



BOLLETTINO



ICF Member Challenges the Pacific Coast Trail

Loretta McCalmont



Start of the trail. Mexico/California border.

In the spring of this year, ICF member Ryan McCalmont, 23, set out on the adventure of a lifetime. For 7 years he dreamed and planned of walking from Mexico to Canada on the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT). A three time ICF scholarship recipient, Ryan decided after graduating from Sonoma State University in 2018 that the following summer would be the ideal time to attempt his journey. And so on April 4th, 2019, he took his first steps on a 2650 mile quest which would change his life.

Ryan, grandson of Branch 198 members Robert and Kathy Acquistapace and lifelong member himself, grew up loving the outdoors. He went on many camping trips with his family and Boy Scout Troop. On one such outing he learned about the PCT, a National Scenic Trail that traverses the highest peaks in California, Oregon and Washington. This trail is known around the world. Many Americans as well as international hikers come together in their thru-hike attempt.

The first 700 miles brought Ryan through the deserts of Southern California. With 50 people per day starting from the southern terminus, meeting hiking companions came easily. Soon Ryan became part of a "tramilly," a combination of trail and family. Crossing the Sierra Nevada mountains for the next 600 miles proved the most dangerous yet rewarding part of the trail in 2019. This past winter saw one of the highest snowfall totals on record. That made finding the trail, let alone hiking through deep snow, extremely difficult. And with then the above average snowmelt came the added difficulty of crossing raging rivers. Ryan successfully reached the summit of Mt. Whitney, a side trail off the PCT, on June 1st. He also assisted many members of his tramilly in river crossings saving some lives in the most dangerous moments.



Summit of Mt. Whitney. Ryan with friends from Texas, France, and Germany.

Ryan wore a St. Bernard (patron saint of those who live/cross in the mountains) medal on his backpack the entire trail. It was a gift he received from his family last Christmas. He felt a sense of confidence and strength due to his faith, especially in the challenging Sierras.

Northern California and Oregon welcomed hikers with dirt trail once again.

The forests and volcanic features provided beautiful settings. In early August, Ryan crossed the Bridge of the Gods into Washington. Here the mountains and rocky terrain cause the trail to rise and fall sharply, but his pace of 25 to 30 miles per day needed to be maintained to beat the early cold.



1000 mile mark in Northern California. Ryan with friends from Michigan, Netherlands, Israel, and Texas.

Continued on Page 6

Junior Branch Has Sweet Success with Doughnut Fundraiser

Pat Mages, Membership Chairperson

This month I want to share a branch success story. Branch 218, Holy Angels, Arcadia has been working to gain new members, with a special emphasis on younger members who are still in school: elementary, middle and even high school. The plan was to start a Junior Branch within the branch. These members would choose their charity, plan and implement fundraisers.

This past month the 'dream' came to fruition. The Juniors held a doughnut

fundraiser, over a weekend, at their parish. And, the result was an overwhelming success. The immediate feeling of success and accomplishment is enough to inspire the members to continue to be of service to their parish and community. This success also, gives these younger members a sense of not only belonging, but knowing they are an important part of the branch and ICF.

Continued on Page 6

National Branch Opening Now

Vince Piro, Grand President

Potential ICF members will no longer be limited to living in a parish with a branch. The Federation is launching an online branch to welcome in new members outside the ICF parish boundaries. Online members of the National Branch will enjoy many unique features and benefits to create an online community of fellow Catholics. Members will receive exclusive access to its own Facebook page [icfnationalbranch67](https://www.facebook.com/icfnationalbranch67) where they will be treated to spiritual enrichment through sermons and "talks" given by clergy and other religious members. They will be able to post comments and messages and reply to other members' messages. The Facebook page will also consist of cultural and heritage content that celebrates the many cultures found in the Federation. They will receive monthly issues of the Federation's newspaper, *Bollettino* too.

To create the new branch, the Federation has turned to Branch 67 in Los Angeles whose members have expressed interest in forming a virtual branch to extend the reach of the organization into areas it does not currently serve. While creating a new online vision for Branch 67, the new national branch will have a base at St. Peter's Italian Church, Los Angeles.

Fr. Louis Piran, the pastor at St. Peter's, writes:

All nationalities are welcome and all Italians may consider St. Peter's their parish. It was established as a mission church for the spiritual assistance of the Italian people in the spring of 1904. Throughout the years, St. Peter's has been a home for many where they could experience comfort, guidance, enlightenment, and family life in a true spirit of welcome and togetherness as well as celebrating the sacraments with much faith in the spirit of their culture and traditions.

As a Catholic parish we are committed to nurturing the faith of God's people in a universal spirit, continue embracing all those who wish to come and celebrate their faith with us as a true Christian family. We continue to value our historical heritage, by serving the Italian population and embracing the rich beauty of our traditions.

It is this mission of St. Peter's that makes it an ideal home for the ICF's National Branch. St. Peter's is staffed by the Missionaries of St. Charles—Scalabrinians—who are "missionaries for and with the migrants," which compliments the ICF's rich immigrant tradition.

Continued on Page 6

TIME SENSITIVE: PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY!



ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION

Celebrating Faith, Family and Heritage Since 1924

BOLLETTINO

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Important Notice

The new email address for ALL
Bollettino submissions is:

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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 man-
aging of incoming email.

All image and article submissions
need to be sent in an electronic
format. Those submissions not
sent in an electronic format or
those articles sent in the mail
will not be used.

Finally, a reminder that ALL
branch and district reports need to
adhere to the **250 max** word count
requirement or they will be short-
ened or possibly excluded entirely
based on editor judgement.

