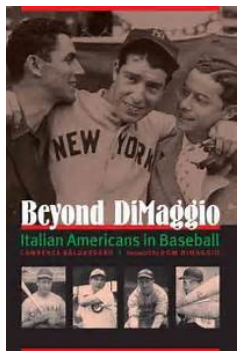
identity. How Saffy discovers what her angel is, with the help of an energetic new friend, lies at the heart of this enchanting story. Unforgettable characters come alive in often deeply humorous and always absorbing events to be treasured for a long, long time.



Nonfiction:

Beyond DiMaggio : Italian Americans in Baseball by Lawrence Baldassaro

Berra, Rizzuto, Lasorda, Torre, Conigliaro, Santo, Piazza. Casual baseball fans—in fact, even many nonfans—know these names, not as Italian Americans but as some of the most colorful figures in Major League Baseball. Ever since future Hall of Famer Tony Lazzeri became a key part of the Yankees' Murderers' Row lineup of 1926, Italian Americans have been among the most prominent and intriguing players in the game. The first comprehensive study of the topic, Beyond DiMaggio is also a social history of baseball, tracing the evolution of American perceptions toward those of Italian descent as it chronicles the baseball exploits that influenced those perceptions. Lawrence Baldassaro tells the stories of Italian Americans' contributions to the game, from Joe DiMaggio, who transcended his ethnic identity to become an American icon, to A. Bartlett Giamatti, who served as commissioner of baseball, to Mike Piazza, considered the greatest hitting catcher ever.



We're In This Together: The Story of an Italian-American Family

by Rita Andreacci Spina

Rita Andreacci Spina did not know how her world would change when her mother was struck and killed in 1924 by a hay wagon on the streets of Brooklyn. She was only 2 months old. But her nine surviving siblings, especially her two oldest sisters, would make sure the family stayed intact. "We're all in this together!" was the statement made by her oldest sister Mary, and they were, through the Great Depression and a world war. Rita's story has much in common with the stories of many children of Italian immigrants to New York in the early 20th century. Her story is stitched together with sage wisdom and keen wit.

Family Recipes

By Deborah Rodondi

Grand 2nd Vice President

This time of the year I am always busy baking cookies. The one I am sharing with you today is from ICF member Carolyn Landy from Branch 308 in Fresno. She said that when she and her daughter Lisa were in Tuscany, they ate these delicious cookies and the daughter wanted her to duplicate them. Carolyn went through all her recipes for Amaretti cookies and finally found this one that reminded them of the delicious treats from Tuscany. It is a favorite of theirs and the recipe is always being requested.

Bake the cookie for 20-22 minutes, until they're brown around the edges. Let them cool right on the pan.

Yields 21 cookies

NOTE: I made them smaller (yielded about 42 cookies), using a teaspoon and after the initial cooking lowered the temperature to 300 degrees for an additional 10 minutes.

Carolyn stated: "These are excellent and are similar to the ones that Lisa and I found in Tuscany, Italy. Enjoy!"

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.

Buon Appetito!

Almond Cloud Cookies

10 oz. almond paste

1 cup sugar

2 large egg whites, lightly beaten

¼ tsp. almond extract

Powdered sugar for topping of cookies prior to cooking

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Lightly grease (or line with parchment paper) two baking sheets.

Blend the almond paste and sugar until mixture forms fine crumbs (I broke up the almond paste into small pieces first). Due to the density of the almond paste, this is best done with a stand mixer. Add egg whites gradually, while mixing, to make a smooth paste. Add extract and blend.

Scoop the dough by heaping tablespoons onto the prepared pans. Sprinkle the cookies with powdered sugar, then use three fingers to press an indentation into the center of each cookie.

Leonard Zucchi, Jr.
Vice President Construction Operations
Director of Safety
Cell 951-478-5522

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Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza
Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations*

IN MEMORY OF:	DONATED BY:
Pat Mueller	Leroy and Stella Taddei
Jim Spallino	Officers/Members of Br. 144
Wanda Facchini	Officers/Members of Br. 327
Armando Fini	Mary Rossetto
Vivianlee Tonry	Mary Rossetto
Vivianlee Tonry	Jim and Janice Jones
Armando Fini	Jim and Janice Jones
Armando Fini	Aldine Grisenti
Vivianlee Tonry	Aldine Grisenti
Armando Fini	Bob Basuino
Brian Crudo	Franklyn Lopes, Jr.
Betty Jones	Bob Basuino
Mary Anne Prody	Officers/Members of Br. 308
Thomas Poggi	Officers/Members of Br. 40
Carmen Ales	Ed and Jo Bertaccini
Betty Jones	Ed and Jo Bertaccini
Winona Quilici	The Antonowicz Family

GET WELL WISHES:

Ron Castle	Franklyn Lopes, Jr.
Sylvia Mazza	Officers/Members of Br. 161

OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU:

Carmen, Larry and Lauren Kilcullen	Mike and Marcie Rossi
Reverend Monsignor Joe Milani	Mike and Marcie Rossi

THINKING OF YOU (WE MISS YOU):

Larry Marsalli	Mike and Marcie Rossi
----------------	-----------------------

THANK YOU FOR OUR BISHOP’S DAY:

Grand President Andy Pappani	Officers/Members of Los Angeles Archdiocese District
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HAPPY 70TH BRANCH ANNIVERSARY:

I.C.F. Br. #72	Officers/Members of Contra Costa District
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HAPPY 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY:

Gene and Ellen Pauly	Jim and Deanna Musler
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CONGRATULATIONS ON THE BIRTH OF YOUR DAUGHTER:

Christy and Brandon Hanlon	Denise Antonowicz
----------------------------	-------------------

IN SUPPORT OF THE PROVIDENZA FUND:

A donation was made to the Providenza Fund by Branch 163 - San Mateo as a Closing Donation.

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

Benvenuti Membri Nuovi

Report Date: 11/14/2017		MARY ELLEN SZABO	Branch 179
		DAVID TERESA	Branch 179
		MARIA TERESA	Branch 179
		AMANDA TIMKO	Branch 179
		ELENA TIMKO	Branch 179
		ELIZABETH TIMKO	Branch 179
		JOE TIMKO	Branch 179
		MARIE TIMKO	Branch 179
		FR. MARK WARNSTEDT	Branch 179
		MARIANNE WEBER	Branch 179
		EILEEN WORDEN	Branch 179
		THERESA ENKILTERRA	Branch 191
		MARY BECMER	Branch 214
		ROSEANNA BERRIOS	Branch 214
		EDWIN COX	Branch 214
		NELDA (DEDE) COX	Branch 214
		LORRAINE KOVEN	Branch 214
		ROBERT SALINAS	Branch 214
		LORETTA WHITEHURST	Branch 214
		TROY WHITEHURST	Branch 214
		CHRISTIAN B KIM	Branch 291
		EVONNE KIM	Branch 291
		HAN-SOO KIM	Branch 291
		TAYLOR B KIM	Branch 291
		MIA MAHERNIA	Branch 291
		RIVER MAHERNIA	Branch 291
		ELLA PARISH	Branch 291
		JAMES PARISH	Branch 291
		LILLIE PARISH	Branch 291
		ROXANNE PARISH	Branch 291
		SANDI BREEN	Branch 332
		GARY P ANDERSEN	Branch 342
		JEANETTE B PAPAPIETRO	Branch 342
			Branch 342
		KYLIE PAPAPIETRO	Branch 342
		ANGELO L PIZIALI	Branch 342
		EMMA M PIZIALI	Branch 342
		FRANCESCA K PIZIALI	Branch 342
		JULIA D PIZIALI	Branch 342
		ANNA FRIEDEBERG	Branch 343
		ANNETTE FRIEDEBERG	Branch 343
		VICTORIA CASTRILLO	Branch 390
		DORINDA L REPETTO	Branch 390
		CATHY J ZUPAN	Branch 390
		HILDA SOUSA	Branch 391
		LOIS J GIESEA	Branch 425
			Branch 115
		BARBARA SOKOLOW	Branch 145
		GARY SOKOLOW	Branch 145
		NAOMI SOKOLOW	Branch 145
		DYAB ALZAHAM	Branch 179
		MARIANA ALZAHAM	Branch 179
		MIREILLE ALZAHAM	Branch 179
		REEF ALZAHAM	Branch 179
		ZAIN ALZAHAM	Branch 179
		PATRICIA AURIEMMO	Branch 179
		BRUCE BRANCATO	Branch 179
		LOIS BRANCATO	Branch 179
		BILL BRESEE	Branch 179
		JOSIE SCARPINO-BRESEE	Branch 179
			Branch 179
		STELLA BRUNO	Branch 179
		BELÉN COGNETTA	Branch 179
		SEBASTIAN COGNETTA	Branch 179
		SUSIE COGNETTA	Branch 179
		TERESA GARZA	Branch 179
		CONNOR HOFMANS	Branch 179
		KIM HOFMANS	Branch 179
		MICHAEL HOFMANS	Branch 179
		RONNIE HOGUE	Branch 179
		KATHLEEN HOLMES	Branch 179
		GEOFF NOVALL	Branch 179
		NICOLE OKOROCHA	Branch 179
		RAY OKOROCHA	Branch 179
		SANDY OSBORN	Branch 179
		ANDRE SALE	Branch 179
		DINA SALE	Branch 179

Scholarship Donations

Donations received by November 10, 2017	Officers/Members of Br. 191
	In memory of Vivianlee Tonry
Scholarship Donations - 1st Year	Officers/Members of Br. 191
Officers/Members of Br. 435	In memory of Armando Fini
In appreciation of Will Kellett	Scholarship Donations - 2 nd Year
Bob Basuino	Deborah and Robert Rodondi
In memory of Vivianlee Tonry	In memory of Margaret Lohman

Gifts of Love
Donations

Donations received by November 10, 2017	Mara Millis
Branch 163 (Closing Donation)	In memory of Karen Molnar
Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Dianda	Lorraine and Mike Nunziata
In memory of Pat Mueller	In memory of Bruce Gill
Jane Dianda	Bob and Elaine Osorio
In memory of Pat Mueller	In honor of the 59 th wedding anniversary of Jerry and Joan Delfino
Bea Cunha	Rosalie Campisi
In thanksgiving for The Christensen Family and Home being saved in the Santa Rosa Fire	In memory of Frank La Corte
Debra Del Vasto	Leonard and Karen Rossi
In memory of Thomas Poggi	In memory of Tom Poggi
	Rosalie Campisi
	In memory of Richard Manfre

In Loving Memory

Report Date: 11/13/2017		ARMANDO FINI	Branch 191
RICHARD H MANFRE	Branch 026	FRANK CASTELLI	Branch 198
ISABELLE FALLS	Branch 039	FRANCES R AIELLO	Branch 214
JOSEPHINE R SORINI	Branch 050	MARIA T TOLLEFSON	Branch 229
GIOVANNI F MIGLIACCIO		JOHN J BALISTRERI	Branch 230
	Branch 115	EMIDDIO MASSA	Branch 230
MARIA SOGLIUZZO	Branch 115	WANDA FACCHINI	Branch 327
JAMES SPALLINO	Branch 144	CAROLINA LESCA	Branch 332

Gifts of Love Program Ready for 2018 Time to Send Applications to the ICF Office

Teresa Helfand
Gifts of Love Chairperson

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The holidays are upon us, and we would like to select recipients for our Gifts of Love Awards. For those of you who are unfamiliar with the Gifts of Love program, we have a fund from which we make awards to individuals with disabilities or agencies that assist individuals with disabilities. We do this throughout the year, in order to provide funds to individuals with disabilities to help lead fuller, more independent lives, and to find greater inclusion within their communities. We also work with providing assistance to agencies whose goal is to do the same for their clients.

At this time, we would like to request applications from disabled individuals that may require special or specific aids or "tools" in order to complete their education, training or assist them in their daily lives.

In order to generate applications, the Gifts of Love Committee is asking each Branch President to mention the program at their next meeting and also to publish a request for applications in their respective Church and/or School Bulletins if possible. The application form is available on the I.C.F. Web site (www.icf.org). Applications should either be mailed to the I.C.F. Office at 8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110, Oakland,



CA 94621 or e-mailed to the I.C.F. Office at info@icf.org.

Applications are evaluated on a regular basis by the I.C.F. Gifts of Love Committee which decides who receives the awards and the amounts. We have a great Committee this year and we look forward to helping those in need!

If you would like more information about the Gifts of Love program, please contact Committee Chairwoman Teresa Helfand at davia902005@live.com.

Happy Holidays and God Bless You,
Teresa Helfand

for our ill and injured members.

Ciao,

Kerin Cavallero

Fresno **Our Lady of Victory, Br. 32**

Many Blessings to all our ICF friends and family. Let there be peace on Earth.

Members rallied to hold a Bake Sale and Membership Drive in late October. We were pleased to get two new members and another two who are interested in joining. They will be visiting at our November meeting. We earned almost \$1000 at the Bake Sale which was donated to Our Lady of Victory Church.

A few minutes in Memory of our Loved Ones. Prayers and candle lighting followed the naming of those passed.

The itch to see new scenery bit Evelyn Nieto. She went to Missouri to visit her granddaughter, Gabriela, along with her daughter, Stephanie. Maria Guglielmino went to stay with her sister. We send our condolences to Maria and her family on the loss of her sister's partner. Patricia and Eddie Vivenzi spent a week in the Lake Tahoe/Reno area. It's always good to get away. Happy and safe travels to all.

Bakersfield **San Luigi, Br. 33**

Branch 33 members and guests enjoyed a very successful Night at the Races in October. Branch 33 paired with the ICF Branch from Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Bakersfield, to host this fund raising event. Flush with success, co-chairs Michael Cerri and Allen Watts are already planning a bigger and better event in the coming year.

As is our custom, branch members collected personal travel-sized hygiene items for donation to St. Vincent de Paul in November. In December, sweatshirts will be collected for similar donation to St. Vincent. These items will be distributed to homeless and other clients in need.

Recently elected 2018 leadership team members for Branch 33 are Co-presidents Judy Jacobs and Barbara Crear; First Vice Maria Steele; Second Vice Gertie O'Neil; Finance, Tom Steele; and Trustees Richard Ceccarelli, Amato Ghilarducci, and Fernando Teglia.

Branch 33 salutes past President Maria Steele who performed excellently in this capacity during her two-year term of office. Branch 33 is indebted to Maria for her extraordinary efforts on its behalf. Bravisima, Maria!

Roberta Cerri Teglia

Merced **St. Cecilia, Br. 39**

Wasn't our Thanksgiving feast at our November meeting mouth-watering delicious! From almond cup snacks to home-cured olives, we had it all. Thank you to our wonderful officers for presenting this gift to us. You all rock!

