



BOLLETTINO



In Our Prayers

To all ICF members and their families or friends who were affected in some way by the recent wildfires in Northern and Southern California, or the shooting tragedy in Thousand Oaks, that occurred while this issue was in production: The ICF Central Council and Staff offer you our heartfelt prayers and support.

Keep an eye on upcoming issues of the *Bollettino* and the ICF website for our response to these wildfires and how we plan to assist.

Called to Lead: Building a Stronger ICF in 2019



Photos include just some of many wonderful members across the ICF's central council, districts and branches who made the decision to step up and lead in 2019. We welcome their fresh perspectives and ideas!

Nanette Scarpellini Metz Editor

January marks the start of a fresh year with a new board at each branch. The Italian Catholic Federation combines numerous parts, projects and people. There are so many events and responsibilities it can be a bit overwhelming to figure out where to begin. New members bring fresh ideas and experienced members offer proficiency and insight. As everyone grows familiar with new roles and group dynamics, now is a great time to make a plan for the year ahead.

The Central Council Committee leaders offer a few tips for branches to start out strong and do remarkable things together. Each journey starts with one step. String enough steps together and you will get to amazing places especially when working together with other members.

15 ways you can help strengthen your branch and the ICF in general in 2019:

Apostolate-Charity and Workshop— Lauren Kilcullen

1. Send in your Apostolate-Charity monthly report to keep it fresh in your mind.
2. Invite the Workshop Committee to come to your District to host a Workshop; they can help you solve your problems and find new opportunities.

Convention—Rose Jarrett

3. Hold your convention delegate election in April or May to send registration in by June 30. Remember, elections take place at a general membership meeting, not an officer's meeting. In the spring, literature will be available with all the details and deadlines for reserving your hotel, banquets and other festivities.

Continued on Page 6

Grand President's Monthly Message

Andrew Pappani

It seems like we were just in spring. We went through summer, and are now in 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, to give to the homeless, the needy and the people who just need a helping hand.

Throughout this past year, I have had the privilege of attending Bishop Day celebrations in your dioceses, meeting and talking to the Bishops and seminarians in your area. I applaud you for supporting the education of our seminarians. This is part of the Italian Catholic Federation mission to support our parishes and priests.

It has been a pleasure serving as your Grand President and meeting and chatting with all the ICF members. Remember, forgive others because you don't know what tomorrow will bring. Tell your spouse how much you love them. Hug your kids, your parents, and your friends. Phone them, and tell them how much you appreciate them for being part of your life. This is all part of our Catholic spirit.

"Desire is the key to motivation, but it's the determination and commitment to unrelenting pursuit of your goal - a commitment to excellence - that will enable you to attain the success you seek."

—Mario Andretti

"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

"A little bit of mercy makes the world less cold and more just."

—Pope Francis

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!



TIME SENSITIVE: PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY!

BOLLETTINO

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Buon Natale

Rev. Msgr. Daniel E. Cardelli
ICF Spiritual Director



The greatest event in history is the birth of Jesus Christ. His birth touched everything in life for the last two thousand years. No matter where we go, we see signs of Christianity in culture, literature, architecture, music, customs, science, government and even food.
Jesus gives us the answers to the big questions in life. Who are we? What is our purpose? What is our goal?
Our world is full of problems. Over time, great accomplishments have been achieved in the areas of science, medicine, technology, space travel and many other

areas. Yet, it seems human behavior has not changed much. In some respects, it may be worse now than at any other time in history.
Why, we ask? There are many opinions on this. One is, there seems to be a lack or even an absence of a moral consciousness in the world. There may be many other reasons as well. However, if everyone followed the tenets of love and respect, the world would be a much better place.
G. K. Chesterton said, “Christianity has not been tried and found wanting; it has been found difficult and not tried.”
The best answer and the solution to the world’s problems was given to us two thousand years ago. When Jesus came into this world, He gave us the best gift ever and He even wrote a special note on the gift tag:
“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.
You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”
Thank you, Jesus.
Hey everybody!
Let’s give it a try!!
Merry Christmas!



Important Notice
The new email address for ALL Bollettino submissions is:
editor@icf.org
All other email addresses being used for Bollettino submissions will be terminated on December 31, 2018.
We have made this change so that it will be tied directly to the Italian Catholic Federation for a more professional look and better managing of incoming email.
All image and article submissions need to be sent in an electronic format.
Those submissions not sent in an electronic format or those articles sent in the mail will not be used.
Finally, a reminder that ALL branch and district reports need to adhere to the 250 max word count requirement or they will be shortened or possibly excluded entirely based on editor judgment.
Please keep your submission positive and informative.
Thank you!

2018-2019 Central Council Contact and Committee Information

Listed below are email addresses for the current Central Council Members. Their email address will apply for all current positions held by the Central Council Members including any Central Council committee chairmanship positions indicated.



Name	Committee(s) Chaired	Email
Denise Antonowicz	Finance, Heritage	dantonowicz@icf.org
Robert Basuino	Ways and Means	rbasuino@icf.org
David Botta		dbotta@icf.org
Monsignor Daniel Cardelli		dcardelli@icf.org
Lisa Crudo	Hospitalization	lcrudo@icf.org
Jane Dianda		jdianda@icf.org
Steve Fuentes		sfuentes@icf.org
Dante Galeazzi	Scholarship	dgaleazzi@icf.org
Theresa Helfand	Gifts of Love	thelfand@icf.org
Roselynn Jarrett	Convention Directors	rjarrett@icf.org
Lauren Kilcullen	Apostolate/Charity, Workshop	lkilcullen@icf.org
Franklyn Lopes, Jr.	Live to Give	flopes@icf.org
Pat Mages	Membership	pmages@icf.org
Ken Marshall		kmarshall@icf.org
Andy Pappani		apappani@icf.org
Vince Piro	Mentor, Task Force	vpairo@icf.org
Frank Re		fre@icf.org
Deborah Rodondi		drodondi@icf.org
Leonard Rossi		lrossi@icf.org
Michael Rossi	By-Laws and Ritual, Expansion	mrossi@icf.org
Leonard Zasoski, Jr.	Public Relations	lzasoski@icf.org

Central Council Meeting Minutes (Draft), October 13, 2018

Lauren Kilcullen
Grand Secretary

Saturday, October 13, 2018

Gilroy, CA

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM by Grand President Andy Pappani.

Opening Prayer, Salute to Flag and ICF Pledge were said.

Roll Call of Officers and CC Members:

Excused:

Msgr. Cardelli, Mike Rossi, Leonard Rossi, Lisa Crudo, David Botta.

Central Council Life Members Emeritus and Members Emeritus present:

Carmen Kilcullen, Jim Jones, Jerry Delfino.

Grand President Pappani welcomed the two new Central Council members, Frank Re and Ken Marshall.

Central Council Meeting Minutes:

The minutes for June 9, 2018 were approved as written.

The communications were read.

Grand President Pappani thanked Robyn Piro for preparing lunch.

Reports

Spiritual Director- Msgr Daniel Cardelli

None

Grand President – Andy Pappani

The Grand President reported on the events he attended since June and the events he will be attending.

Grand Treasurer – Denise Antonowicz

Denise reported that our stocks and bonds are doing well, even with the market downturn. UBS is looking at putting cash in a money market fund that earns 2% interest instead of just having it sit in the account.

Mentor Chairperson – Vince Piro

Since the Convention, Vince has been calling District Presidents and talking to them about their District Mentors and asking them for their districts' plans for the future. They will work with the Membership Committee on workshops for membership.

Committee Reports

Apostolate & Charity – Lauren Kilcullen

The committee is looking changing some of the questions on the Apostolate Report and realigning the branch categories. Also, next year, the awards for Districts with 100% participation will be awarded at the Convention.

By-Laws & Rituals – Steve Fuentes for Mike Rossi

None.

Convention Director's – Roselynn Jarrett

Roselynn thanked the committee and especially Jim Jones, who stepped down from the committee, for his work making our props and handling the Masses. She also thanked Franklyn Lopes for always being ready to help.

In San Diego we did not meet the room night minimum at the hotel. However, the hotel bill came with no fine for not meeting the minimum.

Some ideas for future Conventions include building in the Sunday night banquet into the registration price and look into ending the Convention on Sunday. We would still have to have a F&B minimum, so possibly move the Sunday night dinner to Friday night at the opening and including it in the registration fee is also under consideration. These items will be looked at after 2021, as we have contracts thru then.

2019 Convention in Tucson. Roselynn has met with hotel and the local committee. Roselynn will be returning to Tucson

at the end of the month to meet with the committee members.

Expansion –Leonard Zasoski for Mike Rossi

In the past year, two new branches were opened with a total of 104 new members: Br. 179, St. Dorothy in Glendora, and Br. 447, American Martyrs in Manhattan Beach.

Currently, the committee is in progress trying to re-open two former branches: Branch 82 at St. Anne's in Lodi, Stockton District, and Branch 394 at St. William in Chicago, Chicago District:

Additionally, the committee will work in 2018-2019 on expansion opportunities in the following areas:

Blessed Sacrament District
Chicago District
Fresno District
Los Angeles Archdiocese District
San Bernardino District
San Diego District
Santa Clara Valley District
Santa Rosa District
Stockton District

Finance Committee – Denise Antonowicz

The Hospitalization Plan is at almost at \$1 million in value and is doing very well. Almost \$400,000 has been moved out of the fund to the general fund in the past 10 – 15 years.

2019 Budget – Roselynn Jarrett said that in the past we've approved the budget at the end of the meeting, after we hear all the committee reports. Denise Antonowicz asked for any questions, now, on the budget.

Providenza Fund donations for 2019. Denise Antonowicz showed the proposed donations. The Grand President has made a proposal to change the distribution amounts to: Districts with 1 – 499 mem-

bers: \$1000; 500 – 1000 members: \$1500 and Districts with over 1000 members: \$2500. The committee is recommending the Grand President's proposal. The original donation amounts from the Finance Committee were voted on and passed.

Gifts of Love – Teresa Helfand

There were 10 applications, today, and seven were awarded grants totaling \$7,900.

Lauren Kilcullen asked what the committee is doing to be pro-active to get more applicants. Theresa Helfand said they will send letters to schools, Catholic Charities, etc. to get applicants.

Heritage – Denise Antonowicz

The Float in the San Francisco Italian Heritage Parade was successful and everyone who participated had a great time. More people are needed on the float.

Hospitalization – Grand President Pappani for Lisa Crudo

In 2019, we will have an open enrollment period for members over 70. Lisa Crudo had a special at the Convention and acquired 55 new members that weekend. After the one-year open enrollment, then the 70-year age limit will go back in effect. New members who are over 70 will be able to join the Hospitalization Plan, when they join the ICF.

Live to Give – Franklyn Lopes

At the Convention, 37 units of blood were donated with 41 people donating. Laurice Levine is getting ready for the Tucson Convention Blood Drive. Please encourage branches and districts to have blood drives. Leonard Zasoski asked Laurice Levine to see if the blood drive people would stay for Saturday at the Convention, as more people are there on Saturdays.

Membership – Pat Mages

The committee had a brainstorming meeting, this morning. The committee is focusing on two areas in the upcoming year: Recruitment with Pat Mages, Roselynn Jarrett and Leonard Zasoski and Retention with Frank Re, Vince Piro and Eddie Leonard, working work with Mentor program.

This past year, the ICF lost 360 members. The main concern for retention is that we don't keep members. Five years seems to be the magic number of how long a person stays as a member. The committee is considering changing the name of Membership Drive to Recruitment Drive.

We have three types of members - 1. the ones who are always doing everything, 2. the younger members who are working and have kids and don't have time, 3. the members who will donate but don't want to participate.

Public Relations – Leonard Zasoski

The Committee has been busy looking for a Bollettino Editor. We received one proposal. The committee proposes going forward with the person for a max of \$29,325

Continued on Page 6

Remember Those in Need This Holiday Season

Lauren Kilcullen
Apostolate-Charity Chair

The holidays are one of my favorite times of the year. Christmas decorations are everywhere, holiday music fills the air and people are in a giving spirit.



This giving spirit extends to our ICF branches, as well. Many branches decide how to spend money they have and donate to charities for Christmas. I know at my branch, everyone comes with ideas for worthwhile causes and by the end of the meeting, we've compiled a list of charities to donate to.

As your branch decides amongst the many worthwhile charities needing our assistance, please remember to consider the Italian Catholic Federation charities – Providenza Fund, Cooley's Anemia, Scholarship Fund and Gifts of Love.

In addition to these charities, look around your parish and community for

organizations and people who could use our help.

Not only does giving make us feel good, it also makes all the hard work of organizing fundraisers throughout the year seem even more worthwhile. Please consider being generous this holiday season.

As I am writing this column, California is once again being ravished by wildfires in Butte County and Ventura and Los Angeles Counties. Several ICF members have been adversely affected by these fires. As someone who went through this a year ago, my heart goes out to all the victims who have lost everything. Please keep them in your prayers. Keep an eye on upcoming issues of the *Bollettino* and ICF website for the ICF's response to these wildfires and how we can assist our neighbors.

Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza
Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations*

RECEIVED AS OF NOV 13, 2018:

In Memory Of: Angie Rainero Joe Mikles Richard Cardelli David M. Rose George Matranga George Matranga Richard Cardelli Richard Cardelli Luis Diaz Carlo Gardin Andrew Bacigalupi Liz Donaldson Edward Sacca Liz Donaldson	Donated By: JoAnn and John Donivan Mary Ann Mikles Nettie Descalso-Del Nero Fiore, Agnes and Michael Marcheschi Officers/Members of Br. 1 Vic and Pat Arnaudo The Antonowicz Family Jim and Janice Jones Officers/Members of Br. 229 Lorraine Iavarone Joe and Julie Bonino Jim and Janice Jones Officers/Members of Br. 285 Officers/Members of Br. 191
Get Well Wishes: Michael Citrigno Russ Vento Members of Br. 161 and their Families	Bob Basuino Jim and Janice Jones Officers/Members of Br. 161
Thank You For Being MC At Our Bishop’s Day: Leonard Zasoski, Jr.	Officers/Members of Los Angeles Archdiocese District
Happy 90th Branch Anniversary: I.C.F. Br. 19	Officers/Members of Central Council
Happy 95th Birthday: Marie Antonowicz Marie Antonowicz	Jim and Janice Jones Lou and Pat Mages

*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.

Welcome to Our New Members! (as of 11/12/18)

Alfonso J Martorella	Branch 036	Pete W Huey	Branch 191
Antonia R Martorella	Branch 036	Anna Farrell	Branch 261
Mary F Weber	Branch 036	Orae Hiester	Branch 261
Christian Fogliani	Branch 052	Gregory A Dutra	Branch 291
Christian J Fogliani	Branch 052	Vickie L Dutra	Branch 291
Kristina L Fogliani	Branch 052	Elizabeth A Spears	Branch 291
Vivienne Fogliani	Branch 052	Ethan W Spears	Branch 291
Joe Franklin	Branch 052	Jason N Spears	Branch 291
Karla Lippincott	Branch 052	Laura Vopatek	Branch 291
Liam Lippincott	Branch 052	Jim M Glover	Branch 332
Olivia Lippincott	Branch 052	Linda Glover	Branch 332
Rob Lippincott	Branch 052	Anita R Micheli	Branch 332
Trey Lippincott	Branch 052	Grace E Moscuza	Branch 332
Daniele L Maraviglia	Branch 052	Aldo Del Col	Branch 343
Francis C Maraviglia	Branch 052	Joann Schnelldorfer	Branch 380
Margaret C Maraviglia	Branch 052	Joseph Schnelldorfer	Branch 380
Paolo E Maraviglia	Branch 052	Judith A Mc Donald	Branch 390
Denise M Widick	Branch 052	Raymond L Mc Donald	Branch 390
Dylan Widick	Branch 052	Darlene A Pedone	Branch 445
Shane Widick	Branch 052	Gary J Pedone	Branch 445
Shawn M Widick	Branch 052	Ginny De Luca	Branch 447
Gladys T Hurtado	Branch 075	Betty Nery	Branch 447
Elisa Vivas	Branch 103	Anita Pestano	Branch 447
Rev Dionisio Cachero	Branch 111	Dino Pestano	Branch 447
Harry R Culotta	Branch 169	Ayden Rich	Branch 447
Rosanne M Huey	Branch 191	Jodie Rich	Branch 447

Scholarship
Donations

RECEIVED AS OF NOV 12, 2018:

1st Year
The Kilcullen Family In honor of the 95th birthday of Marie Antonowicz
Franklyn Lopes, Jr. In honor of the 95th birthday of Marie Antonowicz
Barbara J. White In honor of the birthday of Marie Antonowicz
Mr. and Mrs. Franklyn Lopes, Sr. In honor of the birthday of Marie Antonowicz
Marie Mungai In honor of the 95th birthday of Marie Antonowicz
2nd - 4th Year
Bob Basuino In honor of the 90th birthday of Ed Bertaccini
Bob Basuino In honor of the 95th birthday of Marie Antonowicz
Giulia Gallego In appreciation of George Guglielmo
Giulia Gallego In appreciation of Richard Della Maggiore and Family

In Loving Memory
(as of 11/12/18)

Vicky L Johnson	Branch 036
Archie L Stewart	Branch 036
Anthony Villafranco	Branch 036
George Nicoletti	Branch 086
Frank A Lauro	Branch 115
Josephine Pisano	Branch 115
Elizabeth Donaldson	Branch 191
Luis Diaz	Branch 229

Gifts of Love
Donations

RECEIVED AS OF NOV 12, 2018:

Bob and Elaine Osorio In honor of the 95th birthday of Marie Antonowicz
Bob and Elaine Osorio Get well wishes for Ed Bertaccini
Laurice, Matt and Benjamin Levine In honor of the 95th birthday of Marie Antonowicz
Joan and Jerry Delfino Get well wishes for Sue Shimshock
Joan and Jerry Delfino In honor of the 95th birthday of Marie Antonowicz
Bob and Elaine Osorio In honor of the 60th wedding anniversary of Joan and Jerry Delfino
Russ and Louise Vento In honor of the 95th birthday of Marie Antonowicz
Gennaro and Kathy Filice In honor of the 95th birthday of Marie Stalteri Antonowicz
Eva Stern In memory of Liz Donaldson
Bob and Elaine Osorio In honor of the 64th wedding anniversary of Russ and Louise Vento
Bob and Elaine Osorio In memory of Gene Canderle
The Arnaudo Family In honor of the birthday of Marie Antonowicz
Joan and Jerry Delfino Get well wishes for Shirley Catania
Mr. and Mrs. Adolfo Del Carlo In memory of Barbara Torigiani
Pat and Louie Cordich In memory of Carlos Olivas
Mr. and Mrs. Adolfo Del Carlo In memory of Alberta Rizzato
Kris Kaiser In memory of Tony Federico
Officers/Members of Br. 21 In memory of Donald and Jean Giudici
Marilyn Aguilar and Family In memory of Liz Donaldson

2018-2019 Central Council Officers and Members

OFFICERS:

Grand President
Andrew Pappani* (Siria), Br. 28

Grand 1st Vice President
Vincent Piro (Robyn), Br. 39

Grand 2nd Vice President
Deborah Rodondi, Br. 19

Grand Secretary
Lauren Kilcullen, Br. 52

Grand Treasurer
Denise Antonowicz, Br. 184

Grand Parliamentarian
Mike Rossi, O.L.J.* (Marcie), Br. 39

Grand Trustee
Dante Galeazzi* (Julie), Br. 139

Grand Trustee
Franklyn Lopes, Jr., Br. 227

Grand Trustee
Patricia Mages (Louis), Br. 380

Grand Sentinel
Teresa Helfand (Cory), Br. 392

Past Grand President
Leonard Zasoski, Jr.* (Betty), Br. 281

Spiritual Director
Rev. Msgr. Daniel Cardelli, Br. 352

Steven Fuentes*, Br. 327

Roselynn Jarrett*, Br. 72

Kenneth Marshall (Elizabeth), Br. 103

Frank Re (Valerie), Br. 139

Leonard Rossi, O.L.J.* (Karen), Br. 343

LIFE MEMBERS EMERITUS:

Robert Acquistapace (Kathy), Br. 198

Jody Balestrieri, Br. 229

Michael Cannady (Donna), Br. 154

Nettie Descalso-Del Nero, Br. 39

Robert Dianda, K.S.G. (Theresa), Br. 91

James Jones (Janice), Br. 191

Carmen Kilcullen (Larry), Br. 52

Nina Malone, Br. 342

Vincent Picciola (Diane), Br. 358

Leroy Taddei (Stella), Br. 343

MEMBERS EMERITUS:

Gerald Delfino (Joan), Br. 368

Maria Di Paolo, Br. 379

Frances Foglia-Teglia, Br. 19

Marco Galeazzi (Diane), Br. 139

Angelina Iarossi-Armenio (Tony), Br. 218

Forrest Price (Prudence), Br. 261

Louisa Russo, Br. 210

Joseph Santello (Catherine), Br. 358

Frank Signorelli, Br. 291

Helen Tatone, Br. 443

Chris Valentini (Elizabeth), Br. 14

CENTRAL COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Robert Basuino*, Br. 191

David Botta* (Pat), Br. 14

Lisa Crudo, Br. 343

Jane Dianda*, Br. 91

*denotes life member
(Revised 9/18)



**Children's
Hospital**
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Dr. Thomas Coates, the thalassemia team at Children's Hospital Los Angeles; patients and families, Laurice, 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 good health, happiness, and peace.

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

Leonard Zasoski, Jr.

Vice President Construction Operations
Director of Safety
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November Calendar Winners

Day	Name	Br	City	Amount
11/1	Ricky Wyatt		Gardena, CA	\$50
11/2	Carmelo Sabatella	108	South Pasadena, CA	\$50
11/3	Terri DiLoreto	214	Concord, CA	\$30
11/4	Alfio & Gerry Crema	391	San Jose, CA	\$30
11/5	Phyllis Cregan		Fresno, CA	\$30
11/6	John & Stephanie Rossi		San Jose, CA	\$30
11/7	Most Rev. Randolph R. Calvo		Reno, NV	\$30
11/8	Jeanette Zugnoni	10	Alameda, CA	\$30
11/9	Rhea Shimshock	408	Sunnyvale, CA	\$30
11/10	Fr. Al Mengon	38	San Francisco, CA	\$30
11/11	Jackie Smith	213	Daly City, CA	\$50
11/12	Michael Fuentes	438	Roseville, CA	\$30
11/13	Kay Lopez	70	Sanger, CA	\$50
11/14	Chris Monahan	435	San Jose, CA	\$30
11/15	Deborah Rodondi	19	South San Francisco, CA	\$30
11/16	Marlys Burke		Gardena, CA	\$30
11/17	Lori Taylor	5	Santa Clara, CA	\$30
11/18	Kelly Swertfager		Fresno, CA	\$30
11/19	Pieranna Arrighi		Arcadia, CA	\$30
11/20	Steve & Maria Richards		Sparks, NV	\$30
11/21	Nick Gilardi		Los Banos, CA	\$30
11/22	Anthony Dalusong		Sun Valley, CA	\$100
11/23	Donna Rossi	391	San Jose, CA	\$40
11/24	Peter S. Fazio	365	San Francisco, CA	\$30
11/25	Dale & Carrie Anthenien		Gustine, CA	\$30
11/26	Jane & Rick Kotila	227	Soquel, CA	\$30
11/27	David & Deanna Kotce	446	Ontario, CA	\$30
11/28	Annette Carlo	210	Fontana, CA	\$30
11/29	Lori Boris	327	San Carlos, CA	\$30
11/30	Carla Swarthout		Herald, CA	\$30

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SERVICE BEYOND EXPECTATION

Bishops' Days

Jan. 19th	Tucson
Feb. 23rd	Orange
Apr. 28th	San Francisco, San Mateo & Marin
Jun. 23rd	Stockton

Cooley's Anemia Donations

RECEIVED AS OF NOV 12, 2018:

Charles P. Gullo, Jr.
In memory of Dominic V. Gullo

District Installations

Jan. 5th	Santa Clara Valley
Jan. 6th	Stockton
Jan. 13th	San Francisco
Jan. 19th	San Mateo Tucson
Jan. 20th	East Bay
Jan. 26th	Contra Costa
Jan. 27th	LA Archdiocese San Diego Santa Rosa
Feb. 10th	Fresno
Feb. 23rd	Central Coast Orange

CC Meeting Minutes

Continued from Page 3

with \$20,625 being set costs for editing the Bollettino and the additional \$8,700 for Public Relations on an as needed basis. The contract will be for one year with 3-month and 6-month review periods. Proposal Passed.

The October Bollettino was put together by the committee, especially by Richard Interrante.

All Bollettino submissions are to be sent to editor@icf.org. That is the only email that should be used. The 10th of month is the deadline and will be strictly adhered to. Branch articles are to be 250 words. This limit will be enforced. Articles should be positive and promote the ICF.

Leonard Zasoski distributed instructions and passwords to everyone regarding the email addresses under icf.org for all Central Council members and committee chairpersons. If Central Council members are sending something from committee, please send from the icf.org address.

Scholarship – Dante Galeazzi

The Committee is trying to figure out ways to increase donations. The 1st year scholarships will stay at \$400. Branches and districts are asked to increase the 2nd, 3rd and 4th year scholarships. Roselynn Jarrett recommended having the 2nd, 3rd and 4th year scholarship judging in July instead of August to help ease the office. Dante Galeazzi said the committee will consider the change for 2020. Carmen Kilcullen said districts and branches can get creative to raise money.

Membership: Finding Your Way

Pat Mages Membership Chair

So, this title can mean several things under the heading of Membership. This month the exploration will be on the ICF website in the Membership Section. I know many of you are familiar with this section, correct? However, this being the beginning for new officers and members, I would like to ‘post’ the section here. Several members have asked me for materials for their upcoming membership ‘drives.’ Now seems like an appropriate time to familiarize us all with the wealth of materials and aids on the ICF website. The Committee will continue to help and support your events, but these materials are a great place to start. Contact me anytime at my ICF email address: pmages@icf.org.

I must admit that this month’s article has been a challenge. My usual method of operation is to just meet the deadline. But with the tragic events in Thousand Oaks; and the fires in Northern and Southern California, it has been a difficult task. I hope and pray the destructive fires will end soon and we can help those, including our members, to heal and rebuild.

Auguro a te e alla tua Famiglia un Sereno Natale e un Felice Anno Nuovo!!

Task Force – Vince Piro

Vince Piro will republish the RFP for the Program Manager. One applicant had applied but has taken another position. Carmen Kilcullen asked what the Program Manager’s duties would be. Vince Piro said the person will help with marketing, recruitment, etc. Denise Antonowicz said it is not a line item in the budget, yet. It would be a contract position that we can control the costs.

Virtual branch: we’ve had some difficulty working out the details.

Vince Piro reminded everyone that we are still operating under the Strategic Plan. Vince discussed the goals that we’re trying to obtain.

Ways and Means – Bob Basuino

2018 Golf Tournament: We made \$6,700 in profit. The majority of the profit was because of the 23 donated gift baskets. The meal was cooked by Eddie Leonard and was fabulous.

2019 Calendars: The calendars were distributed at the Convention.

2019 Convention Raffle Tickets: The prices and prizes will be left the same.

2020 Calendar: “Cooking with our Grandchildren/Grandparents” will be the theme.

95th Anniversary Celebrations: June 2 in Los Angeles, June 9: in San Francisco and June 30 in Chicago.

Workshop – Lauren Kilcullen

The workshop committee will be conducting a workshop on Monday, October 22 for the East Bay District. Please encourage your districts to contact us for a workshop.

Approval of the 2019 Budget:

Dante Galeazzi made a motion from committee to increase the Scholarship Line item from \$8,000 to \$20,000 for 2nd, 3rd and 4th scholarships. Vince Piro asked if the scholarship committee could come up with a plan to increase the scholarships gradually. Dante Galeazzi amended the motion to \$12,000 total. Jerry Delfino asked how much was collected at the Convention. Denise Antonowicz said \$1,100. Motion did not pass.

Finance committee proposed the 2019 budget. Passed.

Unfinished Business

Database programmer. Audivail Inc. sells their service in blocks of 20 hours at \$150 per hour. They only invoice what they do. This company will work with what our existing database to update it

Roselynn Jarrett asked if we can complete the task of determining the number of people who should be on committees. Right now, some of the committee assignments are not in line with the statutes. Carmen Kilcullen said the By-Laws Committee should review this issue.

New Business

Pat Mages said that Roselynn Jarrett created a Facebook Poll on the ICF Facebook page for members to give input on new ideas.

Action on Communications

None.

Closing Prayer: Led by Jim Jones.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 pm by Grand President Andy Pappani.

Called to Lead

Continued from Page 1

Expansion—Mike Rossi

4. Familiarize yourself with the branches in your area so you know what parishes are missing out on ICF.
5. Make contact with pastors who you believe would welcome ICF in their parish.
6. Maintain contact with previous pastors or other clergy when they move to new parishes. Find out if their new home has an ICF in place. Reach out to help start a new one by volunteering on the expansion team.
7. Check with friends who would help introduce ICF into their parish.
8. Assist the committee members when new branches are being formed in your district.

Heritage—Denise Antonowicz

9. Get back to sharing stories of our histories. Our heritage is what has made us what we are, that special something that adds the sparkle and depth to our lives. Don’t let these stories be lost. Be proud of what our parents and relatives have handed down to us.

Live to Give—Franklyn Lopes

10. Donate blood for an easy and free way to contribute to your community and help save the life of up to three people! Contact Franklyn Lopes or Laurie Levine to help start up a blood drive in your branch or district.

Membership—Pat Mages

11. "Make New friends, but Keep the Old. One is Silver and the other's Gold!" Not only does membership growth mean new members, but also keeping current members feeling committed, welcomed and appreciated by the other branch members.
12. Find one new way or perk we can add to revitalize and welcome all our members. Think about what will work well for your branch.

Scholarship—Dante Galeazzi

13. Select your Scholarship Chair or two-member team for each branch or district to manage the tasks. Continue your scholarship donation.
14. Increase donations by \$50 to \$100 to fund additional scholarships; partner with another branch to fund 2nd scholarship.
15. Try different approaches and seek a donation from previous scholarship winners or special donors in memory or honorarium.

We accomplish so much more united. Together ICF branches and districts and Central Council send a powerful message to the local community and beyond as we work to build faith and family spirit while celebrating our heritage. Use the resources that are available to you by making a call, sending an email, or checking out the ICF website at www.ICF.org.

Be the change you want to see in the world. -Gandhi



The materials below may be found at www.icf.org/membership/members/:

Membership Growth

- [Membership Application](#) (PDF)
- [101 Ways to Recruit & Retain Members](#) (PDF)
- [Family Membership Activities](#) (PDF)
- [Getting New Members to Join](#) (PDF)
- [Ideas for Meetings and Special Events](#) (PDF)
- [Five Points to a Successful Branch](#) (PDF)
- [Membership Committee Ideas](#) (PDF)
- [Membership Ideas](#) (PDF)
- [How We Became a Successful Branch](#) (YouTube)

- [Annual Lenten Fish Dinners](#) (YouTube)

Membership Drive

Information for Membership Drive Team

- [7 Steps to Plan Membership Drive](#) (PDF)
- [Membership Drive Checklist](#) (PDF)
- [ICF Tri-Fold Brochure](#) (PDF)
- [Mass Script](#) (DOC)
- [Church Announcements](#) (DOC)
- [Retractable Banner Info](#) (PDF)
- [Download All Files](#) (ZIP)

Handouts to be Printed for Table

- [Branch Calendar](#) (DOC)
- [Meeting Reminder Postcard](#) (PPT)
- [ICF At A Glance](#) (PDF)
- [Member Application](#) (PDF)
- [Sign-Up Sheet](#) (PDF)
- [Table Signs](#) (PDF)
- [Download All Files](#) (ZIP)

Family Recipes: Raw Apple Cake

Deborah Rodondi
Grand 2nd Vice President



This is the time of year many areas are harvesting apples. If you happen to have a yard like mine, you just might have an apple tree and are tired of making applesauce. This is a very simple and delicious

way of using some of the apples.

Combine:

- 2 cups chopped/diced (I cut about ¼ to ½ inch pieces) apples

- 1 egg

Mix well.

Add:

- 1 cup sugar

- ¼ cup vegetable oil

Stir and add:

- 1 cup chopped nuts (optional)

- ¼ tsp. vanilla

- 1 tsp. cinnamon

Stir well. Sift together:

- 1 cup flour

- 1 tsp. baking soda

- ¼ tsp. salt

Add to mixture and blend well. Turn into greased and floured 8 inch square pan.

Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes.

Double the recipe for a 9 x 11 pan/Pyrex dish. I can guarantee you will regret not making this a double recipe.

I made two 9x11 inch cakes this week (without the nuts) and took to work. By 1PM they were both gone. My co-workers were calling me and thanking me for bringing them in. They also mentioned that I could bake for them anytime...don't know if they said that because they loved it or they just like the surprise of food in the kitchen. What they don't know yet is they will be critics for some of the future recipes in the Bollettino. I will be making more cakes tomorrow for my brother to take to the duck club this weekend.

Wishing you a wonderful Christmas Season with family, friends and good food!

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@icf.org or mail to the ICF office and include a story if any. If you have questions, send them as well. 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!*

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**678 Green Street, San Francisco,
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Book Review: Children's Books Ideal for that Special Christmas Gift

Vince Piro
Grand 1st Vice President

As is my custom for the December issue of the Bollettino, this month's column will focus on books suitable for children with the primary focus being on books about the Italian-American experience. These books range from non-fiction overviews of what it means to be Italian-American to personal accounts of growing up Italian in the United States. All of them provide insight into a culture which has an important and interesting history in this country. I have provided the publishers' descriptions and my brief review. These books can be found online or ordered through your local bookstore.

Growing up Italian-American: The Memoirs of Ferdinand Visco & The Stories of Two Immigrant Italian Families – Heritage Edition

By Ferdinand J. Visco, MD.
2017

This book contains the stories of three generations of Italian-Americans. It represents over 150 years of family history. It traces the trials, tribulations, and triumphs of the Baratta family from Padula and the Visco family from Vico Equense, both of whom settled in Manhattan and subsequently moved to Brooklyn, College Point, and Long Island. The stories, which were taken from family memoirs and transcripts, are told by those who lived them in their own words and are placed in historical context.

The book also includes . . . personal memoirs. [Visco] grew up in College Point NY in the 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s, went to medical school in Italy, and eventually became Chief of Cardiology at a hospital in New York City.

Profusely illustrated, the book, which was five years in the making, is in part a history of Italy, in part an Italian travelogue, in part a history of medicine, and in part a celebration of Italian-American culture. It also contains Italian proverbs and common-sense advice from an Italian-American father, and features traditional recipes from Padula and Vico Equense.

This book would be enjoyed by both young adults and adults who want a personal narrative and family history of what it felt like growing up as an Italian-American and later traveling to Italy.