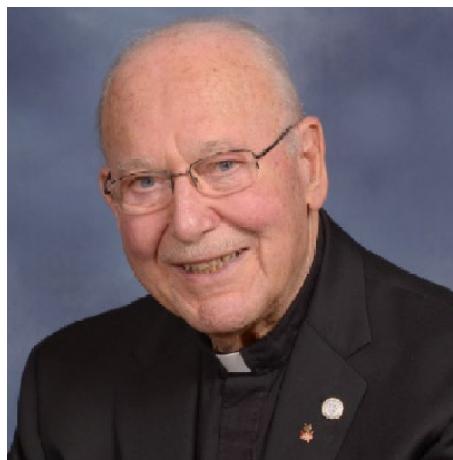
Limit photos to 3 or 4 and in-
clude captions. To insure photos
are always linked to branch,
include branch number when
naming photos such as
Br380.StJoseph.servers.jpeg
Please keep your submission
positive and informative.

**December issue deadline is
November 10, 2019.**

Thank you!

Thank You, Lord; We Need You, Especially, Now!

Monsignor Daniel Cardelli
ICF Spiritual Director



Thanksgiving is a wonderful holiday that transcends political, religious, and cultural walls. It is a special Holiday that all people in our country celebrate, no matter who they are. People from all walks of life make a special effort to celebrate Thanksgiving Day. It is a day of brotherly love, family gatherings, eating a traditional turkey dinner with all the trimmings. We also help the poor and homeless by participating in programs that help them celebrate Thanksgiving with a special turkey dinner at shelters and community kitchen-centers or even in their own homes.

We thank Lord, for many blessings. Here is a list of some:

1. For life itself.
2. For family.
3. For friends.
4. For our health
5. For our country.
6. For our freedoms.
7. For our Faith.
8. For Jesus given to us at Mass in Holy Communion.
9. For food and clean water.
10. For Heaven, our ultimate goal.
11. For the many, many more gifts from God that I am sure you can add to this list.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Petition

Dear Lord,

We thank you for your love for all people. We thank you especially on this day for everything--all that we have. We know you love everyone, no matter who they are or what they did or do. Bring peace to the hearts of everyone in the world. Help people to increase their sense of a moral compass and to respect the dignity of all human beings born



and unborn. Help people throughout the world to honor Earth as your creation and gift to us, to respect nature, and to avoid pollution in every way. Help all your people in the world, men and women and children of all races and creeds, to love, honor, and praise and glorify you in prayer and in life.

Amen

*Happy
Thanksgiving*

Who Are We?--What Are You Thankful For?

Denise Antonowicz – Heritage Chair

Thanksgiving is the time of year to count your blessings. The problem is, most of us seem to get too caught up in cooking and decorating and rushing off to parties and parades that sometimes we forget to stop and take a moment to slow down and enjoy the actual reason for the season. So, what's the reason for THIS season? Thankfulness! Here are some things that I'm giving thanks for this thanksgiving year.

Yea, I'm stating the obvious. But this year, family seems closer to my heart and a bit more vivid than years past around the holidays.

After watching some very dear friends fight cancer and go through some painful surgeries, I'm reminded just HOW wonderful of a thing you have if you have your health. So many times, we take our health for granted, but we only have one body and one life. If we lose the ones we have, there's no replacement! If you have your health this Thanksgiving, be sure to be thankful for it!

What would Thanksgiving be without the traditional (international) foods that we all love? Turkey, stuffing, corn pudding, sweet potato casserole, rolls, green beans, pumpkin pie, pastas, lasagna and more? On a more serious note, your neighbor down the street may be

struggling to put bread and milk on the table, so if your table is overloaded, share, and be thankful!

I'll admit I'm biased; my family history includes a long line of brave men in the military and because of this, I support our troops with my whole heart! We might not even have the freedom to celebrate Thanksgiving if it weren't for our men & women fighting for our rights day in and day out, so remember to be thankful for our troops this year!

Come on. It's the little things in life, right? I get so excited over the small things! When it's cold outside, there's nothing like a fuzzy warm blanket on your bed to lift your spirits! But better

yet, buy a second one for a shelter near you.

I'm also thankful for my "ICF Family"! These are people I've grown with and learned to appreciate all they have added to me as a person.

Just remember don't take your blessings for granted this year. Take time to enjoy the little things! Tell your loved ones how much they mean to you. Remember, we don't have the promise of tomorrow. And what better time to share your thankfulness than at Thanksgiving, right?

**God Bless You and
Happy Thanksgiving!**

Cooley's Anemia Donations

Branch 308

Branch 327

Branch 413

Branch 444

Officers/Members of Br. 215

In memory of Mary Ferrario
Charles Gullo, Jr.

In memory of Josephine
Francesconi

ICF General Fund Donation

The Gibbs and Rathunde Families

In memory of Liliana Izzi

Amanda Wyroba

In memory of Liliana Izzi

Grand President's Monthly Message

Vince Piro

The alarm goes off at 4 a.m. and Miles, the Chihuahua that sleeps between my wife and me, opens one eye, stares at me, and immediately goes back to sleep under the covers. However, Robyn and I jump out of bed to catch a flight to Chicago for a weekend of ICF events. The trip is fraught with difficulties. The first flight is late, which forces Robyn and me to run from one end of the Denver airport to another to catch the connecting flight, which itself ends up being late and overlooked. Our fellow passengers are grumpy and tired and we all stuffed together tighter than sardines in a can. When we get to Chicago, we are greeted by a torrential rainstorm, thunder, and lightening. The hotel reception line is over 45 minutes long because flights have been cancelled at O'Hare. Robyn and I are haggard and worn out. Was it worth it? You bet it was!

First of all, the ICF members of the Chicago branches were so gracious and offered us so much hospitality that we felt right at home. Besides celebrating the Chicago District's Bishop's Day on Friday evening, a lovely

event full of camaraderie and good cheer, we opened a new branch on Saturday, initiating new members and installing new officers.