We had about 70 attending including 6 guests. It was so fun to have all of you there with your holiday spirit. The night was made more festive with a short meeting by our president and Maria Giampaoli winning the Ducky Draw of \$???? then donating back half of it to our scholarship program. Sandy Del Real, won the coveted bottle of Limoncello.

Officer elections were held. All officers agreed to serve another year. President Terrie Rhodes; 1st V.P. Lori Sutton; 2nd V.P. Gina Pugliese; Recording Secretary Debbie Giannone; Financial Secretary



Cari Beveridge and Kevin Bottorff making meatballs while Jim Espinola and Elsie Bottorff look on.



Branch 27 members making meatballs for the spaghetti take-out dinner.

Randy Giannone; Treasurer Nanette Ontis; Trustees Anne-Marie Bandoni, Pattie Simas, Janet Pugliese; Orator Michael Belluomini; Sentinel Carol Salmeri; Chaplain Sr. Rachel Monteil. Bless you our dear volunteers!

Our biscotti sale, expertly chaired by Janet Pugliese and Maryellen Mazzei, was a huge success. Thank you to all our bakers, assistants, baggers and those who donated cookies, ingredients or money toward this fundraiser to fund the many community and church organizations we support.

Mark your calendars: Our Christmas party co-hosted with the Lodge is Sunday, December 10, 12:30-3PM at the Lodge. Join us for delicious food, dessert, sing-a-long, and a visit from Santa. Bring the kids and grandkids.

Don't forget to visit the Courthouse Museum and view our Italian themed tree decorated by Anne-Marie Bandoni and Pattie Simas.

Buone feste e tanti auguri,

Stephanie Lucich

Clovis **Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Br. 250**

Father Eric Swearingin is recovering from a brain tumor procedure. Please continue your thoughts & prayers for his recovery.

Wes Johnson had a test for throat cancer. Fortunately, the test came back negative.

Rich & Mary Zanarini's granddaughter, Sarah Diener, started her freshman year at the University of Arizona.

Frank Pimentel has a new great-daughter, Dakota, born August 21. Frank has 8 great-

Chicago

Chicago
Name, Br. 195

October's meeting began with our first-ever potluck. The Branch provided the meat dish; members brought sides and desserts. There was something for everyone but the best part was being able to taste every delicious item while enjoying companionship. The business meeting was chaired by Sue Banach, Vice-President, as President Steve Kiernicki was unable to attend. We were informed the Christmas Party will be held at Andorra Banquets in Schererville, Indiana. A deposit of \$25 per person for a family-style meal will be collected at November's meeting. Members who sold two or more raffle books, this year, will receive deposits back at the party. Non-members may attend for a non-refundable deposit of \$25. Election of officers for 2018 was tabled until the next meeting. Four lucky winners won gift certificates for Thanksgiving shopping. Tom Lessner's text messages to Secretary, Michelle Kiernicki, were read aloud. Tom was unable to attend because his wife, Norma, had a stroke and was in rehab. The meeting ended with prayers for all those in need, as well as wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving.

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

Seems like summer came and went, and fall is following quickly in its footsteps. We had our bake sale the end of October and while it went well, we will make some changes for 2018 as this is our only fund raiser. On November 30th, we had our annual mass for deceased ICF members -- pizza party followed in the Cabrini room. Yummy!

Alas -- too soon it's winter. We now look forward to the Chicago District Christmas

party at Alta Villa Banquet Hall in Addison. Hoping the weather cooperates. We have no meeting in December and January. Birthday greetings to Marilyn Marine and especially to Baby Jesus. Please pray for our sick members, especially Cathy Comisky who is recovering from a stroke.

Wishing everyone a happy and blessed Christmas.

Leonora

Fresno

Madera

Santissimo Crocifisso, Br. 27

The October 10th meeting was a potluck and members and guests were treated to many delicious home-made goodies. We are lucky to have so many great cooks! Thanks to the October committee, chairmen: Marcia and Jennifer Valerosi and the committee: John O'Meara, Jeff Dal Cerro, J.B. and Camille Overstreet. The spaghetti and meatball take-out dinner was held on October 22nd. We sold over 225 dinners. Many thanks to all who worked so hard and put in many hours making meat balls, serving the dinners, selling tickets or baking treats. The Bishops Burse was held at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Bakersfield on October 22nd. Kudos to Branch 281 for the wonderful luncheon, hospitality and entertaining program. Thanks to the ladies who made the trek down south to represent our branch: Elsie Bottorff, Rose Meister, and Kerin Cavallero. The November meeting is on the 14th and the dinner will be meatball sandwiches. Members are making plans for the upcoming bake sale on November 19th and a trip to Rocker Rocka's in January. The Mass for living and deceased members is on December 2nd at 8:00 a.m. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Christmas Party on December 10th! Please continue to pray



Jay Newsome, Branch 308, described his ascent to Half Dome, with Michael, and Jess.

grandchildren.

Doug Duke went to Granite Bay to watch his granddaughter progress with her Taekwondo Belt training. Doug & his oldest son just returned from a motorcycle trip. They were caught in a storm in Alturas, CA, and fortunately got the last room in town in a 100+ year old hotel.

GG Goodwin was in St. Agnes Hospital with problems with her pacemaker. She is home now & looking forward to making peanut butter sandwiches for the Homeless Committee to disburse each Monday.

In August Westside Rescue, a group that feeds, spays & neuters homeless people's pets, had its annual fundraiser. Ang & LeAnne Lavagnino won a \$100 gift certificate & Isabel Ronzono, a gift card to In-N-Out Burgers.

Nicole Lang enjoyed her trip to London & Italy. She was able to fit in a 2nd trip to Italy before she came home.

Melissa Squeo-Rodriguez & Vincent were extras in the movie, Brick Madness, which premiered in Fresno on September 9.

Shirley Mitchell just returned from a fall color cruise starting from New York & winding up in Quebec City.

Birthday blessings to Rachel Bejarano (11/16), Sylvia Dalton (11/24), Cindy Newton (11/5), John Rainaldi (11/2) & Rich Zanarini (11/20).

Ciao!

LeAnne Lavagnino

Bakersfield

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Br. 281

'Tis the Season, ICF Community! Here at Branch 281, we are looking forward to our Annual Christmas Party, filled with delicious food, fun games, activities for all ages, and wonderful company. Members, please mark your calendars for December 9th—bring your family and enjoy this evening with us! Remember that Santa will be there—if you will be bringing children who would appreciate a gift from him, remember to include their gender and age in the RSVP. To RSVP or sign-up to assist with day-of tasks

(wrapping presents, decorating, bartending, clean-up) please contact one of the event's chairs, Kristen Zasoski at kwatts@garces.org, or Crystal Watts at (661) 706-2474.

Our November meeting was a success in several aspects—the meal, a delicious polenta with Bolognese sauce, hit the spot just right on that chilly night. Also, no November meeting would be successful without our Turkey Bingo! Winners received gift cards for turkeys and pies, and all players had fun (although only a few had the luck!). However, one area of this meeting that was lacking was attendance. Members, we have to keep in mind that some of the main goals of our organization are to help those in need by contributing to charities, and to develop ourselves in faith and fellowship. Well, let's work on that fellowship aspect!

As the end of the year approaches, it is also important to keep in mind your purchase of the yearly ICF Calendar! Please contact Betty Zasoski at (661) 872-8725 or zasoski@bak.rr.com to purchase.

Baci e abbracci,

Kristen Zasoski

Fresno

St. Anthony of Padua, Br. 308

Fresno is blessed having Yosemite Park nearby. Jay Newsome, Branch 308, provides this narrative of his July ascent to Half Dome, with son Michael, and nephew Jess.

The summit is 8800 feet above sea level. The trail from Yosemite Valley is 8.2 miles, and so popular, access is limited to 300 people per day, by lottery.

We initially hiked five miles, to Little Yosemite Valley, via the Mist Trail, passing Vernal and Nevada Falls, full to capacity.

Some people hike up and back in one day. But we camped, then continued up at 2 AM, to beat the crowds – and a forecasted 11 AM lighting storm.

On a moonless night, we navigated 3.5 miles by headlamp. It rained briefly, with lighting in the distance. We arrived at the base of the cables 5:30 AM, with several others. It was still dark. So we had breakfast watching the sunrise.



Branch 108 board members Carmelo (PP) and Linda Sabatella and Santo and Diana Pleseia attended the Ronald McDonald House Annual fundraiser at the Langham Hotel in Pasadena.

The 400 foot cable ascent was not physically difficult, but un-nerving. We pulled ourselves up, knowing one slip could mean sliding down 4800 feet, onto large granite rocks named “the death slabs.”

We made the summit by 6AM and looked down to the valley floor. For three hours, we explored, took pictures, and took a nap.

We began our descent 9:30 AM and were back at camp by lunch, passing hikers going up. After lunch, we hiked back down to the valley.

Half Dome was a challenge. It required planning, training, and some luck. I need a new challenge for next summer.

Los Angeles

Archdiocese District

District Council

Congratulations to all those who made the District's 2017 Bishop's Day a successful and fun evening. Special thanks to our clergy: Monsignor Loughnane, pastor of St. Denis; our District Chaplain, Monsignor Cacciapuotti; Bishop Brennan, San Fernando Pastoral Region and Bishop O'Connell, San Gabriel Pastoral Region.

Welcome and congratulations to our newest ICF members, Branch 179, St.Dorothy, Glendora.

Next month I will report on the CHLA Thalassemia Christmas Party and Mother Cabrini's 100th Anniversary Celebration and Pilgrimage.

January 14, 2018, is the date of Officers Installation at St.Raymond Catholic Church, Downey.

May you all have a Blessed Advent and a Very Merry Christmas.

Buon Natale e felice Anno Nuovo!

Pat Mages

District President

Los Angeles

St. Peter, Br. 67

Buon Natale, Buon Capo D'Anno!

A Tutti Famiglia, Paesani E Amici!

Merry Christmas and New Year to Family, Countrymen and Friends of ICF!

On October 4, ICF Branch President Carmelo Sabatella and son Nick Sabatella attended the annual East West Night (ika Marco Polo Night) General Dinner meeting of the Italian Americal Lawyer's Association in Casa Italiana. State Treasurer John Chiang spoke on California's financial health and the future of California.

On November 4th, Carmelo and Branch 67 members attended the 2017 ICF Bishop Day Mass and Dinner in Saint Denis Catholic Church in Diamond Bar. The Los Angeles Archdiocese District Branches attended and gave \$8,000 to support the development of new priests at Saint John's Seminary in Camarillo. Branch 67 will continue to work with Saint Peter's Church and 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. Interested members are asked to call [626 372-7812](tel:6263727812) for membership in or a position on the Branch 67 Board.

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 join St Peter Parishioners on the fourth Sunday of each Month this year. Please call Carmelo at [626 372-7812](tel:6263727812) or visit website at www.icf.org for more information.

Please let me know how you can help us keep the future alive for the next generations at Branch 67 in Los Angeles. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Carmelo Sabatella AIA

President Branch 67

Italian Catholic Federation

T. 626 372-7812

E. cas1810@aol.com

Burbank

St. Maria Goretti, Br. 102

With sadness we bid farewell to our Charity Chairwoman,

Josephine Galante, who passed away on October 25,2017.

She has been an outstanding member and officer who has always inspired us to help those less fortunate, visiting convalescent homes and hospitals. She has been honored for outstanding charitable endeavors from branch president and deputies.



Branch 111 attending the Bishop's Banquet.



Branch 111 celebrated October Birthdays.



Branch 111 having a good time at a lunch get-together

An honor well deserved.

We will miss her, but she will always be remembered in our hearts and prayers.

Dina Tomei

South Pasadena Holy Family, Br. 108

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year,
Buon Natale, Buon Capo Di Anno!

To all members, families and friends of the ICF!

On Saturday, October 28th, board members Carmelo (PP) and Linda Sabatella and Santo and Diana Pleseia attended the Ronald McDonald House Annusl fundraiser at the Langham Hotel in Pasadena.

On Saturday, November 4th members enjoyed the Bishop Day Mass and Banquet at St. Denis Catholic Church in Diamond Bar. Thank you to ICF San Gabriel Region and staff who helped coordinate and manage this successful event. Bishops Brennan and Oconell were outstanding!

Save the date:

February 10, 2018 - Annual Wine Tasting Event "Carnavale" in Holy Family Hall from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm. RSVP [626 372-7812](tel:626-372-7812) and for more information.

And to our former ICF Branch members who recently have gone to their eternal reward. May they rest in peace. May God Bless and keep you healthy "Iper cento anni!"

Carmelo Sabatella, Past President

LAADC and ICF Branch 108

Email: cas1810@aol.com

Montebello St. Benedict, Br. 111

Ciao a Tutti. A warm hello to everyone. Hope you all had a wonderful & bountiful Thanksgiving celebration with your loved ones and are now looking forward to the holidays!

We would like to congratulate all the members who celebrate their birthdays in the month of December: Mario Mauro, Sal Franco, Domenica Orofino, Nancy Valdez, David Tarazon, and Linda Erickson. Happy Birthday to everyone!! Buon Compleanno a tutti!!

We would like to congratulate all the 2017 ICF 111 Officer's who got nominated & elected

at our October general meeting. The 2017 ICF Officer's Installation will be held at St. Raymond, in Downey, on Sunday, January 14, 2018 - mark your calendars, more details will follow.

Our Christmas party will be held on Saturday, December 9, 2016, from 6:00 to 11:00 p.m. at St. Benedict's Parish Hall, located at [1022 W. Cleveland Avenue](https://www.google.com/maps/place/1022+W+Cleveland+Avenue,+Montebello,+CA+91754/@34.0588,-118.1088,17z/data=!3m1!1e3!3m2!1s1022+W+Cleveland+Avenue,+Montebello,+CA+91754/@34.0588,-118.1088,17z), Montebello.. This year we will again have the dynamic Duo Domino, a Professional Piano Bar type music, along with our traditional delicious Italian Buffet dinner from Eastside Market. Adult tickets will be \$25.00; Children (ages 6 to 12) \$12.50; Children under 6 and ICF 111 members - Free. It will be a great year-end party! Please plan on joining us and invite your family and friends for some great dancing and holiday cheer. For more information or to make reservations please call Frank at (323) 888-2074.

Finally, we would like to wish all of you and your families every Happiness and Joy this Christmas and throughout the coming year! May your life be filled with good health, love, peace and harmony!

A Presto!

Frank Salomone

Los Angeles St John Joseph of the Cross, Br. 115

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

We wish all ICF members a happy and healthy holiday season and prosperous 2018.

