Sir Robert Dianda, K.S.G.  
October 27, 1929 – January 8, 2019

Sir Robert passed away peacefully on January 8th 2019 with his family by his side. He is survived by his loving wife of 65 years Theresa. He is also survived by his sister Helen Dianda, and his children Joe, Donna, Lou, Judy and Jane, 14 grandchildren, 19 great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Bob was born October 27, 1929, to Luigi and Theresa. In 1955 they had their first son and by 1965 their family had grown to five children.

Bob joined Branch 91 Oakland in 1961. Theresa was a charter member of the branch and our founder, Sir Luigi Providenza was also a member of Branch 91. Bob and Sir Luigi became great friends. Bob often traveled with Sir Luigi to help open new branches and to promote the ICF.

Bob served in almost all of the branch offices, including President several times. Most recently in 2014, he was elected President of the East Bay District. He was elected to the Central Council in 1967. Bob chaired and served on many committees and during that time was involved in the creation of the ICF Mortuary Fund, ICF Hospitalization Plan, and the ICF Scholarship Program.

In 1966, Bob was the Chairperson of the annual ICF Convention in Oakland. He also served as Grand Trustee and Grand Second Vice President of the Central Council.

In June of 1971, Bob received the Diocesan Outstanding Medal of Merit for raising thousands of dollars to help with the formation of the Apostleship of the Sea Parish at the Port of Oakland. He worked very closely with Fr. John Bosch and the first Bishop of Oakland, Bishop Floyd Begin.

Bishop Begin petitioned Pope John Paul II to have Bob awarded with the very rare and special Papal Honor of Knight of St. Gregory for his work with the new Seamen’s Parish and for all the money Bob raised for St. Lawrence O’Toole Parish and Bishop O’Dowd High School. On October 30, 1977, the Investiture in the Order of the Knights of St. Gregory the Great was bestowed upon Sir Robert.

Bob then retired but remained an active and vital member of Branch 91 and the Central Council of the ICF. In 2005 Bob achieve the title of Life Member Emeritus and in 2016 the Ways and Means Committee dedicated the ICF Calendar in Bob’s honor.

Bob will be remembered as a very kind man, full of love for life, his family, and the ICF. He was loved by many, will be missed by all and will never be forgotten.

The entire Italian Catholic Federation thanks you, Sir Robert, for your many years of dedication and hard work.

May He Rest in Peace.

Grand President’s Monthly Message  
Andrew Pappani

We are now heading into spring time just as new life begins to bloom around us—a new beginning for all of us heading into the 2019 year.

I have had the opportunity to install our newly elected officers in your branches and districts and see new life bloom before my eyes. What a wonderful sight.

We have to remember we are here to support our Catholic Faith and parishes, and our seminarians who are the future of our Catholic parishes and faith.

As we head into Lenten season, we all become closer to our faith. During Easter Vigil, we light a candle to remind us of the Light of Christ, that he is the Light of the world. We as Catholics, also have the Light of Christ in us. We receive that Light of Christ through the Blessed Sacrament and the Holy Spirit. We make that Light of Christ shine not only during Easter season but all year long.

We Come to Light a Fire!

As membership is a vital part of our organization, new members are a must. However, retention of existing members is even more important. New members must be nurtured and guided to become active members. Invite them to participate in our events and functions. Make them feel that they are wanted and needed. Existing members can slip between the cracks and eventually lose that feeling of want and need that we gave to them as new members. We must continue to have the same passion towards our existing members as we do for our new members that join us.

I leave you with a quote from Mario Andreotti:

Circumstances may cause interruptions and delays, but never lose sight of your goal. Prepare yourself in every way you can by increasing your knowledge and adding to your experience, so that you can make the most of opportunity when it occurs. If you’re so afraid of failure, you will never succeed. You have to take chances.

May you and your families have a Blessed Easter.

Grand President  
Andrew J Pappani

Members Make Every Moment Count  
Pat Mages  
Membership Committee

March will present many branches/districts with the ability for informal recruitment. By informal, I mean the events are not meant to be a membership drive or recruitment, but the event itself will be a promotion of ICF, doing what the ICF does best, Serving Others in Need. I’m referring to the celebration of St. Joseph’s Tables throughout the Federation. This event is about giving to others with the promise to St. Joseph to care for the needy. Make the most of the event by having a special area set up with information about your branch and ICF. It doesn’t need to be an elaborate set up but should be visible, inviting and accessible for a brief visit.

May He Rest in Peace.

Spring is a Fresh Start for Growth and Giving  
Nanette Scarpellini Metz  
ICF Production Manager

As winter draws to an end and spring approaches, this is an opportunity for growth in a spiritual, individual and collective manner. There have been many challenges to face throughout the year. As we celebrate the Paschal mystery with the approaching Lenten season, now is a time for reflection on how we may grow as individuals and how we can grow as a church community.

As members of the Italian Catholic Federation, we have the opportunity to share the sense of community with members and nonmembers alike through our celebrations including the many St. Joseph Table events currently on the ICF calendar. Take the time to reach out to others to help them

May you and your families have a Blessed Easter.

Grand President  
Andrew J Pappani

TIME SENSITIVE: PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY!
Important Notice

The new email address for ALL Bollettino submissions is:
editor@icf.org

All other email addresses being used for Bollettino submissions were terminated on December 31, 2018.

This change was made to link the Bollettino 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 will be rejected.

Finally, a reminder that ALL branch and district reports need to adhere to the 250 max word count requirement or they will be returned.

Happy Lent

Monsignor Daniel Cardelli
ICF Spiritual Director

On New Year’s Day we wish people a Happy New Year! Why not say on Ash Wednesday, Happy Lent?

It is good for us to look forward to Lent. It is an annual experience that helps us grow spiritually. This is important for us. It gets us in spiritual shape. An athlete trains every day to stay in shape. It is necessary to be in good physical shape to achieve athletic goals. Steph Curry works out to keep in shape to be able to be the star he is. Yet, being in good physical condition does not guarantee freedom from injury. No, although it helps, it takes more than exercise to stay injury-free.

The same is true for us in our spiritual lives. How weak we humans are! We train during Lent to stay in good spiritual shape, to be strong against sin and temptation. We do this by prayer, fasting, penance and almsgiving. However, it also takes God’s grace to remain spiritually injury-free. Through God’s great love and our own efforts, we gain strength and grace and become champions for Jesus, the best of all our best friends. No way do we want to betray our BFF (Best Friends Forever). He gave His life for us to set us free from sin. He promised us happiness and eternal life in heaven. He loves us more than we love ourselves.

How lucky we are to be alive! How lucky we are to have Jesus, Our Lord and Savior! Lent is a happy way to love Him and follow His example and to get our souls in shape for the ultimate “All Star game” of life with Jesus in heaven.

So I say to you, HAPPY LENT!

Convention By-law Submission Procedure

Leonard Rossi, O.L.J.--Grand Parliamentarian

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

All branches are urged to consider, discuss and formulate a proposal to change, modify or abolish a bylaw as it pertains to the Branch Bylaw. According to the Branch Bylaw Chapter XVII Art. 3 G proposals and/or amendments to the bylaws shall be submitted in writing (signed by the Branch President and Recording Secretary) to the Central Council Office not later than April 30, 2019. Branch bylaw change proposals may also come from Central Council through the Bylaws Committee.

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

It is helpful to present the original bylaw followed by a copy of the modified changed bylaw with the changes in bold type. The Central Council will have precedence at the Annual Convention.

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

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

Membership Moment

Continued from Page 1

Pictures of your activities, charities and brochures with both local and national contacts are important. Also, you will want to include a ‘sign-up’ sheet for those who would like a follow up contact. And, don’t forget to have registration forms on hand. You may only get one or two new members at the event, but you have continued to promote ICF. You have planted the seeds.

In the spirit of recruitment, Central Council along with the Los Angeles Archdiocesan District, will have a ‘booth’ at the annual Los Angeles Religious Education Congress in Anaheim, the weekend of March 22, 2019. This is a first for ICF and will be a great way to increase ICF’s visibility. The Congress attendees are from all over the United States and beyond. We will take information of those interested and give to the appropriate branch or district. A special shout out to LAA District and President Perry Sharuko, who had the foresight and determination to pursue this opportunity. If you are attending this year’s Congress stop by and say ‘hi.’

Happy St. Patrick’s and
Happy St. Joseph Days!
Share Your Good Works to Share the Benefit with All ICF

Lauren Kilcullen
Apostolate-Charity Committee Chairperson

The 2019 Apostolate – Charity Reporting Form will be available for all branches online at the Members area at icf.org. The committee has made some changes to the reporting form for 2019. The committee is also looking at realigning the branch categories for awards to make the groups more equitable. In addition, the District awards for 100% participation will be handed out at the Convention instead of at Installations. The Committee urges all branches to complete the form and return it to the Central Council Office by the July 15th deadline. Judging of the forms will be held in early August and awards will be presented at the Convention in Tucson.

We are looking for 100% participation from the branches. One way of making sure the branches in your district send in their reports is to designate a person in the Celebration dinner at Holy Family Center District, such as the orator, to collect all the reports from the branches and send them as a group to the ICF office. This person can also keep track of the branches sending in reports and then follow up with branches who have not completed a report. More than completing the forms to see if your branch will win a prize, the forms are our way of compiling accurate data regarding all the good works our branches do. All branches have some apostolate – charity work, so there should be no reason not to complete the form. In opening new branches and recruiting new members, it has been found that many people join the ICF because of our charitable giving. Having the information from the forms, will give us accurate information to use in our recruitment process.

Thank you.

RESULTS FOR PRIZES AS OF FEBRUARY 11, 2019

| Category 1: 1 – 99 Members | Branch 281, Bakersfield | 1st Place | Sold 90 calendars |
| Category 2: 100 – 199 Members | Branch 213, South San Francisco | 3rd Place | Sold 40 calendars |
| Category 3: 200+ Members | Branch 39, Merced | 1st Place | Sold 55 calendars |

Every time you tear a leaf off a calendar, you present a new place for new ideas and progress.

-Charles Kettering

Spring

Individual commitment to a group effort—that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work.

--Vince Lombardi

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January Calendar Winners

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February Calendar Winners

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Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations*

Received as of Feb. 10, 2019:

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<td>Betty Antuzzi</td>
<td>Mary Rossetto</td>
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<td>Bob Dianda</td>
<td>Richard and Marilyn</td>
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<td>Robert Dianda</td>
<td>Graham</td>
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<td>Frances Halley</td>
<td>Mr. and Mrs. Franklyn Lopes, Sr.</td>
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GET WELL WISHES:

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<td>Natalie Malone</td>
<td>Franklyn Lopes, Jr.</td>
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THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING OUR 2019 DISTRICT INSTALLATION:

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<td>Grand President Andy Pappani</td>
<td>Officers/Members of Los Angeles Archdiocese District</td>
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<td>Vincent Piro</td>
<td>Officers/Members of San Bernardino District</td>
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HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY:

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<td>Inez Cademartori</td>
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HAPPY 99TH BIRTHDAY:

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<td>Rosalie Campisi</td>
<td>Harry and Kathy Hill</td>
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*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.

Bishops’ Days

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 28th</td>
<td>San Francisco (San Francisco, San Mateo &amp; Marin)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun. 23rd</td>
<td>Stockton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 26th</td>
<td>San Jose (Santa Clara Valley)</td>
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<td>Sept. 22nd</td>
<td>Santa Rosa</td>
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**Cooley's Anemia Donations**

Report date: Feb 10, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Officers/Members of Br. 173</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In honor of Past Branch President Mary Ann Camacho</td>
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<tr>
<td>Officers/Members of Br. 308</td>
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<tr>
<td>In memory of James Loyd</td>
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<td>Laurice Levine</td>
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<td>Get well wishes for Russ Vento</td>
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<td>Laurice Levine</td>
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<td>Get well wishes for Natalie Malone</td>
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<td>Get well wishes for Don Arnaudo</td>
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<td>Get well wishes for Terry Rosser</td>
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<td>Laurice Levine</td>
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<td>In memory of Addie Kramer</td>
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<td>Dorene Campanile</td>
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<td>In honor of Jennie Lynn</td>
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<td>Jeanette and Dean Hudson</td>
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<td>In memory of Shirley Lee Robasciotti</td>
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**Gifts of Love Donations**

Report date: Feb 10, 2019

- Peninsula Italian American Social Club
- Joan and Jerry Delfino
- In memory of Addie Kramer
- Bob and Elaine Osorio
- Get well wishes for Pat Cordich
- Francisco and Margaret Blanco
- In memory of Consuelo Navarro
- Fernando and Roberta Teglia
- In memory of Joan Leonard
- Marilyn Aguilar and Family
- In memory of Betty Antuzzi
- Margaret De Rango
- Get well wishes for Theresa Rosser
- Helen Dianda and Family
- In memory of Bob Dianda
- Rosalie Campisi
- In memory of John Trebino

**ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION**

**IT ALL BEGAN JUNE 1924**

and it continues 95 years later. The organization which became the Italian Catholic Federation was envisioned to be “primarily a parochial society upon which the local pastor could rely on for his work,” but it has become something much more than that. It encompasses a spirit and vitality whose charitable works within and beyond parish boundaries assist, elevate, enrich, and invigorate the lives of countless numbers of people.

**JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE 95 YEARS**

Sunday, June 2, 2019

1:30 p.m. Mass & Lunch to follow at

Pescatore Palace

3400 N. River Rd.
Franklin Park, IL 60131

**LUNCH $50 PER PERSON**

- Focaccia & Bruschetta
- Antipasto w/Presicchio & Ciardinieri*
- Orzo/Tagliatelle w/Meat Sauce
- Risotto ai Funghi
- Coffee - Tea - Soda - No Host Bar
- Italian Salad
- Chicken Breast
- Roasted Potatoes, Peas & Mushrooms
- Celato
- Red & White Wine

Make reservations with
teresa helfand

773-763-0507
davia902005@iive.com
Welcome to Our New Members!  (Report date: Feb 8, 2019)

Branch 005
Maria A Cordina  Dennis W Mena
Elaine L Mena

Branch 007
Rev Kazimierz Abrahamy
Joseph Regalia

Branch 010
Emily C Lara  Julio K Lara
Kim A Lara  Olivia G Lara

Branch 021
Joe Aliberti  Linda Aliberti

Branch 028
Barbara Ayala  Mike Ternasky
Andrew A Cardinalli  Joyce C Di Girolamo
Christine Finnegan  Katherine L Hodges
Laura E Hodges  Lynne L Hodges
Michael S Hodges  Andrew M Obeso
Philip L Speciale Jr  Donna S Wagner
Jon R Wagner  Gloria L. Webster
John D Webster  Jay Whiteside

Branch 045
Rev Sijo Chirayath

Branch 047
Joseph J Buggy  Maria Buggy
Mika Buggy  Anne E Cooper
Camille M Thrall  Madeline J Thrall
Gia Passalacqua  Henry S Perez
Karen K Passalacqua  Larry S Stern

Branch 111
Laurie Kidder  Cynthia Martin
Chiara Sorce  Massimo Sorce
Anasofia Veneziano  Ezio Veneziano

Branch 115
Giovanni Boccansuso  Vincent Di Leva
Salvatore Di Costanzo  Libby Di Meglio
Sal Di Meglio  Alexander Iacono
Rossalia Orlando  Cathy Russo
Mary Rosaria Pirozzi

Branch 127
Susan C Rogers

Branch 144
Tony Gonsalves

Branch 191
Sue E Butler

Branch 215
Mary Ann Baker

Branch 218
Tanya M Mazzolini

Branch 229
Rigo C Rascow

Branch 332
Eileen Mc Eachern  Gavin Mc Eachern
John F Moran

Branch 343
Angie Warren

Branch 365
Marisa Balistreri

Branch 368
Kevin F Eck  Cathleen R Orlowski
Tina M Souza-Dutra

Branch 380
Giovanna Di Battista  Giulia Di Battista
Maria Di Battista  Massimiliano Di Battista
Daniela Iezza  Sofia Iezza

Branch 390
Emilya De Luca  Paul D De Luca
Liana M Hodges  William Trezza

Branch 425
James R Fisher  Beth Sickels

Branch 435
Anna Cummings  Joseph H Cummings
Alex Gallego  Grace Gallego
Kim Gallego  Lucas Gallego
Joanne Gitner  Isabella C Giubileo
Helen K Lindsey  Christie L Wilson
Jim L Wilson  Kacie C Wilson

Branch 438
Rita M Mitchell

Branch 443
Tina Marie Bortolotti  Barbara E Prete
Patricia A Sima

Branch 445
James A Canger

Branch 502
Mary J Ellis  Terry T Greenan
Carolyn Palmieri  Rosanne Park
Gia Passalacqua  Henry S Perez
Karen K Passalacqua  Larry S Stern

In Loving Memory

Deceased Members
Evelyn M Medeiros  Branch 005
Joseph Perez Jr.  Branch 005
Joan A Leonard  Branch 007
Anna M Kirby  Branch 033
Anita M Ferrante  Branch 036
Vito Spadaro  Branch 036
Shirley A Pasquinibennett  Branch 045
Florence Stone  Branch 050
Theresa Mellilini  Branch 054
Juan Jose Andreanelli  Branch 115
Restituta Iodice  Branch 115
Charles Ronconi  Branch 127

There’s no such thing as a self-made man. You will reach your goals with the help of others.
--George Shinn

Scholarship
Donations--1st Year

Received as of Feb 10, 2019:
Joan and Jerry Delfino
In memory of Robert Dianda
Cory and Teresa Helfand
In memory of Robert Dianda
Mike and Marcie Rossi
In memory of Bob Dianda
Nettee Dascalso-Del Nero
In memory of Bob Dianda
Jim Muglie
In memory of Robert Dianda
Lonnie and Helene Chase
In memory of Robert Dianda
B. Ralph and Rosemary Costa
In memory of Robert Dianda
Martine Kapetanick
In memory of Robert Dianda
Laurice, Matt and Ben Levine
In memory of Robert Dianda
Dorene Campanile
In honor of Johna Maychrowitz
Elaine Davis
In memory of Betty Antuzzi
Linda Boicelli
In memory of Robert Dianda

Report date: Feb 8, 2019

Interested in learning more about the ICF’s National Charity, Cooley’s Anemia (Thalassemia)?
If so, Laurice Levine, Thalassemia Program Consultant for Children’s Hospital Los Angeles, would be honored to come and speak at one of your branch meetings or any special event.

Contact Information:
(360) 860-2023 or LLevine430@aol.com

It does not matter how small or how large your branch is, the goal is to educate everyone on Cooley’s Anemia and the great work the ICF does for this cause.

March 2019
Cooley’s Corner: Patient’s Perspective

Hi, my name is Sikandar Bangash, and I am 24 years old. I am studying biomedical engineering at University of California San Diego (UCSD), and I live in Los Angeles, California. My family and I migrated from Pakistan when I was 7 years old.

Growing up, one thing I believed was that everything that happens in life is for a reason. As my mother chased a dream with her four children, three of whom are disabled, we as a family had numerous experiences to overcome.

In Pakistan, where I was born, my mom believed that “going to the States would cure her two children”—me, the eldest boy, and my sister Maria. Because my sister and I were so little, we did not know what was wrong with us, and asking my mom questions about our disorder did not feel right at the moment. We now know we both have beta-thalassemia, though at the time, it was just thought of as a form of temporary anemia. My mother had also believed that moving to the United States would give my youngest brother, who is hearing impaired, another chance to hear.

In Pakistan, my mother often questioned her friends, asking them why they told her the States had the cure but any other country nearby did not. They said, “It is because no other country but the United States has a magician who carries a magic wand, curing people that suffer from lethal diseases.” It was then that my mom made it her life’s mission to find the magician that carried the magic wand to cure her kids.

My mother, a diabetic, and my younger brother have also had their fair share of doctor and hospital visits. My father, unable to deal with all of this, suffered a mental breakdown, left my mother, and decided to stay behind in Pakistan. When he passed away in 2008, I had to step up and take the role as the head of the family, to be my mother’s rock even though she was more mine than I hers. I refuse to let the obstacles my family has had to overcome overshadow our strength, our perseverance, and our resilience.

Arriving in the States, we learned that many immigrant families come to pursue the American Dream: freedom, equality, and mostly, opportunity. For my family, it was the pursuit of life and health. As we grew up, my sister and I were diagnosed with the hereditary blood disorder thalassemia, which affects the body’s hemoglobin and red blood cells. Based on our condition, the doctors quickly ran blood tests at Harbor UCLA Medical Center to determine the severity of our anemia that my mom tried to explain through the help of translators. Once our type of anemia was identified, we were diagnosed with beta-thalassemia and admitted into the hospital’s infusion center to get blood transfusions. I still remember to this day that out of the entire week, we would get admitted for treatments for up to four days. Hooked up to needles and machines, we were not big fans of arriving at the hospital every month.

Thalassemia is a mutation that results from a hereditary disorder, causing severe anemia due to an abnormal amount of hemoglobin production and leading to the destruction of red blood cells. For me, this means that my body’s bone marrow does not have the right recipe to create efficient red blood cells to carry oxygen. This further results in severe pain, dizziness, nausea, prolonged fatigue, and a much less productive lifestyle. Having mentioned this, you all can probably already imagine that dealing with a disorder is like having another full-time job. Everything has to be planned out, from when to take medicine at the right time of day to avoid stomach pain to the next blood transfusion to keep on living.

My sister and I receive transfusions every three weeks based on hemoglobin levels and the weight of our bodies. For these, we take extreme precautions and make sure we plan our weeks out. I divide my medicine to take it once before breakfast and once before I fall asleep. This is for my body to be able to handle the dosage I have to consume in order to control excess iron. My next important strategy is scheduling more tasks that involve physical strength earlier in the time between transfusions. Of course, having thalassemia is hard work, continued on page 5.
Grand 1st Vice President

among immigrant neighbors out West, led that “My years in Genoa, and growing up the later essays in the collection. He states the “settling” of the west. westward movement of the United States, essays share the premise that the experi a wide range of topics and subjects, but the interesting essays about Italian migrants in Ricci Lothrop. The book is a collection of he Land Beyond: Italian Migrants in

Literature Review: The Land Beyond: Italian Migrants in the Westward Movement

Vince Piro

Grand 1st Vice President

The Land Beyond: Italian Migrants in the Westward Movement

Edited by Gloria Ricci Lothrop


The Land Beyond: Italian Migrants in the Westward Movement is edited by Gloria Ricci Lothrop. The book is a collection of interesting essays about Italian migrants in the western United States. The book covers a wide range of topics and subjects, but the essays share the premise that the experiences of Italian migrants in the west were in someways significantly different from the experiences of the Italian immigrants on the east coast. The various essays also elaborate on the contributions of Italians to the westward movement of the United States, illustrating that they were instrumental in the “settling” of the west.

Andrew F. Rolle's fine introduction establishes the main idea that inspires many of the later essays in the collection. He states that “My years in Genoa, and growing up among immigrant neighbors out West, led me to believe that its foreigners had experienced a different way of life from those immigrants who remained in America’s largest urban centers [especially on the east coast].” The Italian migrants out west, according to Rolle, prospered in ways that their east coast brothers and sisters did not. He writes that “Tradition-free, [the west] offered the immigrant opportunities not found in the mills and factories of large eastern cities.” He also notes that the contributions to the west were important and great. He mentions A. P. Giannini and the Bank of Italy, the Mondavis and Martinis and their contributions as vintners, and Di Giorgio Corporation as “one of the largest produce-distributing firms in the world.”

Sister M. Lillian Owens contributes an essay on Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini. Mother Cabrini and her Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart established the Queen of Heaven Mother Cabrini Memorial School in Denver. As is well known, Mother Cabrini was sent by Pope Leo XIII to the United States to provide Italian immigrants with religious instruction in their own language since many “were in danger of losing their faith in God.” Mother Cabrini faced an uphill struggle, but by the time of her death at age sixty-seven, she “had founded in Europe and the two Americas sixty-seven houses - one for each year of her life. These included convents, schools, hospitals and orphanages.” In the west, Mother Cabrini and her sisters worked to serve the poor Italians of Denver, especially the widows and orphans of the mining camps. While Mother Cabrini did not spend a majority of her time in Denver, she was instrumental in establishing a two-story house and school in the city. She spent the summer of 1905 in Denver and Colorado, however, and worked for the next several years to purchase the property necessary for her Sisters to complete their missionary work among the Italian migrants. According to Sister Owens, one of Mother Cabrini's goals for Denver was to establish a “large brick structure” large enough to serve the needs of the students of the area. Unfortunately, there were several delays due to World War I, and she died before the building could be complete. The building was finally erected and "stands in her memory, a monument of her achievements, a remembrance of her holiness."

Charles Sporon in his essay "California Fishermen's Festivals" describes the various fishermen festivals in San Francisco, Monterey, San Pedro, and Point Loma, all areas with high concentrations of Italian fishermen. He notes that the Santa Rosalia Festival in Monterey has been going on since 1934. (On a side note, the local ICF branches are involved with this festival.) Sporon notes that "Although at Monterey, there are fishermen of many nationalities, it is the large and religious Sicilian group

Bony Appetito!

Continued on Page 9

Cooley's Corner

Continued from page 6

and there are times I am unable to manage some of my physical tasks, which just discourages me from completing them at all. I have experienced my body breaking down at times after pushing myself to the very edge. When pushing myself to the limits, especially around finals, I get fevers, nausea, and headaches—and worse, I have to be hospitalized.

Health care in Pakistan, unlike the States, is not advanced or as readily available or affordable. My mother brought us to America in hopes of finding a treatment that would spare us from our grueling regular blood transfusions and the regimen to rid the body of excess iron buildup due to the transfusions. Most of the time, after our treatments, we feel good and reloaded on energy. However, there are still days that a lot of patients, including myself, experience severe blood reactions. The reactions commonly result in some sort of rash in one area of the body. If the reaction is severe enough, the rash spreads all over the body. We also experience shivering, severe migraines, and nausea, which result in further hospitalization. When a blood reaction occurs, the transfusion has to be stopped immediately, and the blood unit is swapped out.

Since my sister and I receive transfusions at the (Children’s Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA) Infusion Center, which operates for certain hours, we end up getting rescheduled for a second day to complete our transfusion treatments and miss out on school and important assignments. The professors and school officials are always willing to help give extensions on missed school assignments so I can keep up with my peers, but at times, when I have large number of assignments to complete, I get extremely overwhelmed and stressed.

I may be from a low-income family, but education is a priority for us. My mother wants my siblings and me to become successful. She has sacrificed being with her family, her friends, and her home in Pakistan for us to have healthier lives. She told us, “No matter what happens, never give up.” My mom would miss work for our blood transfusions and make sure she was the first to see our checks fill up with color. No matter how many times she witnessed us come back from looking pale and sick, her witnessing the color coming back to our faces made her day. For every Desferal needle my mom pressed into my skinny arms, she felt as if she had just punctured herself a thousand times. With one eye shut, she would do her best to see why the Desferal machine was beeping at three in the morning.

Schoolmates in the beginning weren’t very

Continued on Page 8

www.casa-fugazi.org

CASA FUGAZI
678 Green Street, San Francisco, 94133 • (415) 362-6423

Continued on Page 9
Cooley’s Corner

Continued from Page 7

supportive and were too young to understand what I had to go through in life, so my circle of friends was always very small. Even the small group of friends that I had did not know directly about my disorder and where I would disappear to every month for four days of treatment. This made it a constant challenge to make up new excuses for disappearing.

In spite of our challenges, my older sister recently completed her medical degree and is specializing in pediatric care; my younger sister is currently in medical school; and my brother is studying engineering. Science and technology piqued my interests the most, so I decided to pursue an education in biomedical engineering at UCSD.

In Pakistan and many other third-world countries, thalassemia patients on average do not live past age 12. My siblings and I could not in a million years imagine our lives in society until we passed the age of 12. In the United States, we are given the opportunity to live big and dream bigger. Though beta-thalassemia is a burden, it also brings out the brightest and toughest magicians that do not accept defeat, with their wands and books of spells to try and end the disease. The magicians, in my eyes, are you—the scientists, doctors, biomedical engineers, and supporters fighting and pushing forward. Huge accomplishments lead us steps closer to ending thalassemia and many other diseases along the way.

My last words to all of you are that not only should you believe in yourselves when you hit a “fork in the road,” but also remember that along with my family and me, there are thousands of other fighters in this world believing in you and your book of spells. Thank you.

Sikander receives his medical care at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles. We are grateful for his willingness to share his inspiring story, as he believes in the importance of creating awareness for thalassemia.

Permission to reprint this speech was given by Stuart Siedman at Bioverativ. The speech was given to over 400 employees at Bioverativ and streamed live internationally.

Il Tavol o Italiano

ACROSS
2 - office
4 - restaurant
6 - square
8 - stazione di _________ (service station)
10 - ________ mercato (supermarket)
12 - bay
14 - cathedral
15 - house or home
16 - University
18 - University
24 - pharmacy
26 - church
27 - magazzino (department store)
28 - library
29 - school
30 - pizzeria

DOWN
1 - market
3 - stazione _________ (train station)
5 - pastry shop
7 - port
9 - dell’autobus (bus stop)
11 - high school
13 - hospital
16 - store
17 - office ________ (post office)
19 - beach
20 - park
21 - factory
22 - Jewelry shop
23 - airport
25 - garden


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.
Book Review

Continued from Page 7

that is responsible for this colorful festival." Santa Rosalia has always been special to Sicilians because she intervened and saved the city of Palermo from a horrible plague. In Monterey, after a morning mass, the fishermen and townspeople carry a statue of the saint from the church to the wharf. At the wharf, there is a blessing of the fleet followed by a full festival. The fishermen of San Pedro have their own festivities. According to Speroni, the first festival in San Pedro was held in 1938 "when, to celebrate a good season, the fishermen decorated their boats with flags and bunting, and took their families for a cruise."

Since then this festival has grown to one of the largest in the nation.

How to Coordinate a Successful Blood Drive

Blood drive coordinators play a vital role in collecting lifesaving blood for patients. Without people to plan blood drives, blood banks would not have as many opportunities to collect blood from donors.

Planning a blood drive is fun and easy—however, like planning any event, it takes time. Fortunately, the Live to Give Committee and a blood bank representative will help you every step of the way.