Nonni's Moon

by Julia Inserro (Author), Lucy Smith (Illustrator)
2018

No one knows more than Beanie how hard it is to live far away from loved ones. She

lives across the world from her Nonni and misses her every day. But then she figures out a way she and Nonni can send messages back and forth—through the moon!



Nonni's Moon is a touching reminder of how important it is to keep family and friends close to our hearts, even if there are great distances or circumstances separating us. It can help explain bereavement or absence of a loved one to children learning how to make sense of an adult world.

This book is a sweet bedtime story that is relatable to grandparents, friends, and family who are moving or live far away. It's reminiscent of *I Love You to the Moon and Back* & *Guess How Much I Love You*?

This book is a young children's book, most suitable for children between the ages of 4-7, but certainly one to be enjoyed by readers of all ages.

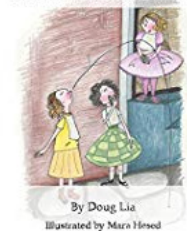
Spit the Pit: An Italian-American Folktale

By Doug Lia
2016

Spit the Pit: An Italian-American Folktale is the story of two Italians who immigrate to New York, meet, and marry. Together in Little Italy, Peter and Rosa begin a family of three children. As the children grow, Peter and Rosa move further from the Italian neighborhood. As the years pass, the children have children of their own, and soon Peter and Rosa are the grandparents of twelve lively grandchildren. In an attempt to instill some Italian heritage in his grandchildren, Peter plays a game where the children eat Italian olives and then spit the pit in a contest to see who can get the pit the farthest in the clean driveway. Soon the parents of the grandchildren get involved and introduce a new game—an American tradition. The

Spit the Pit

An Italian-American Folktale



children find themselves along with their parents enjoying watermelon and spitting seeds in a new contest. The prizes may be different, but everyone enjoys themselves as Grandma Rosa and Grandpa Peter observe. The final pages find Grandma supervising the cleanup of her driveway to the cheers of "Bravo!"

This brief, 36 pages, is delightful illustrated and is suitable for elementary school children and the adults who love to read with them.

Caterina's Journey: An Italian-American Immigration Story

by Maryann Pisano (Author), Jennise Conley (Illustrator)
2014

Caterina Tolitano and her family have decided to immigrant to America from Calabria, Italy. Caterina's father, Antonio, has heard that America is the land of opportunity and the streets are paved with gold! Caterina leaves her beautiful town on a voyage to America. In America, life doesn't get easier... but Caterina is up for the challenge!

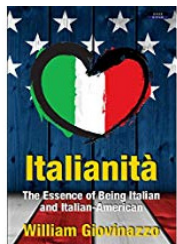
Maryann Pisano is an author and journalist, publishing her first novel at the age of 15. She is a freelance reporter for several publications. Pisano is the founder of an online lifestyle magazine entitled Emme Magazine. She has interviewed a wide range of fascinating people from Olympic gold medalists, reality stars, authors, directors, and actors. For the future, she hopes to pen more books about her grandparents and the Italian-American experience. Pisano graduated from Dominican University in 2010 with a degree in journalism and a minor in English.

This delightful picture book is suitable for young readers and is a perfect read-aloud book for parents and grandparents to share with their children.

Italianità: The Essence of Being Italian and Italian-American

by William Giovinazzo
2018

In this book, William Giovinazzo explores the culture and history of Italians and Italian-Americans, from the time when the Greeks first colonized Italy, to the influx of Italian immigrants in the 19th and 20th centuries, to John Travolta strutting his stuff in a New York disco.



In an insightful and entertaining journey, which also takes in food, religion, relationships, and – of course – the Mafia, we explore how the two groups are the same and how they differ. Ultimately, we discover how Italianità is a complex and multifaceted entity; it's what makes Italian and Italian-American societies the wonderful, life-affirming, vibrant cultures that they are.

This book mixes Giovinazzo's personal experiences and observations with historical facts in a book that would be enjoyed by teenagers and adults alike.

Looking for the Perfect Gift?

Laurice Levine
Live to Give Committee

Consider giving the gift of life and donating blood in honor of your loved one. Donating blood is free and only takes about an hour.

When you donate one unit of blood, you will help save three lives.

For more information contact your local blood bank, or Laurice Levine, Live to Give, at 360-860-2023 or LLevine430@aol.com.

Contact the ICF office for a blood donation postcard and your gift will be mentioned in the Bollettino.

Merry Christmas from the Live to Give Committee and may you have a BLOODY good New Year!



Heritage: Who Are We?

Denise Antonowicz
Membership Chair

It is my pleasure to introduce the Heritage Committee. I am Denise Antonowicz, Chair. On the committee with me, and my support, are Franklyn Lopes, Jr., Bob Basuino and at large members, Louise & Russ Vento, Jim Friebel, Ken Marshall, Marco Galeazzi, and Marie Stalteri Antonowicz.

Just what is heritage? According to the dictionary, heritage is something inherited at birth, such as personal characteristics, status, and possessions, anything that has been transmitted from the past or handed down by tradition, valued objects and qualities such as cultural traditions that have been passed down from previous generations.

We’ve all explored just what our heritage means to us. Whether it’s that special reci-

pe that our Moms made at holidays, or that story about how our grandparents came to this country. The “good old days” of going to grandma’s house and sitting around the dinner table talking about “old times” are nearly a thing of the past. How often do we just sit and have our relatives share the stories of their lives? We don’t. In the digital age we live in, sharing (outside of Facebook), is a lost art.

Over the next year our committee wants to get back to that “sharing” of stories of our histories. Our heritage is what has made us what we are - that special something that adds the sparkle and depth to our lives. Don’t let these stories be lost. Be proud of what our parents and relatives have handed down to us.

Buon Natale!

Order Your New ICF Brochures

A beautiful new ICF brochure is available now for use by all branches. This is a great marketing tool to distribute to guests at monthly membership meetings, information tables at branch events, and for membership drives. On the inside of the brochure, there is a reserved area to place your branch contact information. Please contact the ICF Office at (888) ICF-1924 to have brochures sent to your branch.



Zona Divertimento

Italian Food Word Search

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

- Antipasti:** Italian hors d’oeuvre of mixed meats, marinated ingredients, salads or hot dishes.
- Bresaola:** Air-dried salted beef.
- Budino:** Pudding
- Cannelloni:** Large pasta tubes for stuffing.
- Caponata:** Sicilian dish of peppers, tomatoes, onions, capers and black olives, often including fish.
- Carpaccio:** A raw dish, most often of thinly sliced Filet Mignon.
- Farina:** Flour from wheat, nuts and potatoes.
- Funghi:** Mushrooms
- Gnocchi:** Small dumplings made from semolina, potatoes or ricotta cheese.
- Granita:** Water ice.
- Grissini:** Breadsticks.
- Milanese:** In the Milan style; of escalopes coated in egg, bread-crumbs, seasoned with grated Parmesan cheese, and fried in butter.
- Neapolitan:** Ice creams and sweet cakes in layers of different colors and flavors.
- Prosciutto:** Raw smoked ham, served finely sliced, e.g., Parma ham.
- Risotto:** Savory rice, fried and then cooked with stock or wine and additional ingredients according to the recipe.
- Tartufo:** An ice cream dessert enclosed in a chocolate shell.
- Torta:** Cake
- Tiramisu:** A dessert made with layers of espresso soaked lady fingers and sweetened mascarpone cheese. Literally, “pick me up.”
- Vongole:** Clams. As in the dish linguini vongole.
- Zabaglione:** Dessert consisting of egg yolks, white wine or marsala and sugar, which are whisked together in the top of a double boiler over boiling water until thick and foamy.

Sources: puzzlemaker.discoveryeducation.com and rd.com/food/fun/25-italian-restaurant-words-you-need-to-know/

Hospitalization Plan Guidelines

Lisa Crudo
Hospitalization Chair

Hello to all my wonderful ICF family!

I would like to thank all of you for your wonderful response to the "open enrollment" of the hospitalization plan for our very valued members who happen to be over 70. I am so pleased with the positive response to this plan!

I do have to clarify some things for you, though, and apologize for any misconceptions or misinformation from other sources. If, after you read the criteria below, you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (510) 861-9835.

Here are the details:

1. The committee has agreed to open enrollment period for all ages for the calendar year January 1, 2019 through Dec 31, 2019. If you wish to enroll during this time, PLEASE fill out the application and when you pay your dues for 2019, include the \$25.00 for enrollment in the plan. You do not have to enroll separately! Please give this to your branch financial secretary, who will then send it in to the office. Your 90 day waiting period will start

when we receive your application after January 1, 2019.

2. We ran a special during convention where we opened enrollment during that weekend only. We acquired several new members. These members ONLY have the 90 day waiting pe-



riod which started the beginning of September. Some of you have sent your applications in between the convention and the beginning of 2019. Please note: These will take effect January 1, 2019 beginning with the 90 day waiting period. You may process claims April 1, 2019.

3. For these 55 new members the 90 day waiting period started as of September 3, 2018. These new memberships will NOT be prorated. Their coverage

will extend through 2019.

4. You may use the application that is on-line at <http://www.icf.org/forms/hospapp.pdf>. We will not be creating a new form for the one year of open enrollment. All information and claim forms can be used regardless of age.

5. When dues for 2020 become payable, you must also pay the annual fee of \$25.00 to remain in the plan.

6. After the one year open enrollment, the 70 year age limit will go back into effect, with one exception: if we gain a NEW member who happens to be over the age of 70, and if they pay the \$25.00 hospitalization plan fee at the time they

pay their membership dues, they may be allowed in the plan. This is a "one-time" offer only for new members (after 2019).

All other terms of the plan will remain in effect regarding claims and pay out limits.

Again, please call me if you have any questions. Thank you, and welcome to the hospitalization plan!

Hope you all have a wonderful Christmas Season!



Have You Purchased Your 2019 ICF Calendar Yet?



Reasons to Consider Buying an ICF Calendar:

- This calendar is an annual project of the Ways and Means Committee and provides funding for many ICF programs throughout the year.
- The theme for 2019 is "Festas Around the World," with fun and informative descriptions and photos of each festa, and recipes provided each month.
- They make great gifts and great raffle prizes.
- Calendars are only \$25, and branches get to keep \$5 from every calendar sold.
- There is a prize drawing for every day each month and the individual or branch whose name is drawn wins between \$30 to \$100, making 365 winners for the year. The name drawn goes back in the drawing immediately for the next day.
- Over 4,100 people have won since this effort began, with a grand total of \$12,400 to be awarded in 2019 alone.

At your next general meeting, please talk to one of your branch officers to learn more!

Chicago

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

Our branch had a successful bake sale in October as well as a Mother Cabrini Mass in early November. Also, in November, we had our annual Mass for deceased ICF members. Now we are gearing up for the District Christmas party in early December.

December is a wonderful month and holds a special meaning for celebrations for each of us. You will see colorful lights & decorations as well as a multitude of family gatherings. May we create an internal culture of goodwill as we continue to pray & work in harmony with our officers, programs & projects. 2018 may have created challenges that left some of us with mixed emotions. We may have had a wonderful year or just looked at the good in anything that hindered us. Either way, we are still tasked to walk side by side with the spirit of goodwill.

'Tomorrow needs today'. This is the last month people come together to sing, give gifts and look back on the past year. And in the blink of an eye, the holidays will be over.

We have one December birthday celebrant--Marilyn Marine. We wish her a year of good health & happiness.

Merry Christmas to one and all!!

Leonora

Fresno

**Madera
Santissimo Crocifisso, Br. 27**

The October 9th 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 Valorosi and the committee: John O'Meara, Jeff Dal Cerro, J.B. and Camille Overstreet.

The Bishops Burse was held at Saint Anne's Chapel, located on the San Joaquin Memorial High School Campus, on October 28nd. Bishop Ochoa gave an inspirational mass to the ICF members in attendance. Kudos to Elaine and her crew for the wonderful luncheon and entertaining program. Thanks to the nine members who represented our branch at the event.

The November meeting is on the 13th and the dinner will be Committee's choice. On November 17th Speaker Patrick Coffin will be at St. Joachim Holy Spouses Hall and ICF members will be cooking and serving the lunch while guests listen to his message. The next day is our bake sale on November 18th and a trip to Rocker Rocka's in planned for January.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Christmas Party on December 9th! Please

continue to pray for our ill and injured members.

Ciao,

Kerin Cavallero

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

The 2019 officers were installed at the October meeting. They are:

Elaine Lencioni, President; Monica Ficher, Vice-President; Nancy Rodriguez, 2nd Vice-President; Beverly Magana, Record-Secretary; Betty Farmer, Corresponding Secretary; Paulette Volpa, Financial Secretary; Patricia Vivenzi, Treasurer. Other positions filled: Nancy Rodriguez, Heritage; Erna Bonetto, Sunshine; Richard Romagnoli, Sentinel; Evelyn Nieto, Evelyn Lopez and Martha Acuna, Trustees.

Laurice Levine, Thalassemia Outreach Program Consultant (Cooley's Anemia program at Children's Hospital Los Angeles) has offered to visit our branch and share how important it is to know how funds to this program are used, as well as what it is, who it affects and how the ICF got involved. She will also share her own personal story in an effort to put a face to the charity we support.

There were 7 members from our branch who attended Bishop's Day on October 28. The Bishop's Burse was dedicated for the seminarians. The Bishop was very pleased with all the donations from the various branches.

Our Christmas party is December 8 at Yosemite Falls restaurant located on Blackstone/Shaw. Please reserve your seat by contacting Nancy Rodriguez or Monica Ficher.

I hope you received your membership renewal envelopes. Take advantage of the open enrollment for hospitalization. The ICF hospitalization plan is open to any member, including those members who are over 70. The cost is \$25/year. If you are taking advantage of this hospitalization enrollment, please return your payment by the end of December.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Paulette Volpa

Financial Secretary

**Sanger
Sant' Antonio, Br. 70**

Greetings and Merry Christmas from Branch 70 in Sanger!

September 30, we had our Spaghetti and Meatball Fundraiser Dinner and Bake Sale. I am happy to report it turned out very well. Many thanks to President Kay Lopez and Bob Merlo along with his kitchen crew for a job well done.

Our bake sale was managed by Elaine Lencioni and myself. We thank all the members that donated the delicious baked goods and spaghetti sauce.

A portion of the proceeds from the dinner will be donated to St. Mary's Church.

At our last meeting the nomination of officers was held. Kay Lopez will be returning as our president with Elaine Lencioni as our treasurer and financial secretary. Our other nominations will be confirmed in the upcoming meeting.

St. Mary Church is serving Thanksgiving luncheon to all senior citizens on November 18. We are expecting a good turnout again this year. Our Christmas Party will be at the home of Ralph and Rosemary Wymenga. This will be the third time they host our party and our members are all looking forward to another fun evening.

God Bless,

Orsolina Casella

**Bakersfield
Our Lady of Perpetual Help,
Br. 281**

Branch 281 members are looking forward to their Annual Christmas Party, filled with delicious food, fun games, activities for all ages, and wonderful company. Members, please mark your calendars for December 1st—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 chairs, Kristen Zasoski at kzasoski@mygarces.org or Crystal Watts at (661) 706-2474.

Our November meeting was a success. No November meeting would be successful without our Turkey Bingo! Winners received gift cards for turkeys and pies, and all players had fun.

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 to purchase one.

Baci e abbracci,

Kristen Zasoski



LA Archdiocese Bishop's Day at St. John's Seminary, Camarillo, CA



Altar at St. Peter's, Los Angeles (Br. 67)

Los Angeles Archdiocese

District Council

Next month we will report on the District's Bishop's Day at St. John Seminary; the Mother Cabrini Pilgrimage and the second Thalassemia Christmas Party at Children's Hospital, Los Angeles. An early thank you to all who are helping to make these events fun and successful.

January 27, 2019 will be LA's Officer Installation at St. Peter's Italian Church, beginning with the 11 am Italian mass, followed by installation and lunch at Casa Italiana.

The next District General Meeting will be February 23, 2019, St. Rose of Lima, Simi Valley with time to be announced. Thank you Branch 443, St. Gianna for hosting the meeting.

Our prayers and thoughts go out to the victims of the fires in Southern and Northern California and the senseless tragedy in Thousand Oaks. May all find peace and comfort as their new life's journey continues.

A very Blessed and Peaceful Christmas to all!

Pat

**Los Angeles
St. Peter, Br. 67**

Buon Natale a tutti!

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



October birthday celebration - Crocetta with Franco (Br. 111)

presence at this beautiful Italian National Church. Interested members are asked to call (626) 372-7812 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 let me know how you can help us keep the future alive for the next generations at Branch 67 in Los Angeles. We are asking for your ideas, prayers and support.

Your help is greatly appreciated.

Carmelo Sabatella AIA

President Branch 67

Montebello St. Benedict, Br. 111

Ciao a Tutti. Hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving celebration with your loved ones and are looking forward to the holidays! Thank you to everyone who participated at our November 15th Thanksgiving potluck dinner & general meeting. Thank God for all our blessings!

We would like to congratulate all the members who celebrate their birthdays in the month of December.

Buon Compleanno a tutti!!

Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's Bishop Banquet and Chaplain Recognition Mass & Luncheon held at St. John's Seminary in Camarillo. I would like to thank everyone for all the charitable works you do, and for your continued and generous support of vocation to religious life.

We congratulate all officers who were elected at our October general meeting. The Officer's Installation will be held at St. Peter's Italian Church in Los Angeles, on Sunday, January 27, 2019. More details will follow. Thank you for all you do for the ICF.