We should congratulate ourselves for an outstanding 2017! With your help our branch raised and donated funds to our Parish, Elementary school, Seminary Burse, Seminarian Ian Hagan, and Cooley's anemia. Most recent donations were made to the victims of the Santa Rosa fires and to the victims of the earthquake that happened in many of our members hometown of Ischia. Thank you to all for your hard work and support!

Nomination and election of officers took place at our October meeting. Congratulations to our 2018 officers. They are Neal DiLeva President, Anna DiLeva 1st VP, Frank Colonna 2nd VP, Recording Secretary Nancy Ventimiglia, Corresponding Secretary Nancy Donato, Financial Secretary Pauline Iacono, Treasurer Anita Trujillo, Orator Nicolina Mattered, Sentinel Mary Cigliano, trustees Frank Amalifitano, Bob Hohman, Gloria Russo, Letizia Chaparro and Diane Picone.



San Pedro Branch 115 President Neal Dileva was one of five honored at the Los Angeles City Hall Council Chamber by Councilmember Joe Buscaino during the celebration of Italian-American Heritage Month on October 12, 2017. A dinner followed the award presentation. Neal was honored for all his work in the I. C. F. for the past 40 years and Mary Star of the Sea Church. Congratulations!

Branch 115 chaplain Fr Martin Benzoni attended the ceremony and dinner."

We send our new board God's blessings for a productive and happy new year.

Our Christmas branch party will be held on Dec. 9th at 6pm. It will be a great year end party! Please plan on joining us. Dinner is free to members \$10.00 for spouse Call Nancy Donato for reservation 310 833-2584

Our first branch meeting of the new year will be held on Jan. 18th at 7:30pm. Dues for 2018 are now payable. Please note that our yearly dues have increased to \$37.00 per person. Please make check payable to ICF. Check can be mailed to Pauline Iacono 1072 W. 8th St San Pedro 90731

Anita Trujillo

Treasurer

Arcadia Holy Angels, Br. 218

Our Christmas Boutique, chaired by Karen Berardi, has not occurred as of this writing, but we are going to thank her and all the workers because I am sure that this event, as usual, will be very successful.

The Christmas Party is December 9th. Please RSVP if you haven't already. This promises to be a very enjoyable evening – good food, good music, Santa visiting, perhaps even a little entertainment by the children. Please call my number to make your reservation.

Members - \$10.00 ea., guests - \$15.00 ea, children under 15 – free, over 15 - \$10.00 ea.

The next HUGE event is our New York New Year's Eve party. There will be more information on this at a later date. Your reservations should be made early as this is open to the parish and we can only take 120 persons.

There will be no regular meeting in December, so please watch for Jeane's newsletters and E-mails regarding the New Year's eve party and any other events for December.

Our January meeting is on the 7th – more on this later.

To everyone we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Lolly M.

Temple City St. Luke, Br. 326

Merry Christmas to all of our members!

Our Annual Thanksgiving Dinner was held on November 19th. Everyone had a good time at Nano Café in Sierra Madre. It was a refreshing change not to have to cook and celebrate with good friends

Our Christmas Party will take place on



ICF Central Coast District BBQ/Bishop’s Day Celebration, with the Most Rev. Bishop Richard J. Garcia, and ICF Pesident, Leonard Zasoski, Jr., in attendance; held on Aug. 6, 2017

December 17th in the parish hall More information will be forthcoming.

There will be short meetings at both the Thanksgiving and Christmas parties. Our regular meetings will resume in January, 2018.

Please continue to keep all of our ill members in your prayers, especially: Roberta Nangelo, Pat Buccola and Mary Lou Lemoine. And, let’s not forget to pray for our deceased members.

As we remember the baby Jesus, may peace and love fill our hearts during the holidays.

“...May the happiness and joy of Christmastide invade the souls of all; upon good people the whole world wide I pray the blessings of the Lord befall. May the happiness of the Christmas holiday endure throughout the year. May you all enjoy, I hope and pray, good friends good heath, and good cheer.” (Joseph Ferrara)

God Bless,
Jo Anne Disney

Thousand Oaks
St. Paschal Baylon, Br. 380

Our branch had an excellent November meeting. We enjoyed a wonderful turkey dinner and delicious homemade pies for desert! We had a pie baking contest and the winner was Adriana Bridges with her coconut custard pie. We also had pie eating contest which was heated but ultimately won by Matthew Bridges.

We played bingo and there was a lot of fun prizes.

We are looking forward to our holiday Christmas party in December.
Ciao,
Jean Fontana Bridges
Corresponding Secretary

Monterey
Central Coast
District Council

Thank You & Welcome to the newly elected officers of the ICF Central Coast District: Chaplain: Fr. Milton “Mike” Marini; Pres: Rosa Radicchi; 1st VP: Franklyn Lopes, Jr.; 2nd VP: Julie Richards; Rec Sec: Elaine Valentine; Treas: Ida Lomazzi; Orator: Irma Zanini; Trustee: David Zanini, Pete Gallagher, Roseann Costabile; Sentinel: JoAnn Sullivan; Co-Mentors/ North: Vicky Howell; South: Pete Gallagher.

The Installation will be held on Saturday, January 13, 2018, at Holy Cross Church & Hall in Santa Cruz, CA. We look forward to seeing all of the newly elected officers from all of the branches & the district too! The Mass will be at 11:00 am, followed by the Installation & the luncheon. Please see your branch for more details.

Wishing you all a very Blessed Christmas & a Joyous & Healthy New Year 2018! May the blessings of this Joyous & Scared Season continue to enfold you and your families in God’s everlasting.

Love & Peace,
Rosa

Santa Cruz
Nostra Signora del Soccorso,
Br. 21

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and your families, dear Branch 21 members! The jubilation and celebration of our Lord and Savior’s birth is here! We hope that you enjoy it to the fullest.

Up-coming events include the annual ICF Christmas Party that will fall on December 1st which may have already passed when you read this. Also, on January 13th, we at Branch 21 are proud to host the ICF Installation of Officers for the Central Coast District. So stay tuned.

We are pleased to announce that we have a new Branch 21 Board of Directors for 2018. But first, we must thank those members who are leaving for their much appreciated service. They are: Richard Vote, President; Mary Jo Belli, Second Vice President; Gene Ghio, Treasurer; Gary Castiglioni and Valerie Vote, Trustees; and Rosa Radicchi, Sentinel. Grazie a tutti! The new slate of officers is: President, Roseann Costabile; First Vice President, John Barisone; Second Vice President, George Kievlan; Secretary, Patty Morelli; Financial Secretary, Norma Wilson; Treasurer, Carmen Locatelli; Trustees, Madeline Crews, Virginia Orlando, and Mickey Aluffi; Sentinel, Cindy Schuette; and Orator, Rebecca Rosser.

Now, sadly, we must announce the passing of Fred ‘Rico’ Della Santina, a dear ICF member and friend to so many. We send our prayers and heartfelt condolences to his family. Rico’s helpful spirit and easy smile will truly be missed.

In closing, there will not be an ICF general meeting in December, but we hope to see you in the New Year at the next meeting on January 2nd.

Patty Morelli
Secretary-Branch 21

Salinas
Sacred Heart, Br. 25

Our Annual Polenta Luncheon was held on Wednesday, November 8, at the Sacred Heart Parish Hall and was a great success! Kudos go out to member Linda Hoffman, event chair, for her excellent stewardship; to Kathy Bullene who leads our donation efforts (produce), to Ralph Cristofano who oversaw the kitchen; to Vivian Hunt and Laurie Myers who oversaw the Bake Sale; and to Tom Sullivan at the beverage table. A sincere thank you to all of our member and non member volunteers for your assistance and your Bake Sale items. A special thank you to the Knights of Columbus (cooking) and St. Paul’s in Salinas (prepping and serving).

We held our November 2017 members meeting on Tuesday, November 7, at the Sacred Heart Parish Hall, during our prep day. We held elections for the 2018 officers. We also voted to support our Central Coast District with funds to be forwarded to the Central Council that will be donated to the Catholic Charities in the Santa Rosa Parish to assist victims of the fires.

Branch 25’s Annual Christmas Party will be held at JM Ranch on Sunday, December 10, 2017. Several of our Board Members are planning to participate in the Central Coast District Installation Ceremonies in Santa Cruz on January 13, 2018.

Our prayers continue for long time member, Don Stoffey, during his recovery from a recent health event.

Best Wishes for a wonderful Christmas Holiday and Happy New Year. And safe travels to those hitting the roads or the skies!

JoAnn Sullivan, Recording Secretary

Monterey
Santa Rosalia, Br. 36

What a wonderful slate of officers we have for 2018,

we are ready for another great year

Chaplain - Rev. Emil Robu

President - Robert Huffer

Vice-President - Ted Ursino

Recording Secretary - Suzanne Menendez Herbst

Corresponding Secretary - Josephine Favazza

Financial Secretary - Elaine Valentine

Co-Treasurer - Jo Ann Riso

Co-Treasurer - Barbara Lucido

Orator - Jane Gasperson

Trustee - Turie Cavaliere

Trustee - Elizabeth Grammatico

Trustee - Joe LoManto

Trustee - June Serrano

Sentinel - Antonia Ihnot

District Deputy - Julie Richards

Mark your calendar:

January 11 - Monthly Dinner Meeting

January 25 - Thank You Volunteer Dinner

AND, guess what, Lenten Dinners come early this year,

your help will really be needed and always appreciated.

Also, a cake each week for six (6) weeks, you always

come through with everything needed.

LENTEN DINNERS:

1ST February 16

2ND February 23

3RD March 2

4TH March 9

5TH March 16

6TH March 23

St Joseph Celebration, Sunday, March 18, Elks Club.

More on this later.

After 30+ years this will be my last Bollettino article,

Elaine Valentine will start doing them in January 2018.

I wish to thank Michelle Feldman, Editor, of the Bollettino for all of her patience, help, and friendship over the years, I finally met her at a convention, and, I got so excited, it was like meeting an old friend.

While Santa puts gifts under your tree, Jesus became our gift and died on a tree, so much is his love for us.

We need to remember who Christmas is all about, we need to put Christ back in Christmas. Father Joe Occhiuto I wish I had some great words of wisdom to leave you with, but since I do not, I wish health to each one of you and your loved ones, and have a blessed Christmas.

Happy Birthday Jesus,

Bettye Sollecito

Santa Rosalia Br. #36

Castroville
Santa Caterina de Siena, Br. 51

Buon Natale e Felice Capo D’Anno!

At our November meeting members elected the Board for 2018:

Cindy Stefani-President, Carrie Holbrook-1st Vice-President, Marie Tonus- 2nd Vice President, Ashley Stefani- Secretary, Leonora Barlow-Treasurer, Toni Hibbs-Orator, Carlo Cortopassi-Sentinel, Susan Carbonel-Trustee, Kevin Cortopassi-Trustee, Linda Grier-Trustee and Dennis Hibbs-Trustee. Congratulations!

On the agenda was Adopt-A-Family for Christmas. We selected a family of six and I am sure our Branch will be as generous as it has been in the past years.

We also discussed the Christmas Party which will be on December 16th. The Christmas Party Committee will be meeting to finalize the plans and flyers will be mailed.

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SERVICE BEYOND EXPECTATION

It is with a heavy heart that I report one of our members, Hugo Tottino, has passed away. Hugo was a member of Branch #51 for several years and a lifelong member of our community. He was known for his kind heart and his big smile. He will be missed by our branch and our Artichoke Community.

Please pray for the following members: Wilma Cursi, Pauline Bigby, Pat Stefani, Eva Mae and Vic Sigala, Delores Tottino, Marie and Egidio Tonus and longtime friend Thema Sbarra and all who need God’s healing blessings.

Dear Lord, as we celebrate this Holy Season please put your strong arms around the homeless, the suffering, the lonely and those far away from home (our servicemen and women please keep them safe) and those who grieve for loved ones, comfort them and help them find peace.

To my beautiful sister Anna and our little angel granddaughter Samantha, we love and miss you so much.

Ciao,
Leonora Barlow

**Capitola
St. Joseph, Br. 227**

Many thanks to Gary Podesto and his crew of Janice Podesta, Darrell Harrison, Bob and Mary Montanye, Mary Lou Weidlich, Rita Law, Andy Armanino and Dottie Smith for preparing and serving the scrumptious turkey dinner at our November meeting. Gary has provided many wonderful meals over the years and we were happy to see him back in the kitchen.

The following officers were elected for 2018:

- President – Ellen Pauly
1st Vice-President – Franklyn Lopes
2nd Vice-President – Mike Rios
Secretary – Deanna Musler
Financial Secretary – Marie Mungai
Treasurer – Jane Kotila
Orator – Bruce Dunn
Trustee – Vicky Howell
Trustee – Mary Montanye
Trustee – Ken Olsen
Sentinel – Mary Harrison

Save the date of March 10 for the 50th Anniversary celebration dinner. It will be held at the Back Nine at the Inn at Pasatiempo.

Welcome news is that our parish priest, Father Wayne Dawson, will be serving as Chaplain.

Shauna Scott has volunteered to serve as Membership Chairperson. She will meet with representatives of other branches to come up with ways to increase memberships in the Central Coast District.

At our November meeting, members voted to donate \$500 to the Santa Rosa Fire District Fund to help those folks living in the area who have been affected by the fire.

Belated congratulations to our President, Ellen Pauly, and her husband Gene, who celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in October.

Merry Christmas to all and remember: “Jesus is the reason for the season.”

Deanna Musler, Secretary

**Arroyo Grande
St. Patrick, Br. 291**

Branch 291 is looking forward to our annual Christmas Luncheon at the Madonna Inn on Sunday, Dec. 3rd, where our members and guests always enjoy a delicious lunch, lots of great raffle prizes and festive entertainment. Photos to follow in our January Bollettino

report!

Our last Fall Fundraising Dinner was held on Friday, November 10th, and in honor of Veteran’s Day, all veterans and active military ate for free! The dinner was well attended and we served our delicious spaghetti with homemade sauce, salad and garlic bread, plus a large assortment of delectable desserts! We did very well this year with our three Fall Fundraising Dinners, and all net proceeds benefit our Catholic School Registration Assistance Program.

Congratulations to our 2018 Branch Officers! President – Pete Gallagher; 1st V.P. – Abby Gallagher; 2nd V.P. – Joanna Van Blaricom; Secretary – Keely Sanchez; Treasurer – Joe Franco; Financial Secretary – Jennifer Nakamura; Orator – Kathleen Sullivan; Trustees – Sylvia Nasholm, Gayle Quain and Throck Scudder; Sentinel – Ellen Bavaro. We look forward to attending installation in Santa Cruz in January!