The following are useful tips on planning your blood drive:

1. Find a location. A church hall is ideal. If you do not have access to a big building, you can coordinate with a store, a business, or any location to have a blood mobile come instead.
2. Find out the what blood bank serves your area. For example, the American Red Cross and Vitalant serves the East Bay.
3. Set a date (three months to a year ahead of time), and contact your local blood bank.
4. Set a goal. Your blood bank representative will help you decide how many units of blood you want to collect at your blood drive. Remember, you will need to schedule an additional number of donor appointments to assure that you reach your collection goal.
5. Plan a theme for your blood drive (optional). A luau, Mardi Gras, Viva Italian, rock and roll—let your creativity shine!
6. Give away free items. It is always nice to thank your blood donors with little gifts that you buy or get donated. The blood bank often also has giveaways to contribute. Setting up a raffle is also a fun way to add spice to your blood drive. Some ideas for giveaways:
   • Gift cards—you can get small denominations from Starbucks’, Jamba Juice or a local ice cream store. A little goes a long way!
   • Candy and treats.
   • Pens.
   • Items with the ICF logo or the logo for the thalassemia program at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles.
   • Canvas bags—a great prize item, and all your other giveaways can go inside.
7. Promote the event. About six weeks to two months prior to the blood drive, start promoting the event. Your blood bank will provide flyers—you can hang them at the location of your event and in surrounding areas/stores, etc. Plan to distribute (in person or via postal mail) smaller flyers to friends, family, and your community. Promote your blood drive through e-mail and social media such as Facebook and Twitter. Plan to send weekly reminders starting four weeks prior to your blood drive.
8. Recruit volunteers. The blood bank phlebotomists and nurses will be responsible for collections, registration, intake, and the canteen (snack stand). You will need to recruit volunteers to greet people, run your raffle, and distribute prizes.
9. Gather literature to give away the day of the drive.
   • Give out literature on your organization (ICF brochures).
   • If you are doing a blood drive in honor of a specific disease such as Cooley’s anemia (thalassemia), make sure that you get literature about the disease.
   • Give out ICF blood donation postcards so that people can donate in honor of someone or as a gift.
10. Schedule appointments. While publicity is important, there is nothing like a personal touch—contact friends, family members, and fellow churchgoers and educate them on the importance of donating blood. The blood bank will also send e-mails to prior donors in their database. Appointments can be scheduled online.
11. Inform yourself. Learn about donor eligibility guidelines; information on the blood bank website; and the sign-up process. It is vital to be informed so that you can answer questions and/or direct people regarding where to find the information they need.
12. Communicate with your blood bank representative. Communicate regarding donor appointment sign-ups; the day’s schedule; room setup, etc.
13. Reconfirm appointments about one week prior to your blood drive. This can be accomplished via a postcard, e-mail, or phone call. Also remind donors to drink plenty of water and eat a good meal prior to donating.
14. Be ready for the day of the blood drive. Arrive when the blood bank staff arrives to greet them and help set up; assure that the room temperature is adequate; orient your volunteers; and organize your welcome and prize tables. Depending on the number of appointments and the population that is donating, you may get walk-in donors—make sure the lines of communication between you and your blood bank staff stay open to assure that the maximum number of units are collected.
15. HAVE FUN! Show the donors your full appreciation and enjoy the blood drive. At the end of the day, give yourself a pat on the back—your hard work, time, and creativity were instrumental in collecting blood donations and saving lives.

For more information or for assistance planning a blood drive, please contact:
Franklyn Lopes, Jr., Central Council Member/Live to Give Committee Chair.
Flopes@icf.org
Laurice Levine, Medical Consultant/Live to Give Committee Member.
LLevine30@aol.com

ICF is Going Green!

Did you know that you can receive the monthly Bollettino by email?
Benefits:
• Save a tree
• 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
The January meeting was held on the 8th and members were treated to Jim’s famous pulled pork sandwiches, coleslaw, potato chips and beans. Thanks to the January committee chairmen: Jim and Kerin Cavallero; committee: Mary Conteras, and Art Berryman. Thanks Mark and Cari Beveridge pitching in at the last minute.

Congratulations to our newest member Chuck Defina. Welcome Chuck! On February 10, 7 members of our branch braved the cold and rain and traveled to Sanger for the ICF Officer Installation. There was a beautiful mass at St. Mary’s and then a chicken dinner following the ceremony. Thank you so much Branch 70 for hosting this wonderful event. Upcoming events in March are living and deceased members mass on March 23 @5:00 and Mama Mia at Roger Rockas on the 10th. I hope to see everyone at the April meeting on the 9th. Please continue to pray for our ill and injured members.

Ciao,

Kerin Cavallero

Fresno

Branch Reports

Madera

Santissimo Crocifisso, Br. 27

Our February meeting was festively decorated for Valentine’s. Members of 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 40 years received “We Love Our Members’” awards. This included a free dinner, certificate and recognition in front of the membership. Recipients included Bob Dal Porto (45 years), Janet Pugliese (50 years) and her mother, Mary Petroni (60)!

Our pasta sauce fundraiser was a huge success. Thanks to all who supported it. Praise to Maryellen and her valuable, hard-working crew.

Wed., March 13, is our corned beef and cabbage dinner meeting at the Lodge beginning with a prayer service at 5:30 p.m. to initiate our Triduum. We honor our amazing, dedicated volunteers. Triduum continues March 15, 6 p.m. with Stations of the Cross at St. Patrick’s, preceded by Sir Night at the Parish Hall.

Sun., March 17, is Mass at 1 p.m. at St. Patrick’s. St. Joseph’s Table with a meatless potluck will follow at the Hall. Bring photos of your deceased loved ones. Questions? Contact chair Millicent Piro: 209-358-7363.

The Italian Exhibit Committee, made up of several ICF and Lodge members and Stephanie Lucich as chair, received the Lotus Wallace award from the Courthouse Museum for their outstanding contribution documenting the cultural and historic influence of immigrant Italians to Merced County.

If you haven’t paid your dues for 2019, please send them to P.O. Box 3693, Merced, 95344. Better: join us at our March meeting and pay in person. We’d love to see you! Buon giorno di San Patrizio.

Cari Salute,

Stephanie Lucich

Merced

Br. 39

Our February meeting was held on the 10th. Please continue to pray for our ill and injured members.

Ciao,

Branch 33 Officers for 2019

Gerry Derienzo, Frank Parisi.

Br. 33

Branch 33, Bakersfield, had installation of officers at the February meeting. We were appreciative to have Past President, Leonard Zasoski, install our officers. Leonard’s wife, B.G., our Branch Mentor, and Alan Watts, assisted. New officers installed were: Co-Branch Presidents, Barbara Crear and Judy Jacoby; First Vice President, Maria Steele; Second Vice President; Gertie O’Neill; Financial Officer/Treasurer, Tom Steele; Recording Secretary, Linka Chapman; Corresponding Secretary, Barbara Eyherabide; Orator, Robert Lencioni; Trustees, Michael Cerri, Richard Cazzarelli, and Fernando Teiglia; and Sentinel, Joseph Passaglia.

We are blessed to have these Officers serve our Branch and are excited for the coming year!

Ciao,

Branch 33, Bakersfield

Branch 33 Officers for 2019

Gerry Derienzo, Frank Parisi.

Los Angeles Archdiocese District Council

In February, I went to Oakland to attend the first quarter Central Council meeting. It was a great learning experience for me and I thoroughly enjoyed it.

I went before the committee members during the Good of the Order to talk about the upcoming Religious Education Congress. We got full backing on this new adventure by the Central Council. So, if you happen to be going to the RE Congress, stop by the ICF booth. It will be held on March 22nd thru 24th at the Anaheim Convention Center across from Disneyland. The booth will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday.

Mary and Rich Zanarini spent the holidays with their family in Hawaii and Maui. Flora DePasquale traveled to Temecula for her Grandson’s wedding. Her grandson, Capt. Marc DeLuca, arrived home from Afghanistan where he served for nine months as a Chaplain. Jeanette Couch’s son, Jess and wife, Danielle, moved to Potenza, Italy where they will live for at least two years. They may be living in other countries also during that time. They visited Matera which is the 3rd oldest city in the world. The hotel there was actually a cave. Tony Rainaldi and family, John, Sharon and Cindy, traveled to Midway, Utah for a New Year’s wedding where it was minus 10 degrees, but they still had a great time.

We were saddened by the loss of long time member, Maxine Johnson, who passed away after a long illness. Our prayers go out to husband, Wes, and the Johnson family. Maxine was a caring, dedicated member of our Branch.

Happy February birthdays to Sharon Atalico and Pimentel.

Sent your heart on brighter things

Each day contains a promise

Light the hours with sunshine thoughts

And hope will paint a rainbow (HofF)

Ciao,

Belinda Broccolini

Holy Spirit, Br. 417

The installation of officers went well. I’m the new president for our chapter. I hope to be worthy of that title. My predecessor, Fred Derienzo has done a great job for years in keeping our chapter alive and thriving. He will continue to be our mentor so we can stay the course. The membership has been going down through attrition and lack of new comers in our community. We need to stay focused and find new ways to grow in membership while addressing today’s needs in our community. We are blessed to be part of a great organization, doing great things for dose in need in the name

Br. 417 Seated left to right, Gerry Derienzo, Rose Ann Allen, Mary Forestiere, Georgette Gosney Evelyn Hap, Maria Parisi. Standing: Fred Derienzo, Frank Parisi.

Christianity

Fraternally

Frank Parisi

Ciao,

Br. 27 President Jim Cavallero and new member Chuck DeFina

New officers of Branch 27; From left: Cari Beveridge, Kerin Cavallero, Jim Cavallero, Theresa DeFrank, Elsie Bortof, Mark Beveridge and Jim Espinola.

Branch 33

Br. 33

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Branch 33 Officers for 2019

Gerry Derienzo, Frank Parisi.

Bakersfield
I want to thank everybody for attending our District meeting and also to St. Rose of Lima for hosting. We will see you in May for the next meeting. I want to wish all branches good luck on your St Joseph Tables and to wish everyone a Happy St Patrick Day as well.

We are now entering Lent, so let’s re-member what this season is about. Reconciliations, alms giving, prayers and fasting. Happy Spring to all.

Los Angeles
St. Peter, Br. 67

Congratulations to Branch Officers who were installed at the ICF Los Angeles District Installation on January 27, 2019 in Casa Italiana.

Branch 67 will continue to work with Saint Peter's Church and reaching out to all ICF Members, the Italian Community and those who are interested in continuing an ICF presence at this beautiful Italian National Church. Interested members are asked to call 626 372-7812 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 a.m. (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
Italian Catholic Federation
T. 626 372-7812
E. cas1810@aol.com

Br. 67 St. Peter’s Italian Catholic Church, National Italian Parish for Southern California

South Pasadena
Holy Family, Br. 108

Thank you members for supporting the February 12th Dinner Fundraiser at Mijare's Mexican Restaurant in Pasadena. Members enjoyed eating with family and friends while enjoying good food and friendly service.

Save the Dates - March 16 and 17, 2019 - St. Joseph Table.

Please keep our sick members in your prayers that they may reach a speedy recovery. And to our former Branch members who recently have gone to their eternal reward. May they rest in peace.

Ci Vediamo presto!
Carmelo Sabatella, AIA, Past President
ICF Branch 108
C 626 372-7812
E cas1810@aol.com

We pray for our sick members and those in need; keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

God Bless!
Frank Salomone
Frank Salomone
Branch 111 President
Phone (323) 888-2074
Email Address; franco957@shcglobal.net

Membership dues of $38.00 are being collected. Bring payment to next meeting or mail a check to Pauline Iacono. 1072 W 8th Street, San Pedro 90731

Help us keep our branch alive. Invite your family and friends to join! Let’s keep this great tradition going!

Our branch recently lost two very dear and longtime members Juan Jose Andreanelli and Restituta Iodice. We extend our sympathy to both families.

Please keep all our sick members in your prayers

Anita Gioiello Trujillo Treasurer

Glendora
St. Dorothy, Br. 179

The January General Meeting of Branch 179 was not only lots of fun, but delicious too! We learned how to make homemade Italian sausage! Member Chef John DeMarco brought his equipment, 9-pounds of ground pork and pre-measured seasonings (except for the hot stuff!!). With his help, we did the rest! Members made 3-pounds each of mild, medium, and hot! And, then, of course, everyone ate the results! There was also pizza and salad, and desserts from biscotti to pizzelle. What a fun night!

Branch 179 continued its clothing drive to benefit the poor in Central America. In January, we collected $1,500+ for these efforts! We hope for the same outcome in February

Br. 179, Chef John DeMarco
Br.179, Members Carol Farrugia and Debbie Felt doing the mixing
Br.179, Members Sandy Osborn cranking and Vince Daigneault at work

March 2019

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

Thank you to all who attended our February potluck meeting. We ate well that evening thanks to our great chefs!

On March 2nd we celebrated the feast day of St. John Joseph of the Cross with our annual Crab dinner dance. We ate, sang and danced to the music of Duo Domino. Many hands make this event a success. The monies raised allow us to support our parish, offer scholarships, support our seminarian and many other charities. Thank you for volunteering your time to help.

Our next branch meeting is on March 17th at 7:30 p.m. Neal will discuss our next 2 fundraisers.

March 26 Day Trip to Pechanga Casino 9 a.m. departure from Boys and Girls Club: $20.00 per member $25.00 non member; $5.00 free play is provided by casino
Laughlin Trip May 5th thru 7th. Riverside Hotel Double occupancy $125.00 $160.00 single; 3 free buffets included
To reserve either or both trips, call Pauline Iacono at 310 832-0563
May 4th 5:15 p.m. Mass honors Madonna Dell’Arco. Bring flowers and follow us into the church behind our banner.

Br. 179, Members Carol Farrugia and Debbie Felt doing the mixing

Continued on Page 12
Greetings to all. It’s now March and 2019 is rolling right along. Branch 362’s St. Joseph Table is adding something new and I hope you all enjoy it. Because our Pasta Dinner sales have been declining, we decided to have a St. Joseph Brunch instead. Tickets are on sale now and are $10 for adults, $5 for kids. We will also be selling Raffle tickets for our Gift Card Money Tree. Come out on Sunday, March 17th from 8 a.m. till 2:30 p.m. Our February Bingo was a great success. Thanks to all our members for setting up and cleaning up. If you’re going to be at Religious Ed Congress this year, please stop by the ICF booth and say hello. In April, our branch will be joining the Altar Servers for a Family Friendly Bingo on April 7th. Our parish is bringing back the Lenten Soup Dinners on all Fridays during Lent. ICF will be hosting the last one on April 12th. Happy Spring to everyone.