The room was filled with families and friends excited to begin a new journey together. The local pastor was delighted to have the Federation in his parish and looked forward to collaborating with the new branch of ICF.

This experience in Chicago exemplifies the Federation at its best as together we celebrate family, faith, and fellowship. And in just my first month as Grand President, Robyn and I have found this to be a common occurrence whenever we visit a district or branch — from Santa Rosa to Los Angeles. The Federation has so much to offer our parishes and communities.



However, to be honest, the Federation, like many nonprofit organizations, is facing some serious challenges. How do we keep such a valuable organization viable for future generations?

The answer is in the Federation's Strategic Plan. The core strategies presented in the plan are the primary means and methods we will use to move the ICF from today to our vision for the future. Core Strategies are the primary ways we "close the gap" between today and our desired Future Vision. Thus, they are also the "glue" and "organizing framework" for all parts of the organization. Although we recognize all core strategies are intertwined, our level of effort will be focused in order of the below hierarchy.

Core Strategy #1: Membership Growth and Retention (including marketing)

We will grow and maintain our membership base through leadership training and marketing.

Core Strategy #2: Leadership

We will evaluate and revise the leadership structure in the ICF so that leadership is developed and encouraged among its members and so that new leadership is encouraged and developed.

Core Strategy #3: Community Connections

We create connections between the ICF, our parishes, and communities; these connections are part of our commitment to apostolic and charitable work.

Core Strategy #4: Finances

We will balance our budgets at all levels so that the ICF is no longer financing its operations through investment returns.

In the coming months, I will focus this column around ways the Federation can continue to implement this plan. However, for now I urge you to read the plan (it's blessedly short) and to begin to think of ways you can help the Federation achieve its vision whether as a Central Council member, as a district or branch officer, or as a member of the Federation.

I feel that this extra time focusing on the Strategic Plan and implementing its strategies is worth it. And even while I sat next to a snoring fellow passenger on a 6-hour flight to Chicago and thought about our sleeping Chihuahua cuddled up cozy in bed, I knew it would all be worth it because we are a "familia" that has a lot offer each other and our world.

The Strategic Plan can be found online at <http://www.icf.org> in the Members Area.

Branch 274 Has a Fresh Start

Nanette Scarpellini Metz

The Italian Catholic Federation is happy to announce the relaunch of St. Eugene's Branch 274 in Chicago, Illinois. With enthusiasm and hard work the Local Expansion Team led by Teresa Helfand, Central Council, and Maria Perna, Chicago District President, worked with St. Eugene's Pastor and members of the parish to successfully revitalize this branch in September 2019.

As Grand President Vince Piro said, *This experience in Chicago exemplifies the Federation at its best as together we celebrate family, faith, and fellowship.*

G.P. Piro served as Master of Ceremonies. Officer Installation Marshals, Maria Perna and Teresa Helfand, assisted in

the proceedings as 36 charter members were initiated into ICF.

The branch will be led by the newly elected Branch Officers:

President—Anna Rubino

Vice President—Marisa Daniele

Second VP—Teresa Di Natale

Recording/Corresponding Secretary—Brigete Baggetto

Finance Secretary—Joseph Perrillo

Treasurer—Joseph Parrillo

Orator—Jackie Gregorio

Trustees—Josephine Imbarrato, Teresa Cozzi, Jackie Gregorio

Chaplain—Richard Yanos

Mentor—Nicola Lepore

The inaugural meeting brought together

60 attendees including members from Branch 392 and Branch 418. A Split-the-Pot door prize helped add a dose of fun and competition to a convivial day. Their next branch meeting is Wednesday, November 6. For more information about the branch, please contact Vice President, Marisa Daniele, at 773-920-0498.

The burgeoning support for ICF fellowship reveals the potential the Chi-

cago District shows. The preceding day, members throughout the district joined together to celebrate the Chicago District's Bishop's Day. While the initial Branch 274 closed 20 years, this renewed branch brings together fresh faces sharing the goals of faith, family and heritage.

Please welcome Branch 274 to the Federation. ***Together we are stronger.***



Family Recipes

Deborah Rodondi

Grand 2nd Vice President

When I was a child we had a neighbor who was Greek. When her husband retired, they moved back to Greece. On the coast, they opened the American Bar—a home away from home for the American ships that came into port. When I visited Greece as an adult, I went to see Effie. She shared with my brother and me the great flavors of Greek cooking.

I was talking to a co-worker not too long ago and she was telling me about a dish she tried on her family and they loved it. This is one of the dishes I enjoyed during my visits to Greece.

Spanakopita Greek Spinach Pie

1 package Phyllo dough at room temperature (this is found in the freezer section of the grocery store). Defrost overnight in refrigerator and take out 2 hours ahead of time to get to room temperature. DO NOT open package, air will dry it out and it will fall apart (see note below).

1 pound baby spinach (I used about 1 ½ lbs.), chopped/cut coarsely

2 bunches fresh dill, finely chopped or 3 heaping teaspoons (maybe 2 Tablespoons) dried dill (I used dried dill)

About 6-8 green onions, finely sliced

15 oz. ricotta cheese, room temperature

1 pound feta cheese, crumbled

3 eggs, beaten

About 2 cups olive oil, not all of this goes into the mixture

½ tsp. salt

1 tsp. black pepper

Preheat oven to 450 degrees.

Combine the chopped spinach, dill, scallions, ricotta and feta cheese in a large bowl Mix until combined well. The easiest method is by hand (of course, wash them first). If needed add additional pepper and salt, I don't. Add the beaten eggs and about 1 cup of olive oil (I used about ½ cup) and mix well.

With your hand rub some olive oil all over a cookie sheet 18"x13"x1". Lay 3 phyllo sheets on the bottom of the pan and drizzle with a little olive oil. Place 2 sheets half in the pan and half hanging outside of the pan, do this on all four sides of pan.