We recently lost a very dear friend and ICF member, Peg Hensley. Peg was very active in several parish ministries, along with her husband, Bruce, and we will miss her hard work, dedication, and sparkle in her eye. Please keep Bruce and his family in your thoughts and prayers during their time of grieving. Also, please continue to pray for all other members who may be experiencing illness, pain or heartache at this time.

A very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and your loved ones!

*Keely Sanchez
Recording Secretary*

**Oakland
East Bay
District Council**

Hope everyone is in good health and getting ready to enjoy the Christmas season. We kicked off the season with our annual Christmas party at Buon Appetito. Good food, good friends, good fun! Thanks to Lisa and her crew for putting it together. Hope people were happy with the earlier hour.

We are asking all members to put on their thinking caps to help us come up with ideas of what to do for our quarterly Mass, or a possible replacement. Time of recollection? rosary? special speakers? Let us know what your ideas are.

Please keep Anna Alberti, who is ill, in your prayers. Also our prayers go out to the Crudo family on the death of Brian Crudo in late October.

Attention! Attention! Please note that due to a conflict in scheduling, our installation of officers has been changed to Jan.14,2018, still beginning with Mass at 3 P.M.

Time to get ready for our Crab Feed, Saturday, 2/17/18. Remember, this is a fund raiser. More to follow.

In the meantime, may God Bless you and your families and may you keep the spirit of Christmas in your hearts throughout the year.

Buon Natale! Felice Anno Nuovo!

**Alameda
Nostra Signora Delle Grazie, Br. 10**

We are looking forward to co-hosting, with Branch 40 of Oakland, the East Bay District Installation on Sunday, January 14 at the Fratellanza Club in Oakland. The event will start with 3:00 p.m. Mass celebrated by District Chaplain Father Rafal Duda. The installation ceremony should begin at about 4:00 and will be followed by social time at 5:00 and dinner at 5:30. We are hoping that

the five branches in the East Bay District, including our own, will be able to send all of their officers. Full representation would recognize the dedication of members of both Central Council, many of whom who will travel long distances to attend, and the District Council.

We are also looking forward to our first function of 2017, our Polenta Dinner scheduled for Saturday evening, January 13, in Monsignor O’Brien Hall, High Street and Van Buren Street, Alameda. This annual event begins with social hour at 6:30 p.m. Dinner will be served at 7:00. For prices, reservations and other information, contact John Zugnoni, john@zugnoni.net or (510) 523-8005.

We have re-elected our 2017 officers for 2018. They are: Dave Rose, president; Gina Foster, first vice-president, Peggy Lubeck, second vice-president; Jeanette Zugnoni, secretary; Karen Harrington, treasurer; JoAnn Dorn, Betty Lupetti, Agnes Marcheschi and Elena Serles, trustees; Larry Dunnigan and Ernie Poggi, sentinels; Sharon Brunetti, orator; and John Zugnoni, publicity.

Fran LaTorre will continue to serve as branch mentor in addition to performing her duties as East Bay District mentor. Fran also provided us with her family history during her mentor report at our October membership meeting.

John Zugnoni, Publicity

**Oakland
Santa Rita, Br. 40**

Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year to you your family. Wishing you all good health and Peace for the coming year.

We are pleased to announce that there is an addition to our 2018 Branch officers. Vito Muscardin will be serving as 2nd Vice President. Our January monthly meeting will be a members social. All are invited to meet our newly elected officers and our other members of the branch. Come join the fun. The date for the installation of officers has been changed to January 14th at the Fratellanza club. Contact Mary Ann Francis if interested in one or both activities. Call 655-4971. ICF raffle calendars are here. Cost is \$25, of which \$5 goes to our branch. You have a chance to win each day of the year to win between \$30-\$50 or even \$100. Contact Claire Ramirez at 510-724-9790 for more information or to purchase. Good Luck.

Upcoming:

December 4th: Monthly meeting 7PM. Sacred Heart Center

January 8th: Social for all members 7PM. Sacred Heart Center.

January 14th: Installation of 2018 officers. Fratellanza Club

February 17th: District crab feed. More information next month

Happy Birthday to David Avery, Franca Duncan, Karen Garcia, Jean Inferrera, Debbie Lachino and Esemea Tabacca. God Bless you All.

Remember in your prayers Mary DeVincenzi and her husband Butch who lost their home and business in the Santa Rosa Fire.

Thought: “Today is what I have, To Love, To Touch, To Feel, To Taste, To Smell, To Live... What more could I ask For?”

*Ciao,
M.A. Francis*

**Fremont
St. Francis of Assisi, Br. 215**

Let’s take some time to offer what support, whether prayers, donations or shelter to those who have suffered tragic losses due to

the many fires in the Santa Rosa and Santa Cruz areas.

Branch 215’s Bingo Salad Luncheon was held on October 19th and reported on in last month’s column but, because of the Bolletino deadline, I wasn’t able to give many details.

I was in charge of selling raffle tickets for the generous raffle baskets made by Joan Lampe, Julie Ferrario, Nadine Mattier, Fran LaTorre, Vilma Romo – Mary Lenhart – Judy Schiechl and my wife, Claire & I. Shortly after setting up my sales table, I purchased some tickets for myself. I then proceeded to use my carnival barker skills to entice our generous patrons to join in the fun. Toward the end of sales, I even enticed my wife to actually spend some of HER money to buy the last 6 tickets.

Now we’re in the last stages of preparations for Christmas. Amidst all the hustle and bustle of decorating, shopping, and holiday cooking & baking please take some time to remember the real reason for this special holiday: PRESENTS - - - Just kidding, The birth of Christ still remains the core of this holiday and we all have our own special way to commemorate his birth. Whether its celebration of midnight mass; Carrying out the tradition of the feast of five fishes; or honoring some other family tradition, we all seem to come together this time of year.

As always, our thoughts and prayers go out to those who are ill and to the safety of our first responders, military, and their families.

*Buon Natale to all...
Ken Chiatello*

**Livermore
St. Filomena, Br. 285**

Roll Out the Barrel ... and we did for our annual Oktoberfest meeting. With Leonard Rossi playing traditional Oktoberfest songs on his accordion, we sang, drank German beer, and ate deliciously prepared sausages and sauerkraut. Laurice Levine joined our festivities and when the (almost) raucous group quieted down, she told us about her recent experiences with Cooley’s Anemia. Her deeply felt presentation renewed our understanding of why ICF supports of this worthy charity. Then, with a mother’s pride, Laurice showed us pictures of her beautiful new son. We thank her for coming and being the inspiration that she always is. Again this year, on Sunday, December 10, we are having our Nativity displays at St. Elizabeth Seton in Pleasanton. These displays are to remind us all, especially the children, that the real meaning of Christmas is the nativity (birth) of Jesus. And to remind us of what Luke tells us, that Mary and Joseph were real people and Jesus was born in humble surroundings. We display nativity sets from all parts of the world. Some are large, some are miniature, some are made by master craftsmen, others are made by family members and passed down. All are wonderments especially to the young ones. Bring your family, grandkids, and friends to this unique display of Jesus’ birth - they will not be disappointed. Come join us for our events or meetings - together we are the Italian Catholic Federation family.

Chuck Meier

**Castro Valley
Our Lady of Grace, Br. 343**

It has been a busy time for our members what with election of officers, the bake sale, collection of nonperishable food items for St. Vincent de Paul’s pantry @ OLG, and that is just the beginning.

Thank you to those who have been elected officers for 2018: Co-pres., Karen Rossi and Melody Klever; 2nd Vice pres., Mike Miraglia; Sec., Pat Grasso; Treas., Lisa Crudo;

Fin. Sec., Al Proietti; Trustees, Dorothy Cassini, Cathy Condeff and Stella Taddei; Sent., Roz Crudo and Orator, Maria Ruggeri. See you at Installation 1/14/18!

A big thank you to all the bakers who stepped up for our bake sale. Lots of goodies to make life easier for all the dessert lovers out there.

We have started the holiday collection of food items for the St. Vincent de Paul pantry. This collection will continue @ OLG over the Thanksgiving holiday and into Dec.

Our next event is our branch Christmas party during which we will collect layette/baby clothes for Birthright. We will also share cookies with each other for dessert, more homemade ones we hope.

Remember, ICF dues are now payable and if you are young enough hospitalization also.

In addition to Lisa's most delicious Minestrone soup at our last meeting, we had a presentation by Al Bonzini on the racing of homing pigeons and the role Italians played in it.

May God Bless you and keep you and yours during this busy time of the year.

Buon Natale! Felice Anno Nuovo!

Contra Costa District Council

The Contra Costa District held their first meeting at Legends at the Diablo Golf Course in Concord. The members seem to have a positive reaction as to the new centrally located place. We also had election of officers which are

The Night of Recollection was held on the 6th of Nov in Martinez. We are very grateful to Father Larry Young for his inspirational talk, and we thank those who attended

Please be sure to put that the District Christmas dinner party will be held on Monday Dec 4th at De Vito's Italian Restaurant in Pleasant Hill. No host dinner will be at 7:PM. Please RSVP to your branch President and each branch email your headcount to Patty at jandp1976@aol.com

Wow the older we get the faster the time goes by! It seems that is was not too many months ago that we were just planning on who was coming for Thanksgiving dinner, and who was bringing what to dinner. A special time to give thanks for that food, and a time to say thank you for that nice warm cozy bed. A good time to look around us and see that our troubles are not so big in comparison to others. "Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God." {philippians 4:6}

Martinez San Martino, Br. 13

Branch 13 closed out the year with its annual traditional Thanksgiving feast at its last meeting in November. Save the date for next year since all are welcome to this fun pot-luck. We introduced our 2018 Officers preparing for the Branch #13 hosted Contra Costa District Installation scheduled on Saturday, January 13, 2018 beginning with the 5 pm Mass at St. Stephen Parish in Walnut Creek, followed by dinner in the parish hall. San Martino Officers to be installed are President Tom Cook, First Vice President Anne Crisp, Financial Secretary and Treasurer Karen Glen, Corresponding and Recording Secretary, Mary Cook, Orator Maria Catanese-Helberg, Trustees Rosemary Cook, Bob Poirier and Mary Lynn Rogers, and Sentinel Paul Cook.

The annual Polenta, Chicken and Sausage dinner was another success. We realized more profits than we had anticipated from this community fundraiser known for its numerous—over 50—raffle baskets and prizes! Our proceeds will continue to support the ICF Branch #13 Marina Ellis Eighth Grade



Members from Branch 14, Crockett, who help set up for our successful Polenta Dinner. Thank you for your support.



David Botta, Laurice Levine and Donna Hoffmann just hanging out. Thanks Laurice for the visit.



Our back kitchen workers for our Polenta dinner. Great Job Guys !!!!

Scholarship fund for a student in St. Catherine parish school, the Seminary fund, and the Fulfilling the Promise Campaign. Once again our dessert auction with the S'mores cake from SugarChef, and the Italian Rum cake from Alpine Bakery, as well as member-made flan and cookie train added to the great success of the evening.

We, in Martinez at Branch #13, wish all our fellow members in the Federation a very holy and blessed Christmas and all the wonder surrounding the birth of Our Lord and enter the Happy New Year in God's holy presence.

Ciao for now,

Anne Crisp

Crockett San Carlo, Br. 14

Tis the season to celebrate, and Tuesday, December 12th is our traditional Christmas Social. There is no mass or meeting, but "Holiday Cheer" begins at 5:30, and we can always count on Santa appearing at 6:00 with presents galore, lovingly provided by parents/grandparents, etc. Bring the children who are special to you; little ones help make Christmas festive and fun, and watching



Welcome Jason, Shannon and Max Dutra as new members to branch 14 Crockett. Congrats

their enchantment while talking to Santa fills everyone's heart with delight.

Please bring a salad or dessert to share at dinner; the Branch provides the pasta and bread, free of charge. Our Christmas Social is the perfect time for our ICF family to join in merriment.

Special greetings to our members who have been unable to attend events this year. We want you to know that you have been missed, and wish you all a most wonderful Christmas and a happy, healthy 2018.

May the essence of Christmas live in your hearts and guide you through a New Year filled with love and peace. Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo!

Joyous Christmas Blessing,

Diane Bottini Thomas

Pittsburg San Domenico, Br. 72

At our Oct. dinner meeting we held election of 2018 officers. All offices will be held by the same officers as the previous year. We thank our officers for again taking on their responsibilities. We will attend the Installation of officers in Jan. hosted by branch 13 Martinez. You will receive details and the RSVP date.

In Nov. our branch celebrated its 70th anniversary. We are happy that our branch is 70 years old. We thank all the officers and members who over the years worked hard under the banner of branch 72. We have made many memories. The most recent memory was our 70th anniversary dinner held at the Olive Garden restaurant in Pittsburg.

On Nov. 6 we went to the District Night of Recollection. Dinner was enjoyed and was followed by an inspirational talk given by our District Chaplin Father Larry Young. It was a nice evening.

We will join the District for the annual Christmas party on Dec 4. This year it will be held at De Vito's in Pleasant Hill.

I would like to give an update on the proceeds from our bus trip last Sept. We made a profit of 500.00. This would not be possible without the efforts of our bus trip chairperson Joann. Thank you Joann! We also thank those who went on the bus trip. We always get a nice size group from the Brentwood branch. We thank them for their support.

We offer condolences to our Deputy (mentor) Peggy for the loss of her Father.

If you know of any sick members please let us know. We will be happy to send a card on behalf of the branch.

Wishing all of you a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

As we say in Pittsburg, Sempre Avanti.

Patty Jarrett

Richmond St. Raymond, Br. 154

Election of officers was held. Here are your officers for 2018 are:

Alicia Trevino -- President

Lorraine Acuna -- 1st Vice-President

Laura McAllister -- 2nd Vice President

Debbie Kendall -- Recording Secretary

Mike Cannady -- Financial Treasurer

Toni Reeder -- Treasurer

Domenica Yonke -- Trustee

Julian Acuna -- Trustee

Ruben Trevino -- Trustee

Teresa Ventin -- Sentinel

Walter Costa -- Orator

District day of Recollection was held Nov. 06, 2017 at La Tapatia restaurant in Martinez, at 6:30PM. An inspiring talk was given by Father Larry Young, all who attended enjoyed a great Mexican dinner.

Thank you, Fr. Larry!

Calendars are available for purchase. Please see Domenica Yonke at the next meeting to pick yours up. They make good Christmas gifts!

Don't forget the December 11th meeting. Annual polenta dinner, FREE FOR MEMBERS. Reservations a must!! Call Toni Reeder @510-472-9646 by Dec 6th.