Thousand Oaks St. Paschal Baylon, Br. 380
Branch 380 participated in the Branch Officer Installation and Luncheon at St. Peter’s Church on January 27, and the following day several of our members helped out at our “For the Troops” service project organized by Gino and Della Spinelli.
We had a fun time with our Valentine-themed general meeting on February 8th. Remo and Carisa Iezza hosted “Love Italian Style,” a trivia game with prizes that everyone enjoyed. Dinner was a delicious Italian meal catered by Spumoni Restaurant.
Our upcoming events include the following activities:
- Feb. 16 (Sat.) Pechanga Casino bus trip with ICF group at St. Rose
- March 9 (Sat.) General meeting with presentation from Laurence Levine on Cooley’s Anemia
- March 16 (Sat.) Pompeii Exhibit at the Reagan Library and lunch at Viva La Pasta in Simi Valley
- March 24 (Sun.) St. Joseph’s Table Celebration – Bake Sale and Dinner

American Martyrs, Br. 447
We had an exciting General Meeting, themed – Love, Italian Style. It was a pot luck dinner with everyone bringing their favorite Italian or Valentine themed dish to share. We also played some Valentine’s games. It was another wonderful evening getting to know everyone by sharing our favorite foods and fellowship. We welcome all our new members to Branch 447. We are so grateful and happy that so many members made commitments to give service by making and delivering sandwiches to those less fortunate in our community, selling donuts after mass, and working on our upcoming major fundraiser. As our funds grow, so does our ability to give back to the parish and the community. We are planning our first major fundraiser for late summer or early fall 2019. Be on the lookout for more event details and join us. We also established a Facebook page, so watch your e-mail for our friend request. We look forward to a wonderful 2019!

Peace & Blessings to All,
Stephanie DeRuddo
Corresponding & Recording Secretary
Santa Rosalia, Br. 36

May the Lenten season give you a time to deepen your relationship with the Lord and be spiritually prepared for Easter celebration.

We welcome our recent new members, Andrew Obeso, Michael and Lynn Hodges and family, Christie Finigann, Phil Speciale Jr, Donna and Jon Wagner, Joyce DiGiorelome, Andrew Cardanilli, and John and Gloria Wagner.

February 7, over 250 members and guests enjoyed our monthly dinner/meeting with Cornish hen, rice pilaf, salad, and dessert.

Branch 36 is preparing for our Lenten Fish Dinners. Our first of six Lenten Dinners is March 08. All dinners include catch-of-the-day, salad, pasta, and garlic bread. Dinner are served at 5:30 pm. at San Carlos Hall in Monterey.

Branch 36 Scholarship Applications are available to graduating Seniors 2019. Student must be graduating from our local high schools. Applications and guidelines are available by contacting Barbara Lucidio at 372-7537. Deadline is March 15.

Hospitalization Plan – open enrollment 1/1/19 – 12/31/19. No age requirement at enrollment. Stu are available to graduating Seniors 2019. Stu

Branch 25 hosted the Central Coast Installation of Officers at Sacred Heart Parish on Saturday, February 23, 2019. Central Members attending included Grand President, Andrew Pappani and his wife Sid, Franklyn Lopes, Karen Kilcullen and Carmen Kilcullen, Jim Jones and his wife Janice. The Mass was celebrated by Father Rodriguez of Sacred Heart Parish, assisted by Father Milton Marini of Santa Cruz, our District Chaplain. A catered lunch was served in the parish hall.

Our March 12 meeting will focus on our annual budget. We are also exploring a Lenten Friday’s Take Out meal for 4 persons of our Lenten budget. We are also exploring a Lenten menu option for parishioners.

Soup, Salad, Bread and Dessert as a convenient meal for our Lenten Fish Dinners. Our first of six Lenten Dinners is March 08. All dinners include catch-of-the-day, salad, pasta, and garlic bread. Dinner are served at 5:30 pm. at San Carlos Hall in Monterey.

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Richard “Dick” Silva, passed away peacefully after several months of illness in Tucson, Arizona on Saturday, February 2nd. Richard, as he was called in his youth and by his immediate family, was born in Manhattan, NY on December 11, 1934. He was the son of an Italian immigrant father and a mother born in New York, but whose family had immigrated just a few years before her birth. He was an only child until his sister, Marilyn was born, when he was 11 years of age. He attended Cardinal Hayes High School in the Bronx. He was a musician who played the cello, among other instruments. He won a music scholarship but joined the Navy instead at the age of 17. He served under the electrician mate’s class during the end of the Korean Conflict. He was deployed and travelled Europe and beyond. Through his father, he met his future wife, Joan, who was taking driving lessons with her. They dated for 2 years and then married.

Dick followed in his father’s footsteps and became an apprentice for the Electrical Union in NYC. They were married for three years when they had their first child, Paul Richard. Followed 18 months later by another son, Bruce Thomas. Their daughter, Jean Marie, was born three years later. Dick commuted 150 miles five days a week to NYC. There he worked as a foreman and then an electrical superintendent. They lived in the NYC area for over 25 years; his sense of community service was limitless. If his children were involved in an activity, so was Dick. He coached little league and senior little league as well as serving as the head of coaches for the POP Warner youth football league. He was an active member of the Boy Scouts. Dick and Joan opened up their home to everyone since all were considered family. He mentored countless people, from those he worked with to friends of his children. He loved fiercely. Family was the most important thing to him.

In 1994, Joan and Dick moved to New Jersey and later to Green Valley. They were already familiar with the area. In 1973, his mother had relocated to Green Valley as well for retired uncle. Dick and Joan bought a house as an investment and then retired to that home in 1998. They were active members of Green Valley Country Club and of Our Lady of the Valley Church. They joined Branch 425 of the Italian Catholic Federation in 2001 and saw an opportunity to help revive the group. Dick held various offices, including Branch President and District Deputy and attended national conventions often. They volunteered countless hours over the course of their lifetime. No matter who you were, Dick saw people as friends and it took little to win his heart. His daughter, said all his bravado, he taught them all how to laugh, love, and forgive. He is survived by his wife, Joan, his three children, Paul, Bruce and Jean Marie, his sister, Marilyn, sisters and brothers-in-law, and countless nieces and nephews, in addition to 10 grandchildren. Rest in Peace, Dick.

You will be missed!
ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION
2019 NATIONAL CONVENTION
TUCSON TRAVEL HIGHLIGHTS
AUGUST 29 – SEPTEMBER 2, 2019

Hotel: Hilton El Conquistador Resort 10000 N. Oracle Road, Tucson, Arizona
Reservations: Use group code ‘ICF’ on the Hilton website or call (520) 544-5000
Rate: $95 plus tax single/double occupancy Note: Convention attendees must book using this code for the ICF to receive credit towards our contracted room nights. Rate available until August 15 or sold out. After August 15, reservations will be accepted at the best available rate.
Resort fee: $25 per night will be waived when using our group code before the deadline.

Transportation:
Flights to/from various areas may be faster and more economical via PHX due to layovers. Research fares and ground transportation to determine the best travel option for you.
Tucson Airport: 22 miles, 45 minutes Phoenix Airport: 107 miles, 1 hour 45 minutes
Tucson Shared Van: Stagecoach Express $50 each way (520) 889-1000
Tucson Uber/Lyft: Approx. $35 each way Phoenix Uber/Lyft: Approx. $140 each way
Hertz Rental Car: New ICF discount. Receive up to 30% off year round. CDP# 2173699

Please notify your branch of your convention attendance.
To ensure non-delegates have a name badge prepared, please inform your branch that you are attending the convention. They will include you on the guest list.

For assistance, contact the ICF Office at (888) ICF-1924.
Convention updates are visible first on Facebook. Keyword: Italian Catholic Federation.
Also look for convention news in the Bollettino and at www.icf.org.

95 YEARS: THE JOURNEY CONTINUES
ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION
Convention Award Categories

Review the five award opportunities and complete the application. There is one shared application available for all categories. The deadline to submit applications and supporting documents is May 1. Previous year’s nominations are eligible for resubmission.

Pope Saint John XXIII Award

The highest award bestowed by the I.C.F. is presented at the Saturday Night Convention Banquet. The recipient may be of any religious denomination and shall exemplify the spirit and tradition of the late Pope Saint John XXIII. The nominee must demonstrate achievements in one of the following areas: 1. Community Betterment of Civic Endeavors 2. Ecumenical Spirit in Furthering the Brotherhood of Man 3. Charitable and/or Religious Activities. A $1,000 donation will be made to the award recipient’s charity of choice.

Saint Teresa of Calcutta Award

The Saint Teresa of Calcutta Award was created to acknowledge and honor a Catholic Priest, Brother, Deacon or Nun who exemplifies the spirit of Mother Teresa in the performance of works to better the human condition. The recipient will receive this award during the Sunday General Session. A $1000 donation will be made to the award recipient’s charity of choice.

Grand President’s Award

This award will be presented during the Sunday General Session to an outstanding lay member of the Federation. Nominees must have demonstrated exceptional commitment and dedication to furthering the goals of the Federation. A $500 donation will be made to the award recipient’s I.C.F. charitable program of choice.

Family of the Year Award

This award will be presented during the Sunday General Session to an outstanding lay member of the Federation. Nominees must have demonstrated exceptional commitment and dedication to furthering the goals of the Federation. A $500 donation will be made to the award recipient’s I.C.F. charitable program of choice.

Young Adult Leadership Award

This award recognizes a member (39 years or younger) who has demonstrated outstanding leadership abilities and possesses the enthusiasm, talent, energy and vision to become a leader who will guide the Federation in the decades ahead. The recipient will receive this award during the Saturday General Session. A $500 donation will be made to the award recipient’s I.C.F. charitable program of choice.

ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION
AWARD NOMINATION

Nomination Year: 20_____
Award: ___ Pope Saint John XXIII ___ Saint Teresa of Calcutta ___ Grand President’s Family of the Year ___ Young Adult Leadership

Nominees:
Name: __________________________________
Address: ________________________________
City: _______________________ State: _______
Zip: ___________ Phone: (_____) ____________
E-mail: _________________________________

Nominated By Individual, Branch or District: ____________________________

Contact Person: ____________________________________________________

Phone: (____) ________________________
E-mail: _____________________________

Statement of Endorsement:

Applications must be postmarked by: May 1 – Submit to: Italian Catholic Federation 8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110, Oakland, California 94621 (888) ICF-1924  Website: www.icf.org  Email:info@icf.org
We are saddened to report we have lost two members, Anita Ferrante and Vito Spadaro. Our sympathy to their families and may comfort them during this time.

Calendar
March 17, 2019 ICF#36 Bingo—Moose Lodge
Lenten Fish Dinners - San Carlos Hall
March 8, 15, 22, 29
April 5, and 12
Lent comes to reawaken us – Pope Francis

Happy Birthday to our March babies:
- Frank Rossi, my cousin Bethany Barlow
- Joanne Desiltes, Terry Garrity, Stevie Hall,
- Rose Renna-Guzzetti, Nick Sausa, Jim & Throck Scudder, June Steves, Fr. Alphonse Van Guilden, Jens & Sonia Wagner, and Doris Wais.

Happy St. Patrick’s Day!
Keely Sanchez
Recording Secretary

Branch 392 celebrated their 45th Anniversary in January and recognized some longtime members and one of their oldest members. 1-8: Emilio Minucci (who just turned 97!), Rose Haupt, Joanna Van Blaricom, Doris Wais, Mario Annecchini, Ellen Bavaro and Gayle Quain.

Branch 392 closed the holidays with our traditional “La Befana” Dinner Dance on January 6th, 2019. Everyone enjoyed the fun-filled evening, as the children received a visit from La Befana bearing gifts and goodies and the adults danced to delightful music. During the festa we awarded the Angel of Peace Award to Lillian Izzi and the Wisdom Award to Antonietta Fauuzzi. Our best wishes go to these two deserving individuals.

Special thanks to the committee for organizing a lovely party and to Lina Vavalle for being such a jovial “befana.” Enthusiastic children, great food, pleasant music and good friends made for a lovely evening!

However, January also brought record snowfalls and the coldest temperatures in Chicago’s history. Mother Nature forced us into “hibernation” with the Arctic weather forcing us to cancel our monthly “Padre Pio” Mass and branch meeting.


Branch 392 is now preparing for the St. Joseph’s Day Table, which will be held on Saturday, March 16, 2019 after the evening Masses in the St. Francis Borgia – Fr. Stokes Center. An array of delicious Italian dishes, including the traditional “zeppole” will be served. Everyone is invited!

God Bless,
Aurora Pensa

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Special thanks to the committee for organizing a lovely party and to Lina Vavalle for being such a jovial “befana.” Enthusiastic children, great food, pleasant music and good friends made for a lovely evening!

However, January also brought record snowfalls and the coldest temperatures in Chicago’s history. Mother Nature forced us into “hibernation” with the Arctic weather forcing us to cancel our monthly “Padre Pio” Mass and branch meeting.


Branch 392 is now preparing for the St. Joseph’s Day Table, which will be held on Saturday, March 16, 2019 after the evening Masses in the St. Francis Borgia – Fr. Stokes Center. An array of delicious Italian dishes, including the traditional “zeppole” will be served. Everyone is invited!

God Bless,
Aurora Pensa
As the ICF is preparing to celebrate its 95th anniversary, we in the East Bay District are finding out a bit of our history. Thanks to the hard work of Robert Dianda, K.S.G., we were the first district formed in 1936, so we are a young 84 years old. Hopefully with all of the celebrations planned for our 95th, many of us will be able to join in at least one of them and show our pride in our heritage.

It was nice to be able to introduce new names and faces at Installation this year. Some branches are sharing officers’ duties, this is a great way to learn "the ropes" and not feel worn out. It is also a positive way for new members to become involved.

In the meantime it may seem a bit premature, but mark your calendars, our Christmas party is scheduled for the first Sat. in December, the 7th. However, before then we have a few other activities to be involved in as a District and the chair people of these functions will need our support. There's horse racing, baseball, picnics and Masses along with Bishop's Day, something for everyone, just take your pick.

Our Feb. meeting is the first one for some delegates so we want everyone to be able to speak up and participate, this is the only way to be truly involved.

Here’s wishing you all a Happy St. Patrick’s Day.

Pat Grasso, District Secretary

Alameda Nostra Signora Delle Grazie, Br. 10

We emerged intact from our busiest month of the year. Our calendar included the Br. 10 Polenta Dinner on Jan. 12; the East Bay Crab Feed held on Jan. 19 in Monsignor O’Brien Hall; and the East Bay District Installation on Jan. 20 at the Fratellanza Club in Oakland.

The Irish Social is Sat., March 16 at Monsignor O’Brien Hall. Social hour commences at 6 p.m. with a hosted bar and raffle. Plat- ters on the tables start at 7:00 sharp! Ben Ratto and Rich Coulia will prepare a menu of salad, corned beef & cabbage and dessert. Cost is $30 for adults, $12 for children 12 and under. For reservations, contact Jan Rosa (510) 623-1369 or rosafam2@gmail.com prior to 9 p.m. on March 11. Our St. Joseph’s Day Table is Tues., March 19. The evening begins with Mass in St. Philip Neri Church at 5:30 p.m. Monsignor O’Brien Hall opens for dinner and a raffle at 6:30 p.m. Members should bring a dessert to share with guests. Prices are $20 for adults, $10 for children 12 and under. For reservations, contact Michael Marcheschi (510) 523-4720 prior to 8 p.m. March 14.

James McGee, a member of Br. 10 and Br. 215 based in Fremont, published a second volume of “Alameda Legends.” The book includes 289 single-paragraph biographies about citizens that made Alameda a treasured place to live. Among the “legends” are 26 members of Br. 10 and people closely associated with our branch including ICF co-founder Sir Luigi Providenza, a longtime resident of St. Philip Neri—St. Albert the Great Parish.

John Zagoni, Branch 10 publicity
Email: john@zagoni.net
Home: (510) 523-8005
Mobile: (510) 326-3474

Fremont St. Francis of Assisi, Br. 215

During Br. 215’s January meeting we made a $150.00 donation to help a teen in the confirmation program to be able to attend a retreat scheduled sometime in February. Lending support to the confirmation program at Corpus Christi Parish Hall. Branch members who have favorite soup recipes are encouraged to volunteer to prepare those soups and help serve them.