Spread all of the filling inside the phyllo. Place the sheets that are hanging outside of the pan over the filling.

Drizzle some olive oil on top. Cover half of the pie with 2 sheets of phyllo, tucking them under the side and repeat the same with the other side of the pie.

Take the remaining phyllo sheets one at a time, crumble (scrunch) them in rows on top of the pie. Drizzling all the remaining olive oil on top of them. This will create a crisp, light crust. My phyllo came in two sleeves; I used only one sleeve for this recipe-1/2 lb.).

Using a very sharp knife cut the pie into 12 equal slices or more depending on the serving sizes you want. Cut all the way through. By cutting before cooking, you are allowing for a better presentation when cooked. When you cut on cooked phyllo it will be messy and crumble all over. Place in oven and immediately reduce the temperature to 350 degrees. Bake for 1 hour. The pie will be crisp and golden brown. Allow to rest at room temperature for at least 20 minutes before serving. Allowing filling to set.

Continued on Page 6



2019 - 2020 CENTRAL COUNCIL OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

OFFICERS:	
Grand President	Vincent Piro, Br. 39
Grand 1st Vice President	Deborah Rodondi*, Br. 19
Grand 2nd Vice President	Denise Antonowicz, Br. 184
Grand Secretary	Lauren Kilcullen, Br. 52
Grand Treasurer	Franklyn Lopes, Jr., Br. 227
Grand Parliamentarian	Robert Basuino*, Br. 191
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Grand Trustee -	Patricia Magee, Br. 380
Grand Trustee	Leonard Zasoski, Jr.*, Br. 281
Grand Sentinel	Kenneth Marshall, Br. 103
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Dante Galeazzi*, Br. 139	
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Roselynn Jarrett*, Br. 72	
Leonard Rossi, C.L.J.*, Br. 343	
Michael Rossi, O.L.J.*, Br. 391	
Perry Shurko, Br. 362	
(*denotes life member)	
LIFE MEMBERS EMERITUS:	
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Jody Balestrieri, Br. 229	
David Botta, Br. 14	
Michael Cannady, Br. 154	
Nettie Descalso-Del Nero, Br. 39	
James Jones, Br. 191	
Carmen Kilcullen, Br. 52	
Nina Malone, Br. 438	
Vincent Picciola, Br. 358	
Leroy Taddei, Br. 343	
MEMBERS EMERITUS:	
Gerald Delfino, Br. 368	
Maria Di Paolo, Br. 379	
Frances Foglia-Teglia, Br. 19	
Marco Galeazzi, Br. 139	
Angelina Iarossi-Armenio, Br. 218	
Forrest Price, Br. 261	
Louisa Russo, Br. 210	
Joseph Santello, Br. 358	
Frank Signorelli, Br. 291	
Helen Tatone, Br. 443	
Chris Valentini, Br. 14	
(Revised 9/19)	

Bishops’ Days	
Nov. 24th	Fresno
Dec. 8th	Reno
2020 Bishops’ Days:	
Feb. 15th	Orange
Oct. 17th	Monterey (Central Coast)
Oct. 18th	San Jose (Santa Clara Valley)



In Loving Memory	
Report date: October 9, 2019	
Deceased Members	
Joseph Cracchiolo	Branch 115
Edith Bastian	Branch 390
Guido Bettinzoli	Branch 390
Ralph V Giannini	Branch 391
Donald Junkin	Branch 403
Mildred M Sorci	Branch 435

Scholarship Donations	
Scholarship Donations: 1st Year	
John and Terry Giannetto	
In memory of Rosalie Campisi	
Jo-Ann and John Donivan	
In honor of the 95th birthday of Mary Perata	
Officers/Members of Br. 435	
In memory of Mary Ann Ruiz	
Scholarship Donations: 2nd-4th Year	
ICF Central Council Spouses’ Assoc.	
In honor of Charles (Chuck)	
DeBord - 2019 Pope Saint John XXIII Award Recipient	

District Installations	
2020	
Jan. 4th	Santa Clara Valley
	San Bernardino
Jan. 5th	Stockton
Jan. 12th	Los Angeles
	Archdiocese
Jan. 18th	San Mateo
Jan. 19th	East Bay
Feb. 15th	Orange

Welcome to Our New Members!		
Report date: October 9, 2019		
Branch 021		Branch 274
Diana Prucher		Gabriel Aliaga
		Camille M Amato
		Cassandra Calderisi
		Joseph Calderisi
		Giovanna Campisi
		Theresa Cozzi
		Joseph Dauphin
		Sylvia Doyle
		Gina Graziano
		Richard Graziano
		Jacqueline Gregorio
		Teresa Helfand
		Susan Moellerling
		Jo-Ann Parrillo
		Michael A Partipilo
		Maria Perna
		Brandon Sabel
		Julius Silva
		Capri Vizzini
		Margaret Vizzini
		Raphael Aliaga
		Brigette M Baggetto
		Jessica Calderisi
		Rose Marie Calderisi
		June Cortese
		Marisa Daniele
		Madeline Dauphin
		Angela M Forgione
		Isabella Graziano
		Theresa Graziano
		Ronald Gregorio
		Josephine Imbarrato
		Teresa Natale
		Joseph (Joe) Parrillo
		Aurora Pensa
		Anna Rubino
		Angela Sclafani
		Minnie Silva
		Gia Vizzini
		Sammy Vizzini
		Branch 308
		Linda Heinen
		Branch 332
		Anthony Durante
		Gianna Durante
		Branch 352
		Patricia A Healey
		Branch 368
		Francis Rossi
		Branch 374
		Teresa Garcia
		Branch 390
		Ina Incorvaia
		Branch 438
		Lynn Damiata
		Branch 442
		Aradia B Jarrett
		Elvin D Jarrett
		Holiday A Jarrett
		Monnette C Jarrett
		Pieter J Jarrett
		Dominic H Villalobos
		Branch 447
		Suzanne Marchant