Our Christmas party will be held on Saturday, December 8 from 6:00 to 11:00 p.m. at St. Benedict's Parish Hall. Duo Domino will perform, and the party will feature a delicious Italian Buffet from Portofino Trattoria. It will be a great party! Plan to join us and invite your family and friends. For information and reservations please call Frank at (323) 888-2074.

We pray for our sick members and those in need.

Finally, we wish you and your families ev-



Frank Salomone and Joseph Delorenzo, holding Award of Gratitude presented to Salvatore Italian Restaurant (Br. 111)

ery Happiness and Joy this Christmas and throughout the coming year!

A Presto!

Frank Salomone

San Pedro St. John Joseph of the Cross, Br. 115

Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year to all!

Election of 2019 officers occurred at our November general meeting. Results will appear in our January issue.

On December 2nd many of our members attended the pilgrimage for Mother Cabrini in Burbank. What a wonderful start to the holiday season.

Our branch Christmas party was held on Dec 8th. President Neal DiLeva thanked us all and shared how proud he is of our branch and all the good we have accomplished.

Reminder that dues are currently due and payable. Dues are \$38.00 and can be paid at our next monthly meeting on Jan 17th.

At our January meeting Neal will be discussing our upcoming Crab dinner fundraiser in honor of St. John Joseph of the Cross. This will take place March 2, 2019. Save the date! Attend the meeting to learn about this event and many other events that the club is planning.

A turnaround trip to Pala Casino will be on Jan 24th. Cost is \$25.00. Members will receive a \$5.00 discount. Casino will give \$5.00 in free play. Bus will leave at 8:30am from the Boys and Girls club. Please call Pauline for reservations at 310 832-0563



Cole Buzon, pictured here in photo taken at St. John's Seminary in Camarillo with members of Br. 115, was selected to be the branch's new adopted seminarian

Please help our branch stay alive for the next generation. I encourage all our members to invite a family member or friend to join our club. Let's continue the good works that was started with our parents and grandparents.

Please remember our ill and deceased members in your prayers.

Anita Gioiello Trujillo Treasurer

Arcadia Holy Angeles, Br. 218

Welcome to our new board members, Jenny Hauge, (Trustee) Patricia Smith (Sentinel) and Mary Rovarino (Orator). At our last meeting, Linda Szerdahelyi gave a very interesting heritage report enjoyed by all. She and Jeane Bernabei are putting together our recipe book and need your recipes. This book will be a little more than just a recipe book with interesting facts about the ICF.

As of this submission, the Christmas Boutique has not occurred but I will thank ahead Linda Sz and Aileen LaCorte for coordinating the event and all that helped. The next event is our Christmas Party, December 8th, and I imagine that by the time you receive the Bolletino it will have also occurred. Matt Luchetta is chairing the New Year's Eve party again this year. Be sure to get in your reservations early as we can only take up to 125 persons.

A fairly new member, Bill Booth, passed away very suddenly. We would like to extend our deepest sympathies to Tracy, his wife, the Booth family and the Flach family.

To everyone, from myself and the branch have a wonderful Christmas and hope to see all of you at our functions.

Lolly M.

Diamond Bar St. Denis, Br. 317

Hello and Happy Holidays

Branch 317 in Diamond Bar has been really BUSY this fall.

On Oct 14th—Sausage Sandwich Sale

raising money for presents for Children's Hospital LA Thalassemia Christmas Party.

On Oct 28th —Fundraiser raising money for Queen of Angels Center for Priestly Formation.

On Nov 10th—Thanksgiving Celebration. A few of our former members will be able to join us! With the help of all our members, the Thanksgiving Meal will be Wonderful.

On Nov 25th, the ICF along with The Knights of Columbus and Women's Council will be holding our BREAKFAST WITH SANTA. All the proceeds go to St. Denis for Christmas Baskets for Families in need.

On Dec 2nd, the ICF will meet at St. Denis Christmas Tree Lane. Our tree will be decorated with an Italian theme.

Thank You to AB Personal (Glenn Scalise and Staff) in Riverside for their Generous donation for gifts for the CHLA Thalassemia Christmas Party. We are fortunate for their support to help us give the Children a Great Party.

Thank you to all branch members, especially my AWESOME Board Members, for their hard work and support. In my first year as President, their support has been sooo GREATLY APPRECIATED.

The beautiful article about Monsignor Jim, submitted for the November issue of the Bolletino, was from the St. Denis Bulletin. (St. Denis Catholic Community: Biography of Monsignor James J. Loughnane, P.A. <https://www.stdenis.org/207>)

May God Bless you all and your Families this Holiday Season.

Pamela-Anne Roemer

President

Claremont Our Lady of the Assumption, Br. 319

Well we've just about completed another year with 2018 almost gone. December brings lots of wonderful things - Christmas parties, our Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini pilgrimage, Children's Hospital Los Angeles Christmas party, the joy of your family and friends and the most important reason, the birth of Jesus.

We have just started our renovation of the church, leaving 10 months of services in the "portable" facility. It will be an adventure for holiday services and church activities. As they say, "the Lord will provide." Pray for guidance for all of our upcoming events.

Dates to remember:

December 2 - St Frances Xavier Cabrini pilgrimage

December 7 - Children's Hospital Los Angeles Christmas party

December 9 - Branch Christmas party

Merry Christmas to all

God bless you all

Andrea Linn

Temple City St. Luke, Br. 326

No one can say that Branch 326 does not know how to celebrate one of United States' most sacred holidays: Thanksgiving, especially when it is held at Nanno's ristorante. Along with the fine food served, came friendship and fun. The only thing that was missing was the fruit of the vine. Wine was not included in the price of the banquet. Although wine could have enhanced the joviality, if served, we did not need it.

Another event where 326 will include fine food, friendship and fun, is the Branch's Christmas party. The party will be held at a Woman's Club, on December 16th. Unfortunately, the Club's policy restricts adult beverages, so wine will not be served. Someone must have told the Club management about 326's enjoyment of fermented grape juice with their meals. Although the Branch will feast Christmas.

Branch 326 wishes the readership a Merry Christmas. And remember the reason for the season.

Inspiration quote: *When life gets hard to stand, kneel.*

Humorous quote: *If you're going to do something tonight that you'll be sorry for tomorrow morning, sleep late.*

Tony Farinella

Downey St. Raymond, Br. 362

Greetings to you all. Well, another Halloween has come and gone and Thanksgiving is right upon us. I would like to congratulate all of those newly elected officers throughout the ICF. I'm happy to announce that I was elected as the new president of the LA District. Thank you to Pat Mages for a great job as president these last 2 years and I hope I can do as great a job as you.

Bingo was held this month at St Raymond with everyone having a fun time, and we celebrated Thanksgiving a little early in our branch with a special turkey dinner at our general meeting. Bishops Banquet was held at St. John's Seminary and what a lovely time it was. Looking forward to the Christmas party at Children's Hospital for Cooley's.

Happy Thanksgiving to everyone and look out for some exciting news to come out soon about the ICF and Religious Ed Congress 2019.

Yours truly, Perry Shurko

La Canada Flintridge St. Bede the Venerable, Br. 374

At last branch meetings are back in the Parish Center. Our October meeting featured Robert Barbera from the Barbera Foundation speaking on the Mentor Project that publishes books on great Italian mentors like Leonardo Da Vinci, Mother Cabrini, Volta, and others. The presentation stimulated many questions and mobilized mem-



Guest speaker Mary Contini Gordon with Br. 443 President Ritamarie Downey

bers to promote Italian heritage.

Farewell to Jack DeZell completing a two-year term as president. He will remain active in the branch. Jack did a great job of recruiting young members and using technology techniques to keep our members informed. Branch leadership is determined to continue the growth program.

Phyllis Harb leads our 2019 Saint Joseph Table, Luncheon & Auction event. We urge members to visit local businesses and encourage contributions of goods or services for the auction. Please request solicitation forms from Al Restivo.

We contributed \$300 in toys for children suffering from Cooley's anemia at Children's Hospital LA. Diane Restivo, Fiora Murphy, and Mary Wynton shopped for the gifts. Several members attended the Christmas Party ICF at the hospital researching the cure.

Ten members attended the Bishops' Mass & Banquet at St. John Seminary. A generous gift was made for the Seminarians. The branch contributed \$1,000 to the parish at the Parish Birthday Celebration. We continue to support the St. Bede parish as a major charity.

Let's be thankful for all the gifts of God we receive.

Best wishes for a Merry Christmas, and a wonderful healthy and happy 2019.

Dio ti benedica,

Al Restivo, 1st Vice President and Orator

Thousand Oaks St. Paschal Baylon, Br. 380

Happy Holidays, and Merry Christmas!

At our last general meeting on November 2nd, branch member Richard Interrante gave an informative presentation about genealogy. He began by relating the importance of genealogy in society and popular culture. He discussed the pros and cons of the various popular services for genetic testing, and other sources of infor-



Richard Interrante (Br. 380) gives a presentation about genealogy research and DNA testing to branch members



Members of Br. 444 and guests enjoy a day trip by bus to the Italian-American Museum of Los Angeles (IAMLA) and San Antonio Winery

mation both free and paid. He finished by telling stories and giving examples about his own ancestors before turning the discussion over to other members. During the meeting, we had delicious Thanksgiving fare for dinner catered by Karan B's.

Our new board of officers for 2019 will be assuming their positions shortly, and the current board is planning a hand-off meeting that will be an essential step in their transition.

We hope to see you at our Branch 380 family Christmas party on Saturday, December 8th. There will be great food, crafts, and a visit from Santa Claus!

Upcoming Dates:

December 8 (Sat.) - Family Christmas Party

January 11 (Fri.) - General Meeting

February 1 (Fri.) - General Meeting

Ryan Interrante

Corresponding Secretary

Simi Valley St. Gianna, Br. 443

At its October meeting, St. Rose of Lima Branch 443 had a guest speaker, Mary Contini Gordon, who spoke about her family's friend, Joe Chiriaco, an Italian immigrant and his family's journey to America in the 1930's. Joe and his wife Ruth Berseid settled in California and established the Chiriaco Summit, a little town located off of Interstate 10 between Phoenix and LA. Mary shared many of the stories that are in her book *Chiriaco Summit: Built by Love to Last in the Desert*, a book that recounts the hardships and triumphs the family encountered as they made Chiriaco Summit their home. One of the most memorable stories centers on World War II troops who were camped at the Summit before being deployed; these troops were commanded by General George Patton. There were some interesting tales regarding Joe's encounter with General Patton. At Chiriaco Summit, water was limited, there was no electricity and only dirt roads--the family lived a harsh life; however, "wine was free but [they] had to pay for water."

Branch 443 has also been planning its annual Christmas party scheduled for December 14. Starting at 6:00 pm, the event will have dinner, dancing, Christmas carols sung by a Boy Scout troop, a photo booth, and raffles. Last year's event was a huge success, and this year's is looking to be just as successful!

Barbara Tweedy



Br. 444 organizes a toy drive for the Children's Hospital of LA Christmas party

Rancho Palos Verdes St. John Fisher, Br. 444

Happy Fall! On Saturday, November 3, 2018, we had our bus trip to the Italian American Museum of Los Angeles (IAMLA) and San Antonio Winery. For the ride there, we played games, had a lot of laughs, and fun. Our first stop was Olvera Street, where there were vendors, displays, and food available. It was nice because it was in celebration of Dias De Los Muertos (All Souls' Day) and Hispanic culture. Next, the IAMLA was very educational and informative. We learned about the important contributions and talents in Italian history, culture, heritage, and artistry. Our last stop was San Antonio Winery. We learned about the history of the winery, and the making and storing of wine. Many of us participated in the wine tasting as well. Salute!

On November 8, 2018 was our general meeting. There was a potluck and toy donation drive for the Children's Hospital of Los Angeles. These gifts and donations will be given in time to the children for the Christmas holiday season!

Here are some upcoming events for December 2018:

December 7: Annual Christmas Party for ICF Branch 444. Email: icf444@sjf.org for information

December 13: General Meeting

Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo!

Tonia Amalfitano

Manhattan Beach American Martyrs, Br. 447

Please join the Branch 447 for our First Annual Christmas Party on Monday, December 10th at 6:30 p.m. in O'Donnell Hall. The evening will begin with a complimentary wine class and wine tasting, followed by a catered Italian dinner, desserts, and dancing. After dinner we will

play Bingo (for a small additional charge) and the children will participate in Christmas activities, games, Bingo, and we hear that St. Nicholas plans to stop by!

Dinner tickets are on sale now and are priced as follows:

Adult Tickets: \$20.00
(\$25.00 at the door)
Children 6 – 13: \$10.00
5 & under: Free

Please make your check payable to the Italian Catholic Federation and forward it to:

Italian Catholic Federation
c/o Mary Roberti
2309 Gates Avenue
Redondo Beach, CA 90278

There are several service opportunities in December to give back and make a big difference in the lives of others during this holiday season:

- Monday, December 3rd at 6:30 p.m. – O'Donnell Hall – Make sandwiches for Help for the Hungry
- Tuesday, December 4th – Deliver sandwiches to St. Lawrence of Brindisi School in Watts
- Friday, December 7th – Children's Hospital of Los Angeles – visit the children and deliver toys

Peace & Blessings to All,

Stephanie DeRaddo

Recording & Corresponding Secretary

Monterey Central Coast

**Santa Cruz
Nostra Signora del Soccorso,
Br. 21**

Buon Natale, Tutti! Christmas is here once again. On December 7th Branch 21 will celebrate with a full turkey dinner. Remember, this is one event where current members don't have to pay. Santa is expected to attend, too! We encourage you to bring your children and friends and family.

The year is nearing its end and Branch 21 voted in a new slate of officers for 2019. They are: President, Roseann Costabile; 1st Vice President, John Barisone; 2nd



Allan and Maria Reames often serve free coffee from their portable 'Coffee House' to attendees of Br. 21 events

Vice President, Mickey Aluffi; Treasurer, Maria Reames; Financial Secretary, Rosa Radicchi; Secretary, Patty Morelli; Trustees, Mary Jo Belli – Carmen Locatelli – Sue Della Santina; Orator, Mari Segura; and Sentinel, Cindy Schuette. Congratulations to our new 2019 Board.

We enjoyed several events this past month. The Polenta Dinner on October 28th was absolutely delicious! On November 4th we celebrated our annual Memorial Mass at Holy Cross followed by a beautiful breakfast. Thanks to all those who worked on these events, from the gals who set the tables, to the cooks, to the clean-up crew, and everyone in-between.

We are sad to report the passing of another beloved member of the Santa Cruz and ICF community, Lena Castiglioni. Her lovely smile and wonderful stories of days long gone will be missed. We send our condolences to her family.

Merry Christmas to you all and remember that old saying: Jesus is the reason for the Season...though Santa plays a pretty important part, too!

Bless us one and all.

Patty Morelli

Secretary

Salinas Sacred Heart, Br. 25

The Branch 25 annual Polenta Luncheon and Bake Sale was November 7, 2018 at Sacred Heart Parish Hall in Salinas, with prep day, our November meeting and elections one day prior. This year we changed to "take out" only. We still had tables in the hall so guests could enjoy their take out meal there and purchase beverages and baked goods. Approximately 400 meals were served. Kudos to Linda Hoffman and Gia Ussery, co-chairs of the event, for working long hours preparing and implementing the new and improved take-out process.

Thank you to Branch 25 members who worked at the hall too: Kathy Bullene, Joanne Cristofano, Rita Dominy, Thelma and Roy Frontani, Marilyn Portschy, Julie Richards, Sharon Scilacci, JoAnn and Tom Sullivan, Mary Jane Vierra, and Catherine Yaras. Another shout out goes to Branch 25 members Ralph Cristofano and Chuck DeBord; and Chuck's kitchen-cooking crew from the Knights of Columbus, John, Frank, Louis and Rusty. The stew was great!

The Branch 25 Christmas Party will be held at JM Ranch on December 9th. Invitations were mailed out in late October and included invitations to non-member volunteers who helped us during the District Picnic and the Polenta Luncheon. Branch 25 members are encouraged to recruit and bring guests who are interested in joining ICF.

Dues renewal letter will be going out to all members. Great news for 2019 only—members of any age can join the Hospitalization Plan!



Members of Br. 36 serve over 250 guests at their Thanksgiving dinner in November

Safe travels to all of ICF and their families!

JoAnn Sullivan

Recording Secretary

Monterey San Carlos, Br. 36

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Branch #36 wishing you and your family the Gift of Faith, the Blessing of Hope and the Peace of His Love during Christmas. Enjoy this special time of year with your family and friends. May God Bless you a safe and Happy Holiday Season.

November 1st, over 250 members and guests enjoyed our Thanksgiving dinner. Thank you Peter John Curatolo, our Executive Chef, and crew for an outstanding meal: herb-crushed turkey breast with roasted vegetable pan gravy, scallop potatoes, fennel sausage and apple stuffing, orange cranberry sauce, Insalata di Rucola E Perra, and pumpkin pie.

Thanking all our members for donating canned goods for the Saint Francis Xavier Food Panty. We wish all a Blessed Thanksgiving with your family.

November 10th: Our branch hosted the Central Coast District district meeting. Thank you, Rosa Radicchi, President in conducting our meeting and Eddie Leonard for preparing a wonderful lunch for all.

Our sympathy to Bud Johnson and family for the loss of Vicky Johnson. Vicky was a member for two years and loved coming to our dinner/meetings. May God comfort her family during this difficult time and may Vicky rest in Peace.

During the Holiday season, please keep all our members that are ill and are home-



Grand President Andy Pappani, Mentor Ed Leonard and Br. 51 President Cindy Stefani celebrating the installation of seven new members of Br. 51 in Castroville

bound in your prayers. Pray for peace and happiness throughout the world.