Danville St. Isadore, Br. 352

Our favorite Harvest Fundraiser Dinner Dance was one for the books! The band was outstanding and the music had everyone's feet tapping. There were even a few appreciative whistles from the spectators, while the dancers showed off their special moves (you know who you are!). A rousing round of the "Happy Birthday" song echoed off the walls for Msgr. Cardelli and Steve Gouig ... all the best this year, to both of you! What a fun night! Once again, Chef Angelo, Ron & Peter turned out the best roasted chicken & polenta this side of the Mississippi, and the kitchen committee pulled off a seamless delivery, even with Marilyn in the hospital! (she's home now & all is well). Thanks, also, to our kitchen helpers from the Confirmation Class – what a wonderful group of young people – and they stayed til the end!

Our Christmas Potluck will be held on Monday, Dec. 11th at 6:00pm. Plan to bring the family, along with a favorite dish to share – and be ready for some Christmas Bingo after dinner!

Save the date for our January Crab Feed on Monday, January 15th, at 6pm. Once again, Russ Belleci will be catering his delicious recipe of marinated crab, with pasta & all the trimmings. Based on last year's rave reviews,



this will sell out quickly! Space is limited by the room size – and NO tickets will be sold at the door. Please be sure to RSVP early to the members-only eVite, as this event is also open to the public.

*Buon Natale,
Branch 352*

Brentwood Immaculate Heart of Mary, Br. 432

October 30th saw the last Branch meeting of 2017. However, it won't be the last get together of 2017 for Branch members as November 27th will be the annual Branch Christmas Party. As usual, the annual Christmas party is generating a lot of excitement: past parties have always been high energy, lots of fun affairs. Everyone looks forward to being there.

As it turns out the Branch Christmas party won't be the only event being celebrated. Our Parish,

IHM, has paid off its Church mortgage and is going to have a mortgage burning ceremony with a party to follow. The entire IHM community is invited to take part in the festivities.

We did cover some business that wasn't all fun. The officers for 2018 were nominated, an election held and all officers for 2018 were elected and are in place. If you were present at the meeting you know who the officers are, if not, see below:

Chaplin -- Deacon Edward Spano
President -- Deacon John Kortuem
First Vice President -- Jay Risso
Second Vice President -- Bob Hoffner
Secretary -- Linda Bray
Financial Secretary -- Gene Simonetti
Treasurer -- Linda Kortuem
Orator -- Sam Scalise
Trustees -- Philomena Sawko, Jenny Fuller,



Branch 214, Concord collecting lots of toys for children in need.

Lilly Beatty
Sentinel -- Anita Camera
Deputy -- Joan Thilgen

And lastly, a final word on the 8th annual "Festa." The 2017 event was the most successful ever. We need to continue to build on "Festa's" successes. To that end, next year "Festa" will see some changes. Among them will be, moving from Monday to Friday.

Without his love I can do nothing. With his love there is nothing I can't do.

la vita è buona

Pleasant Hill Christ the King, Br. 442

We held our Christ the King branch membership drive the first weekend of November after all the masses. We had quite a crowd. Thanks to all the members who brought goodies and homemade cookies (we want the recipes!) and talked with potential members. A special thank you to Patty Jarrett for organizing the drive. You all made this a most successful event. Looking forward to welcoming our new members at the next meeting. But remember that we have an open invitation to ICF, don't wait until the next membership drive to talk to family and friends about ICF.



Christ the King, Branch 442 November membership drive.

Several members attended our annual district evening of recollection on November 6, led by Father Larry Young at La Tapatia Restaurant in Martinez. If you haven't participated before, you are encouraged to do so next time. It's an opportunity to reflect on what it means to be part of ICF and our call to live in faith and promote our family traditions. And eat, and have some fun, of course!

It's time to deck the halls already. We are looking forward to our annual Christmas party on Sunday afternoon, December 10. Be on the lookout for an email with more details. Hope to see you all there.

And we ask special prayers for our clergy especially Fr. Bryan Joyce as he continues on his road to recovery.

Ci vediamo presto,

Eileen McGauran and Diana MacKinson

Orange

Irvine St. Thomas More, Br. 423

To celebrate the changing seasons, our October meeting dinner consisted of two different chilis made by Gail McDonald and Carole Caplett, and Italian Wedding and Zuppa Toscana soups made by Bob and Miranda Gibson.

Our branch participated in the Family Fun Faire on October 29 at St. Thomas More. We also had our monthly food drive on the same day.

Marci Dodson talked about the All Soul's Day traditions Italians participate in All Soul's Day is a national holiday in Italy. Italians visit family graves and celebrate those they have lost.

The Mother Cabrini Mass was held on



Branch 379 members Isabella and Dominic Bruno with Father Tim Donovan of St. Bonaventure Church in Huntington Beach, at the 10th annual interfaith Blessing of the Waves.

November 11 evening mass at St. Thomas More Parish. Members carried the baldacchino at the beginning and at the end procession. The first reading was read in Italian by Frank Giannantonio. After the mass Members met for dinner at Tutto Fresco in Santa Ana.

Annual Christmas party is scheduled to be on Friday, December 11 at The Groves Clubhouse from 6-10. Members to bring hearty appetizers and desserts. Gift exchange will take place. There will be no monthly meeting in December.

Elections of officers took place at the October meeting. Most of the officers kept their positions with exception of Treasurer and Food Drive Chairperson. Betty McIntosh will take over as Food Drive Chairperson, and Jerry Donaldson will take over as Treasurer. A big thank you to Peggy and Tom Farrell for their years of dedication and commitment in serving their positions for our branch.

Wishing all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Ciao,

Miranda Gibson

Reno

Reno St. Albert, Br. 135

On November 4, 2017 the Branch held its annual Polenta and Chicken "fundraiser" dinner. We had a great crowd of over 160 people who enjoyed the food and the entertainment provided by John Coverelli on the accordion, Nancy Barker on the keyboard, and singers Father Chuck Durante and Lydia Aberasturi. Many thanks go to all our members who worked very hard to make the dinner a success. Special thanks go to Rachael Ferrari, who chaired the event, Bob Ferrari, Bobby Ferrari, Bob Capurro and all the Ferrari family who shopped and helped with the cooking.

At our November meeting we elected our officers for the next year:

Chaplain: Brother Matthew Cunningham

President: Charlyne Pacini

1st Vice President: Rachael Ferrari

2nd Vice President: Mel Sullivan

Recording Secretary: Vonnice Ramos

Financial Secretary: Nancy Telliano

Treasurer: Ron Frediani

Orator: Eugenia Hovland

Trustees: Bob Ferrari and Mike Telliano

Sentinel: Don Merucci

Our Chaplain, Brother Matthew and member Mary Merucci had back surgery in November. We pray for our Lord's healing touch for a speedy recovery.

We look forward to Sunday, December 3rd, when we will celebrate a special dinner with our Bishop Randolph Calvo. We will be presenting him with a check for the education of the Seminarians of the Reno diocese. Members are asked to bring non-perishable food for St. Vincent's Pantry to the dinner.

Our next meeting will be January 14, 2018.

Buon Natale e Capo D'Anno a Tutti!

Charlyne Pacini

Sacramento

Roseville San Vito, Br. 73

The evening of 11 November, some 250



Branch 352 Harvest Dinner Dance.

persons partook of the good food and pleasant company at the autumn edition of Branch 73’s semi-annual chicken/polenta dinner. Many thanks are extended to all those who made the success of the evening possible: Tony and Kathy Barsotti and their kitchen crew for preparing the food; and those who helped clean the chicken, prepared to hall, sold dinner tickets and raffle tickets. Also thanks to all who contributed to the raffle prizes, manned the bar and sold tickets for it and provided kitchen cleanup.

Buona festa di Natale il 25 dicembre a tutti i soci della Sezione 73 ed ai soci di tutta la Federazione. Che la benedizione del Bambino Gesu ci porti la salute e la felicita!

Buon compleanno a tutti i soci della sezione nati nel mese di dicembre.

Robert Delpippo

Auburn
St. Joseph, Br. 342

The members of Branch 342 would like to wish their fellow ICF members and their families a very blessed Christmas. We hope you are able to enjoy this time with loved ones, enjoy wonderful food and traditions and make wonderful memories together.

Please make sure that you contact either MaryAnn Mikles at 916-759-8466 or Dolores Aleccia at 530-823-7653 for tickets to our annual Polenta Dinner which will be held on Saturday, January 13th at St. Teresa’s Hall. For \$25, you will be treated to an absolutely fantastic dinner of salad, polenta, chicken, sausage, bread, and dessert. There will also be dancing and an awesome raffle! This event always sells out, so do not wait to get your tickets. If you have raffle items to donate, please contact MaryAnn. We look forward to seeing you.

Starting next month, our monthly meeting will be moved to the second Sunday afternoon of the month. We will meet at St. Joseph’s from 1:30 to 4:00 pm. We hope you will be able to join us.

Ciao!

Pam Andersen

San Francisco
San Francisco
Maria S. S. Immacolata, Br. 1

Dear Members;

Due to the closure of Immaculate Conception Chapel, Branch 1 will be relocated to St Anthony Church, at 3215 Cesar Chavez St., San Francisco.

The last Mass at the Chapel was Oct. 1. Prayers and best wishes to Father Guglielmo Lauriola, our Chaplain since

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Branch 50 celebrates Thanksgiving together after their meeting.

1975, who is now residing at the St. Elizabeth Friary in Oakland.

Upcoming: Please note: No meetings in January and February. Special thank to Pat Arnaudo, who translates my reports to “Computer Language” during the year.

A Holy and Happy Christmas to all Branch 1 Members and their families!

Ciao!

Toni Morsello

San Francisco
Sts. Peter and Paul, Br. 38

Our October meeting was again poorly attended. Dora Varacchi had to be at a family meeting, Rose Mangini was sick, our dear Chaplin Fr. Al had 3 Weddings to perform! Thank goodness George Pagni (our District Deputy) and Joe Basuino (both members of Br. #365) attended our meeting. With Maria Gloria, Cosmo, and I present we did manage to vote on four of our Christmas donations.

Maria Gloria, our 1st VP and Heritage Chairlady spoke to us about the formation of the Italian Catholic Federation in 1924. We all know how and why the beginning of the ICF came about, but it is always nice to rehear all the facts. Maria is always interesting and so generous. She gave each of us a huge and delicious cookie. Grazie tanto!

We still have 30 ICF 2018 Calendars to sell... please HELP by buying/selling one! They make great Christmas gifts. They cost \$25 each, and we keep \$5 from each Calendar sold. Phone Cosmo at 415-392-3560 if you would like to buy one or more.

Our December 9th Party Luncheon plans have not been finalized yet, but Cosmo’s working on them! I’m sure Dora Varacchi will think up a few surprises! The only thing our members have to do, to get ready is: practice singing Christmas Carols...pretty simple assignment....right!

Branch 38 officers and members wish all members of the ICF un BUON NATALE.

We hope everyone has a happy, healthy and felice ANNO NUOVO!

Ci vediamo 9 di Dicembre at 12:00 noon at our annual Christmas Party...TBA!

Our Christmas Party will be 2017’s Br. 38’s last Harrah!!

Ciao

Mara Amato, President Br. #38

San Francisco
Santo Stefano, Br. 50

What a wonderful way to start the Holiday Season with our last meeting. We celebrated Thanksgiving the first of the month !

Our meeting was called to order on November 1st. by our President Marcella Ramos. She announced that we were again fortunate to have with us Dante Galleozi from Central Council.

The first order of business was the voting to pass the officers elected in November. They are as follows:

President, Marcella Ramos

First Vice President, Joe Figone

Second Vice President, Louie Massanti

Secretary, Anstell Ricossa

Corresponding Secretary, Elizabetta Favero

Treasurer, Annette Farrell

Financial Secretary, Mary Capurro

Sentinel, Ray Piva

After the reading of the minutes and the financial report was given, Marcella then passed the little “white basket”, to increase our Scholarship Fund. She announced the 2018 Calenders were now available and could be purchased for \$25.00. She also said she would be very happy to accept checks mailed to her for their purchase.

Joe Figone then addressed us. He gave us the wonderful menue for the night, that he prepared together with Dante. A complete Thanksgiving meal: Turkey, Yams, Mashed Potatoes, Stuffing, Pumpkin pie etc. etc. ...Joe expressed the need for more guests to attend our meetings, urged us all to bring along a friend. He then expressed his thanks to Dante Galleozi for all the help he has given our Branch.

The closing prayer was led by Marcella, and we then enjoyed the wonderful Thanksgiving Feast prepared for us.

Tanti Auguri per un Buon Natale and Felice Anno Nuovo!

San Francisco
St. Elizabeth, Br. 258

The officers and members of Br. 258 wish everyone Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo. Our trip on December 1st to Duarte Farms was another big success. We were all given a beautiful poinsettia . Lunch at the Hilmar Cheese Co. was very nice and delicious. Our Christmas lunch on December 4th was another big success. Sorry notice was not added in our November article, as we requested, but it was not done. On January 22 we go to Thunder Valley Casino. We are still hoping to get a big one! To all our members who had birthdays in October, November and December we all wish you much happiness and good health in the coming year.

Please remember our ill and deceased members in your prayers.

Remember the following dates:

January 22nd - meet

January 28th - Mass

Ciao,

Eva Perata, President

San Francisco
St. Cecilia, Br. 365

At our November meeting, it was voted upon to keep the same slate of officers.

We are still planning another Garage Sale and Prez George is still collecting items for

the sale. If you have anything to donate, please call George at 415- 566-8333.

Joe Basuino is in charge of 2018 calendar sales. I you wish to purchase one,

please call him at 415-564-7254 and reserve your calendar. The price is \$25.

Our Christmas party will be held on our regular meeting date and place.December 13th at 6:30. It will be potluck. You will be receiving a phone call.

Our longtime member, Ed Eremko, recently passed away. Please keep him and his wife, Norma, in your prayers.

Gary Gualco recently suffered a stroke and is in St. Mary’s Hospital. He expects to be there for several weeks. Please keep him in your prayers.

Remember to keep Christ in Christmas and may God Bless all of you and your families.

Buon Natale a tutti.

Ann Basuino

San Mateo
Colma

San Vincenzo De Paolo, Br. 19

Hello Everyone!

It is December already and everyone looking forward to the Birth of Our Lord. Most of all we want to thank everyone who has donated time and energy to keep our Branch strong and active. There are so many Thank You’s (this means all of you).

Congratulations to Julia Padreddii - this December she has been a member of Branch 19 for 70 years.