Gifts of Love Donations	
Report date: October 9, 2019	
Branch 308	Officers/Members of Br. 161
Branch 327	Get well wishes for
Branch 413	Malene Farber
Sal and Denise Campagna	Steve and Kathy Ricossa
In memory of Rosalie Campisi	In memory of Mary Ann Ruiz
Shirley Catania	Eva Stern
In memory of Rosalie Campisi	Speedy recovery wishes for
Shirley Catania	Louise Vento
In memory of Bev Parke	Joan and Jerry Delfino
Officers/Members of Br. 1	Get well wishes for Louise
In memory of Olympia DeMicheli	Vento
Mr. and Mrs. John Campanile	Joan and Jerry Delfino
In honor of Fred Yeager	Get well wishes for
Joan and Jerry Delfino	Jo Bertaccini
Get well wishes for Maria Di Paolo	Fred Marota
Donald and Sharon Vanni	In memory of Mary Ann Ruiz
In memory of Andrew Zanardi	Patti and Walt Phillips
Officers/Members of Br. 368	In memory of Rosalie Campisi
In memory of Mary Ann Ruiz	
Officers/Members of Br. 380	
In memory of Martha Cirone	

Apostolate – Charity

By The Apostolate/Charity Committee

This month, we are honored to have a guest columnist, His Excellency, Bishop Robert Vasa of the Santa Rosa Diocese write for the column. Bishop Vasa is a great supporter of the ICF and is very appreciative of the Providenza Fund donations.

-Lauren Kilcullen

Gratitude for the Providenza Fund

Each year I am blessed to receive, for the benefit of the Diocese of Santa Rosa, a distribution from the Providenza Fund. This year we received \$1500 from National and \$3300 from the Santa Rosa District. This money is given to Dioceses for the purpose of helping offset the ever challenging cost of seminarian formation. It is a blessing to have younger men again joining the seminary but this means that they must often complete two or three years of college work before being admitted to four or five more years of theological studies. Even with a relatively small number of seminarians this creates an enormous funding challenge. This year we are blessed to have nine men at different levels of formation and

this is both a great blessing and a great challenge.

The annual gift from the Providenza Fund, which I have designated to be placed in a Seminarian Endowment, helps supplement the expenses which the Diocese incurs. While a majority of the support dollars for our Seminary costs come from Diocesan collections and Appeals the money from the Providenza Fund is most encouraging for it is a sign that the members of the laity, in particular the laity of the Italian Catholic Federation, recognize that the duty to support seminarians, their future priests, must be seen as a responsibility of the laity.

The members of the Italian Catholic Federation show by their annual gift that they want to share in the great enterprise of forming the future priests of the Diocese. They show that they understand that priests do not drop down from the sky fully formed and already ordained. This recognition is a source of tremendous encouragement to me as a Bishop. It is also, in many ways, a source of encouragement to my seminarians who see that the ICF is supportive of them and praying for them.



Pictured at Santa Rosa District’s Bishop’s Day are Grand President Vince Piro, Family of the Year Awardee Lorraine Vannetti, Bishop Robert Vasa, Past Grand President Bob Acquistapace and Santa Rosa District President Bill Scinto.

As I have said before, your annual gifts do more than supply for some portion of the material needs of educating seminarians. Your gifts are signs of your hopefulness for future priests, your love for the priesthood and your love for the Church.

I write to encourage you and especially to thank you for your generosity each

year to the Providenza Fund which helps my Diocese, and others as well, meet the ever increasing challenge of funding the education of our future priests.

*Bishop Robert Vasa
Santa Rosa Diocese*

Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations*

IN MEMORY OF:

Ray Hollister
Richard Burgard
Cardinal William Levada

DONATED BY:

Officers/Members of Br. 161
Leroy and Stella Taddei
Officers/Members of Central Council

GET WELL WISHES:

Louise Vento
Mike and Marcie Rossi

IN THANKSGIVING FOR:

Andy Pappani
Bob and Kathy Acquistapace

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING BISHOP’S DAY:

Vince Piro
Officers/Members of Los Angeles
Archdiocese District

THANK YOU FOR BEING EMCEE AT BISHOP’S DAY:

Leonard Zasoski, Jr.
Officers/Members of Los Angeles
Archdiocese District

IN CELEBRATION OF 25 YEARS ORDAINED TO THE PRIESTHOOD:

Fr. Paolo Gobbo
Bob Basuino

THANK YOU FOR HOSTING THE EAST BAY DISTRICT PICNIC:

Deanna and Al De Nurra
Officers/Members of East Bay District

*Named after the co-founder of the ICF, the Sir Luigi and Lady Augusta Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund provides ICF 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.



The Italian Catholic Federation
Way & Means & Heritage Committees Present



A Letter from La Befana

Send your children, grandchildren, nieces or nephews
a Special Christmas greeting and small gift from "La Befana"
(The Italian equivalent of Santa Claus)

Wouldn't the children you love be thrilled to receive a personal letter and small gift from La Befana? The Ways and Means and Heritage Committees will prepare a surprise holiday greeting to the important children in your life, using the information you provide to make each letter unique and personal.

Letters will congratulate children on accomplishments, suggest rewards that may be received at Christmas, encourage Acts of Kindness and Charity and express a message of Love and Good Cheer from their family and from La Befana herself (naming you as her friend and the "sponsor" of the letter).