Merry Christmas – "Bless us Lord, this Christmas with quietness of mind: Teach us to be patient and always to be kind." Helen Steiner Rice

*Love,
Elaine Valentine*

Castroville Santa Caterina de Siena, Br. 51

Merry Christmas!

Wow how the year has flown by! It seems as though we just started 2018 and now in a few weeks we will be celebrating 2019.

At our last general meeting in November our heritage speaker was our newly installed member Joseph Huynh. He shared with us his story of how he immigrated from Saigon, Vietnam and the hard times he experienced because of his heart condition—what a story. Thank you Joseph, we are blessed to have you as a member and a friend of our ICF Branch.

Our Charity project for November was our parish's "Adopt-A-Family" for Christmas. Thank you to all our members for your generosity. I am sure the family that we adopted had a special Christmas because of you all. Please keep our adopted family and all the homeless families in your prayers.

Happy Birthday to our December babies: My uncle Larry Barlow (AKA Uncle Butch), my cousin Zach Barlow and new member Pauline Rodgers. I hope you all have a wonderful birthday.

And as we prepare to celebrate Christmas and all the festivities that go along with the Christmas holiday, let us remember the

reason for the season. Thank you Mary and Joseph for saying “yes” and giving all of us the greatest gift in the world, your son Jesus. Happy Birthday Baby Jesus!!

Cindy Stefani

Capitola St. Joseph, Br. 227

Thanks to Vicky Howell and her crew Sandy Federico, Gerald Shevenell, Nancy Prevedelli, Heidi Ambiel and Darrell Harrison for preparing the sumptuous turkey dinner at our November meeting. Over 80 members enjoyed the feast and fellowship.

Welcome to new members Sheila Monahan and Roy Avila who joined just in time to eat turkey.

The Christmas party will be held on Sunday, December 9th. Roast beef is on the menu and we'll be serving our traditional Tom and Jerrys. For the little ones, Santa Claus will be there to distribute gifts and candy canes. Thanks to Dolores McCartney for handling reservations.

Congratulations to the following officers for 2019 who were elected at our October meeting.

President – Franklyn Lopes

1st Vice-President – Mike Rios

2nd Vice-President – Ellen Pauly

Secretary – Deanna Musler

Treasurer – Jane Kotila

Financial Secretary – Marie Mungai

Trustees – Mary Montonye, Vicky Howell, Ken Olson

Orator – Danny Scott

Sentinel - Monica Crowley

Congratulations also to Mary and Bob Montonye who just celebrated 60 years of marriage.

With the new year comes time to pay membership dues. They are \$40.80 and should be given to Financial Secretary Marie Mungai.

May God's peace and the joy of Christmas be with all of you this holiday season.

Deanna Musler, Secretary

Arroyo Grande St. Patrick, Br. 291

Branch 291 held its final Fall Fundraising Dinner on Nov. 9th and honored veterans by serving free spaghetti dinners to veterans in attendance. Our Fall Dinners raised money for our Catholic School Registration Assistance Program. We continue to sell raffle tickets for a chance to win 4 fish fry dinners each week during our Lenten Fish Frys, and all funds raised during the raffle will also benefit our Registration Assistance Program. That's 20 dinners and a \$240 value! Tickets are \$10 each and 2 winners will be drawn on March 1st.

Congratulations to our 2019 Branch Officers! The following members were elected/re-elected to office: President – Pete Gallagher; 1st V.P. – Abby Gallagher; 2nd

V.P. – Joanna Van Blaricom; Recording Secretary – Keely Sanchez; Treasurer – Joe Franco; Financial Secretary – Jennifer Nakamura; Orator – Kathleen Sullivan; Trustees – Theresa Aston, Gayle Quain, Throck Scudder; Sentinel – Ellen Bavaro.

It is with great sadness that Br. 291 bids farewell to two very wonderful men and longtime ICF members — Rich Quain and Bob McLean passed away within one day of each other. Rich served as an officer for our Branch for many years, and Bob was one of our longest members and was very instrumental in the building of Br. 291. Please keep the Quain and McLean families in your prayers. Rich and Bob played golf together, and we know they are enjoying majestic golf courses in heaven and getting many holes in one!

We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

Keely Sanchez

Recording Secretary

Oakland

East Bay

District Council

In place of our regular district meeting in October, we had a workshop presentation from members of the Central Council that covered not only ICF and its history, but officers, their duties and how to access the ICF website. Lauren Kilcullen, "Mom" Carmen Kilcullen and Bob Acquistapace, gave us much food for thought when they talked about Budget, having exact wording for motions and the many charities that we can be involved in through ICF. We thank them for their hard work and had positive feedback from the group. As they were leaving, one of the presenters remarked that we were a thoughtful group with questions.

Thank you to the branches for the wonderful food they provided to share at the meeting. What kind of a meeting of Italians would it be with out good food to share?!

We will have election of officers at our next meeting, so there is still time to volunteer.

The District Christmas party is coming up! Thank you to Lisa for making all the arrangements with Buon Appetito for a delicious menu. And with this we really enter a time to prepare for the coming of Jesus and the real meaning of Christmas. Do people still use Advent calendars? Are there still Nativity plays? What are we doing to make ourselves ready for Christmas? As we ponder these questions, here's hoping that each of you and your families will have...

Buon Natale!

Felice Anno Nuovo!

Pat Grasso,

District Secretary

Alameda Nostra Signora Delle Grazie, Br. 10

Our annual Polenta Dinner is scheduled for Saturday evening, January 12, 2019, at Monsignor O'Brien Hall, High Street at Van Buren Street in Alameda. The event will start with social hour at 6:30 p. m. Dinner will be served at 7:00 p. m. Prices are \$25.00 for adults and \$12.00 for children 12 and under. For reservations, contact Jeanette Zugnoni, jeanette@zugnoni.net, or (510) 523-8005.

At the Polenta Dinner we will initiate new members who have joined since the initiation of July 2017, plus any other members who have not previously been initiated. Fran LaTorree, mentor of both Branch 10 and the East Bay District, will conduct the ceremony.

We have elected our officers for 2019. They are: President, Peggy Lubeck; First Vice-President, Gina Foster; Second Vice-President Jan Rosa; Treasurer, Karen Harrington; Secretary, Jeanette Zugnoni; Orator, Sharon Brunetti; Sentinel, Ernie Poggi; Trustees, Betty Lupetti, Agnes Marcheschi, Elena Serles and Ken Dorrance;. Non-Officer Assignments: Heritage, Peggie Dorrance; “Sunshine Lady,” Sandie Manzo And Publicity, John Zugnoni. All are looking forward to the East Bay District Installation to be held on Sunday, January 20 at the Fratellanza Club in Oakland.

Treasure Karen Harrington reported at our meeting of November 1 that our well-attended Ravioli Dinner of October 6 produced net proceeds of \$1,365.00. We had voted several months ago that profits would be donated to Saint Philip Neri School in memory of our president Dave Rose. The school will designate the projects for which the funds will be used.

John Zugnoni

Publicity

Oakland Santa Rita, Br. 40

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all. A wish for good health and Peace for you and your families in the new year.

Congratulations to our new Branch officers:

President—Lawrence Francis; Vice President—Rita Marie Dykes; Recording Secretary—Mary Ann Francis; Financial Secretary—Anne Marie Grader; Treasurer—Mary Ann Francis; Orator—Claire Ramirez; Trustee—Claire Ramirez; Sentinel—Molly Grader and Chaplin—Rev. Bill Mason.

Branch 40 members and Sacred Heart Church Parish you are invited to a social celebrating the Epiphany on Saturday, January 5th from 2pm to 4pm in the Cafeteria. We invite you bring a favorite dessert to share with the rest of our members. Refreshments will be provided. Please RSVP that you are coming by contacting Mary Ann Francis at 510-655-4971 no

later than December 27th.

Be the first ones to see our Branches list of 2019 calendar of events. We look forward to seeing you all.

Upcoming events:

December 3rd monthly meeting at 7pm. Sacred Heart Church Parish Center.

January 5th Epiphany Social

January 20th ICF Branches Installation of new officers at the Fratellanza Club.

Happy Birthday to David Avery, Anthony Cotroneo, Franca Duncan, Karen Garcia, Jean Infrerra, and Esemia Tabacco. God Bless you all.

Please remember in your prayers the sick and the convalescing of our Branch. Especially Anna Alberti, Rosalie De Santi, Ernestine Pernecco, Ida Scodella and Esemia Tabacco.

Thought: "If you can't sing, Just Hum!"

Ciao,

M.A. Francis and L. Francis

Livermore St. Filomena, Br. 285

Our new slate of officers for 2019: President(s)—Judy Wellbeloved & Elaine Meier. Both served as presidents before—thank you for stepping up again. Sharing First VP—Carolyn Cardinalli (retiring president) & Brenda Ianiro; Second VP—Joy Furtado; Financial Secretary—Christine Cardullo; and Recording Secretaries—Carlotta Schauer & Philomena Buonsante; Orator—Kathy Elm; Trustees—Dave Wellbeloved, Virginia Williams, & John Cardinalli. Thank you Karen Rossi—our Branch Mentor. Officers give generously of their time to provide the leadership and support needed to perform our mission of helping charities. Thank you seems inadequate to express our appreciation.

Upcoming dates:

December 9th—Nativity displays at St. Elizabeth Seton, Pleasanton. The displays remind us all, especially the children, the nativity (birth) of Jesus is the real meaning of Christmas. 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. From large to miniature, from master craftsmen, to those made by family members and passed down. All are wonders especially to the young ones. Bring your family, grandkids, and friends to this unique display of Jesus' birth—they will not be disappointed.

December 11th—Branch 285's Christmas Dinner celebration at the Brass Door Restaurant, San Ramon.

March 2, 2019—Annual Bingo Bash at St. Augustine's Hall. It was a big hit last year. "Un po' di fortuna, e tante allegria," a little luck and a lot of fun. Put it on your calendar.

Ciao,

Charles

Castro Valley Our Lady of Grace, Br. 343

We were in the spirit of Thanksgiving with our delicious Minestrone soup meal, prepared by Lisa. We would like to thank all who made donations of nonperishable goods to St. Vincent de Paul's cupboard.

And a big thank you to all the newly elected officers: President—Mike Miraglia; 1st Vice President—Leonard Rossi; 2nd Vice President—Annette Friedeberg; Financial Secretary—Al Proietti; Treasurer—Lisa Crudo; Rec. Secretary—Pat Grasso; Trustees: Dorothy Cassani, Kathy Condeff and Stella Taddei; Orator—Maria Ruggeri and Sentinel—Anna Friedeberg. And a special Thank You to Karen Rossi, who was President/Co-President for the past 4 years.

Just a reminder that installation of officers will be on Sunday, Jan. 20th at the Fratellanza Club, additional information will follow.

As a way to ease into the Christmas season, here's hoping that many of you attended the District Christmas Party. From there we can move on to sharing the true meaning of Christmas with not only our families and friends, but also with those who are less fortunate.

Hoping that each and everyone has a Blessed and Holy Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*Pat Grasso,
Branch Secretary*

Contra Costa

District Council

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

The District Christmas party was held on Monday Dec. 3 at De Vito's in Pleasant Hill. It was a lot of fun and the meal was delicious.

The next District meeting will be on Thursday, January 24th at the Legends restaurant in the Diablo Creek golf course in Concord. Each Branch should send at least two delegates to this meeting.

Installation of Contra Costa District Council and Branch officers is scheduled for Saturday, January 26, 2019 at the Galileo Club in Richmond, to be hosted by the Crockett branch. Mass will be celebrated at 10:00 A.M. followed by the Installation and then lunch. Please let your branch president know if you plan to attend.

I am one who enjoys pomp and circumstance and ceremony. I think each person in our District nominated/elected to ICF office for the year 2019 should give high priority to attending the Installation ceremony. Back in 1970, when I first joined, attendance was almost mandatory.

Branch officers are strongly encouraged to obtain the new ICF brochure and distribute it at every opportunity.

Following is the list of Contra Costa District Officers for 2019:

Chaplain: Rev. Larry Young

President: Patty Jarrett

Vice-President: Peggy Aiello-Hagerthy

Second Vice-President: Roger Van Maren

Recording Secretary: Roberta Healy

Treasurer: Walter Costa

Trustee: Addie Bepler

Trustee: Judy Van Maren

Trustee: Carole Padlo

Orator: John Kortuen

Sentinel: Maria Catanese – Helberg

no financial secretary

In closing: A flower cannot blossom without sunshine, and man cannot live without love.

Joseph (joefflores33@comcast.net)

Martinez San Martino, Br. 13

We closed out our ICF year with a delectable traditional Thanksgiving feast with mouth-watering foods and desserts sharing our thanks and blessings with members and friends. Introducing 2019 Officers: Tom Cook, President; Mary Cook, First VP & Secretary; Paul Cook, Second VP; Anne Crisp, Financial Secretary & Treasurer; Rosemary Cook, Karen Glen, and Bob Poirier, Trustees; and Marylynn Rogers, Orator & Sentinel. Thank you for your service. All volunteers will be honored at St. Catherine Church on December 8 with recognition for their milestone years of service.

Branch members Rosemary and Paul Cook won the October calendar drawing! As 2019 calendars sale continue, their win keeps hope alive for all.

The annual Wine & Cheese Fest on November 17th in memory of dear Sister Jeanne Therese Haskell, benefited the St. Catherine Faith Formation programs. The branch donation of an Italian basket joined other donations for religious education materials.

Thank you to ICF members from various branches for helping to make our annual October Family Polenta dinner a huge success. We hosted diners from various Branches including #14 Crockett, #19 Colma, #27 Madera, and #442 Pleasant Hill of whom we were aware. During the dessert auction, Anne Crisp and Jennifer Chiarelli (Br#27) were the joint winners of Rose Billecci-Santos's infamous homemade lemon meringue pie.

Let's all make a New Year's resolution



Thank you members for helping with decorating and getting the hall ready for Br. 14's Polenta dinner

to visit and/or attend another's branch event in 2019! We wish you all a holy and blessed Christmas and God's graces in the Happy New Year.

Ciao from Martinez,

Anne Crisp

Crockett San Carlo, Br. 14

Christmas comes to our world! Believe in its magic!

Our Christmas Social is December 11th at 5:30. No mass or meeting—just holiday festivities (and adult beverages). Santa visits at 6:00 with his bag filled with presents for good little girls and boys (supplied by parents, grandparents, etc.). The Branch provides pasta and bread; please bring a dessert or salad to share. This is always a joyous evening of celebration. Nothing evokes the holiday spirit more than a festive Christmas tree, traditional carols, and children whose bright eyes show how sincerely they believe. We also share with those less fortunate. If able, bring non-perishable goods as a small donation to add to someone's near-empty holiday table.

Our first meeting in 2019 is Tuesday, January 8. Be ready for a special treat. Please bring your annual dues of \$38.00 to the meeting or mail to Roni Jimenez, 1990 Vista Del Rio, Crockett, CA. 94525.

As Christmas nears, it is easy to dwell on all the extra work involved. Somehow, the real meaning of Christmas is lost in irrelevant chores, all in the name of tradition. The year has been difficult for many. For others, 2018 has been memorable and wonderful. May we all remember what is truly important, and may we enter this blessed season with love and hope in our hearts.

'Tis the season to be merry, to be thankful, to be joyful—to wish all a beautiful, peaceful 2019!

Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo!

Diane Bottini Thomas

Pittsburg San Domenico, Br. 72

During our October meeting, at the New Mecca Restaurant in Pittsburg, 2019 officers were selected.

Officers elect: President—Patty Jarrett; First VP—Joann Thligen; Second VP—Josie Leontini; Secretary—Grace Scanapico; Orator—Jane Russo; Trustees—Roselynn Jarrett & Denny O'Laughlin;



Thank you servers for a great job with Br. 14's Polenta dinner. Father Leo gives a helping hand too

Sentinel—Jim Jarrett

Since the meeting was close to All Souls' Day, we offered prayers for the souls of our loved ones. May they rest in peace.

Thank you to our mentor, Peggy Aiello Hagerthy, for driving from Martinez for monthly meetings and bringing guests to learn about ICF. Last month Peggy donated half her winnings from the daily raffle to the branch.

Update on our Second Vice: Josie Leontini is doing a little better. Still undergoing tests, but wants to host meetings when able. We miss her!

Thank you to First Vice Jane Russo for hosting meetings. Thank you for bringing non perishable items for the food bank. Watch for your invitation with the details of our Dec. meeting and Christmas party.

Save Jan. 26th for Installation of officers hosted by the Crockett branch at the Galileo Club in Richmond. Our district Chaplain Father Larry Young will offer Mass at 10 AM followed by the installation, social and luncheon.

The new ICF 2019 calendar and daily raffle books are available. Each book runs \$25.00. Branch keeps \$5.00 of each sale. Your 2019 branch calendar and dues slip will be mailed early Jan.

Have a very Merry Christmas.

As we say in Pittsburg, Sempre Avanti!

*Till next time,
Patty*

Richmond St. Raymond, Br. 154

November 12th, meeting was a mass to remember our deceased members. Mass was celebrated by Father Al Menon. Thank you Fr. Al for always helping us to honor our deceased members. We enjoyed a supper of Soup and Salad with bread, followed by dessert.

A bus trip to Cache Creek was on November 15, 2018. This year we shared our bus with the Galileo Club. Everyone had a great time. Next trip is sometime in February. More news to on that after the New Year.

Election of officers was also held.



Some of the kitchen crew at the Br. 14 dinner with the new Polenta invention made by Dennis Hoffmann

Join the Hospitalization Plan!