Branch Schedule:

January 8th: Monday, dinner meeting, dinner host TBA by Deborah Rodondi. Dessert host TBA Reservation to Cheryl Simon by the 4th at (650)755-0878 LEAVE MESSAGE or email cas94015@yahoo.com with reservation.

January 20th: Saturday, San Mateo District Installation; San Mateo Elks

Hosted by Branch 173 Our Lady of Angels Church; Mass at 9:15a.m. Installation 10:00a.m. Reservations to Deborah Rodondi

GARAGE SALE: Our 7th Annual Garage sale will hopefully be in the Spring. Please keep cleaning out those houses, garages and closets!!!

May we each enjoy blessings great as Jesus’ Birth we celebrate. May the love that we share here remain throughout the coming year. Bless all we do and all we say. Amen!

Buon Natale e Felice Anno

N. Thurman

Burlingame
Our Lady of Angels, Br. 173

This is a special month for us as we are honoring two of our members who

have been in the ICF for 75 years. They are Rina Cassanego and Lorraine

Rollandi. Their families have been invited to join us for their celebration.

We have a few new officers for 2018 who are:President, Mary Ann Camacho,

1st V.P. Luci Witherspoon, 2nd V.P. Jean Watterson, Recording Secretary Roz Emery, Correspondence Secretary, Mara Barasotti-Millis, Financial Secretary Brenda Wemiz, Treasurer, Donna Cervelli, Orator, Mary Bodisco, Sentinel, Maria Camica. Our Trustees are: Lori, Clyne, Bea Tomasello and Jim Witherspoon. Congratulations to all and look forward to a successful 2018 year.

We will certainly miss our previous President, Dorene Campanile who has been our leader for the past years and who has worked so hard to guide us in successful years and is a pleasure to work with. Lucky for us she will serve as 1st V.P. for our District in the future.

December 7, 6:30 is our Christmas Party so please try to attend and call Jean Watterson with food item you will contribute.

Please pay for our members: Larry Cavagnaro, Frank Clyne, Fr. Flavian, Linda Mustachia, Carol Norcia, Lorraine Rollandi, and John Watterson.

Happy Thanksgiving as we have a lot to be grateful for.

God Bless,

Rosalind C. Emery

South San Francisco

St. Augustine, Br. 213

Our November 14th dinner was hosted by Joe and Judy Crosetti and the dessert was provided by Lorraine D'Elia. They provided a great dinner meal to welcome the coming of the Holiday Season, Thanks you. Joe, Judy and Lorraine.

Special thank you to; Our Officers, who lead this years meeting, Our Members, who provided wonderful meals, The Crosetti's, who provided monthly Branch news letters and New Members who joined us this past year. We had a fun 2017 year and look forward to 2018.

Reminder, we still need help support our scholarship and financial obligations with a fund raiser. Be ready to participate, bring any ideas you have to the January meeting. Remember to mark your calendar for our January 20th Officers Installation at San Mateo Elks-Mass at 9:15 followed by Installation. This event will be hosted by Branch 173, Our Lady of Angels. Remember you must make reservations prior to this event if you wish to attend the luncheon. Let us know if you need a ride, we can make arrangements to car pool.

We wish you a Blessed Christmas and Happy New Year.

San Carlos

St. Charles Br. 327

Hello everyone and happy holidays to all!

At our October dinner meeting, our present Board graciously accepted another year of service for our branch. Thank you to all of our Board. President: Carmel Dufault; 1st Vice President: Joe Sheehan; 2nd Vice President: Celeste Lennemann; Recording Secretary: Barbara Borra; Financial Secretary: Alma Brennan; Treasurer: Marie DeRosa; Past President: Tom Malaspina; Orator: Rose Beall; Trustees: Dick Hogan, Donna McKay, Irene Meany; Sentinel: Gloria Haars; Chaplin: Ernie Von Emster.

Thank you to those who prepared our October dinner...Carmel Dufault for the ravioli; Celeste Lennemann for the salad and antipasto plates and Irene Meany for the pumpkin pies. A very enjoyable, delicious meal was enjoyed by all.

Wanda Facchini, a member of our branch for 25 years, passed away in September. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Wanda's family. And prayers and wishes for a speedy recovery for Alma Brennan who fell at her home.

And thank you to all who brought toys and gifts to be shared with the needy at St. Francis Center, plus all the Teddy bears that are used with children who are victims of abuse and domestic violence.

As usual you have all outdone yourselves with your generosity.

Don't forget our December Christmas Party is Tuesday, December 19. All food and drink will be prepared by your Board. Please let us know if you plan to attend so we can prepare plenty of food.

Buon Natale,

Virginia Malaspina

Millbrae

St. Dunstan, Br. 403

We hope to reach out through the ICF's Gifts of Love for "Special People" through funds allocated to individuals with a disability. This is a wonderful addition to the Gifts of Love program. Our branch has donated \$100 to the ICF Hurricane Relief Fund and \$200 to the Santa Rosa Fire Relief Fund. Our hearts and prayers go out to all those suffering from this devastation. Our annual Christmas Party will take place on December 5, 2017 in the Parish Center. The dinner entree is a stuffed chicken breast, with salad, mashed potatoes, vegetable, dessert and wine for \$20 per person. For reservations send check payable to ICF Branch #403 to Eunice Danli, 4 Spring Valley Lane, Millbrae, CA 94030, by December 1, 2017. Our Installation of Officers will take place on January 20, 2018 at the San Mateo Elks Club with Mass at the club at 9:15AM and Installation at 10:00AM. Lunch will follow. The entree choices: Chicken Picante, Petrale Sole, or Pasta Primavera for \$40 per person.

Rose Marie Morando

Corresponding Secretary

Marin

Larkspur

St. James, Br. 161

Salve amici e soci della Federazione

Our branch is grateful to be able to contribute to Catholic Charities North Bay Fire Relief for our neighbors who have suffered from the effects of the fires. Many of us have been personally affected through friends and family. We continue to pray for them and all those who have been impacted.

Our late November meeting will give us an opportunity to come together in gratitude for the friendships that we share. This humble dinner will begin the spirit of our holiday season.

Our Christmas luncheon will take place Saturday, December 2, at the St. Patrick Parish Center. We look forward to this popular event.

Buone Feste!

Jeanne Asdourian and Lucia Della Santina

Marlene Farber has calendars for you to purchase. They are \$25 and the branch gets to keep \$5 for each calendar sold. They make wonderful gifts for Christmas and birthdays. Call Marlene if you would like to buy one.

Please continue your get-well prayers for everyone who isn't feeling well.

There will be no meeting in December.

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas

Buon Natale a tutti.

Anna Biggio

Recording Secretary

San Jose

Santa Clara Valley

District Council

Craig Noah, President of hospitality Branch 47, along with his committee provided



Branch 28 - October 2017, Vanni Family Cooking Crew.



Branch 28 - Gennaro Filice, Matt Dutra and John Gillio getting ready to stir the polenta.



Branch 28 - October 2017 New members Dave and Mary Sturla and Morris and Kathy McHenry.

refreshments for the meeting. District President Bob thanked them graciously. Bob also related that some ICF Central Council members lost their homes in the Santa Rosa fires. Bob also reported that he and Denise Antonwicz accepted an invitation from the Little Italy Festival Foundation to set up an ICF information booth. They displayed the Bollettino Convention Issue and sold five calendars.

District Mentor Delfino reminded all mentors to use the new reporting form. Todd MacDonald's daughter, Erica, received a 4th year scholarship to Santa Clara University. Craig Noah admitted arm-twisting works on his members because he sold 21 convention raffle books. Jo Bertaccini, Br. 191, said they used a Taco truck for the dinner meeting. She also said they sent \$353 to the Hurricane Relief fund. Mike Rossi (Br. 391) said they sent \$362 to the relief fund. Ric Shimshock, Br. 408, said the Pancake Breakfast along with St. Vincent DePaul benefited scholarships.

Resurrection Br. 445 hosted the ICF Central Council meeting and expects to raise funds via a See's Candy Sale. Jim Jones continues to promote the November 12 Mother Cabrini Pilgrimage and wants us to give it our best effort.

December District Meeting – Monday, December 11, Hosted by ICF Br. 435 – at Tony's & Albas.

Mike Nunziata



Branch 28 - Christine Filice and her father W. John Filice

Santa Clara

N.S. Assunta, Br. 5

Hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving.

All the Dinners for 2018 will be prepared by Mike Holder. Everyone come and enjoy the

Food and Meeting. Bring a friend or/and relative.

2018 ICF Calendars are on sale now. See Mary Ann Ruiz. The calendar also includes an opportunity to win each month \$\$\$ They make great gifts for Christmas and the New Year.

We will give to Charitable donations this month for Christmas approved by the membership at are November Meeting.

ICF Br. 5 Christmas Dinner will be on December 16, 2017. It will be a Potluck Dinner with the Knight of Columbus. Call one of the officers for information. All are welcome.

Reminder dues are currently due and payable by December 31, 2017 for the 2018 year. Please mail to Marlene Rotolo, Financial Secretary.

Have a Blessed and Merry Christmas everyone and see you in 2018. Happy New Year too.

Ciao,

Marlene J. Rotolo

Gilroy

Santa Maria Ausiliatrice, Br. 28

Our October dinner meeting was held on October 16, 2017. The Vanni family prepared a wonderful meal of roast pork and all the fixings. The Halloween themed desserts consisted of homemade cookies. There was Initiation of new members Dave and Mary Sturla and Morris and Kathy McHenry. Welcome and congratulations. An election of officers for the upcoming year resulted in Kim M. Filice being elected financial secretary and Roy Shackel taking over orator from W. John Filice. Although I can see W. John's humility and modesty make him cringe at these words, they will be said. Thank you for your many years as an officer and decades as Orator, you



Maria Greco, Marie Antonowicz and Denise Antonowicz share a laugh at Branch 184's Ghosts and Ghouls Dinner Dance. Not too scary here.



Joe and Marie Yurosko were Pepper and Salt at our Halloween Polenta Dinner Dance. At the table behind them are Richard, Romano and Jeff Buonaccorsi, the men who actually make the Polenta.

are and will continue to be a true "gift" to Branch 28 of the Italian Catholic Federation.

Our major fundraiser polenta dinner was held on November 4th in which 160 were served. Recording Secretary Diana Berry and Treasurer Patricia Cordich with spirited fortitude stepped in to fill the huge shoes left by Andy Pappani because of his Grand President commitments. With Andy in an advisory role and Pat's and Diana's hard, hard, work those shoes were ably filled. A special thank you to Branch 5 members Tina Souza Dutra and Matt Dutra who prepared and stirred all day long. Branch 368 and 28's John Gillio who supplied popup tents in case of inclement weather and stirred and tackled the large pots at cleanup. A huge thank you to you all. Also a special thank you to Branch 28 members Joe Fortino, Vince Saso, John Matteucci, and Dick Bozzo.

Peace and God Bless,

Kim M. Filice

Los Gatos

St. Mary, Br. 184

Our Ghosts and Ghouls Polenta Dinner Dance was so much fun this year! Many people came in costume to eat, visit and dance. Oh and did I mention the raffle? Beautiful baskets were awarded to the lucky ticket holders. There was a new drink: Vampire's Blood Cocktail, served with a syringe of raspberry juice "Blood". In all, it was a great party.

Please call Donna Pfaff and buy a 2018



Branch 368 members and layette items that will be donated for this years San Jose Diocese's Layette Party in December.

Calendar. Its not only full of personal stories and recipes, but you have the chance of getting your name drawn and placed in the winner's column of the Bollettino. Her phone number is 408 265 7902, and the calendars cost \$25.00, \$5.00 stays with our branch.

All officers remained this year except the office of Sentinel, which will now be held by Marcia Green. The Installation of Officers Mass and Luncheon will be held at Transfiguration Church on January 6, 2018.

Keep your ears tuned to a Membership Drive, to be held in December. Member Eileen Fritsch will speak at all Sunday Masses. It would be great if members could bring in just one new person. This is the way to ensure that our Branch 184 will continue on into the future.

It doesn't seem possible that Christmas is just around the corner. Where did the year go? So much has happened this year and the ICF keeps going forward, opening new worlds to members and friends. I see a blur of picnics, parties and dinners behind and before us. May God Bless you and your families, now and into the New Year.

Merry Christmas,

Lucy Amico

San Jose

Santa Teresa de Avila, Br. 368

We have had two festive meetings, one in October and one in November. Thank you Gus and Mary Mavroudis, Ron and Jackie Morton, and Rose Noack for the fantastic food and decorative candy corns and pumpkins at our October meeting. Our November Thanksgiving feast was organized by Ed and Jane Wendler, Ann and Joe Gresch, Avis Erkel, and Lynda De Manti. Our special thanks go to Noreen and John Gillio who, though not on the committee, were indispensable to the success of our delicious turkey dinner. Thank you, hosts and hostesses, for many jobs well done!

We have our slate of officers for 2018. John Gillio has graciously accepted the position of president. Thank you once again, John! Mary Ridi will continue as first vice-president, as will Joyce Robba as second vice-president. Thank you to Paula Radzinski, who has done

such a great job as recording secretary and who is turning over her many notebooks of minutes to Anne Cordoni. Barbara Ruffner will serve again as treasurer, as will Robyn Schlice as financial secretary. Ed Wendler will continue his excellent spiritual talks as orator, and our trustees will be Paul Butler, Jerry Delfino, and Avis Erkel. Ron Sanchez will guard the door as sentinel.

Thank you to those who have served us so well this year, especially to Mike Nunziata, our retiring president. With his humor he ushered us through a few turbulent meetings and helped us to success in our many projects. Thank you, Mike!

A blessed Christmas to all!

Judy Zahn

San Jose

St. Martin of Tours, Br. 391

Fr. Abe led the opening prayer at our November meeting and spoke of his vocation to become a missionary. He explained that "Priests are considered midwives of God's healing presence." We were saddened to hear that Fr. Abe will be leaving us next June to go back to work with "the poorest of the poor" in his native country of India.

President Mike Rossi thanked our cooks and servers, led by Al and Diana Valloriz, and our hospitality team on the success of another great meal.

Through the generosity of our members, Branch 391 donated \$1,000 to the ICF Santa Rosa Wildfire Fund. Thank you to all who remembered our ICF members who lost their homes.

Daniel Valcazar, St. Martin's Director of Faith Formation, gave an informative presentation on his role in our parish.

Louise Vento presented the history of Thanksgiving in her relevant heritage report. She reminded us that the first Thanksgiving was set aside as a day of prayer by those who sought religious freedom.

Our Fall Spaghetti and Meatball Dinner was a great success--thank you to all who participated in making this a rewarding fundraiser.