To order a message and small gift from La Befana, please provide the following information:

Child's Name _____	Age _____	Nickname _____
Address _____		City/State/Zip _____
Child's special interests, talents, favorite, foods, toys, activities, movie or TV characters _____		
Recent Activities, Events, Accomplishments _____		
What does the child want for Christmas? (We will not reveal it!) _____		
Special Message from You _____		
Your Name and Relationship to Child _____		
Br. # _____ Your Phone & E-Mail _____		
Use additional sheets to provide information on other children		

Send this form with your check made out to the ICF for \$10 for 1 letter and additional letters for \$7.50. Please put "La Befana" in the check memo.

Deadline for orders is Friday, December 5. Letters will be mailed no later than Dec. 15th.
Italian Catholic Federation, 8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110, Oakland, CA 94621

In Thanksgiving for Blood

ICF Live to Give Committee

No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.

~Aesop

Gratitude is an important part of our daily lives however during this season of gratitude it is especially important to give thanks. The ICF Live to Give Committee would like to say "Thank You" to the ICF Members and friends who have donated blood during our annual convention blood drives.

The following are numbers from our 8 blood drives:

2012	21 donors showed up; 26 units collected
2013	26 donors showed up; 23 units collected
2014	31 donors showed up; 25 units collected
2015	31 donors showed up; 25 units collected
2016	34 donors showed up; 29 units collected
2017	38 donors showed up; 37 units collected
2018	41 donors showed up; 37 units collected
2019	45 donors showed up; 35 units collected (2 are plasma)

A total of 267 people have shown up to donate blood and 235 units of blood and 2 units of plasma have been collected.

You may be wondering there is a discrepancy in these numbers. When a person shows up to donate blood, despite their best intentions, they may be turned away. Reasons for being deferred could be that the person has high blood pressure or has traveled to a specific country, such as Africa, where malaria is prevalent. Alternatively, other people are able to give two units of blood at one time.

Did you know that three patients can benefit from a single donation? When blood is donated it can be divided into three parts as follows:

1. Red Blood Cells give the body energy by carrying oxygen to all parts of the body. They are needed most for patients who have significant blood loss from trauma, who are undergoing or have a hemoglobinopathy such as Cooley's Anemia.

2. Platelets are essential for blood

clotting and with a shelf life of only five days, are routinely needed to support cancer therapy. People who are undergoing bone marrow transplants or having an organ transplant also require platelets.

3. Plasma is the liquid portion of the blood and is used to treat patients in shock and those with severe burns and clotting disorders.

235 units of blood have been collected at the ICF convention blood drives which means 705 lives have been saved due to ICF's efforts.

The ICF Live to Give Committee would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to ICF blood donors who have selflessly given the gift of life.

Interested in Planning a Blood Drive?
Please contact:

Ken Marshall
Central Council Member/Live to Give Committee Chair
irishken.marshall@gmail.com
or
Laurice Levine
Medical Consultant/Live to Give Committee Member
LLevine430@aol.com

National Branch

Continued from Page 1

This new branch will be very similar to the Federation's current branches in that members will have the opportunity to support ICF Charities, such as the Providenza Seminarian Fund. Gifts of Love, the Scholarship Program, and the official ICF National Charity, Thalassemia (Cooley's Anemia) support and research. Members will also be able to join the Federation's Hospitalization Fund.

Members will also be invited to ICF special events and be able to attend the convention.

For its members, this is an exciting opportunity to create a new branch as it develops over the next year. It will also provide opportunities for those who wish to shape the branch through leadership and service.

Membership to the ICF National Branch 67 will be \$50 (a bit higher to cover insurance costs not covered by fundraisers).

Those interested in joining the National Branch should contact Teresa Shaw at membership@icfnationalbranch67.org.

Family Recipe

Continued from Page 3

NOTE:

- 1) When heating it for leftovers, heat in oven so that the phyllo will crisp up again.
- 2) For the olive oil, I have a kitchen gadget called a Misto that will spray on for even distribution and will allow you to use less oil.
- 3) I do not know if I had a compromised wrapped phyllo package or keeping it in the refrigerator for 3 days before using caused the problem. When I opened the package the phyllo fell into strips and small pieces (wherever it was folded). What a mess. I used it anyway and it still turned out delicious and looked presentable (see picture on page 3).
- 4) Using low fat, fat free or a different cheese altogether takes away from the true flavor of this dish.

5) This freezes well. Freeze before cooking it. So when you are making the mess make two and pop one in the freezer for another day and one in the oven to enjoy now.

Hoping you might like to share some of your specialties or the family recipes that have been handed down with the members of the ICF. Send them to me at drodoni@comcast.net or mail to the ICF office include a story if any.

If you have questions send them also, I may not be able to answer them but we can put them out there for our readers and maybe find what you are looking for.

Buon Appetito!

Junior Branch

Continued from Page 1

The effort Branch 218 gave to establish the junior branch is what we, as an organization, must do at all age levels. Everyone does have something special to give to their branch. It is our 'job' to nurture this attitude. It is easier said than done, correct? It is hard in today's world with all that is expected of us with our obligations to family and jobs. But, the example of the junior branch's success and dedication shows we can continue to maintain the goals of Faith, Family and Service to others. The feelings of inclusion, success and giving are what can keep current members and gain new members.

In the spirit of giving, wishes for a **Bountiful, Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving to All!!**

Pacific Coast Trail

Continued from Page 1

Rain proved to be the challenge in this section, however the scenery was Ryan's favorite on trail.

On September 14th, after 164 days of continuous walking from the Mexican border, Ryan reached Canada. Touching the northern terminus monument signified a completed northbound hike which required years of planning and preparation.