Our next Bingo Luncheon will be on April 25, 2019 at Corpus Christi Parish Hall. Members please start gathering donations for bingo prizes, ideas for raffle baskets and let President Fran know of they know of any merchant (s) who may donate door prizes. As always, we wish all members with birthdays, anniversaries or special events our congratulations. Please keep our brother Scott Schiebel in your thoughts and prayers as well as others who are ill and for our first responders, military and their families.

Ken Chatello
Branch 215

Br. 215 will be hosting the Soup Supper on March 3, 2019 at Corpus Christi Parish Hall. Branch members who have favorite soup recipes are encouraged to volunteer to prepare those soups and help serve them.

Our next Bingo Luncheon will be on April 25, 2019 at Corpus Christi Parish Hall. Members please start gathering donations for bingo prizes, ideas for raffle baskets and let President Fran know if they know of any merchant (s) who may donate door prizes. As always, we wish all members with birthdays, anniversaries or special events our congratulations. Please keep our brother Scott Schiebel in your thoughts and prayers as well as others who are ill and for our first responders, military and their families.

Ken Chatello
Branch 215

Silver Pines at St. Francis of Assisi will be hosting the annual Spring Bingo Luncheon on April 6, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. The luncheon will include bingo games, special entertainment, a silent auction and a 50/50 drawing. Tickets are $20 and are available at the door. For more information or to purchase a ticket, please contact Sister Maria Fatima, 510-471-0396.

Livermore St. Filomena, Br. 285

Branch 285 members thank Chuck Meier for his great job of writing branch news for the Bollettino the past two years. Great job, Chuck! At the January meeting, we enjoyed a heritage talk given by Joe & Philomena Buonsante and Nancy Navairini about their ancestral home, Mola Di Bari, Italy. Family pictures were shared along with special foods and wine of the area. The audience was transported to this Mola Di Bari. Our February meeting/social features a Valentine’s Day Polenta dinner was a sell out! What a great way to celebrate and not have to work too hard and even win some prizes. Next month is St. Patrick’s Day and there is nothing quite like Italians cooking corned beef and cabbage. To all who have not paid your dues, it’s time, in fact past time. Also, remember that this is the one time “open season” for members over 70 years of age to join the organization.

Our next Bingo Luncheon will be on April 25, 2019 at Corpus Christi Parish Hall. Members please start gathering donations for bingo prizes, ideas for raffle baskets and let President Fran know if they know of any merchant (s) who may donate door prizes. As always, we wish all members with birthdays, anniversaries or special events our congratulations. Please keep our brother Scott Schiebel in your thoughts and prayers as well as others who are ill and for our first responders, military and their families.

Ken Chatello
Branch 215

Branch 285, The people pictured left to right are: Joe Buonsante, Philomena Buonsante and Nancy Navairini presenting heritage talk on Mola Di Bari.

Castro Valley Our Lady of Grace, Br. 343

Welcome to our newest and 1st member of the year, Angie Warren. And thank you for introducing another possible new member to us at our Bake sale. Speaking of the Bake sale, thanks to the members who worked so hard to make it a success by both baking and selling. The Valentine's Day Polenta dinner was a sell out! What a great way to celebrate and not have to work too hard and even win some prizes. Next month is St. Patrick's Day and there is nothing quite like Italians cooking corned beef and cabbage. To all who have not paid your dues, it's time, in fact past time. Also, remember that this is the one time "open season" for members over 70 years of age to join the organization.

A reminder, those convention chance books are now with us and are an easy money maker for the branch. Also the branch has had some winners in the past and you need not be present to win.

Here’s wishing the top o’ the morning to you!

Pat Grasso, Branch Sec.

Continued on Page 18
Martinez
San Martino, Br. 13

Members send sympathies to former member Jackie Shikuzawa’s family who recently died; may her soul rest in God’s peace.

At the installation, Anne and Mary enjoyed lunching with our Grand President, Andy, and wife, Sid, along with Deacon John, Gene and Marilyn Simonetti of Brentwood. Thanks for great company, laughter, and conversation. Let’s reconnect at the convention or sooner.

Lent begins Ash Wednesday, March 6. During this time, make your journey worthwhile. Set aside time for yourself for reflection and time with God. Grow in your faith as you think about all Jesus has done for you! Ready yourself to experience His resurrection with an open heart. Choose from many opportunities to augment your time: Mondays at 6:30 p.m. is Scripture Reflections with the Clergy; first Thursday of Lent, March 7 “Beneath His Cross Apostolate,” a prayer cenacle “Praying for Priests—A Time for Healing” will be presented; Eucharistic Adoration is Fridays from noon to 5:00 p.m.; Soup Suppers are served on Fridays at 6:30 p.m. followed by the Stations of the Cross, the Last Seven Words of Christ, and Benediction; and, Saturday, March 9, we welcome, Yolanda Rodriguez, whose topic “Do Not Waste Your Sufferings” applies to us all. Enhance your Lenten experience with one or all of these events.

Mark down Saturday, March 30 beginning with the 4:30 p.m. Mass at St. Catherine of Siena when the Church honors ALL its volunteers—that’s you! A reception in your honor will be held in the parish hall. Let us remember that God can bring beauty from ashes.

Ciao for now,
Mary Cook

Welcome to new members Carol Lucido & Mary Pollio to Branch 14, Crockett.

Br. 14, Polenta crew

And just like that, it’s March. We hope our Irish friends and members celebrate St. Patrick’s Day all month! The following are some events everyone can enjoy, Irish or not:

Our popular St. Joseph’s Table will be celebrated on Tuesday, March 12th. There is no mass but there is a Blessing of Tables at 6:00 (note time change), followed by a meatless pasta dinner. Please bring a meatless dish to share. Dessert would also work!

Our March 16 Corned Beef Dinner is quickly approaching. Under the direction of Jim and Kathleen Thomas, hearty laughter and a delicious dinner are promised. Reminds me of an Irish Proverb…”Laugh is bestest where food is best.”

On April 7, all members are invited to attend 9:00 mass at St. Rose, followed by a free continental breakfast downstairs.

The famous St. Rose Fish Fry will be held Friday, April 12th. This is the parish’s most important fundraiser, and your support is greatly appreciated. You won’t be disappointed.

Happy St. Patrick’s Day, Everyone. May the Luck of the Irish be with you today, tomorrow and always!

Ciao,
Diane Bottini Thomas

Pittsburg
San Domenico, Br. 72

I am happy to report all of our members paid their 2019 dues. This means, once again, we will be honored for retaining our entire membership. Thank you members!

At our February meeting we celebrated Valentine’s day, Mardi Gras and the Chinese New Year. Thank you for bringing delicious foods and decorations.

At our March meeting, we celebrate both St. Joseph and St. Patrick’s Day with a soup and salad bar before the meeting. We will do a novena to St. Joseph. Contact Patty for a list of location, dates and times of the other St. Joseph day celebrations.

Thank you to our branch mentor, Peggy Aello Hagherly, for joining us at our monthly meetings. We appreciate her dedication and her friendship.

April 24 is the next District meeting at Legends Restaurant at Diablo Creek Golf course in Concord at 7:15 p.m. Our delegates are Helen Politakis and Jane Russo. Joanne Thielen attends as one of the district mentors. Roselyne Jarrett attends as a Central Council member and acting District Deputy and Patty Jarrett as the District President. All members are welcome.

You will receive invitations to a variety of ICF events this year. One very special event is the 95th anniversary of the ICF on Sunday, June 9. Mass will be celebrated at 11:45 a.m. at St. Peter and Paul church in San Francisco. A luncheon reception follows at the San Francisco Italian Athletic club. A flyer with the details will be mailed. Stay happy and healthy.

As we say in Pittsburg, Sempre Avanti!

Patty

Richmond
Br. 154

Gung Hay Fat Choy! Branch 154 celebrated Chinese New Year with a tasty Chinese dinner. We hope your fortune cookie held an interesting insight into the New Year.

The bus trip to Cache Creek was held last month. Didn’t hear of any big winners but a good time was had by all. We heard there were some who never left the buffet! Next trip will be in July. We need to have a full bus. Bring your friends; they do not have to be a member of the ICF.

The next big fundraiser is March 09, 2019. Ravioli Dinner-Rohan Hall, StJerome’s El Cerrito. Social Hour 6 p.m., Dinner 7 p.m. $22.00 Adults/6.00 Children. Raffle prizes are needed, please consider a donation. Reservations, Dee -510-236-0689 by March 4, 2019. Bring your friends!!

Dues are payable now! Annual dues are $40, Hospitalization is $25. Make your check payable to the ICF and give your check to Mike Cannady, or Toni Reeder. If your dues are not paid by March 1, 2018, you will be dropped from membership.

Next meeting is March 11, 2019. Dinner is Corned Beef and Cabbage as we celebrate St. Patrick’s Day. Mass to precede dinner. Walter and Toni make the best Corned Beef; it is not to be missed! Please call Dee at 510-236-0689 for a reservation. $15 for dinner. Please reserve by March 8th.

If you haven’t attended a meeting in awhile, we’d love to see you!

Concord
Todos Santos, Br 214

The warm clothes Drive for the Homeless was a Huge success, thank to the efforts of Gloria Schafer and Marion Armstrong. The Installation lunch was enjoyed by 12 of our members, the event was held at the Galileo Club, Jan 26th., the food was delicious.

Looking forward to our February 21st Valentine’s Day potluck. The menu will be a Red Theme.

We keep our sick and elderly in our prayers, especially Marco Michelato and Mia Bararich.

Con Affeto,
Norene DeLuca

Correspondence Secty.

Danville
St. Isidore, Br. 352

Our members enjoyed a Valentine’s Day pizza party for our February dinner meeting. It’s great to see the branch membership growing – you can definitely feel the energy level rising, along with the laughter level!

March will be a busy month for us. Time to celebrate St. Patrick! Our monthly dinner meeting will be held on Monday, March 18th—when Chef Angelo will treat us to his special corned beef & cabbage! Next, get ready for a rousing Champagne Bingo on Saturday, March 30th. Please plan to join us for dinner, fun & prizes! Doors open at 5pm, dinner at 6pm, followed by – Bingo! Ciao.

Branch 352

Brentwood
Immaculate Heart of Mary, Br. 432

We started 2019 with our first Branch meeting held on January 25th. If the 25th’s attendance bodes well for future participation at the meetings, the officers should be playing to packed houses. Coupled with a sumptuous meal, it turned out to be a very
Aurora. Br. 342

On January 19th, members of Branch 342, their families, and many guests came together to celebrate the branch's 40th annual Polenta Dinner. Carrying on a tradition started by the Paccioni family, many branch members worked hard to create a memorable evening that was enjoyed by all who attended. President MaryAnn Mikles began the evening by reading an article written about the event and later guests enjoyed a delicious dinner, dessert, a fantastic raffle and dancing. A big thank you to all who helped make this event a big success by selling tickets, setting up, cooking, decorating, selling bar and raffle tickets, serving, running the bar, donating raffle and auction items, creating raffle baskets, and cleaning up. We hope to see you all next year! We hope you will be able to join us for many fun events we are planning for the rest of 2019. We would love to see you at our monthly meetings that are held on the second Sunday of each month at 1:30 p.m. at St. Joseph's Conference Room.

Ciao!

Pam Andersen

Sacramento
Sacramento, St. Mary, Br. 45

Our Branch hosted the District's Installation on Feb. 16th with Mass and Lunch at St. Mary's. Thank you CC members who attended. We enjoyed the event with you, our branch officers and guests. Our first chicken and polenta dinner for 2019 was on Feb. 24th in Giovanni Hall. Thanks to everyone for helping get this event going.

Our heartfelt sympathy to these families: Lee Bennett and family for the sudden passing of his wife of 50 years, Shirley Pasquin, at age 78. Lee and Shirley became official members in 2018 but have been involved in the branch by attending all our dinners for many years and most generously donating yearly an 8th Grade Scholarship in memory of Shirley’s mother, Leda Pasquin, a lifetime member of our branch. Shirley was an amazing woman and will be greatly missed. May she Rest in Peace.

Anita Giordano and family for the passing of her husband of 56 years, John Giordano, at age 81, in December. John and Anita brought large groups of friends and family to our polenta dinners over many years and were always seated at Table 5. John loved our polenta and sauce, always purchasing leftover sauce to take home. John was a wonderful man and we appreciate both he and Anita’s support of the ICF. We will miss him. May he Rest in Peace.

Belated Birthdays for members in February: Ann Bashore, Manuel Cazes, Joseph Courrey, Gina DeVito, Olivia Ebert, Ted Georguson, Arlene Gianatasio, Dorothy Heick, Dominic Ielati, Matthew Ielati, Marlene Oehler, Sue Olson, Mary Louise Padlo, Emily Rossi, and Katherine Stefan. WOW!! Sorry this missed the Feb. Bollettino.

Happy March Birthday to the following members: John Bashore, Audrey Bashore, Emma Giordano, Sandra Raneiri. Happy Day!!

Ciao, Janine

Pleasant Hill
Christ the King, Br. 442

By now it’s March and I know the flowers are starting to peek out no matter the weather. And, Easter is just around the corner!

We hope you will be joining us for our upcoming Ladies Tea fundraiser on March 16th. The tables promise to be beautiful and the food delicious. Thanks to our co-chairs Diana and Joan for organizing and Carol and her wonderful crew for the food prep. Don’t miss the great raffle prizes too! Thanks to all who attended our Quarterly Mass and Breakfast in January. Please plan to join us for the next mass on April 7 at 10:45. We will meet at Mr. Lucky’s right after.

Our March meeting is on the 10th at 1:00 and we are celebrating St. Joseph’s Day. Our upcoming April meeting is on the 14th with an Easter theme (of course!). Please keep the following members and their family in your prayers: Nancy, Bob, Larry, Francis and Larry’s Grandson, and William’s son. May God be with you in your struggles.

Amanda.

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

Our recent Installation was enjoyed by all. Upcoming: March 13 Spuntino Raffle: $20.00. Reservations: Vic Arnaudo (650) 755-1369. Please bring a Raffle Prize. Financial Secretary, Vic Arnaudo, sincerely thanks the many members who have promptly sent in their dues for 2019.

Stay Healthy!

Ciao

Toni Morsello

San Francisco
St. Elizabeth, Br. 258

Our monthly meeting was well attended and we enjoyed the famous “Malone Italian Wedding Soup” dinner. A special thank you goes to Conchita Lizardi, Cathy and Art Rasmussen, Eileen Martinez, Joe Aguilar and helpers who cooked our delicious meal. At the meeting, we were honored to have Laurice Levine as our guest speaker. Laurice, a medical consultant for Cooley’s Anemia, gave an informative talk on the disease and shared her personal story and the impact of Cooley’s Anemia on her life.

We welcomed two new Board members for 2019, J.C. Martinez (Vice-President) and Pat Brown (Trustee).

Many volunteers have signed up to host and organize the dinners for our monthly branch meetings. We are so grateful for our members’ giving spirit and generosity.

We ask for special prayers for all our members who are sick and ask for God’s blessings as we begin a new year of fellowship and service.

Grazie.