You've heard of the AFLAC duck? Well, we have the ICF Chicken!

Extra money in your pocket when you're hospitalized or have surgery.

We will be holding an Open Enrollment period where ANYONE, regardless of age, can enroll in the plan. From January 1 to December 31, 2019, members in good standing may join.

So remember, when you pay your dues for 2019, add that extra \$25 per year for extra peace of mind. See the Hospitalization Plan section of the Members' Area page on the ICF website at <https://www.icf.org/membership/members/> for more details, or feel free to call the ICF Office at (888) ICF-1924 with any questions.

After one year the limitation to age 70 will go back into effect, with the exception of NEW incoming members. Brand new members, even if over the age of 70, may enroll and pay the Hospitalization Plan fee at the same time they pay their dues when they join.



Officer Training Available

Attention ICF Officers!

Officer training slides are available on our website for the following positions: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Financial Secretary and Treasurer, Recording and Corresponding Secretary, Sentinel and Orator.

See the Officer Training section of the Members' Area page on the ICF website at <https://www.icf.org/membership/members/> to download the slides.



Visited the ICF Website Yet?

If you have a computer, tablet or smartphone and haven't had the opportunity to visit the ICF's national website at www.ICF.org, you are missing out!

Here are some of the many things you can do:

- Read current and past issues of the Bollettino newspaper will all pages in full color
- Access materials that you can use at a membership drive
- Read about some creative general meeting theme ideas
- View training modules to learn about ICF officer positions
- Find your nearest ICF branch based on city or zip code
- Download a membership application
- Learn about the ICF's history and organization
- Learn about the ICF's charitable programs and scholarships
- Nominate a candidate for an ICF award
- And much more

Visit today, or have someone show you how!



Are You Fluent in **ITALIAN**?

Before you answer YES, we may not be asking the question you think we are. Using the letters of the word **ITALIAN** is a great way to remember how to maintain a path toward a successful, healthy and growing branch:

- I** **Inform yourself.** Make sure you know all about the ICF and what makes us special so that you can tell others.
- T** **Transform your branch.** Talk to your board about how you can make your branch more welcoming with music, hospitality, kids' areas and decorations.
- A** **Amazing meetings and events.** Keep business meetings short, and ensure every interaction with members is amazing with well planned spiritual/social/service programs and great food.
- L** **Leadership growth.** Invite others to lead, and mentor them.
- I** **Inform others.** Spread the word, and promote your branch in bulletins, newspapers and social media.
- A** **Ask for help.** Visit the ICF web site for ideas, speak to ICF officers or members in other branches, work with other ministries in your parish, etc.
- N** **Nurture your membership.** Show you care by reaching out if members miss meetings, visiting them if ill, encouraging them to share their talents and become more involved.

So, share the meaning of **ITALIAN** with your members and officers, and ensure your branch becomes fluent!



You Are Cordially Invited To A Magical Celebration...
The 2nd Annual

Thalassemia Christmas Party

When:

Friday, December 7, 2018, 7:00pm-9:00pm

Where:

Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA)
Stauffer Conference Room
4650 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA. 90027

RSVP:

By November 12th to

Laurice Levine

LLevine430@aol.com, or, 360-860-2023

Please let us know the names of everyone in your group and ages of
guests age 18 and younger.





Br. 214 installation of 8 new members by Patty Jarrett

All current Officers were re-elected. We agreed to eliminate one trustee position.

Alicia Treviño President

Lorraine Acuña First Vice President

Laura McAllister Second Vice President

Debbie Kendall Recording Secretary

Michael Cannady Financial Treasurer

Toni Reeder Treasurer

Domenica Yonke Trustee

Ruben Treviño Trustee

Terry Ventin Sentinel

Walter Costa Orator

Calendars are here and for sale. Please see Dee Yonke to place your order, who knows you might win!

The December 10th meeting is our Annual Polenta Dinner. Free for all members, \$10.00 for guests. Reserve with Toni Reeder by December 4th, short meeting to follow.

Find us and like us on FaceBook - St Raymond154

Concord Todos Santos, Br. 214

Includes: St. Agnes, St. Bonaventure, Queen of All Saints & St. Francis of Assisi parishes

Our Annual Toys for Tots Drive took place last month. Two Marines came to pick up the toys and join us for our turkey dinner—our biggest dinner of the year. Many members bring their favorite dishes making for quite a feast. Our Pastor & Chaplain Father Johnson is always our Special Guest who joins us and Blesses our Meal.

November also included a food drive where each member brought canned goods.

The upcoming Christmas brunch is on Dec. 2nd, at La Veranda restaurant in Clayton with no meeting this month. This has been our favorite dining place for the 3rd year in a row.

We will install nine new members soon, date to be slated. Board Members: most board members will resume their positions for the New Year.

All of our dates for 2019 meetings and events cleared with St. Agnes Church and Hall.

Prayers for our sick and elderly. Special prayers for Sandra Debrichy's son Marco and Karen Gee.

We Wish Everyone a Very Merry Christmas

Buon Natale
Christina Artale
Corresponding Secretary



Br. 432 President, Deacon John, doing his best to look scary on Halloween

Brentwood Immaculate Heart of Mary, Br. 432

Our last Branch meeting was October 29th. However, we still had the annual Branch Anniversary/Christmas party on November 26th. As usual, the annual party generated a lot of excitement: Past parties have always been high energy, lots of fun affairs. This one was no exception; everyone looked forward to being there. This year the party was held at Bon Appetite in Oakley. The food was sumptuous.

We nominated and voted for the slate of new officers for 2019. Most of the current officers stepped up to take their positions again. They seemed happy to be able to reprise their roles in helping to make the Branch as successful in 2019 as it was in 2018. The evening turned out to be an enjoyable effort. Those who served in 2018, after much ribbing and laughter, re-upped for 2019. A couple of willing volunteers threw their hats in the ring to round out the full complement of officers. Even they seemed to enjoy being part of what's to come.

If you were present at the meeting you know who the officers for 2019 are. If not, here they are:

President—Deacon John Kortuem; First VP—Jay Risso; Second VP—Vinnie Heitzmann; Secretary—Grace Grimes; Financial Secretary—Gene Simonetti; Treasurer—Linda Kortuem; Orator—Sam Scalise; Trustees—Philomena Sawko, Ted Arcado, Lilly Beatty; Sentinel—Sam Scalise

"There comes a time in life when you have to choose between turning the page or closing the book."

la vita è buona

Christ the King Pleasant Hill, Br. 442

Everyone is still recuperating from our Fall festivities! So, a little bit of rest before it is time to gear up for our next big event on the calendar: The Ladies Tea in March 2019. It is not too early to start making plans. So, mark your calendars and be



Hailey Gibson (Br. 423) holding the Mother Cabrini statue

sure to look out for the sign-up sheets. We will need hostesses, servers, raffle baskets among many other volunteers.

Where Are You From? You, or your parents, or you long ago ancestors... Be sure to give your family history information to Nancy Santos, Heritage Chair. She updates our Where Are You From map. The map is a wonderful representation not only of our personal family history but also of our branch. And it's also fun to see all the different color pins in all the different areas!

We are called to celebrate in the happy times but we are also called to come together and comfort each other in the sad times. Several members of our branch lost loved ones this year others are ill or going through hard times. The holiday season can be difficult for many. So please keep them in your thoughts and prayers. Special prayers for our former pastor Fr. Brian Joyce. May they all know they have the love and support of our branch members.

More updates to come.

Buon Natale.

Already! Can you believe it? May you and yours have a wonderful Christmas Season.

Eileen McGauran

Orange Irvine St. Thomas More, Br. 423

After a brief hiatus, regular meetings resumed on October 19. Ken and Betty McIntosh hosted the pizza dinner. Members brought salads and desserts.

Summer Events Brief: Our June fundraiser at Rodrigo's Mexican restaurant was a success. We received a percentage of the day's meals and drinks to help fund our various charities. Maureen Melvold and Jerry Donaldson won the bocce ball tournament at the annual picnic in July. Nancy Shanafelt was our delegate for the ICF Convention in September.

Teresa LeMire organized the Coast to Coast Rosary event on October 7.

The annual Family Fun Faire at St. Thomas More Paris occurred on October 28. We



Br. 423 members holding the baldacchino before entering Mass

participated in the event by having a membership drive. We handed out biscotti with our ICF branch information.

Joanne Jordan did a Heritage Report on the Madonna Society. She belongs to the Madonna Dolorada (Lady of Sorrows) Society. Each member of her society wears a special uniform in purple. The society recently had a procession to the Embarcadero in San Diego where the bishop blessed the fishing boats.

The Mother Cabrini Mass was held on Nov. 10 at St. Thomas More Parish. ICF members from local branches came to honor Mother Cabrini. A baldacchino held up by Ken McIntosh, Jerry and Deana Donaldson, Roberto Garcia, Donna Stahl, and Kelly DeLeo led the procession, and members followed afterward. Hailey Gibson carried the Mother Cabrini statue. Linda Reedy brought carnations. Joanne Jordan said the first reading in Italian. Dinner was at Tutto Fresco in Santa Ana.

Sacramento

Sacramento St. Mary, Br. 45

Buon Natale a tutti,

The branch celebrated Bishop's Day on October 21st. The event began with mass at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Sacramento presided by Bishop Jaime Soto. We were blessed to have both the Bishop and Cooley's Anemia ambassador Laurice Levine join us for lunch and conversation at Mayahuel afterwards.

Our next event will be a Chicken and Polenta dinner on November 18th. The dinner will be preceded by a branch meeting that includes elections for 2019 officers. For information, contact Janine at 916-508-1199.

Our annual branch Christmas Luncheon will be held on December 9th at Espanol Restaurant. Menu choices are: Roast Beef, Roast Chicken, Eggplant Parmesan and Catfish. Come join branch members and celebrate the holiday season.

The District Christmas Luncheon will be held on December 15th at the home of District President Nina Malone. Get together with other members of the District branches for a fun event.

Welcome to our newest members, Shirley and Lee Bennet. We look forward to your participation in branch activities.

Happy December Birthdays to the follow-

ing members: Bill Boruff, Concetta Isola, B.B. Leveroni-Wright, Robin Mazza, and Siena Mazza.

Ciao,

Paul Rossotti

Auburn St. Joseph, Br. 342

It has been a busy few months for our branch! We held a successful Bunco Fundraiser in October, took part in a district Bingo fundraiser in September, held our branch elections, and are now into the Christmas season! Our branch Christmas Party was held on December 2nd. This event is always so much fun for members of all ages. Everyone enjoys a fantastic meal and a visit from a very special guest. Thank you to all who make it happen.

On Saturday, January 19th, we will be holding our 40th Polenta Dinner. Please join us for a wonderful meal of chicken and polenta, a yummy dessert, dancing, a raffle, and great fellowship. Tickets can be purchased from MaryAnn Mikles at (916) 759-8466. This event is always a sell-out. Hope to see you there.

Ciao!

Pam Andersen

Roseville St. Clare of Assisi, Br. 438

At our October meeting, Rick Steir, Joe Aguilar and the kitchen crew cooked and served pasta and sausages sautéed in peppers and onions. This dinner was so yummy. Thanks to all of you for putting on one delicious meal. All of you did a good job.

The bus trip to Apple Hill and Red Hawk was so much fun. The weather was beautiful that day. Thank you Nina and Natalie Malone for making this an exciting day.

Once again we had a very successful bake sale on the weekend of Oct. 26th and 27th. Connie Terry was the chair lady. Connie did a fantastic job displaying all the baked goods. Thank you to all the bakers and helpers.

Remember all our sick members in your prayers that they will recover and be healed.

Your Reporter

Yvonne Perry

San Diego

Spring Valley Santa Sophia, Br. 416

Let me start by saying that I hope everyone is gearing up for a marvelous Holiday Season. First have a blessed and Happy Thanksgiving. One of the more important things to be thankful for is that we all have God as our Guiding Light. If we keep thanking Him for all that He has done for us, I truly feel that we can't help but be suc-

cessful. Follow that with a wonderful and blessed Christmas remembering the reason behind it. As we all enjoy the preparations, get together, and celebrations, let us all take time out each and every day to thank God and to ask for His continued blessings in all that we do.

With branch elections and district elections coming up, let's all work hard to make the 2019 year an exciting and eventful time for one and all. May you all have a wonderful, wonderful Holiday Season filled with family and blessings. Keep smiling and God Bless.

Tim Smith

San Francisco

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

Upcoming: Please note, no meetings in January or February.

Special thanks to Dorene, John, Donna, and Brenda from Branch 173 and Barbara from Branch 6 for attending our November Spuntino.

Special thanks 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 went well. With Dora Varacchi, Maria Gloria, Cosmo Amato, and I present we were able to decide on our Christmas donations and went through our agenda pretty quickly.

Maria Gloria, our 1st VP and Heritage Chairlady, spoke to us about the start of the Columbus Day celebration. Maria, your reports are always timely and interesting. Maria also treated us to Ci Ci's Handmade Italian Lemon Cookies, Chocolate Butterhorns, and Halloween See's Ghost Chocolates. Grazie mille!

Our branch has 8 ICF 2019 Calendars to sell...please HELP by buying/selling one! They make great Christmas gifts. Phone Cosmo at 415-392-3560 if you would like to buy one or more.

Cosmo has also been working on our December 8th Mini Meeting/Christmas Party plans ...that are now finalized! Members, please check the invitation mailed to you for more details. Our dear Dora, our choir director, said, "Our Br. #38 guests should practice and be prepared to sing Christmas Carols at our party!" Dora, that's the holiday spirit!

I want to thank our devoted ICF members for supporting our branch all these years. Continue to pray for our branch's

deceased, sick, and for our members who have heavy crosses to carry. God, please give us the strength to face and endure our challenges...Amen.

Branch #38 officers and members wish all ICF members un BUON NATALE and a happy, healthy and felice ANNO NUOVO!

Hope to see you December 8 at noon in the PC at our Meeting/Christmas Party.

Ciao, dear & faithful Br. #38 members...

Mara Amato, Acting President Br. #38

San Francisco St. Elizabeth, Br. 258

Monday, Dec. 3rd, is our Christmas Luncheon. Menu - Turkey and all of the trimmings. Members - \$12.00 / Non-Members - \$16.00. Try to join us for a festive day.

To Toni Cvetovac a big Happy 96th Birthday on October 5, 2018 and to Vince Tudoni a Happy 95th. Many more years of Much Happiness and Good Health.

To all of our other members who had a Birthday in November or will celebrate in December, we wish you a good year.

Just a note: 13 of our members are 90 and over years young!! We should be congratulated, as we are still going strong!!

We hope you had a nice Turkey Day with your families.

Please remember our ill and deceased members in your prayers.

Please call me if you want one of our 2019 Calendars, (415) 587-7464. They make a nice gift.

Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo to our members and their families.

Remember the following date:

Dec. 23rd - Mass

Ciao,

Eva Perata, President

San Mateo

South San Francisco Sacro Cuore, Br. 7

Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo South City!

Another year has come to an end and we couldn't have done it without your support. Let's get ready for 2019, our 94th year, by sending our dues of \$36 to Financial Secretary, Dean Balestieri at 776 Almond Avenue, South San Francisco, CA 94080.

We would like to thank our Branch President Diana Ferrari for the excellent work she has accomplished this year to ensure we, as a community, continue moving forward. Diana stepped up and took on a job that the rest of us, including your editor, declined. For that, we are forever in her debt and we truly appreciate the leadership she has shown us.

That said, Diana has informed the Branch that after years of serving in numerous officer positions, chairing countless dinners and fundraisers and being one of our greatest boosters, that the time has come for her

to retire. Diana has earned it, therefore, we ask all our members to consider what role you can play in the leadership of this Branch. Our future depends on it.

Finally, thank you to the Cavalieri family. With the imminent closure of their family business and city institution, the South City Car Wash, we want to let them know how much their Branch and the entire South City community appreciate everything they have done for all of us throughout the years. God bless them.

FHR

Colma San Vincenzo De Paolo, Br. 19

Hello Everyone!

A big THANK YOU to all those who helped make the Chaplains Night and meeting dinner a success.

Our big night is coming up now:

DECEMBER 10th, Monday, Christmas Party and 90th Anniversary Celebration hosted by Donna Barnes. Come and help celebrate 90 years of tradition and dedication by members of the Branch.

Congratulations to the new Officers of 2019:

President - Deborah Rodondi
Vice President - Donna Barnes
2nd VP - Annette Novi
Secretary - Cheryl Simon
Financial Secretary - Joanne Sangiacomo
Treasurer - Christine Prudenciado
Orator - Don Simon
Trustees - David Novi and Joyce Harnett
Sentinel - Jackie Barnes

Best wishes for a good and fruitful year!

JANUARY 14th, Monday - Dinner - If interested in being a chairperson for dinner and dessert, call Deborah Rodondi at (650) 583-0805.

Seasons greetings to all members and a joyful Christmas.

N. Thurman

Burlingame Our Lady of Angels, Br. 173

We celebrated our Chaplains last night at the South San Francisco Elks Club and Branch 213 should be very pleased with the attendance and all of the accolades they received.

We had our branch elections and our officers are:

President, Dorene Campanile

V.P., Mary Ann Camacho

2nd V.P., Jean Watterson

Correspondence Secretary, Luci Witherpoon,

Recording Secretary, Roz Emery

Financial Secretary, Brenda Wemiz

Treasurer, Donna Cervelli.

Orator, Anita Cecena

Trustees, Jim Witherspoon, Lori Clyne and Bea Tomasello.

Thanks to Mary Ann Camacho for cooking our November meatloaf dinner and for her volunteering to be our President for 2018.