Ryan says he could not have done it alone, and is very grateful for the support of family, friends and "Trail Angels." These are strangers who provide

Live to Give Blood Convention Donations

Report date: October 9, 2019

Teri Roller	Get well wishes for Richard Thomas	Bobbie Lizarraga	In memory of Judge Richard Calhoun
Ric Shimshock	In honor of Laurice Levine	Karen Rosson	In memory of Mary Ann Ruiz
Kate Shimshock	Get well wishes for Reverend Monsignor Joseph Milani	Jerry Farrugia	In memory of Clement Cleri, Jr.
Lou Mages	In memory of Lorraine Interrante	Sid Pappani	Get well wishes for Nancy A. Sanchez-Clark
Pat Mages	In memory of Phil Mages	Andy Pappani	Get well wishes for Nancy A. Sanchez-Clark
Ronald Uribe	In memory of Margaret Chacon	Bill and Maria Greco	In memory of Mary Ann Ruiz
Melissa Rodriguez	In memory of Gary and Barbara Mazza		

generous acts of kindness to hikers throughout their journeys.

While the trail itself delivers countless moments of natural beauty and opportunities for personal growth, Ryan's memories of the friendships formed with his tramily of hikers from around the world will stay with him forever.

Now that his adventure is over we are so thankful to God for his success and safe return.



Book Review

Vince Piro, *Grand President*

The Italians

by John Hooper

Penguin Books, 2016, 336 pp.

On my family visit to Italy this year, I brought along John Hooper's *The Italians* as a companion. It's an interesting book for anyone who wants to understand modern day Italy and Italians. Hooper has been a foreign correspondent for several publications and based in Rome for over 15 years, which gives him first hand experience and insightful observations of Italy.

Hooper does an excellent job of blending his personal experiences with more objective facts. He has a unique ability to look behind the stereotypes and preconceptions people have of this often bewildering country's politics and social life. He gives the reader insight into many Italian social customs, manners, and beliefs while thoroughly exploring its geography, history, and traditions.

Hooper covers subjects such as the influence of Italy's unique geography on the country's history and identity. And the author is extremely skilled at creating vivid descriptions of the Italian landscape.



For example, he explains, "The southern mainland, though often considered a single, homogenous region, is in fact extremely varied. The coastal areas of Calabria are typical enough of the Mediterranean shoreline. But inland lie two large expanses of rugged, upland terrain: Sila in the north and Aspromonte in the south. In contrast, Puglia - the 'heel' - for most part is as flat as rolled-out pizza dough. Its endless sandy beaches have made it an

increasingly popular tourist destination in recent years."

Among other subjects, the author also writes about the importance of family in Italy, the impact of the Mafia on society, the elaborate and often confusing Italian legal system, Italian fashion, and the religious history of the country. The book combines the author's personal opinion, experience, and observations with facts and details from Italian history, often mixing a more personal voice with an objective tone found in more sociological studies.

At one point, he writes:

"...in Italy what you get is seldom what you see—or hear...I was having coffee with a fellow journalist and the conversation turned to an incident that had made the news that week. It was election time, and Silvio Berlusconi was bringing his campaign to an end in Rome. The pollsters all agreed that the capital was critical to the outcome of the vote, but Rome was never particularly easy terrain for Berlusconi, who comes from Milan. So it was not difficult to understand how his campaign aides had reacted when the AS Roma captain, Francesco Totti, said he would be voting against Berlusconi's candidate in the mayoral election that was being held at the same time...Berlusconi made things worse for himself by saying Totti was 'out of his mind.' But then in the morning, [Berlusconi] abruptly changed his tune...and praised the Roma captain

as 'a great lad and great footballer.' ... Returning from the bar, I must have said something like 'So Berlusconi has buried the hatchet...' [To which his colleague responded] 'That wasn't burying the hatchet. For me that was a warning. He was saying: "Watch it, Totti. Remember your wife works for my company..."'

The use of symbols and metaphors, the endless interplay between illusion and reality, the difficulty of getting at a commonly accepted truth: all these things that make Italy both frustrating and endlessly intriguing..."

It is this mix of personal experience with a deeper sociological understanding of Italian culture that make the book such an interesting read.

Certainly, everyone might not agree with all of Hooper's ideas or conclusions, but they will give one plenty to think about as the book clearly provides one with the author's perspectives about this fascinating and distinctive country.

John Hooper is the Italy correspondent of the *Economist* and a contributing editor of the *Guardian* (London). He has also written or broadcast for the BBC, NBC, and Reuters. His book *The Spaniards* won the Allen Lane Award and was revised and updated as *The New Spaniards* in 1995 and 2006.



Step Right Up and Join Us for a

CARNIVAL

**To Celebrate The 3rd Annual
Thalassemia Christmas Party**

When:
Sunday, December 15, 2019, 12:00 noon – 2:00 pm

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

RSVP:
By December 1st to
Kelly Russell
323-361-3269, or, krussell@chla.usc.edu

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

We Hope You Can Join Us!



Toy Donation Guidelines for Children's Hospital Los Angeles Thalassemia Christmas Party

This is the 3rd Christmas Party that we will be having at Children's Hospital Los Angeles with the help of the Italian Catholic Federation.

We are estimating that approximately 250 patients and families will attend. Gifts are also distributed in the hospital and clinics for children who cannot attend the party. Please consider helping us for the holidays by donating or running a toy drive.