There are still 2018 ICF Calendars available.

Upcoming events: Branch #391 Christmas dinner—December 5—there will be no meeting and donations will be collected for St. Martin's Village House. Quarterly Communion—December 10, 8:30 a.m. mass. District Installation of 2018 Officers—January 6, 2018 at Transfiguration, Branch #445.

Wishing you and your families a joyous and blessed Merry Christmas!

Janis Patellaro



Branch 391 Marcie Rossi selling tickets for the November Spaghetti Feast.

Sunnyvale

Resurrection, Br. 408

Our Santa Clara Valley District (SCVD) Bishop's Day was held at St. Catherine's Parish in Morgan Hill with Bishop PJ McGrath Presiding. The Mass was followed by a luncheon at the Coyote Hills Golf Course. It was a Crisp Autumn Day and the Fellowship was warm and refreshing. We donated \$7000 from the District and \$2500 from the Central Council. Bishop PJ asked that we pray for vocations and for the Seminarians who will face their first Chicago winter in that cold windy weather.

Our participation in the 100th Anniversary of Mother Francis Xavier Cabrini included a Rosary Procession and a Mass once again ConCelebrated with Bishop PJ Presiding. It was a beautiful celebration of our Patron Saint with some of her relics on display.

We look forward to our Christmas Potluck, and our Last Blood Drive of the year.

Please include a prayer for our faithful Chef John Parker who has moved with his son to Salinas area.

Please also pray for our sick members and friends— especially for Olive DeFrancisci, Dori Blefari, Edith Novak, and Betty Deville.

Morgan Hill

Santa Caterina D'Allesandria, Br. 435

In October our chapter had two enjoyable events. For our dinner meeting Maryclaire and Michael Sampognaro prepared and served a delectable meal of pulled pork sliders and corn pudding that was memorable....(we all wanted the recipe). Thank you both for this delicious meal.

On October 21 we were honored by a visit from Bishop P.J. McGrath who Concelebrated Mass for the Santa Clara Valley District (SCVD) of the Italian Catholic Federation at St. Catherine of Alexandria Church in Morgan Hill. Deacon Rick Hickle, Father Christopher Bennett, along with Parochial Vicar Randy Valenton, assisted the Bishop. Msgr. Father Milani was not able to attend because he was still recovering from pneumonia and a bad cough.

Bishop McGrath thanked the SCVD ICF and St. Catherine's Branch 435, for hosting the Bishop's Mass and the luncheon which followed at the Coyote Creek Golf Club. He said he always enjoys coming to Morgan Hill.

Bishop McGrath also thanked Giulia Gallego, President of Branch 435, for the Presentation of the Spiritual Bouquet from the SCVD. He also thanked Bob Bausino – Past Grand President and current SCVD President for the financial gift of the Bishop's Burse for the Seminarians' fund. Also, Bishop thanked Andy Pappani, current ICF Grand President, for his financial gift for the Seminarians from the Central Council Providenza Fund.

Respectfully submitted,

Fran Scalzo



Ralph A. Accola
Broker/Realtor®

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Branch 408's Mother Cabrini Pilgrimage.

**San Jose****Transfiguration, Br. 445**

Branch elections were held at our general meeting on October 26.

Outgoing President, Donna Pfaff, congratulated our elected officers for 2018:

Jim Falcone President, and his wife, Janie Falcone, First Vice-President,

Financial Secretary Amy Moody, Treasurer Karen Fierravanti, Secretary Richard Pfaff,

Emily Corral Orator, Diane Devine Sentinel, Chic Cannon, Art Maggio and Jennifer Nisich Trustees.

Santa Clara District Mentor, Jerry Delfino, congratulated our new officers and encouraged our branch to be as active and creative as possible as well as supporting the fundraising activities of other district branches.

Donna announced that our new branch chaplain will be Fr. Chris Bennett, the recipient of

the St. Mother Teresa Award at the recent ICF Annual Convention. Members were extremely

happy and honored that Fr. Bennett accepted the chaplain position.

2018 will be a busy year for our branch. Next year we will host the Installation Mass/ Luncheon, Bishop's Day, and the District Christmas Party.

The branch has kicked off its Christmas See's Candy fundraiser. Candy will be delivered on December 9th.

Jim and Janie Falcone, along with Kathy LaScola and Jan Stumhoffer, coordinated our parish's

latest Coffee and Donut Sunday on November 5. It was a great success.

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, our branch was extremely grateful for all the blessings we have received during this past year.

Merry Christmas to all.

Richard Pfaff, Secretary



ICF Branch 18 Saint Rose donated \$2,500 to the Fire Relief Fund at Redwood Credit Union Santa Rosa.

Santa Rosa

District Council

Important Dates:

Dec. 4 – District Christmas Party - #12, Napa – St. John the Baptist Church Hall.

Meeting – 2PM. Party to follow. Let the branch know how many are attending.

January 21, 2018 – Santa Rosa District Installation of Officers. 10:30 Mass at St. Eugene's Cathedral. Installation and lunch to follow in the Bricker Hall. \$25. See your branch president for tickets.

Please pray for all fire victims that God will give them strength to carry on. May you all have a blessed and joyous Christmas.

C.K.

Healdsburg**St. Frances de Sales, Br. 52**

We had a great attendance at our polenta dinner on Nov. 4. Thank you to Scott Cavallo and crew for the wonderful dinner. The homemade sausages are always delicious.

Upcoming Events:

Dec. 5: Branch meeting at the Cowley's house. 5:30 PM.

Dec. 8: Christmas Party. Doors open at 5:45 PM. Dinner at 6:30 PM. Price: \$10.00. Santa will be visiting from the North Pole. For tickets, call Mary Madden.

Jan. 21: Santa Rosa District Installation of Officers at St. Eugene's. Mass: 10:30 AM with Installation and lunch to follow. For tickets, call Carmen or Lauren: 577-7304.

Raffle ticket sales for the Nativity set will be held after all the Masses during Advent. The raffle will be held at the Christmas Eve Mass.

Due to the generosity of members and guests at our events this past year, we will be able to donate to many worthwhile ICF and local charities. A complete list will be in the January Bollettino.

Congratulations to our 2018 officers: President: Richard Passalacqua, 1st VP: Teri Rollieri, 2nd VP: Mary Lou Jones, Rec. Sec.: Lauren Kilcullen, Fin. Sec.: Bill Jones, Treasurer: Rick Norman, Orator: Barbara Thomas, Trustees: Jerry Arrigoni, Nancy Buchanan, Vince Daugherty; Sentinel: Liz Mattos. Please support this great group of officers in 2018!

Remember to pay your dues.

Merry Christmas!

Lauren Kilcullen

Sonoma**St. Sebastian, Br. 103**

Our branch did not hold a meeting in October because of the devastating fires in Sonoma County. Some members were evacuated and some lost property. The members helped the community in separate ways wherever possible.

November saw the branch once again meeting at Fr. Roberts Hall. Chef Diane prepared a great meal in the newly enlarged and renovated kitchen.

The elected roster of officers for the coming year will be announced next month.

Saluti,

Marie-Therese Denning

Secretary

Petaluma**St. Vincent, Br. 127**

Greetings from Petaluma!

Hope you had a nice Thanksgiving. And soon we are approaching Christmas and all the Christmas trees and decorations will be up. It all happens too soon after Thanksgiving. I'll be a year older soon and my sister will be approaching 104 years of age. Time just goes by too fast.

We will have had our Polenta/Veal Stew Dinner with profits going to the Santa Rosa District Wildfire victims, so our thanks go to the Cooks, Josephine Lavio, Giacco Manni, Bruno Fomasi and Angelo Leone for their excellent job they always do. Our thanks go also to all the people who donated their time to making the dinner a huge success. We had a lot of new people attending our dinner along with the regulars and we thank all of you for attending. It's working together that makes it work. We have a great group of members who are always there to help. Thank you! I'll give a report on this event in the next issue of the Bollettino.

Due to the fires we did not have a meeting in October, so election of officers was held in November's meeting, so I will inform all in the next Bollettino.

Our Quarterly Communion/Mass will be on Dec. 9th at St. Vincent's Church at 5:00 p.m. The Christmas Party will be at the Cattleman Restaurant following the Mass. Cost \$28. Reservations: Louise - 769-7389.

OUR JANUARY MEETING WILL BE ON TUESDAY JANUARY 9TH AT 6:00 p.m. SHARP IN THE CHURCH HALL! CALL LOUISE FOR RESERVATIONS. 769-7389.

Ciao,

Louise Vicino

Arcata**St. Mary, Br. 144**

Our November meeting was conducted by Vice-Pres. Joan DalPorto.

Because of our successful Chicken Polenta Dinner, we were able to donate the following:

Church Leavey Hall floor replacement - \$2,000. ; Santa Rosa Fire - \$1,000. ; St. Vincent de Paul - \$500. ; Arcata House - \$500. ; Food For People – \$100. ; “Adopted” Seminarian John Ploss - \$100.

Items were collected for the District Christmas Basket and tickets were sold for the drawing.

Thanks to those who served at Coffee Hr. after the Masses during the month of November.

The December 6 meeting will be a Christmas Party Potluck beginning at 6 pm. Let's get festive! Our potlucks are great!

Save the date – Dec. 10 – Breakfast with Santa – ICF and Knights of Columbus will serve breakfast in Leavey Hall.

December Birthdays are: Pat Damassa, Larry DePeel, Rosemary Melendy, Paula Proctor, Linda Spallino, and Pete Stagnoli. Happy Birthday to all!

A Merry and Blessed Christmas to all,

Rosemary

Eureka**St. Ambrose, Br. 145**

Before our October 10 meeting we called to order, we all enjoyed a spaghetti dinner. The sauce made by Jerry Olivas and sons was from our October 8 scholarship fund raiser dinner. Our dinner was most delicious!

The fund raiser dinner was very successful this year. We always look forward to presenting a first year scholarship to a deserving student attending one of our local high schools in Eureka. As we know the cost of education is steadily rising, so it is good to help a deserving local student with assistance that we can.

Other business discussed the decision to order the memorial brick for our past sister Anita Pera. It will be placed at St. Bernard High School.

Our dinner at Applebees, also a fundraiser, was a lot of fun, the food was great. What an easy way to raise funds for our lodge! We will know the results at our next meeting.

Mark your calendars for our parish Christmas party to be held December 10th after mass in the Pinocchi Hall.

Our next meeting will be on November 14th, at 7:30. Please plan to attend.

Pray for all members and their families. Also pray for all victims of the hurricanes and for all lives tragically lost these last few months.

Much peace to all of you and your families as we enter into the holiday seasons!

Santa Rosa**St. Eugene, Br. 198**

At our last meeting we donated 500+ dollars to the Central Council's Santa Rosa Wildfire Fund and collected can foods for the local St Vincent De Paul organization. Fitting the month, Ernie Giampaoli, our heritage member, instructed and quizzed us on details of the pilgrimages and the first Thanksgiving Celebration. The team of Bill Scinto, Nancy Azevedo, and Gene Zingarelli had the most correct answers. For December and January, we look forward to our Christmas Party (12/4), 52nd Anniversary Dinner (1/8) and hosting the District's branches' officers installation mass and dinner (1/21). On the sad side, we lost long-time member Frank Castelli due to a chronic illness, and prayed for the

many, including members, who have lost their homes to the worst fires in California's history.

Gene Zingarelli

President

Stockton

District Council

Greetings from the Stockton District! We pray that everyone's Thanksgiving was a very blessed Day.

The Stockton District President would like to congratulate and thank all of his new officers and those who remained with him as an officer of the District. Here is the list of the Stockton District Officers after our November 5th election:

President Robert Pachinger

1st Vice President Frank Re

2nd Vice President Joe Curtis

Recording Secretary Danette Curtis

Correspondence Secretary Lucy Orsi

Financial Secretary Serena Martocchio

Treasurer Ida Queirolo

Orator Annette Elissagaray

Trustees Josephine Weber

Tom Silvaggio

Mary Ann Chapman

Our next District Meeting is scheduled for February 11, 2018 at St. Bernard's in Tracy.

Boun Natale and Felice Anno Nuovo from the members of the Stockton District!!

Respectfully submitted by,

Annette Pachinger, President

Branch 413, Angels Camp

Modesto

St. Stanislaus, Br. 48

Congratulations to our new officers for 2018 they are President Mary Jennings; 1st VP Antonella Truchetti; 2nd VP Tom Silvaggio; Recording Secretary Cecelia McGhee; Financial Secretary Carla Wagner; Orator Nancy Souza; Trustee Kathleen Ostorero; Sentinel Marie Bertolotti; our Branch Deputy is Frank Re.

Join us for our Christmas Potluck at 6:00 pm December 13, 2017. Bring your favorite dish, your family and friends.

We will be hosting the Stockton District Installation January 7, 2018. Mass will be at 1:00 pm in the 7 & J Street Church in Modesto. With the installation in the church after mass followed by the luncheon in the hall behind the church at about 2:30 pm.

Mass for our deceased members will be Sundays December 3, 2017 and January 7, 2018 at the 8:00 am at the Maze Blvd. Church.

We wish everyone a Blessed Christmas!

Coming up:

Dec 13 - 6:00 pm Christmas Potluck - Hall 7 & K Streets

Jan 7, 2018 1:00 pm Stockton District Installation of Officers J Street Church Modesto

Jan 10 7:00 pm Meeting in the Hall 7 & K Streets

Cecelia McGhee

Manteca

Nostra Signora del Buon Viaggio, Br. 139



Joe Terra stirring one of the several pots of polenta.

Branch 390 Polenta Dinner



Danielle Etchevery, Annette Elissagaray, Bobby Etchevery, Eileen Morri, and our first branch president Paula Re having a great time.



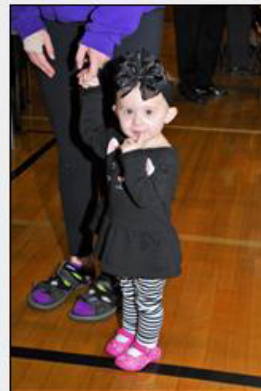
Mike Brinkwitz and Joe Bacchetti getting the wine ready for dinner.



Joan Griswold In the Halloween Spirit.



Cameron Bacchetti and Jim Rinaldo bring out the Polenta



Zoie Hayes is so adorable tonight.



Sandy Corallo and Billie Schwander socializing before dinner.

Over 120 people enjoyed Branch 139's annual chicken cacciatore and polenta dinner on October 28. The evening included desserts, raffles and a silent auction. Proceeds from this event will go to the Branch's scholarship and parish support programs.