Special prayers are needed for a few of our members who are not in the best of health and hope to see them soon. One member is: Jack Sherratt. Also one of our neighboring ICF Branch members needs our prayers: Candi Hernandez.

December 13, 2018 will be our Christmas party. Contact Jean Watterson for items you would like to bring for the potluck. 1-650-343-6225.

*God Bless,
Rosalind C. Emery*

South San Francisco St. Augustine, Br. 213

The Holiday Season has arrived! Why do the months go by so fast now that we are older?

Our Branch committees want you all to remember to attend special events but also remember to acknowledge the committed RSVP's-Attending events are always fun but helping the committee chair by indicating our attendance is needed for them to meet their deadline.

I truly appreciate how our Branch members meet our deadlines and support one another all the time.

Remember upcoming events: Christmas Party, Dec 2nd and Installation of Officers, Jan 19th and ALWAYS our monthly dinner meetings.

Thanks to all that were able to attend our Chaplains' night and to Pres. Barbara, Judy, Jackie and Roberta for helping to keep the event organized and to Barbara Pettit's daughter for donating the wine for this event. Many thanks to Father Rene for attending and so sorry to see him leave.

I know we are all anxious to meet our new Chaplain and welcome him to ICF. We will pass the info on to you when we get any news.

And always, read the Newsletter that Joe, Judy and Barbara send out, there is so much information in it, reminders of events and updated info.

Have a wonderful Holiday, good health and visiting with family and friends this season.

*Ciao,
Joyce James*

San Carlos St. Charles, Br. 327

Our October meeting was hosted by Celeste Lennemann. It featured a delicious homemade ziti dish with salad, antipasti and cheesecake for dessert. Thank you, Celeste and helpers.

Thank you also to our outgoing board members, and welcome to our 2019 officers:

President - Carmel Dufault
Vice President - Joe Sheehan



Br. 403 attending Chaplain's Night

Recording Secretary - Celeste Lennemann

Financial Secretary - Alma Brennan

Treasurer - Marie DeRosa

Past President - Tom Malaspina

Orator - Rose Beall

Trustees - Christine King, Donna McKay, Irene Meany

Sentinel - Gloria Harrs

We extend our deepest sympathy to John Johnson and family on the loss of his wife, Mary Johnson. Mary was a 40 year member of our ICF branch.

Upcoming dates to write on your calendar:

December 18 - Branch 327 Christmas meeting. Food will be provided by your board, and additionally there will be eggnog and hot apple cider. Come join us for some holiday cheer!

January 19 - Installation of Officers, Basque Cultural Center (more information to come).

*Merry Christmas!
Virginia Malaspina*

Millbrae St. Dunstan, Br. 403

We had 16 members in attendance for the recent Chaplain's Night in So. San Francisco, where we honored our own Chaplain Father Joe Glynn. Thank you Father Joe.

Our annual Christmas Party will be held on December 4, 2018 in the parish Center with a special dinner menu.

Installation of Officers for the year 2019 will be held on January 19, 2019 at the Basque Center in So. San Francisco with the Installation at 10:00AM followed by lunch.

Our Officers for next year are as follows: President—Paul Larson; 1st V.P.—Mary Vella Treseler; 2nd V.P.—Annunciata Pesango; Recording Secretary—Caroline Cannizzaro; Corresponding Secretary—Rose Marie Morando; Financial Secretary Treasurer—Eunice Danli; Orator—Roy Fry; Trustees—Helen Habeeb, Gloria Borroso and Maria Swanson; Sentinel—Dorothy Semke.

Our Past President, Mary Vella Teseler is retiring from her position as President, but will continue to be active in our ICF Branch by serving as our 1st. Vice President. We thank Mary for all her years of dedication to our Branch.

It is with deep sadness that we inform all of the passing of two long time members, Barbara Torigianni and Alberta Rizzato. Our sympathy and condolences to their families and may they rest in peace.

Marin

Larkspur St. James, Br. 161

Mark your calendar for the following upcoming events:

Just Beatitudes

- Saturday, December 8, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Healy Hall
- Sr. Margaret Diener, Executive Director of the Santa Sabina Center, will guide us in reflection on the Beatitudes on this Feast of the Immaculate Conception. The morning will end with a simple lunch (\$5 contribution). Please RSVP to Anna Biggio at (415) 388-1998 or sonoioann@gmail.com.
- Hosted by Branch 161, open to everyone who is interested in deepening their faith during Advent.

Epiphany Dinner – Meet La Befana Italy's "Santa Claus"

- Saturday, January 5, 2019
- McGinnis Park Restaurant
- 5:30 p.m. cocktails, 6:30 p.m. dinner
- Adults \$60, Children (under 12) \$20
- Please RSVP to Anna Biggio sonoioann@gmail.com or (415) 388-1998
- This is a fundraiser for scholarships

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, December 18.

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

Merry Christmas to all of you.

Buon Natale!

*Anna Biggio
Recording Secretary*

San Jose

Santa Clara Valley District Council

Orator Jo Bertaccini started our meeting with a prayer to the Blessed Mother. District Mentor Jerry Delfino congratulated Br. 445 for organizing the Bishop's Day festivities. He also emphasized we need to do a better job with attendance, especially when the bishop makes a special effort of being there.

Br. 5 president Janet Glaubke thanked their anonymous donor for another \$1,000. She said the branch is eager to tackle the 2019 trifecta events (Installation, Bishop's Day and Christmas Party). Br. 368 president John Gillio reported a successful Monte Carlo night. The proceeds go to Santa Teresa Church. This was the first time all church groups took part (ICF, Fil-Am, Golden Gems and Knights of Columbus).

Br. 408 president Ric Shimshock said two members died, Edith Novack and Olive DeFrancisci. He added they had a successful Blood Drive, Pancake Breakfast

making \$500 for the school, and \$400 for scholarships. Denise Compagna thanked Ric for his service for Msgr. Milani going out of way to ensure he is included in all ICF activities. Br 184 president Denise Antonowicz reported they participated in the Santa Rosalia Festival and the San Francisco Heritage Parade. One sad note was Russ Vento fell and broke his leg requiring surgery.

Happy occasions were Marie Antonowicz's 95th birthday hosted by the family at a lavish affair at the Three Flames, Msgr. Milani presented with the Mother Teresa Award at Villa Siena. Br. 47 president Craig Noah wished everyone a "Happy Columbus Day"!

December District Meeting ICF Branch 445 – Monday December 10, 2018

Mike Nunziata

Santa Clara N.S. Assunta, Br. 5

Thanks to everyone who brought new baby items to our Meeting for the Layette. It is much appreciated.

Letters were mailed to all members for 2019 dues that are due by December 31, 2018. Please mail your check for \$42.00 each as soon as possible. Please help Br. 5 with membership. Please help us get new members as well as renew the present ones.

If you need more medical insurance, you can get it for a small price through the ICF.

On January 5, 2019, our branch will host and be responsible for the ICF Installation of Officers Mass and luncheon in our Church and Parish Hall. We need help setting up the Parish Hall on Friday, January 4, 2019. Cost of the luncheon will be announced in the November Meeting. All are welcome. Come and see.

Merry Christmas and a Happy and Blessed New Year.

*Ciao,
Marlene J. Rotolo*

Gilroy Santa Maria Ausiliatrice, Br. 28

At our October 15th dinner meeting the Vanni family once again prepared a wonderful pork loin dinner for the membership. Another one of our family prepared dinners done on an annual basis. Jeanette Hudson, heritage chairperson, acknowledged Vanni family members Andy and



The Vanni family (Br. 28) sitting down to dinner after preparing the October 15th meal for the branch's membership



Louise Segreto and granddaughter with the beautiful handmade quilt she won in the Br. 28 polenta dinner raffle drawing

Anita Zanardi who recently turned 95 and 98 years young.

Our October 20th polenta dinner was a successful fundraiser where Treasurer Pat Cordich and Recording Secretary Diana Berry again chaired the event. Rave reviews for the exceptional polenta with multi-branch participation in the preparation. Member donated raffle gifts and an exquisitely crafted raffled quilt by Diana Berry generously helped in the fundraising total.

At our October 15th meeting Past President Roger Santos handled the process for selection of officers for the 2019 year. The following members will hold these offices: Joe Fortino – President; Vince Saso – 1st Vice President; Roy Shackel – 2nd Vice President; Diana Berry – Recording Secretary; Marianne Peoples – Correspondence Secretary; Kim Filice – Financial Secretary; Pat Cordich – Treasurer; Christine Andrade – Orator; Louise Segreto – Sentinel. Trustees: Louis Cordich, John G. Filice, Peggy Fortino and Mora Toarmino. Thank you to all 2019 officers for volunteering your time and efforts to benefit Branch 28 charitable endeavors. Membership and officers would like to extend a huge thank you to President Gennaro Filice for his three years of service. Job well done.

Our Branch Christmas Party is December 17th at the Old City Hall Restaurant. Attendance callers will provide details. Best wishes for a blessed holiday season.

*Peace and God Bless,
Kim M. Filice*

Los Gatos St. Mary, Br. 184

Merry Christmas! We truly have a lot to be thankful for -- our families, our strong faith in God and our belief that with our families and faith anything can be accomplished. As I reflect on our past year, I can't thank you all enough. We may be small but what we do is tremendous. We gave three first year college scholarships, and second, third and partial fourth year scholarships. We awarded two St. Mary's School children \$200 scholarships. We gave a \$500 raffle prize for our parish's Country Faire and we donated \$700 to the Bishops Burse (scholarship money for our



Vince Saso, Br. 28 2nd Vice President stirring the polenta sauce on October 20th to be served at the branch's annual dinner

Seminarians).

We give of our time and hard work to many other community programs for the elderly, homeless, and immigrants. The hours that we spend volunteering is amazing. Although we didn't have a fundraiser in October, we're putting our creative minds together to think outside the box and come up with a different way to continue our successes.

As the year comes to a close, I just want to thank you all for your loyalty and love of our Branch and my prayers are for your continued help to us and our Community.

Buon Natale.

Denise Antonowicz, President

San Jose Santa Teresa de Avila, Br. 368

"What's a Monte Carlo night? Can you eat it?"

"No, you can't eat it, but you can eat during it."

A player prepays a ticket to get into our parish hall and receives poker chips at the door. Our Avila Hall is magically a casino, complete with dice, cards, spinning wheels, gaming tables, and dealers. The event on October 27th was a tremendous success, in which our branch was one of four sponsoring parish organizations. Joyce Robba, once again, thank you and your ICF crew for your work and your time.

Lorraine Nunziata, thank you for all you have done with the ICF Layette Group over so many years. Lorraine says that our parish group meets on Thursdays to knit, crochet, or quilt baby items for newborns whose mothers need help. The Layette Group, a diocesan organization active since 1955, invites all the parish groups to a tea and shower on the first Sunday of December to celebrate and display their work.

Another thank you goes to our October hostesses, Lynda DeMante and Carol Bennett, who planned, telephoned, decorated, and cooked for our delicious pork loin dinner. Lynda is pastoral associate for our parish, and we keep her really busy. Thank you, Lynda, for your many years and hours of service. Lynda has been in

our branch formally for only a year, but she has enthusiastically supported our activities since she joined the parish staff in 2002.

Joyce, Lorraine, and Lynda: three jewels!

Have a prayerful Advent,

Judy Zahn

San Jose St. Martin of Tours, Br. 391

Sister Jane Garrison led grace before our delicious meal of lasagna, sausage and garlic bread at our November meeting. President Mike Rossi thanked Al, Diana, and Lynda Vallorz and Mary Lipari for the wonderful Italian dinner. He also thanked our servers and hospitality group who set up tables.

In her personalized heritage report, Louise Vento spoke of fond memories of her parents and of her growing up in Almaden Valley.

Six of our members attended Bishop's Day in October, whereby dollars were raised for the education of future seminarians. Hopefully, Branch 391 will have more representation next year.

Our November Spaghetti/Meatball/Sausage dinner was a success. Thank you to all the cooks, servers, to those who donated raffle prizes, homemade goodies, and to those who worked on heritage tables.

Don't forget to purchase the 2019 ICF Calendars. They make great Christmas gifts!

Congratulations to our Mike Rossi, who was invested as an Officer of St. Lazarus in Houston, in October—an honor well-deserved. Mike also attended the opening of the new ICF Branch #82 located at St. Anne's Church in Lodi, CA on December 1.

Upcoming events: Layette Program, St. Lucy's Church (bring your donations--Baby clothes, diapers)—December 2, 2018; Branch #391 Annual Christmas Dinner (no meeting)—December 4; and Quarterly Communion—December 9, 8:30 a.m. mass.

*Wishing you and your families a lovely,
Merry Christmas!*

Janis Patellaro

Sunnyvale Resurrection, Br. 408

Buon Natale!

We thank those who participated in the St. Francis Cabrini Pilgrimage on Sunday, November 11th. She is one of our Patron Saints of the ICF. Fr. Mike led the Rosary and the Process and gave a strong Homily highlighting the contributions she made.

Thank you to all of our new 2019 Br 408 Officers! Remember Districtwide Installation of 2019 Officers will be at Branch 5 St. Clare starting with a 10 AM Mass on Saturday, January 5, 2019. This will be followed by Installation of 2015 Branch and District Officers in the Church at 11 AM and with the Luncheon in the Hall after the

Installation.

We host our final Blood Drive of the Year on Saturday, December 15th in the Farana Center from 8AM – 1PM. Please pray for Donors.

Our Christmas Potluck will be held at 6 PM on December 3th in the Double Alcoves. The branch will provide Lasagna once again – please bring something to share.

We will hold our Fundraising Raffle of the Christmas Creche to raise money for the Education of the Diocesan Seminarians once again this year. We will be selling tickets during Advent.

Please remember to include our sick members in your prayers – Bishop McGrath, and Paul and Dori Blefari.

Morgan Hill St. Catherine of Alexandria, Br. 435

Our October dinner meeting included a delicious menu of homemade polenta, chicken cacciatore, mustard greens and salad, with pumpkin pie for dessert. Rich and Joan Della Maggiore and George Guglielmo were the head chefs assisted by a wonderful crew in the kitchen. After dinner we enjoyed a very informative and entertaining slide show tour of Sicily put on by John Foggiano. John attempted to get us all up to dance an authentic Sicilian folk dance but we were all too shy (?).

On November 9th the Morgan Hill Community Foundation honored local individuals who make an importance difference to the nonprofit organizations they support. Their spirit of philanthropy and volunteerism exemplify generosity, selflessness and, sometimes, sacrifice. Branch #435 was well represented by two of this year's Outstanding Philanthropists and Volunteers: John Sorci for the Italian Catholic Federation and Pier Antonucci for work with Morgan Hill Sister Cities. Congratulations to John and Pier!

As I am writing this, California is still battling wildfires. The entire town of Paradise is gone. Over fifty thousand people are without their homes and/or businesses, and nine people have died to date. Southern California is still reeling from the tragedy at a country music event where twelve people were killed when two more wildfires started and more people are without their homes and livelihood. Please keep all of these folks and first responders in your prayers.

God be with us all.

Maryclaire

San Jose Church Of The Transfiguration, Br. 445

The Bishop's Day Mass/Luncheon which we hosted Saturday, October 6th, went very well. Co-celebrating the Mass were Bishop Patrick J. McGrath, Monsignor Joseph Milani, Reverend Christopher Bennett, Reverend Tito Jesus Cartagenes and

Deacon Phil Flowers.

Thanks to Sheri Burn's leadership, the music was outstanding and, so was the entire liturgy, including Lector Angelo La Scola, Eucharistic Ministers Jean Cosentino & Grace Brown, Greeters/Ushers Chick Cannon, Bill & Barbara Howell, Gina Farro and Emily Corral. Jim Falcone did a great job as overall coordinator of the Mass as well as Emcee and Toastmaster at the luncheon which was held at The Three Flames Restaurant. The ICF Santa Clara District presented the Bishop with two checks totaling \$9,000 for the seminary bursar. Our branch donated \$500 to that gift.

Our See's Candy Fundraiser started on November 10th.

Branch 445 will host the SCVD Christmas Party on December 10th.

Please take a moment to pray for the thousands of people whose lives have been affected and changed by the devastating fires in our beautiful state.

Angelo (Andy) La Scola

Corresponding Secretary



Santa Rosa District President Bill Scinto, District Treasurer Linda Sherman, Bishop Robert Vasa and Grand President Andy Pappani at Santa Rosa District Bishop's Day on September 16th

Santa Rosa

District Council

Fall is here and the vineyards are glowing in colors of red, orange and yellow. Beautiful to see!

The District Christmas Party was fun as usual. Thanks to all who participated and thanks to #198 for hosting.

District Installation of Officers will take place on Sunday, January 27, 2019 at #209, Sebastopol, St. Sebastian's Church. Flyers and tickets have been mailed. All officers should attend this event.

The district officers remain the same except for Lorraine Vannetti who will take over as treasurer. Many thanks to Linda Sherman who did a great job these past two years.

Branch directories and calendars will be distributed at that time. Please send these to me before January 15, 2019 so that I can assemble them. Email at carmensk@comcast.net.

Sad to report that Ken and Elizabeth Marshall lost their home in the Camp Fire. They ask for prayers to guide them as they

go forward.

Our house is progressing well. Many decisions to make!

Remember all the fire victims in your prayers that they may have the strength to cope with this tragedy.

Peace and love to all. Pray, comfort and support each other always.

Happy Holidays to you and yours.

CK

Healdsburg St. Francis de Sales, Br. 52

We had a great attendance at our polenta dinner on Nov. 10. Thank you to Scott Cavallo and crew for the wonderful dinner. The homemade sausages are always delicious.