Anne Finn
Recording Secretary

San Francisco
Br. 342

On January 19th, members of Branch 342, their families, and many guests came together to celebrate the branch's 40th annual Polenta Dinner. Carrying on a tradition started by the Paccioni family, many branch members worked hard to create a memorable evening that was enjoyed by all who attended. President MaryAnn Mikles began the evening by reading an article written about the event and later guests enjoyed a delicious dinner, dessert, a fantastic raffle and dancing. A big thank you to all who helped make this event a big success by selling tickets, setting up, cooking, decorating, selling bar and raffle tickets, serving, running the bar, donating raffle and auction items, creating raffle baskets, and cleaning up. We hope to see you all next year! We hope you will be able to join us for the many fun events we are planning for the rest of 2019. We would love to see you at our monthly meetings that are held on the second Sunday of each month at 1:30 p.m. at St. Joseph's Conference Room.

Ciao!

Pam Andersen

Auburn
Br. 342

March 2019

Our Champagne Bingo will be on March 10th. Please try to join us for a lovely day. You will see many of your friends. Menu: Half Chicken, Vegetable, Salad, Dessert and Champagne.

Our sincere sympathy to Theresa Dianda and her family. Bob will always be remembered by Br. 258. He was well liked and a true member of the Italian Catholic Federation! Bob, may the Blessed Mother keep you in the palm of her hands. You will be greatly missed by your family and many friends.

Congratulations to Great Nonnie Maria, Nonnie Roberta, Lala Maura, Barbara Robert and Andrea, Mom and Dad on the birth of Martina. We know Martino will bring you much Joy and Happiness.

On March 18th we will go to Thunder Valley. Still waiting for the big pot.

For our members who will have a birthday in March - many more years of Much Happiness and Good Health.

Please remember our ill and deceased members in your prayers.

Remember the following dates:
Mar. 24th - Mass; Mar. 25th - Meeting
Ciao,

Continued on Page 20
San Francisco
St. Cecilia, Br. 365

Our branch had a very nice February meeting! Father Landi again treated our attending members to a very nice lunch...you are so thoughtful and caring to our branch! Fr. Landi, we also know how much you want us to succeed to keep our branch going...Father, we also want that!

At this meeting, there was a lot of conversation on activities we could do this year. All these different ideas sound very exciting and hopefully they will come to be! It would be great if more members come to the meetings for support and help make these ideas come true. What do you think?

We hope there was not too much confusion with our two treasurers! Joe Basuino (our going treasurer) and Cosmo Amato (in coming treasurer) finally decided Cosmo was going to collect all the dues money. We know you have received your Due's notice and the Hospitalization Plan notice. Hospitalization members must pay by March 15.

Also, in the works is our “Br. 365 Monthly Meeting Calendar” which will be mailed to you when completed.

We wish to give our sincerest condolences to the family of John Fiore who recently died...May John and all the departed members of Br. 365 Rest in Peace.

Br. 365 next meeting will be Saturday, March 16 in the Green Room at 11:00 am. We will be celebrating St. Joseph’s day with a Pot Luck luncheon...chairlady will be Liliana Zarich...Hope to see you there!

Ciao,
Mara Amato

San Mateo
San Mateo District Council

The San Mateo District Council installed their 2019 officers on January 19th. It was held at the Basque Cultural Center in South San Francisco and was hosted by Branch 7. All Souls in South San Francisco. Representing Grand President Andy Pappani as the installing officer was our own Deborah Rodondi, Grand 2nd Vice President of the Federation. She also served as MC for the event.

A special presentation was made at the installation to the ICF from the Peninsula Italian American Social Club (PIASC) in San Mateo. Every year they have a Columbus Day dinner dance with Queen Isabella and Christopher Columbus. The profits are given to worthy charities in the area. This past October they chose, as one of their charities, to donate $1,000 to our Gifts of Love program. Presenting the check to Grand 2nd Vice President Deborah Rodondi is John Buonocore a member of ICF Branch 130 Star of the Sea in Redwood City, a member of PIASC and a past Christopher Columbus of the annual event.

The April 25th meeting of the District Laurice Levine will be our special guest speaker. Pass the word around and please join us. The meeting is held at Our Lady of Angels in Burlingame at 7:30 p.m.

South San Francisco
Sacro Cuore, Br. 7

Happy St. Patrick’s Day South City.

Thanks to Jim Eli for being our March chef and making his famous Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner and Barbara Cavaliere for handling the dessert. The Branch is grateful for their generous donation of time and talent to make our business meeting a success.

Thanks to Billy Mangini, Lola Migliore and all their family and friends who helped put together another successful Aldo DeTomasi Memorial Crab Cioppino feed. We know Aldo would have wanted to see this tradition continue with so much support from the community.

Please continue to keep in your prayers Donna Pascone, Marc Teglia and Barbara Bergamaschi and all our members and their families who are ill. Let’s also keep in mind some of our families such as the Domenici’s, the Regalia’s and the Yoschak’s who we haven’t seen in quite some time and let them know that we are thinking of them.

Gracious God, only source of life and health: Help, comfort, and relieve me, and may be turned to strength and confidence in your loving care; for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.

FHR

San Carlos
St. Charles, Br. 327

Our first meeting of 2019 was a rainy, blustery evening. We had about 20 dedicated members who showed up for our meeting. The dinner was hosted by Dede Waters-Masters who prepared a wonderful beef stew and a delicious limoncello dessert. Perfect for the very cold, wet weather we have been experiencing. Thank you, Dede.

On Thursday, April 25 the ICF District meeting will feature a presentation by Laurice Levine. Laurice is a consultant for Children’s Hospital in Los Angeles and she will be speaking on Cooley’s Anemia, a serious form of Thalassemia. This is ICF’s National Charity. All are invited to attend.

Save these dates:
Saturday, April 27 - Bishop’s Day, hosted by Br. 6 Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Redwood City, 5 p.m. Mass and light appetizers to follow.
Saturday, June 9 the ICF will be celebrating 95 years. Mass at St. Peter and Paul’s 666 Fift St. San Francisco. Lunch to follow at San Francisco Athletic Club, 1640 Stockton St. S.F. $60.00. More info to follow as date gets closer.

Please keep the following members of our branch in your prayers: Elana Malta, Dan Rolandsen and Jack Sherratt.

God Bless,
Rosalind C. Emery

San Francisco
St. Augustine, Br. 213

Happy to say many of our members attended the District Installation at the Basque Cultural Center on Jan. 19th, to witness the installation of our officers and to socialize with members of other branches. We had a great time!

Our group had a great meeting on Feb. 12th, which was well organized and featured a delicious meal and fellowship. Members are looking forward to the upcoming St. Joseph’s Table on March 12 after 5:30 p.m. mass. According to Catholic-Culture.com, St. Joseph Table events are an age-old Italian tradition rooted in times of famine. “According to legend, there was a famine in Sicily many centuries ago. The villagers prayed to St. Joseph, foster-father of the Infant Savior, and asked his intercession before the throne of God. Their prayers were answered. With the ending of the dreadful famine, a special feast of thanksgiving was held in commemoration of the Saint. This celebration became tradition. Wealth families prepared huge buffets. They then invited the less fortunate people of the village, especially the homeless and sick.”

The table is set in a special way and all of our branch members will make something. Many in the St. Augustine’s Parish who are not members of Br. 213 are very excited and will be attending.

Readers are invited to like and follow our Facebook Group, which can be found by those with Facebook accounts at: https://www.facebook.com/ICFSSF213. See our pictures and follow our activities. Our monthly newsletter is also posted on our Facebook group.

Warm Regards,
Vicentio Spano

South San Francisco
Burlingame
Our Lady of Angels, Br. 173

Officer installation was successful and we are ready to enjoy the activities planned for the year. Thanks to Dorene Campanile for chairing our January dinner and to all the helpers.

Our branch sponsored movie night on Feb. 9, immediately following 5 p.m. Mass.

Thanks to all who assisted in serving pizza, salad and dessert.

Since no Feb. meeting, please plan on attending our annual St. Joseph’s table on March 14 and let Dorene Campanile know you plan to bring to the potluck 650-344-7870.

In March we will have Laurice Levine as our guest to give an update on the latest information at Children’s Hospital in Los Angeles.

DATES TO REMEMBER:
March 9, 2019 Champagne Bingo Branch 19 Open: 1:00; lunch 2:00 1 card, Chicken, pasta; call Deborah Rodondi for reservations 650-583-0805
Sat., April 27, our Pedro Tournament OLA Gym, 1335 Cortez Ave. Burlingame. $40.00 includes lunch. Make a check out to Br. 173. A reservation email will be sent to previous attendees. Call Bea Tomasello for reservations 650-344-5278.
Sun., April 28, Bishop’s Day, hosted by Br. 6 Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Redwood City, 5 p.m. Mass and light appetizers to follow.
Sun., June 9 the ICF will be celebrating 95 years. Mass at St. Peter and Paul’s 666 Fift St. San Francisco. Lunch to follow at San Francisco Athletic Club, 1640 Stockton St. S.F. $60.00. More info to follow as date gets closer.

Please keep the following members of our branch in your prayers: Elana Malta, Dan Rolandsen and Jack Sherratt.

Burlingame
Our Lady of Angels, Br. 173

Our group had a great meeting on Feb. 12th, which was well organized and featured a delicious meal and fellowship. Members are looking forward to the upcoming St. Joseph’s Table on March 12 after 5:30 p.m. mass. According to Catholic-Culture.com, St. Joseph Table events are an age-old Italian tradition rooted in times of famine. “According to legend, there was a famine in Sicily many centuries ago. The villagers prayed to St. Joseph, foster-father of the Infant Savior, and asked his intercession before the throne of God. Their prayers were answered. With the ending of the dreadful famine, a special feast of thanksgiving was held in commemoration of the Saint. This celebration became tradition. Wealth families prepared huge buffets. They then invited the less fortunate people of the village, especially the homeless and sick.”

At our last meeting we were served a delicious soup dinner prepared by one of our Past Presidents Carla Del Carlo. Thank you again Carla for your endless help and service to our branch.

Our next meeting on March 5, we will serve a lasagna dinner, with a social time at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6 p.m.

On Tuesday, March 19th we will celebrate St. Joseph’s Day with our annual St. Joseph’s Table Pot Luck Dinner. We ask each member to bring a meatless dish to serve to our branch members will make something. Many in the St. Augustine’s Parish who are not members of Br. 213 are very excited and will be attending.

Readers are invited to like and follow our Facebook Group, which can be found by those with Facebook accounts at: https://www.facebook.com/ICFSSF213. See our pictures and follow our activities. Our monthly newsletter is also posted on our Facebook page.

Warm Regards,
Vicentio Spano
Marin

Larkspur
St. James, Br. 161

The Ways and Means Committee is presenting the 2020 Daily Raffle “Cooking With Our Grandchildren”. You may send in a picture or a favorite recipe that you enjoy making with your grandchild. Deadline is May 1st. Please read more about it in the February Bollettino.

We would like to thank Deborah Rodoni for installing the new officers of Branch 161. Our officers for 2019 are:
- President/Financial Secretary: Marlene Farber
- 1st Vice President – Phyllis Rybensky
- 2nd Vice President – Diane Hollister
- Recording/Financial Secretary: Anna Biggio
- Treasurer – Anthony Pignati
- Orator – Margaret De Rango
- Sentinel – Diane Hollister
- Trustees – JoAnne Callaghan, Darcy Fitzsimmons

Reminder: ICF 95th Anniversary – Sunday, June 9 - 11:45 a.m. at St. Peter & Paul Church with lunch following at San Francisco Italian Athletic Club. If interested in attending the luncheon let Marlene Farber know ASAP.

Our next meeting will be Saturday, March 9 at 10:30 a.m. in Healy Hall. Light Brunch with dessert and coffee will be served.

Our monthly dinner meetings continue to be a great success, and our Valentine’s Day celebration was enhanced by extending our evening with dancing and additional social time. Thank you to our Officers who proposed the idea, and special thanks to Dave Garbarino, our wonderful accordionist, who provided the music before and after our dinner.

March is dedicated to San Giuseppe, and the celebration of Father’s Day in Italy. In recognition of and in thanksgiving for the special gifts each of our male members brings to our Branch, we will be honoring all of them with a small special gift and prayer.

We have designated March also to be our membership drive month. We are encouraging everyone to bring a friend to our March meeting to experience our welcoming community and to learn about our activities. All our guests that evening will be recognized and eligible for special raffle prizes. There has been steady growth in our membership and we hope to continue that trend throughout this year.

May St. Joseph bless you and your families.

Br. 403, Installing of incoming Pres. Paul Larson
Rose Marie Murando

San Jose

Santa Clara Valley District Council

President Janet Glaubke, with ICF Branch 5 members, hosted the Santa Clara Valley District Installation Mass. Helping Central Council President Andy Pappani were Central Council members: Vince Piro, Lauren Kilcullen, Denise Antonowicz, Mike Rossi, Dante Galeazzi, Franklin Lopes, Leonard Rossi and Life Members – Carmen Kilcullen, Jim Jones, Bob Acquistapace and David Botta.

District Mentor Jerry Delfino awarded Tina Souza-Dutra Outstanding Mentor of the Year. Afterward we enjoyed a catered luncheon in the hall.

District President Bob Bausino welcomed all branch presidents and deputies to the initial 2019 meeting hosted by Branch 368 Santa Teresa. One of the items discussed was the success of the Luau and Octoberfest fundraisers and repeating them for 2019. His concern; no conflicts with branch activities! He welcomed other suggestions.

District Mentor, Jerry Delfino has reassigned Mike Nunziata to Branch 445, Tina Souza-Dutra to Branch 408 and introduced new mentor Janet Glaubke who will be assigned to Branch 368. He emphasized the need for mentors and encourage other volunteers.

Emily Corral reminded everyone about the start of scholarship period which ends on March 15. She recommended the ICF.org for applications.

John & Noreen Gillio treated us to some skits they give at Santa Teresa to encourage membership and attendance at events. The skits were animated with props.

Our Lady of Peace Mass: May 19 at 11:00 a.m.

February District Meeting – ICF Branch 391 St. Martin of Tours – Monday February 11

Mike Nunziata

Los Gatos
St. Mary, Br. 184

We hope to see members and friends at our Crab Feed on February 23. It was such a grand time last year. We are planning with enthusiasm this year!

The Irish may have St. Patrick’s Day on March 17, but the Italians have St. Joseph’s Day on March 19. Usually tradition is no meat eaten that day and Pasta Con Sarde is served with the Modica sprinkled on top. Whatever your custom, may the Saints watch over you all, as we enter the season of Lent.

Ciao for now,
Lucy Amico

San Jose
St. Frances Cabrini, Br. 191

Our New Year has begun and Branch 191, is on the move. Our upcoming calendar is keeping our branch and members involved.

On Saturday March 2nd, we will hold “That's Amore,” our Spring Polenta Dinner.

Continued on Page 22
Dance. Our chairpersons, Jo and Jennifer Bertaccini (Mother-in Law, Daughter-in Law Duo) are hard at work to present Po- lenta at its finest, with Chicken Caciatore, Salad, Rolls and Dessert. Our Musical enjoyment will be provided by Scott Trug- man. Entertainment for our young children will be presented by April Duhring, Balloon Lady. Now, to make your reservations contact Debbie Piro 408 506 9244, to ensure your place for an enjoyable evening. We encourage everyone to attend for an even- ing of dinner and dance.