St. Anthony's, our local parish, brought its Centennial celebration to a close with a special Mass and luncheon on October 15. Our Branch provided a delicious Chinese Chicken salad at no cost to those attending the luncheon. Anna Mello was in charge of its preparation.

The baking of delicious biscotti began on November 4 and will continue on Saturdays of the month. Ms. Mello was again in charge. The sale of bags of biscotti during the holidays has been an important annual fund-raiser for the Branch's programs.

Our annual Christmas party on December 10 will once again be held at Cucina Queirolo. Chef Tony's exquisite prime rib will be featured, with all the trimmings.

Nominations and the election of 2018 Branch officers was held at our October meeting with the following results: President - Dr. Elizabeth Demichelis; First Vice-president - Attilio Mussi; Second Vice-president - Jim Alfieri; Secretary - Michelle Harmon; Financial Secretary - Rhonda Mussi; Treasurer - Lillian Pauletto; Orator - Vince Hernandez; Sentinel - Cary Posz; Trustees - Yvonne Chimenti, Linda Bertuccio and Frank Re. They will be installed in January.

Ciao,

Mariano

Stockton

Presentation, Br. 395

It was a beautiful fall day in Lathrop at Tony's Kitchen for the District Meeting on November 5. The polenta and chicken cacciatore dinner was fabulous. Thank you Tony and Ida Queirolo for your warm hospitality and generosity. The 2018 officers were elected. Congratulations and thank you to all of you for accepting your positions and your continued dedication to our organization.

The 2018 officers for Branch 395 were elected at the October meeting. They are as follows:

President: MaryAnn Piana Chapman; 1st V.P.: Marilyn Ramacher; 2nd V.P.'s: Bob/Linda Langone; Recording/Corresponding Secretary: Josephine Weber; Financial Secretary: Mary Fry; Treasurer: Geoff Lin-Cereghino; Orator: Sharon Roman; Trustee: Becky Vergano; Sentinel: Pat Bertilacchi. Congratulations!

The annual Christmas luncheon is on Saturday, Dec. 9 at 12 noon in Guadalupe Hall. All new members will be initiated and lunch is free to all members. Guests are \$10. The attendance drawing for \$50 will be held at the luncheon. Please call Geoff for your reservation.

The 2018 Installation of Officers will be held on Sunday, January 7 at the old St. Stanislaus Church on J Street in Modesto. Mass begins at 1 p.m. with the Installation to follow in the church. The dinner is \$20 and follows the installation. Please bring your check to the Christmas luncheon or send to Geoff by Dec. 21.

Start collecting those raffle prizes for the Annual Polenta/Chicken Cacciatore Dinner on February 8. Tickets will be distributed at the Christmas Luncheon.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of you and your families.

Karen Rosson

Angels Camp

St. Patrick, Br. 413

As is typical with most branches, our dinners are the primary source for branch funds. This year we could not hold our October dinner. After various options were discussed for fund raisers to make up for the lost income, member Liz Brown gave us an idea that had everyone interested. The idea was to raffle off a Nativity set. Not being one to let a good-sounding idea pass by without any action, Anna Bertrand, our newest member, offered to purchase a nativity set that we can raffle. Not only did she make the generous offer, she also pressed the "purchase" button on her Amazon account while we were discussing the details. Now, we are off and running selling tickets. So far, this looks like it will be a successful fundraiser for us. The lesson here is to be open to ideas and act quickly. The drawing will be held on December 10th during the ICF Pancake Breakfast that we offer for free to all

in the Parish. Have a wonderful and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

May God bless everyone,

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert J. Pachinger

Correspondence Secretary, Branch 413

Tucson

Green Valley

Our Lady of the Valley, Br. 425

Our meatball & pasta dinner drive thru fundraiser on November 4 was a huge success as we sold over 400 tickets.

Our membership drive this month has two new members.

Shown in the picture are some of the team working in the fundraiser.

An unsung hero is our cook, Sue Simms. Thanks to Ed, April, Nikki, Yolanda, Michelle, Nikki, Mary, Susan, Barbara, Vinnie, Joan, JoAnn, Joe, Vic, Vince, Joe Don, Bob, Sheila, Bill, Lois.

Looking forward to the branch Christmas party and gift exchange in December. Wishing everyone Happy Thanksgiving.

Submitted by S Burdick



Branch 425 members preparing for the meatball and pasta dinner.

Buon Natale
E Felice Capo d'Anno

Dal Gruppo
#442, Pleasant Hill CA



The Officers and Members of
St. Elizabeth, Br. 258,
San Francisco

Wish Everyone
Buon Natale
e
Felice Anno
Nuovo



Buon Natale
e auguri
Per un
felice,
prospero New Year
From the Officers
and Members
of Novato,
Branch 332

*Dear Brothers and Sisters
of the I.C.F.:
Our wish for a very
Merry Christmas and a
Happy, Healthy New Year.*

Larry and Elise Marsalli



Buon Natale
e Buon Capo
D'Anno a Tutti!
We are still here,
thank God. Come
up for a visit.
All are welcome.
The Officers and
Members of ICF Branch
18, St. Rose, Santa Rosa

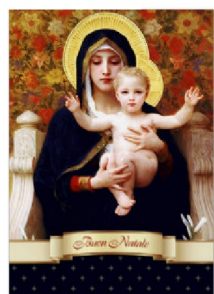
Happy
Holidays!

From
The
Fuentes
Family



The Officers and
Members of Branch
6, Redwood City send
Blessings at Christmas
and throughout the
New Year 2018!

Auguri Per Le
Feste
Natalizie
Da Tucson
Fr. Eusebio Kino,
Branch 433
Tucson,
Arizona



Wishing our ICF family a
Blessed Christmas and a
very Happy New Year!
Love from the officers and
members of Branch #343
Castro Valley

All our best Natale and
Nuovo Anno wishes to you

from Branch 403, Saint
Dunstan Parish, Millbrae, CA!



Buon Natale

From the Officers and Members of the Italian Catholic Federation,
Branch 439

Our Lady Mother of the Church, 8747 W. Lawrence Avenue, Chicago
Anna Tamburello, President

Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo a Tutti!



The Officers and Members of Branch
395, Church of the Presentation,
Stockton, CA wish a Blessed
Christmas to all in our ICF Family.

Buon Natale

Merry Christmas

Tracy's branch 390, St Bernard's, wishes everyone much
joy and love with a New Year full of God's goodness



If we keep Christ in our hearts. Christmas has no end.

**Buon Natale e
Felice Capo D'Anno**



**Past Grand
President
Bob Basuino**

Sending Christmas Cheer from the Contra Costa District!



Branch 32, Fresno

**wishes you the Peace of Christmas
and may your New Year shine with possibilities!**



Merry Christmas and
a Happy New Year
to all of our families
and friends.
May the birth of
Christ fill your hearts
with love and may the
New Year bring you
good fortune
and good health.

Members of Branch 39
Merced, California

*Buon Natale e
Felice Capo D'Anno.
Branch 154, St. Raymond's,
Richmond*



**May the Lord bless and keep
you and your families during this
Christmas Season and Always.**



**Your Brothers and Sisters of
Branch 28, Gilroy.**



**We wish you every
happiness for a
Holy Christmas
and for the New
Year.**

**Buon Natale E
Capo Di Anno From the
Officers and Members of
Branch 7,
Sacro Cuore**



*Merry Christmas and wishing you
a Happy and Prosperous
New Year!*

*The Pappani Family
Grand President Andy
and First Lady Siria (Sid) Pappani*



ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION
RENO BRANCH 135
AUGURI A TUTTI
PER UN NATALE BENEDETTO
EUN FELICE E SANO 2018
BEST WISHES FOR A BLESSED
CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY AND HEALTHY 2018



*Merry Christmas
& Happy New Year
from
The Zasoski Family*



Wishing Peace and
Blessings for All
at Christmas and
the New Year.
St. Michael, Br. 209
Sebastopol



The Members of
Br. 327 of
St. Charles
Church in San
Carlos, wish all a
Happy and Holy
Christmas Season.

Buon Natale from
Branch 14, Crockett



Wishing you Peace, Love
and Joy for the
holiday
season and
in 2018.

Deborah Rodondi,
CC Grand Treasurer

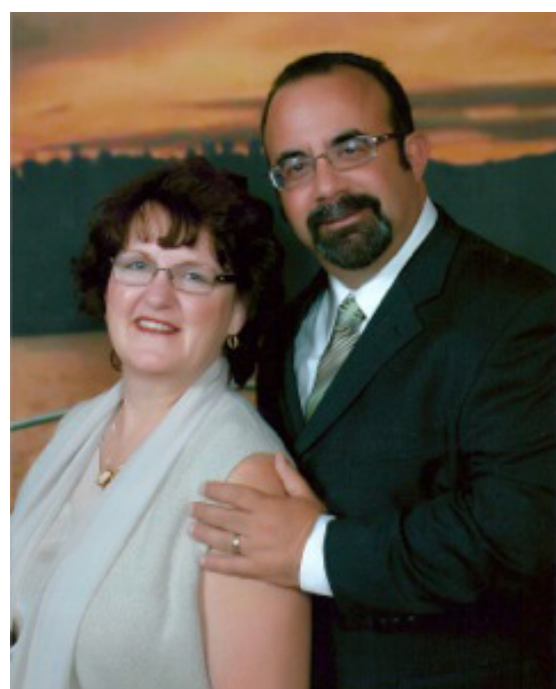


Merry
Christmas
and Happy
New Year!

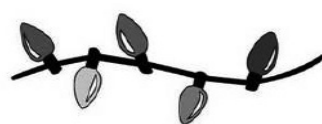
San Mateo District



*Branch 218
would like to
wish
everyone a
Merry
Christmas and
Happy New Year.*



*Merry
Christmas to
all our ICF
family and
friends.
Vince and
Robyn
Piro*



**BUON NATALE
MERRY CHRISTMAS
FROM THE MEMBERS
OF SAN GIUSEPPE
Branch 12, Napa**



Buon Natale & Felice Capo D'Anno

Franklyn Lopes, Jr.

CC Grand Trustee

Branch 227, Capitola



We in Green Valley, Branch 425, wish
the ICF family all of the blessings of
the Christmas season.



ON NATALE FELICE ANNO NUOVO

From
The Officers and
Members
of Branch 173 -
Burlingame



Merry Christmas
and Happy
New Year
from Officers
& Members of
Branch 130,
Redwood City, CA

The members of Branch 342 in
Auburn wish all their
fellow ICF members
and their families a
Blessed Christmas
and a Healthy and
Prosperous 2018.



Wishing You a
Blessed Christmas
and a
Happy New Year!

Branch 432, Immaculate Heart of Mary
Brentwood, CA

Buon Natale and Buon Anno.



Officers and
Members of
Branch 391,
St. Martin of Tours,
San Jose, CA

*The Todos Santos Branch #214
Concord, Ca.*

*Which includes the surrounding churches:
St. Agnes, St. Bonaventure,
St. Francis of Assisi and Queen of All Saints*



*Wish you all a
Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!*



Seasons Greetings
From
The
Officers and
Members of
Br. 19, San Vincenzo
De Paoli, Colma, CA



*Stockton District wishing everyone
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!*

*Glory to
God in the highest,
and on earth peace,
good will
toward men.*

LUKE 2:14

Buon Natale



Buon Natale from the Officers and Members of
St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception
Branch 184 – Los Gatos

President: Denise Antonowicz
1st Vice President: Julie Klem
2nd Vice President: Marie Stalteri Antonowicz
Secretary: Marie Yurosko
Corresponding Secretary: Lucy Amico
Treasurer: Donna Pfaff
Financial Secretary: Michelle Antonowicz
Trustees: Rose Arnaudo, Norma Buonaccorsi, and Joe Yurosko
Sentinel: Victoria Nguyen
Branch Mentor: Maria Greco

*May your Christmas Holidays
be filled with
Love and Peace*



Officers and Members
of
Monterey Santa Rosalia Br.#36

**St. Francis Borgia, Br. 392
Chicago, IL**

Happy 93rd Anniversary to the
Italian Catholic
Federation.



Best Wishes
from
Central
Council
Member
Teresa
Helfand.

THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF
ST. FRANCES CABRINI BRANCH 191
WISH YOU ALL MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR!



MAY THE BLESSINGS OF THIS HOLY SEASON
SHINE UPON YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES

Best Wishes for A Merry Christmas and
A Happy New Year.
From the Officers and Members
of Branch 213, St. Augustine,
So. San Francisco, CA



*From Our Family to Yours, May the Spirit of Christmas which is Peace, the
Gladness of Christmas which is Hope and the
Essence of Christmas which is Love,
be with you this Holiday Season.*



Jane Dianda
Past Grand President



Sir Robert & Theresa Dianda
Life Member Emeritus of C.C.

*Buon Natale e Buon
Capo D'Anno!*



*Lauren Kilcullen
Grand Secretary*



*Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year from
the Officers and Members of the Santa Clara Valley District*

Br. 5	St. Clares	Santa Clara	Br. 191	St. Frances Cabrini	San Jose
Br. 28	St. Marys	Giboy	Br. 368	Santa Teresa	San Jose
Br. 47	St. Joseph	Mountain View	Br. 391	St. Martin	San Jose
Br. 184	St. Marys	Los Gatos	Br. 408	Resurrection	Funnyvale
			Br. 435	St. Catherine's	Morgan Hill
			Br. 445	Transfiguration	San Jose

Merry Christmas!

Buon Natale!



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Gifts of Love Donations Application

Our hearts go out to those members and friends who have lost everything in the recent fires in Northern California. If you, or someone you know, lost a medical aid device, wheelchair, walker, or any other special medical supply, please submit an application for assistance from the Gifts of Love. Our prayers and thoughts are with you during this time.

Teresa Helfand, Gifts of Love Chairperson

Merry Christmas from the
Live to Give Committee



Give the Gift of Life this Christmas
and
Donate Blood!

OUR CHRISTMAS
Prayer
FOR YOU

May knowing JESUS bring you
PEACE to bless each day,
HOPE for each tomorrow,
and JOY in every season.

*Glory to God in the highest, and on
earth peace, good will toward men.
LUKE 1:14*



Merry Christmas!

REVERSE MORTGAGE EXPERT Dan Casagrande, MBA

**If you're over 62 you may be able to use
a reverse mortgage to pay off your
current home mortgage or line of credit
and choose a monthly payment
of your choice.**

**Pay \$500 a month. \$100 a month. \$0 a month
You decide!**

**Call me! I'll answer all your
questions about this exciting
FHA insured program.**



Call Me! 408.297.0000

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Borrower must maintain property as primary residence and remain current on property taxes and insurance.

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