Upcoming Events:

Dec. 4: Branch meeting at the Rectory. 5:30 PM.

Dec. 7: 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: 431-0438.

January 19, 2019: Our next Polenta Dinner. More details, next month.

Raffle ticket sales for the Nativity set will be held after all the Masses during Advent. The raffle will be held after Masses on the 4th Sunday of Advent.

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 2019 officers:

President: Ter Roller,

1st VP: open,

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: Dee Rochester.

Please support this great group of officers in 2019!

Remember to pay your dues.

We pray for the people affected by the California Wildfires.

Merry Christmas!

Lauren Kilcullen

Sonoma St. Sebastian, Br. 103

Greetings from Sonoma 103.

Another nice evening was spent at our monthly dinner meeting. Our crowd was light due to colds and flu (get well soon!!) but the meal was a delicious prelude to Thanksgiving.

Sonoma's members read my monthly article to the Bollettino and in doing so they will be reminded of our Christmas party on 12-11, so please attend!!

And many thanks for those who attended our Sonoma Fundraiser. Our Treasurer Bill Scinto was the chief cook and bottle washer!

Thanks Bill!!

Vediamo presto

Marilyn Sylvestri

Recording Secretary

Petaluma St. Vincent, Br. 127

Greetings from Petaluma!

Halloween has passed and the candy too. Our next family event is Thanksgiving. Share the love at this thankful time. God is good to us, so share his love with others.

Thank you Josephine Lavio, Angelo Leone and their cooking staff for a wonderful and successful polenta/stew dinner. Dinner was excellent, the fellowship was great and we made a nice profit to support our scholarship and other charities. Thank you to all.

November 12th was our last meeting of the year. Dec. 1st we celebrate the Living/Deceased Mass preceding our Christmas party at Sandalwood Estates Clubhouse. Call Louise for reservations: 769-7389. Cost is \$30.

Thanks to all who brought in canned goods for the needy. Our Jan. 14th meeting at 6:00 p.m. is a Soup Night in the Church Hall. Call Lucy for reservations: 769-1245.

Our prayers go out to former Deputy Ken Marshall and his family and all who had to flee or lost their homes in Paradise and in California.

Get well wishes to anyone who is ill and Happy Anniversary wishes to all celebrating this month.

Have a Blessed and Joyful Christmas filled with love and much happiness. May God bless our homeless, our service members, families of all these senseless shootings and may God Bless America.

Happy New Year to all! Blessing of good health and much happiness come to you and your families in the New Year.

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

Ciao,

Louise Vicino

Arcata St. Mary, Br. 144

Our November 7th meeting began with a pizza party! Pizza was provided by our branch, salads and desserts by members! Dinner was enjoyed by all!

The 2019 events calendar was scheduled and approved from January through May. This gives the new President options for the remaining year.

The members approved the following 2019 officers: President—Linda Spallino, Vice-President—Rosemary Melendy, Recording Secretary—Maria LaBanca, Treasurer—Elena David, Orator—Judy Cardoza, Sentinel—Alfred Eanni, Trustees: Shannon Gier, Pete Stagnoli and Bob Rocha.

Our Advent Breakfast on December 2 will be provided by ICF and the Knights of Columbus. Menu includes scrambled eggs, pancakes, link sausage, biscuits with sausage gravy, juice and coffee. Price is Adults--\$7.00, children \$5 and children 6 years & under are free.

Several members suggested that our church is in need of an electronic votive candle stand for our parishioners to use. A committee team, Judy and Marie, will contact Fr. Francis on the possibility with ICF and other organizations providing it.

A belated November happy birthday to Dina Macdonald and Joe Rodrigues! 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

Santa Rosa St. Eugene, Br. 198

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As we near the end of 2018, we look back to see what we have done as a Branch, what we have accomplished and what we have every right to feel good about.

We started the year by donating \$1,200.00 to support a room at the Catholic Charities' Family Support Center. Next, we awarded eight scholarships to high school graduates. We also gave three \$250.00 scholarships to students at St. Eugene's Elementary School. Our Branch hosted the District Day of Recollection, we had 15 members attend Bishop's Day and we donated money for Cooley's Anemia. We also hosted the District Christmas Party. Our fundraisers were successful, and we had fun at our meetings.

For 2019 we are planning a Luau meeting, a Taco Bar meeting, a Corned Beef Dinner meeting and awarding nine scholarships.

Plan to join us on January 7th for our 53rd Anniversary dinner meeting. We will have cocktails at 5:30, a Ravioli dinner at 6:00, and it will only cost you \$10.00! Bring a friend and ask them to join as a new member.

Fraternally, Gail Bong-Azevedo

Sebastopol St. Sebastian, Br. 209

We enjoyed a delicious Thanksgiving dinner at our November meeting. Thank you to the Chefs!

Leona Spadoni of our Apostolate/Charity committee has been busy collecting coats and jackets for donation to Catholic Charities. Any new or gently used coats are wel-

come.

We held a Fresh Ravioli dinner on December 1st. Thank you to everyone who attended and helped us celebrate 52 years as a branch!

On January 27, 2019, our Sebastopol Branch will host the Santa Rosa District Installation of Officers. Our day will begin at St. Sebastian's Parish, 7983 Covert Ln., Sebastopol, at the 10 am mass. Installations will take place next door at the Parish Hall; followed by a luncheon at 12:30 pm. Tickets are \$25.00 per person. Please send one check from each branch for the luncheon tickets. Send to: Lorraine Vannetti, 311 Burlwood Ct., Santa Rosa, CA 95401. Deadline is January 14, 2019.

Please keep our sick members: Marilyn Andrews, Colombini Albini and Evelyn Reese in your prayers.

Best wishes to everyone for a very merry Christmas.

Buon Natale, Sharon Vannetti

Stockton

**Modesto
St. Stanislaus, Br. 48**

We will start off December with our Christmas Potluck December 12, 2018. Come join us for some great food and visiting with friends and family. Bring your family, friends and your favorite dish for the potluck. There will be a short meeting to finish up the details for the Installation.

We will be hosting Stockton District's Installation of Officers January 6, 2019. Mass will be at 1:00 pm in the St. Stanislaus J Street Church, with the installation of officers to follow in the church.

Lunch will be served in hall behind the church at approximately 2:30 pm. We will have Pasta, Chicken Marsala, Vegetable, Salads and Dessert. We have asked the branches to help us with dessert. Bring your family and friends and join us.

Mass for our deceased members will be Sundays, December 9, 2018 and January 13, 2019 the 8:00 am Mass at the Maze Blvd. Church.

Our Bank Night winner was Ermelinda Zamora.

December 12, 2018 is our Christmas Potluck. We ask everyone to bring their favorite dish.

Christmas Blessings to all our Families and Friends.

Coming up:

- Dec 12th - 6:00 pm Christmas Party and meeting
- Jan 6th - 1:00 pm Stockton District Installation of Officers
- Jan 9th - 7:00 pm Meeting in the Hall at 7th and K Street.
- Feb 13th - 7:00 pm Meeting in the Hall at 7th and K Street

Cecelia McGhee

Stockton St. Luke, Br. 138

St. Luke's Branch #138 of the Italian Catholic Federation is planning a Christmas get together. Due to extensive remodeling at the church Social Hall, the party will be held at the home of Branch President Joe Curtis. A "White Elephant" gift exchange, games of chance, and great food will await those members who attend.

The first annual Polenta Dinner was held November 8th. "We were hoping to sell 100 tickets our first year," said Danette Curtis, Recording Secretary, "but we actually sold 130 so we are very pleased with the turnout."

A membership drive is planned for the new year.

Kathy Hall, Corresponding Secretary

Manteca Nostra Signora del Buon Viaggio, Br. 139

Our October meeting agenda included nominations and election of officers for 2019. The following were chosen:

President—Dr. Elizabeth Demichelis;

First Vice-president—Jim Alfieri;

Secretary—Michelle Harmon;

Financial Secretary—Barbie Ratto;

Treasurer—Lillian Pauletto;

Sentinel—Cary Posz;

Trustees—Linda Bertuccio, Yvonne Chimenti and Ed Fichtner.

Father Chris Varghese is our Chaplain.

They will be installed in January.

Anna Mello reported the biscotti baking has been completed and the product has been bagged and is ready for sales during the holidays. Labor and ingredients were all donated by branch members.

The annual Branch Christmas Party will be held on December 9 at Cucina Queirolo in Lathrop, with Chef Tony in charge of the dinner.

Cucina Queirolo was the site of the Stockton District meeting on October 28, with President Elizabeth, Vero Oliveri and Irma Demichelis representing our branch.

Buon Natale a tutti,

Mariano

Stockton Presentation, Br. 395

We wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.

Buon natale e felice anno nuovo a tutti!

Fellowship is an important aspect of ICF and supporting our fellow branches is part of that. We recently changed our regular meeting date to the following week so we could go support Branch 138's first Polenta Dinner. We encourage your branches to do the same.

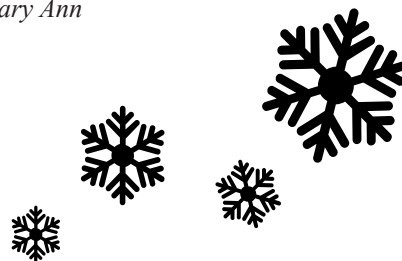
Our Christmas Lunch was Dec. 8. This annual tradition is our opportunity to thank members for all of their support, hard work and generosity throughout the year. We had a fantastic turnout, delicious food and delightful company. We incorporated an idea from the "Heritage session" at Convention. We laminated a HUGE map of Italy. As people checked in, they received stickers to place on the map to indicate the origin of their families. It was fascinating to see all the regions we encompass. Looks like this map may be perfect for future Heritage talks in 2019!

The Branch is busy preparing for our upcoming Polenta fundraiser on Thursday, Feb. 7, 2019 at Presentation Church. Grab your friends and join us in Stockton for an evening of great food, amazing raffle prizes and lots of fun. For tickets to this sell-out event call Jo Weber at 209.481.0006.

In a year where there has been so much loss and tragedy, we pray for all those that have been affected and may 2019 bring strength, peace and hope to all of us.

Alla prossima,

Mary Ann



ICF is Going Green!



Did you know that you can receive the monthly Bollettino by email?

Benefits:

- Save a tree
- Save printing costs
- Read text at higher magnification
- Read all pages in full color
- Receive earlier than printed version

Visit this link to sign up:

<http://eepurl.com/bLaMFb>

ICF Branch Expansion: Seven Ways YOU Can Help!

Did you know that the ICF has an expansion team that works to start several new branches each year?

Our emphasis on faith, family and heritage still resonates strongly with many Catholics even now in 2018, 94 years after our founding.

There are seven great ways you can get the ball rolling to help us start a new branch:

1. If your previous pastor has been re-assigned to a parish without ICF, reach out to him about starting one.
2. If your branch supported a seminarian that is now ordained and assigned to a parish without ICF, reach out to him about starting one.
3. If you are in a parish that is without ICF, reach out to your pastor about starting one.
4. If you know of a parish nearby that is without ICF, reach out to pastor about starting one.
5. If you know of a parish that previously had ICF, and would be ideal to re-open the branch, reach out to pastor.
6. If you have friends in a parish without ICF, reach out to them about starting one.
7. Volunteer to be part of an expansion team to get a new branch started.

Contact Mike Rossi, ICF Expansion Committee Chairperson, at mrossi@icf.org for more information.

Thank you!

*Buon Natale
E Felice
Capo d'Anno*

Dal Gruppo

#442, Pleasant Hill CA



*Auguri Per Le Feste
Natalizie Da Tucson*

Fr. Eusebio Kino,
Branch 433
Tucson, Arizona

*Buon
Natale!*



*Wishing you Peace, Love
and Joy for the
holiday
season and
in 2019.*

Deborah Rodondi,
CC Grand 2nd Vice President



*Wishing You a
Blessed Christmas
and a
Happy New Year!*

Branch 432, Immaculate Heart of Mary
Brentwood, CA

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



*Buon Natale e
Felice Capo D'Anno*

Franklyn Lopes, Jr.
CC Grand Trustee
Branch 227, Capitola





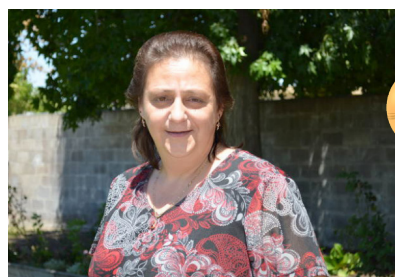
*Merry Christmas and wishing you
a Happy and Prosperous
New Year!*



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



*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 Felice Capo D'Anno



Past Grand
President
Bob Basuino

*Buon Natale e
Buon Capo D'Anno!*



Lauren Kilcullen,
Grand Secretary



*May the warmth and hope
that the Christmas Season
brings, remain with you
now and throughout the
new year.*

Br. 5,
Santa Clara

Buon Natale Felice Anno Nuovo

From
The Officers and
Members
of Branch 173 -
Burlingame



The Officers and Members of Br. 19,
San Vincenzo De Paoli
in Colma, California
Rejoice in Celebrating Our
90th Branch Anniversary!

*We Wish Everyone
a Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year!*



*May the Lord bless
and keep you and
your families
during this
Christmas Season
and Always.*
Your Brothers and
Sisters of
Branch 28, Gilroy

**Greetings
from
Branch #32, Fresno**



*May you be
blessed with the
joyous spirit of
Christmas now
and throughout
the New Year.*

Buon Natale and Buon Anno



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

Buon Natale from Branch 14, Crockett





*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



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

Italian Catholic Federation
Reno Branch 135

*Auguri a Tutti
Per Un Natale Benedetto
e Un Felice e Sano 2019*

*Best Wishes For A
Blessed Christmas And A
Happy And Healthy 2019*



*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 VP: Marie Stalteri Antonowicz

Secretary: Marie Yurosko

Corresponding Sec.: Lucy Amico

Treasurer: Donna Pfaff

Financial Sec.: Michelle Antonowicz

Trustees: Rose Arnaudo, Norma
Buonaccorsi, and Joe Yurosko

Sentinel: Victoria Nguyen

Branch Mentor: Maria Greco



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



*Merry Christmas
and Happy
New Year!*



The Officers and Members of
St. Frances Cabrini Branch 191
Wish You All a
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



*May the Blessings of this Holy Season Shine
Upon You and Your Families*



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*



*Wishing Peace and
Blessings for All
at Christmas and
the New Year*

St. Michael, Br. 209
Sebastopol

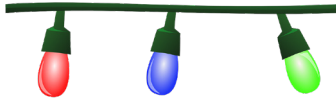


Branch 218
would like to
wish everyone a
*Merry Christmas
and Happy
New Year*



*Merry
Christmas to
all our ICF
family and
friends.*

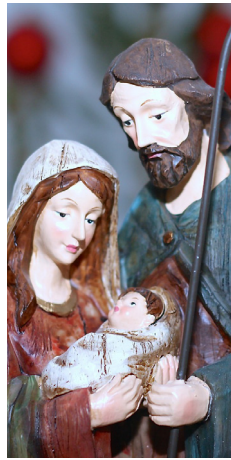
Vince and
Robyn
Piro





*Wishing our
ICF family
a Blessed
Christmas and
a very Happy
New Year!*

Love from the Officers and
Members of Branch 343
Castro Valley



*The Officers
and Members of
Branch 6,
Redwood City
send Blessings at
Christmas and
throughout the
New Year 2019!*

*Buon Natale e
Felice Capo
D'Anno*



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

*Merry Christmas
and a
Very Happy New Year*

from Branch 395, Stockton, CA!



*Wishing a
Peaceful
and Joyful
Holiday
Season*


Monterey
Santa Rosalia
Br.#36



Buon Natale!


From Branch 227 - Capitola by the Sea





*Buon
Natale*

*Merry
Christmas*



**The Stockton District wishes you a happy
and joyous Christmas season with the love
of God in your heart.**



Branch 48 - Saint Stanislaus — Modesto
Branch 82 - Saint Anne—Lodi
Branch 138- Saint Luke—Stockton
Branch 139- Saint Anthony—Manteca
Branch 390- Saint Bernard—Tracy
Branch 395- Church of Presentation—Stockton
Branch 413- Saint Patrick—Angels Camp





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

Br. 5	St. Clare	Santa Clara
Br. 28	St. Mary	Gilroy
Br. 47	St. Joseph	Mountain View
Br. 184	St. Mary	Los Gatos
Br. 191	St. Frances Cabrini	San Jose
Br. 368	Santa Teresa	San Jose
Br. 391	St. Martin	San Jose
Br. 408	Resurrection	Sunnyvale
Br. 435	St. Catherine	Morgan Hill
Br. 445	Transfiguration	San Jose

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

The Marsalli Family



*Happy
Holidays!*

From
The
Fuentes
Family

*Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year*

from
The Zasoski Family



*Buon Natale
e
Felice Anno Nuovo!*

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





Buon Natale!

The members of the Tracy
Branch 390 of Saint
Bernard's Church would
like to wish everyone a
Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year!

**Rejoice!
Christ is Born**



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

*Buon Natale e
Capo D'Anno*

From the
Officers and Members of
Branch 7, Sacro Cuore



*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



St. Francis Borgia, Br. 392
Chicago, IL

*Happy 94th Anniversary to the
Italian Catholic Federation.*



Best Wishes
from
Central
Council
Member
Teresa
Helfand

*Merry
Christmas
and
Happy
New Year!*



San Mateo District



From the Entire
ICF Central Council
and Office Staff,
We Wish You A

*Merry
Christmas
and
Happy
New Year!*