St Francis Cabrini will once again welcome our Village House Guests. We continue to provide voluteers from our branch for duties, such as meals, laundry, and security. It is a gratifying experience for our branch members to help those in need. Any ques- tions can be directed to Frieda Flocchini 408377 5897.

The month of March is the deadline for Scholarship applications. Please encourage our young adults to apply. Scholarships make an excellent beginning to further one's education.

Spring brings us to Bocce time. We will be anticipating the opening of the courts with our new patio covers. Watch for more details regarding our spring opening.

We welcomed Sue Butler as our new member.

May we pray for the souls of Liz Donaldson and Betty Antuzzi, our deceased members. They will be missed for all of their dedica- tion to our branch.

Happy Valentine's Day

Shirley Catania
Sentinel Branch # 191

San Jose
Santa Teresa de Avila, Br. 368

Thank you to Carol Bennett, JoAnn Mul- lot, Leida Morales, and Cheryl Sanchez for the fantastic ravioli dinner, plus all the trimmings, that we enjoyed at our January meeting. Delicious!

Our next bus trip is to Black Oak Casino on March 20. We thank Jerry Opp for agreeing to plan the bus trips, which take a lot of time to organize. His dedication brings a lot of money into our branch.

Our parish fund-raising Crab Feed on February 2 was a tremendous success. We fed over 400 people! Our theme of Crabby Goes Pirate charmed our guests through a pirate-ship entrance, past silent auction of- ferings, past the bar, and to their decorated tables. Many folks were regaled in red and black pirate attire, adding to the fun atmosphere. Co-operating with members of other organizations of our parish, our branch members set up, cooked, served, and cleaned. Thank you to Jerry and Joan Delfino for their fantastic sauce, to John Gillio for the pasta, and to Mike and Lorraine Nunziata for the sherbet dessert. Our thanks also go to Cathy Orlowski, who directed our ICF women salad-makers, to Jerry Opp, who organized the bar, and to the leaders of it all, Joyce and Phil Robba, who chaired the event. The Robbas donate uncountable hours to our branch and to our parish. Kudos to them and to their helpers.

Noreen Gillio hopes, "May all your troubles last as long as your New Year's resolutions." We pray for all our members.

Blessings,
Judy Zahn

San Jose
St. Martin of Tours, Br. 391

Our February 2019 meeting began with an opening prayer led by our Orator, Sister Jane Garrison.

President Mike Rossi thanked Al and Diana for the delicious dinner and thanked our great servers and setup crew for all that they do in making the evening a success. Tina Rossi reminded us to pay annual dues by March 15, 2019, and Mary Lipari reminded us that scholarship applications must be submitted by March 15, 2019.

Our 32nd Annual Valentine’s “Sweetheart Ball” was a great success. Thank you to the following who made this gala a memorable event: Chairperson Jessie Romero, Cooks Al and Diana Vallorz and Bob Gorini for the BBQ steak dinner, Marcie Rossi for the raffle and table sponsors, Kathleen and Steve Lencioni for ticket sales and table seating, Teresa and Elizabeth Broderson for the photo booth, Jerry Romero and Crew for working the bar, Sister Jane for selling bar tickets, Bransham Key Club for serving, our members for volunteering their services and donating raffle prizes, and St. Martin of Tours Parish for supporting us.

The 2019 calendar of events is now avail- able. Please pick up your copy at our next meeting. Look for changes in events’ dates and times.

Members will be voting on the annual budget at our March 5 meeting.

Upcoming events: Branch #391 General Meeting—March 5, 2019 at 6:30, Quarterly Mass—March 10, 2019 at 11:30 am, and Wine Down with ICF—May 3, 2019.

Sunnyvale
Resurrection, Br. 408

Our Spring 2019 Kick-off Parish Blood Drive will be held on Saturday 2 March from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Farana Hall. Please pray for our Donors.

Remember Lent begins on Wednesday, March 6th.

Br. 408 will host the first Parish Lenten Soup Supper on March 8th – We will need our usual 12 soups, servers and this year – and this year with ICF will also need a team to lead the Stations @ the church.

Br. 408 will host the annual PASTA Dinner on March 9th with the School. We will need Raffle Prizes and Volunteers for this Annual Event with the 5th Grade Students.

Br. 408 will host the Santa Clara Valley District (SCV District) on Monday, 11 March 2019 at 7 p.m. in the Farana Center.

Sister Jane Garrison and Chairperson Jessie Romero selling tickets at #391’s 32nd Annual Valentine’s “Sweetheart Ball”

Teresa and Elizabeth Broderson at the photo booth, #391 Valentine’s Ball

Happy St. Patrick’s Day!
Janis Patellarro

Morgan Hill
Santa Caterina D’Alessandria, Br. 435

Are you enjoying the rain yet? Everything is green and clean right now (except where it’s muddy) and we even had snow on the east foothills and in the Santa Cruz Moun- tains this week. Not conducive to garden- ing, but it does make it easier to pull weeds.

In my last report, I mentioned a student exchange program with our sister city in San Casciano, Tuscany, Italy. Morgan Hill families with teens between the ages of 15-17 should contact amywhelan7@gmail. com for details about hosting an Italian student for approximately two weeks: July 20-August 3, 2019. The program consists of two phases that alternate between hosting Italian students for two weeks in 2019, then traveling to San Casciano for two weeks the following summer, July 2020, for charper- oned and guided travel with opportunities to explore central Italy. Sister Cities host public meetings every 4th Thursday of the month, 7:00 p.m., at the Morgan Hill Centennial Recreation Center.

Our February dinner fell on Valentine’s Day this year and we had polenta prepared by our mentor, John Gillio, Br. 368 President, at Santa Teresa de Avila in San Jose. The dinner included homemade sauce, Italian sausage and salad, and a special dessert pre- pared by our President, Giulia Gallego.

In March we will support St. Catherine Middle School students for St. Joseph Table with homemade lenten soups available to all.

Please pray for our members who are ill or recovering. Ken Ravizza is home after a bad fall, and Johanna Tacci and Helga Brooks had surgery.

God Bless.

Maryclare Sampoogno

Santa Rosa
District Council

The Valley is beautiful with the mustard blooming!

The April District Meeting is on Sunday, April 28 in Arcata in conjunction with Br.144/145-60th Anniversaries. There will be a special dinner on Saturday night, April 27th. More information next month.

Membership remains the key word for our district. Contact family members, friends, etc. and invite them to join. Some people are just waiting for an invitation.

It is wonderful to see members of the vari- ous branches attending each other’s func- tions. Keep it up and look for new ideas. Everyone has something to offer.

Our house is progressing. Much, much activity this coming month.

In this world of constant stress and turmoil, remember to love, comfort and care for one's education.

Please remember to include our sick mem- bers in your prayers – Bishop McGrath, and Paul and Dori Biefari.

Marcie Rossi selling raffle tickets at #391's Valentine's Ball

Sister Jane Garrison and Chairperson Jessie Romero selling tickets at #391's 32nd Annual Valentine's “Sweetheart Ball”

Teresa and Elizabeth Broderson at the photo booth, #391 Valentine's Ball

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Our house is progressing. Much, much activity this coming month.

In this world of constant stress and turmoil, remember to love, comfort and care for one's education.

Please remember to include our sick members in your prayers – Bishop McGrath, and Paul and Dori Biefari.
President's Award Recipients Ernie & Claire Giampaoli - Br. 198 and Sharon Hromek - Br. 127, SR Dist. Pres. - Bill Scinto & Grand Secretary - Lauren Kilcullen

February has been quiet at the branch as we look forward to our Famous Fish Fry in March!

Mid-March Events:
March 5: Branch meeting at the Rectory. 5:45 PM
March 10: ICF Monthly Mass at the 8:00 AM Mass. We are encouraging members to attend this Mass together and to sit together.
March 22: Mark your calendars for our very popular Fish Fry. Menu: Salad, pasta, “all you can eat” fish, dessert and wine. Price: $35 for member, $40 for non-members. Deadline is March 15 for reservations. Please call Mary Madden for reservations: 431-0438. We are looking for raffle prizes, gift cards, vacation gear, and silent auction items for the Fish Fry. If you can donate prizes, gift cards, vacation stays, etc., please contact Nancy Buchanan. The Fish Fry is our biggest fundraiser, this year, since we do not have a Golf Tournament.
April 10: Lenten Soup Supper. Our branch will be hosting. We are looking for members to make soup to serve that evening. Remember to pay your dues. We’re doing well in collecting dues, but we still have a few stragglers.
Happy St. Patrick’s Day! Lauren Kilcullen

Healdsburg
St. Francis de Sales, Br. 52

It is February already and next week is our biggest dinner of the year, the BBQ Chicken and Spaghetti Dinner! We are expecting a full house.

Our first meeting for 2019 was very well attended. We shared wine and food followed by a wonderful talk from Laurette Levine about Cooley’s Anemia. What an inspiring speaker!

In January we also started up our monthly Mass intentions for the deceased and living members of ICF. At this Mass Claudia Cuneo gave a small talk about the ICF and what we do and encouraged people to check out our Branch. We are happy to announce that three new families have joined Branch 75!

Our officers were at the installation at St. Sebastian’s. It was good to meet up with the other Branches and also have a tasty lunch. Thank you Branch 103!

Cloverdale
St. Peter, Br. 75

Santa Rosa District Installation at Branch #209 Central Council with Branch #209 Officers Santa Rosa District Officers Special guests representing Central Council well in collecting dues, but we still have a few stragglers.

Happy St. Patrick’s Day! Lauren Kilcullen

Coming together is a beginning.
Keeping together is progress.
Working together is success.
--Henry Ford

Santa Rosa
District Installation.

In January we installed our new officers for the 2019 year. We combined the installation of officers with the Arcata Branch 144. Our installation dinner was held at Kistinas Restaurant who served a delicious Italian style meal. Everyone had a great time visiting and sharing wine. We wish to thank Bob and June Aquistapaci for coming to Eureka to install all of the new officers. Bob also gave a talk on the history of the ICF, what we are and many of our past accomplishments to our community. He also encouraged us to stay involved. Again thank you Bob and June for coming to Eureka.

Our next was Feb 12th, I hope you were able to attend. Happy Valentine’s Day Nancy Paoli

Eureka
St. Ambrose, Br. 145

Sonoma
St. Sebastian, Br. 103

Again another month has passed and we are closer to finalizing our March Fundraiser on March 30th. Come one, come all. Let us make this a great prelude to another Spring in this beautiful valley and besides the skies are getting lighter so I expect to see all the “girls” from Petaluma #127 as well as many members who do not always attend our delicious monthly dinners. Also being celebrated this year in May is Sonoma Br.103’s Anniversary! Doesn’t every branch have one? We are how old??? Details to follow after tonight’s meeting.

Above all, celebrate St. Valentine’s day even though we will be in the “red”. Just think, next month we will be in the “green” celebrating St. Patrick’s day. So many saints, so little time....
Ciao! A presto
Marilyn Sylvestri

Petaluma
St. Vincent’s, Br. 127

Greetings from Petaluma!
The Santa Rosa District Meeting was in Petaluma. It was informative and ended with a delicious lunch of chili, prepared by President Dennis, and an ice cream bar. We encourage more members to attend the District meetings to share their thoughts and friendship.

The District Installation was beautifully done. Thank you Sebastopol Branch for your hospitality and lovely lunch. Thanks to David Botta and many of the Central Council Officers for taking the time to come.
Thanks to all who helped with the Quarterly Communion/Mass for the Deceased and Living members, followed by our All You Can Eat Crab Dinner. Thank you Giacco Manni, Angelo Leone and all the cooking crew for the wonderful job.
March 11, regular meeting in Rm. 9. April will be our Bakeless Bake Sale. April 8, regular meeting in Rm. 9
Welcome our newest member—Susan Rogers. I hope she enjoys being a part of Br. 127 as much as I have. I joined 25 yrs. ago with my husband Louis. We had many happy years with the ICF family.
We wish well Lillian Ward, Barbara Crescenti, and Kathleen Walker. Also, a big hug to Bruno Tomassi and Frank Cresci. We miss all of you. May God to bless you today and always.
Get well wishes to all who are ill. Happy Birthday to those celebrating, Happy Valentine’s Day too. Hug and kiss your loved ones and let them know how much you care.

Br. 75 Installation

Our next meeting will be March 21st. We will be treated by a Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner by Bob Aquistapace.

Happy Belated Valentine’s Day!

Br. 75's Anniversary! Doesn’t every branch have one? We are how old??? Details to follow after tonight’s meeting.

Be nice to someone; you’ll get it back in return.
Ciao, Louise Vicino

Santa Rosa
St. Eugene, Br. 198

Dear Brothers and Sisters,
President Bob Aquistapace and Treasurer Bill Scinto delivered our donation checks to the principal of St. Eugene’s Elementary School and to the CEO of Catholic Charities for the Santa Rosa Diocese. Both were really moved by our donations and thanked the ICF for being such a generous organization. Give yourselves a pat on the back for raising the money and then giving it away.

By the time you read this, we will have had our Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner. Many thanks go to Ernie Giampaoli and his “crew” for the work they did. It was great!

Plans are now finalized for our April 6th fundraiser. You won’t want to miss it. If you do not have your tickets already, get them now.

Our next meeting will be in the Parish Life Center at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, April 1st (April Fool’s Day). Dessert and Bingo will follow the meeting. At this meeting, be sure to sign up for the Spiritual and Heritage Day event in Petaluma on May 5th.

The Mass for all living and deceased members of the ICF will be on Saturday, April 13th at 4:30 in the Cathedral. President Bob
Our newest member, Matt Andrews, whose mother, Marilyn Andrews, has been a member for 23 years was welcomed and initiated at our Jan. 15 meeting.

On Jan. 27 we hosted the officer installation for the Santa Rosa District, as well as branches from St. Rose, Healdsburg, Cloverdale, Sonoma, Petaluma, St. Eugene’s and our own Sebastopol Branch. Thank you to Central Council members who attended and CC, Grand 2nd VP, Deborah Rodondi who officiated the installations, and SR District Secretary and Past Grand Pres., Carmen Kilcullen for announcing the officers and offices in Italian. President’s Award recipients: Ernie & Claire Giampolo, Br. 198 – St. Eugene’s, Santa Rosa and Sharon Hromek, Br. 127 – Petaluma were introduced by Past Grant President Bob Aquistapace and awards given by Santa Rosa District President, Bill Scinto.

Great appreciation to our Branch President Pam McAlvaine & Barbara Bidia for chairing this event, and an extra bravo to Pam McAlvaine, for being a terrific hostess and master of ceremonies. Finally, thank you to all of our members who helped set up, decorate, bar-tend and serve the 100 guests.

At this writing we are looking forward to our February 23rd Polenta and Chicken dinner. Check your branch calendar for upcoming events. Make plans to purchase your tickets and bring friends to our annual fish fry on Friday, April 5th. This is a well-attended dinner, so don’t forget to call Lona at 707-527-1021 for your tickets.

**Sebastopol**

St. Sebastian, Br. 209

Our newest member, Matt Andrews, whose mother, Marilyn Andrews, has been a member for 23 years was welcomed and initiated at our Jan. 15 meeting.

On Jan. 27 we hosted the officer installation for the Santa Rosa District, as well as branches from St. Rose, Healdsburg, Cloverdale, Sonoma, Petaluma, St. Eugene’s and our own Sebastopol Branch. Thank you to Central Council members who attended and CC, Grand 2nd VP, Deborah Rodondi who officiated the installations, and SR District Secretary and Past Grand Pres., Carmen Kilcullen for announcing the officers and offices in Italian. President’s Award recipients: Ernie & Claire Giampolo, Br. 198 – St. Eugene’s, Santa Rosa and Sharon Hromek, Br. 127 – Petaluma were introduced by Past Grant President Bob Aquistapace and awards given by Santa Rosa District President, Bill Scinto.

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**Stockton**

Modesto
St. Stanislaus, Br. 48

A reminder that we are having our St. Joseph’s Table Celebration March 17, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. in the J Street hall at 7th and K Streets. We invite all of you to come—it is potluck so bring your favorite dish, family and friends. Enjoy the afternoon eating great food, visiting old friends and we have a fun raffle with gifts that are wrapped so you don’t know what you have won until you open your prize.

The scholarships applications are available for students wishing to apply. The application must be submitted by March 15, 2019 to Central Council.

Mass for our deceased members will be Sundays April 14, 2019 and May 19, 2019 at the 8:00 a.m. mass at the Maze Blvd. Church.

Our Bank Night winner was Analisa Zamora.

Refreshments for the March 13, 2019 Meeting will be furnished by Rosalie Ruffino.

Coming up:

Mar 13, 7:00 p.m. Meeting in the Hall at 7th and K Street
Mar 17, 2:00 p.m. St. Joseph’s Table Celebration and Potluck
April 10, 7:00 p.m. Meeting in the Hall at 7th and K Street

May 4-5 Bake sale after all the masses or until sold out
May 8, 6:00 p.m. Mother’s Day Potluck
May TBA District Meeting

Cecelia McGhee

Stockton District, Lodi
St. Anne’s, Br. 82

Hello, ICF Family from one of your newest branches!

Our first official Officers’ Meeting after our December 1st inauguration was very long, but majorly productive. We thank Mentor Robert Pachinger for being our guiding light, and we appreciate the Expansion Committee Chair, Mike Ross’s input and compliments for the teams ability to work together smoothly. Officer roles were reviewed, fundraising ideas discussed, and plans solidified for the January and February General Meetings.

January 29th was our first official General Meeting. Our Fr. Bala led us all in prayer before we began fellowship with a Soup Supper provided by the officers. Two new members attended, as well as two members from Petaluma who are transferring to our branch after recently moving to livable, loveable Lodi. Meeting proceedings successfully filled some committee chair positions and brainstormed a plethora of fundraising ideas. Heritage shared information about the Mother Cabrini Shrine. Thank you, Mentor Robert.

At our February meeting, during fellowship, we will be sampling several heavenly chocolate desserts. While our youth participate in Valentine activities, members will get down to business recruiting more committee chairs, narrowing our fundraising ideas and getting them on the calendar.

We are looking forward to meeting more ICF family at our first District Meeting on February 10th at Eche Bella in Tracy. Thank you, Annette Elissagary for hosting. Our appreciation goes out to all those who helped, and brainstormed a plethora of fundraising ideas. Heritage shared information about the Mother Cabrini Shrine. Thank you, Mentor Robert.

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We are looking forward to Spring.

Ciao for now.

Patty Litts, Recording/Corresponding Secretary

Manteca

Nostra Signora del Buon Viaggio, Br. 139

Preparations for our annual “All You Can Eat” shrimp dinner, set for April 6, are moving space. Ticket chair Harbie Ratto announced that tickets are going fast and that the general public is now able to purchase tickets to this very popular event in Manteca. There will be a baked goods, silent auction and a raffle. Chairs Lori Pellegrino-Jackson and Michelle Harmon will be featuring gift baskets and homemade baked goods for these activities.

Our parish will conduct its annual Lenten Soup Dinners again. The ICF’s turn to provide the soup will be on March 11, with Tony and Ida Queirolo doing the honors in the cafeteria kitchen. You can guess what kind of delicious soup it will be.

Branch vice-president Jim Alfieri and trustees Yvonne Chimenti and Linda Bertuccio represented our branch at the Stockton District meeting held in Tracy on February 10.

Our monthly charity drawing was held and $50 will be donated to the Pregnancy Help Center in Manteca.

Our January meeting was adjourned, as always, with the singing of our Federation Anthem.

Ciao,
Mariano

Tracy
St. Bernard, Br. 390

We’ve just returned from our first 2019 Stockton District meeting. Frank Re did a great job as our new President and has filled the shoes vacated by Robert Pachinger very well.

We also want to thank Annette Elissagary again for hosting the meeting in her home when all other venues at St. Bernard’s were unavailable to us.

Branch 390 will hold their monthly meeting on Thursday, March 21st and all are invited. Menu includes roasted Italian chicken, roasted potatoes and all the trimmings. All members in good standing will be given an ICF member pin upon their arrival, if they don’t already own one. We wear them with pride and enjoy explaining to folks who inquire about the pin what it’s all about. We also invite them to our monthly dinners and explain that they only need to be Catholic to join our organization. Speaking of memberships, ours grew again last month! January’s monthly dinner meeting recap: Polenta and chicken cacciatore dinner - both cooked to perfection I might add - attracted 175 people, bringing us $2,964.00 in total income with more than half of that amount going to the bottom line!

Scholarship application deadline is fast approaching - March 15 - so get them in as soon as possible.

April is Italian Heritage month at our branch so stay tuned for special events as they unfold.

Be sure to look for photos of yourselves on our website www.icfbranch390.org - new photos are
March 2019

**Stockton**

Presentation of the BVM, Br. 395

The community is still talking about our successful annual polenta dinner. The best part is that our Branch now has the funds to donate to our numerous ICF charities. We have included some pictures for those of you who couldn’t make it. See you same time next year!

March is for membership and we are excited to have installed 5 new members to Branch 395.

On March 15 we also hosted the soup supper for our Parrish. Word gets out that ICF is cooking and you are always guaranteed a great turnout. The best part is that we received over $100 in donations which we will give back to our local St. Mary’s Dining Room.

We will be hosting our next Stockton District meeting at Presentation on May 19. All are welcome. Mark your calendars, Festa Italiana 2019 will be on Sunday, June 9 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Grape Festival Grounds. Alla prossima, Mary Ann

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**Angels Camp**

St. Patrick, Br. 413

Happy Valentine’s Day to all! Here we are in February, and the foothills east of Stockton are green and beautiful! We are looking forward to our annual ICF Valentine’s Dinner and Dance. It will be held on Saturday, February 16th. If you would like more information and to buy a ticket, please call Branch President Robert Pachinger at (209) 754-9615.

March will bring our St. Patrick’s Day corn beef sandwiches, so stayed tuned for more info. May should be the time for our Baccalaurate Mass, but it could be held in early June if May is too busy. When people come to our functions, they are assisting us to help our Parish family and the community. We have a lot of fun to look forward to this year, and this is a good time of the year to come up the hill and visit us.

May God bless our Italian Catholic Federation Family with love, health, and His grace.

Ciao for now,

Annette Pachinger

Correspondence Secretary

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**San Diego**

District Council

The San Diego District had a very successful安装 of Officers on Sunday, January 27. The Mass and lunch was held at Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church in Little Italy in San Diego. Immediately following the luncheon was the installation of Officers. The district wishes to thank Grand 1st Vice President Vince Piro for leading the installation. Congratulations to all of the new officers both at district level and in all of the Branches. It was a real treat to have so many youth as part of the installation participating as the Queen and her court and the Prince and his court. It was a wonderful installation and we all look forward to the year ahead.

Tim Smith

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**Spring Valley**

Santa Sophia Br. 416

We are pleased to say that our Branch had a real good turn out for our Installation of Officers on January 27. It is also an honor to have three members of our Branch on the District Council.

We just finished our Super Bowl Sunday Sandwich Sale and we are happy to say that it was a tremendous success. We completely sold out of both sausage and meatball sandwiches. Not only were the sales an inspiration, but we might be getting three or four new members. Although there is a lot of work involved, it really is a good time for everyone and it puts the ICF right out front so everyone can see us. We will now be preparing for our St. Joseph celebration.

Keep smiling and God Bless.

Tim Smith

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**Orange**

Irvine

St. Thomas More, Br. 423

January’s meeting informed all the members of the branch’s proposed events, fundraising, and charity proposals for the year. We dined on assorted soups, salads, and desserts.

Maureen Melvold discussed the monthly dinner hosting duties. Volunteers are needed to host the monthly dinners. Hosting duties can be shared among two or a group and can be coordinated with current events, i.e. turkey dinner with the trimmings in November. Make it fun, simple, and delicious.

Bishop’s Banquet and Installation Mass was held on February 23 at St. Thomas More Parish. New and returning officers were sworn to their respective offices for all the ICF branches. A catered lunch was held following the luncheon.

Bishop Weisenburger, Father Francisco Maldonado, Deacon Joe Rosnick, Branch 425 President Bob Burdick and board members of Branches 425 and 433.

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**Tucson**

Green Valley

Our Lady of the Valley, Br. 425

January came with many activities under our belt. We held our Christmas Bake Sale and had a great celebration at Desert Diamond Casino’s Buffet for our annual Christmas Brunch in December.

The highlight of our month was our Annual Bishop’s Day Dinner and Installation. Installation was attended by Central Council President, Andy Pappani. Bishop Weisenburger held mass at Our Lady of the Valley Church and then joined our branch and Branch 433 for dinner which was held in the Family Center. We were also honored by the attendance of our pastor, Father Francisco Maldonado and some of our Tucson seminarians. It was all organized by the Vice-President of our branch, Michele Lewis. It was a wonderful occasion, enjoy by all who attended.

In February, we are holding our biggest fundraiser of the year, our annual Sit Down and Take Away Lasagna Dinner. Many in our church community, as well as the community at large enjoy sitting down in our Family Center or taking home a generous meal of lasagna, meatballs, salad, rolls and homemade baked goods and other yummy foods for the event. Sausage sandwiches and fresh cannoli will be sold also. Everyone’s participation is appreciated.

Ciao,

Miranda Gibson
ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION

IT ALL BEGAN JUNE 1924

and it continues 95 years later. The organization which became the Italian Catholic Federation was envisioned to be “primarily a parochial society upon which the local pastor could rely on for his work,” but it has become something much more than that. It encompasses a spirit and vitality whose charitable works within and beyond parish boundaries assist, elevate, enrich, and invigorate the lives of countless numbers of people.

JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE 95 YEARS

Sunday, June 9, 2019 - Mass at 11:45 a.m.
St. Peter & Paul Church
666 Filbert St. - San Francisco, CA 94133

Lunch following
San Francisco Italian Athletic Club
1640 Stockton St. - San Francisco, CA 94133

LUNCH $60 PER PERSON

• Italian Salad & Antipasto
• Pasta with Marinara Sauce
• Ricotta al Funghi
• Coffee - Tea - No Host Bar
• Red & White Wine at each Table

• Entree Choice
• Half Roasted Chicken OR
• Grilled Salmon
• Roasted Potatoes & Mixed Vegetables
• Ice Cream.

Seating limited to 300 Reservations
Deadline May 31, 2019
Please send One check per Branch made to
Italian Catholic Federation
with a list of Attendees & Entree Choice to
Italian Catholic Federation 8393 Capwell Dr. Suite 110
Oakland, CA 94621

Donation as a Sponsor __________.

Please mail this form and your check, payable to Italian Catholic Federation, no later than Friday, May 31, 2019 to:

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

Branches will be seated together unless notified differently.
Please contact the I.C. Office 1-888-423-1924 if you have any questions.

NAME
BRANCH #
Home & Cell Phone Number
A or B Entree Choice

“95TH ANNIVERSARY GALA”

SAN FRANCISCO

RESERVATION / SPONSOR FORM
(Sit Down Luncheon with Appetizers)

NAME
BRANCH #
Home & Cell Phone Number
A or B Entree Choice

LUNCH $60 PER PERSON

• Antipasto Buffet with Bruschetta, Calamari Salad, Meat & Cheese
• Bread
• Polenta & Sausage
• Pasta & Vegetables
• Dessert
• 2 Bottles of Wine per Table
• No Host Bar

Total # of Reservations _________ x $60.00.

Donation as a Sponsor __________.

Please mail this form and your check, payable to Italian Catholic Federation, no later than Friday, May 31, 2019 to:

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

Branches will be seated together unless notified differently.
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NAME
BRANCH #
PHONE NUMBER

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Official ICF Song

Noi Vogliam Dio (We Love God)

The ICF’s official song, Noi Vogliam Dio, is adapted from a hymn from Italian folk tradition which became the national anthem of the Papal States at the beginning of the nineteenth century. Its music and lyrics are both of anonymous origin.

Noi Vogliam Dio

Noi Vogliam Dio, ch’Ei ci protegga
Ch’Egli ci guidi sul buon sentiero,
Se nella lotta Ei ci sorregga,
Sara’ del male vinto il poter.

O we want our God to protect us,
And to guide us in the best way,
If in the struggle He will aid us,
From evil shall we win the fray.

Sorge da queste squadre-il grido della fe’
Noi vogliam Dio, ch’è nostro Padre
Noi vogliam Dio, ch’è nostro Re
Noi vogliam Dio, ch’è nostro Padre
Noi vogliam Dio, ch’è nostro Re.

Rise up all you faithful, Uphold the Faith and sing:
O we want God Who is our Father;
O we want God Who is our King;
O we want God Who is our Father;
O we want God Who is our King.

In questa terra libera e forte
Portiamo il fervido nostro vigor,
Pronti a difendere, nobil coorte
Di Cristo il nome che ci sta in cuor.

In this Land of strength and freedom
We gave our vigor from the start;
Quick to defend, O noble people,
The name of Christ that’s in our heart.

Sorge da queste squadre-il grido della fe’
Noi vogliam Dio, ch’è nostro Padre
Noi vogliam Dio, ch’è nostro Re
Noi vogliam Dio, ch’è nostro Padre
Noi vogliam Dio, ch’è nostro Re.

Rise up all you faithful, Uphold the Faith and sing:
O we want God Who is our Father;
O we want God Who is our King;
O we want God Who is our Father;
O we want God Who is our King.

Wee need your participation. So how can you help?

• Share a FAMILY RECIPE and ANECDOTE about Cooking or Baking with your Grandchildren.
• Share a PICTURE that holds a fond memory of Cooking or Baking with your Grandchildren.
• Sell! Sell! The “Daily Raffle” is a great fundraiser for the entire Italian Catholic Federation, since a portion of every sale goes directly to your Branch!

OTHER WAY TO HELP

List special family occasions such as Family Birthdays, Anniversaries or Graduations...Branch and District events.

PRICE SCHEDULE

$10 – one name/event; $15 – 2 names/events;
$20 – 4 names/events

(Additional numbers will be a combination of prices listed above.)

Example: $30 – 5 names/events @ $20 +$10 or
$40 – 8 names/events @ $20 + $20

Deadline for names and payment is: May 1, 2019

Mail information and checks payable to:
Italian Catholic Federation
8355 Capwell Drive, Suite 110
Oakland, CA 94621

For further questions, call the ICF office at (510) 453-4518

March 2019
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
• Find out the calendar winners before the mailing arrives
• 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

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!