Due to hospital policy, fire hazard, and the prevention of infectious disease, we ask that **all donations be brand new** and that you please adhere to the following guidelines:

Suggested donation items:

- ❑ Gift cards to: Target, I-Tunes, Amazon, Gap, Old Navy, Forever 21, Barnes and Noble, Movie Theater Passes, Starbucks, Peet's Coffee, See's Candies.
- ❑ Legos.
- ❑ Infant Toys: mobiles, musical toys, rattles, teething, cause-and-effect toys.
- ❑ Books for all ages – hard cover preferred; board books for infants-preschoolers.
- ❑ Board Games for all ages: Life, Monopoly, Clue, Sorry, Trouble, Candyland, Chess/Checkers, Uno, Chutes and Ladders, Simon, Trivial Pursuit, Jenga, Taboo, Hi Ho Cheerio, Operation, Scrabble.
- ❑ Barbies, baby dolls.
- ❑ Hand held video games.
- ❑ Sports equipment.
- ❑ Make up kits and nail polish.
- ❑ Jewelry.
- ❑ Art supplies including pens, crayons, coloring books, paper, glitter pens, gel pens.
- ❑ Art kits/craft sets.
- ❑ PlayDoh and modeling clay.
- ❑ Toy cars, match box cars.
- ❑ Model airplanes.
- ❑ Lego sets.
- ❑ Action figures.
- ❑ Cars/Trucks/Trains.

We are unable to accept the following:

- ❑ Guns or toys that promote violence.
- ❑ Ceramic dolls
- ❑ Clothing of any type
- ❑ Used baby blankets
- ❑ Used toys and games – including board games and puzzles
- ❑ Used books
- ❑ VHS videos



**If you would like to make a donation, please contact:
Laurice Levine at 360-860-2023 or LLLevine430@aol.com**

All Donations are tax deductible.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and support!!!

Join us in Celebration of Mother Cabrini on Dec. 1st!

Carmelo Sabatella
LA Archdiocese District



Mother Cabrini Chapel Welcomes All Pilgrims

This November 13th please help us celebrate Mother Cabrini's feast day this year with a prayer of good health for all ICF members, families and friends with a prayer for peace and an end to poverty.

St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, beloved spouse of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, intercede for us that the favor we now ask may be granted.

In 2019 please include the Mother Cabrini Chapel in Burbank to your pilgrimage of Mother Cabrini Shrines in New York, Chicago, Colorado and New Orleans. Visitors from other states are coming to the Chapel in Burbank to continue their annual pilgrimage to pray to Mother Cabrini for strength and guidance and pray for special intentions.

Also DVD Copies of the movie "Frances Xavier Cabrini: the People's Saint" produced by Lucia Mauro are still available for sale in English and Italian. Purchase a copy for your Branch and help support the Mother Cabrini Chapel. To order please call 626 372-7812 or email: cas1810@aol.com.

The next Cabrini Chapel Open House(s) is scheduled for Sunday, December 1st from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Please add the Chapel to your Branch's list of places to visit in 2019 and bring your family and friends to learn more about one of the ICF's Patroness Saints and the Catholic Church's first American Saint.

COME JOIN MEMBERS OF THE ICF LOS ANGELES DISTRICT AT THIS YEAR'S ANNUAL MOTHER CABRINI PILGRIMAGE, MASS AND LUNCHEON TO BE HELD IN MOTHER CABRINI'S HONOR ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2019.



SEE CABRINI PILGRIMAGE FLYER BELOW!

For more information regarding the above or to make a donation to help the Chapel continue with the annual December Pilgrimage event in Burbank and help maintain the Shrine facility, please call 626 372-7812 or visit the Mother Cabrini Shrine at www.icf.org.

Thank you for your continued support!

Carmelo Sabatella, AIA, President
ICF LAADC Mother Cabrini Chapel Committee
E cas1810@aol.com

October Calendar Winners

DAY	NAME	BR	CITY	WINS
10/1	Mary Jo Belli	21	Santa Cruz, CA	\$30
10/2	Dan and Rosemarie Clarke	391	San Jose, CA	\$30
10/3	Robert Marvulli		Merced, CA	\$30
10/4	Tim and Shirley Linscott		San Antonio, TX	\$30
10/5	Dolores Negrete		Fresno, CA	\$30
10/6	Kathy James		Redwood City, CA	\$30
10/7	Dennice DiGirolamo	127	Petaluma, CA	\$30
10/8	Toni Green	144	Arcata, CA	\$30
10/9	Maria Parks	281	Bakersfield, CA	\$30
10/10	Melanie Andrews		Sacramento, CA	\$30
10/11	Donna Ashmore		Macon, GA	\$30
10/12	John Borrelli	54	Gustine, CA	\$30
10/13	Virginia DePasquale	32	Fresno, CA	\$30
10/14	Jean McElroy	10	Alameda, CA	\$100
10/15	Doreen O'Rourke	198	Santa Rosa, CA	\$30
10/16	Lila Vezzolo	25	Salinas, CA	\$30
10/17	Flo Kurttila	438	Citrus Heights, CA	\$30
10/18	Vonnie Ramos	135	Reno, NV	\$30
10/19	Fran La Torre	215	Hayward, CA	\$30
10/20	Irene Furukawa		Gardena, CA	\$30
10/21	Gerry Buxie	91	Alameda, CA	\$30
10/22	James Cardinale-Hill	230	San Diego, CA	\$50
10/23	Nettie Descalso-Del Nero	39	Merced, CA	\$30
10/24	Deborah Rodondi	19	So. San Francisco, CA	\$30
10/25	Pilar Vigili	230	San Diego, CA	\$30
10/26	Erna Bonetto	32	Fresno, CA	\$30
10/27	Maria Fregosi	342	Auburn, CA	\$30
10/28	Peter Lopez	70	Sanger, CA	\$30
10/29	Susan Jordan	31	Los Banos, CA	\$30
10/30	Most Reverend Robert F. Vasa		Santa Rosa, CA	\$30
10/31	Frank Calabrese	425	Vail, AZ	\$50

SEE THESE FIRST ON OUR WEB SITE: ICF.ORG

THE ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION



LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE DISTRICT
Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library Committee

Presents

SAINT FRANCES XAVIER CABRINI
PILGRIMAGE, MASS AND LUNCHEON

“CELEBRATING THE 103rd YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF
MOTHER CABRINI'S DEATH”

at

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church
3801 Scott Rd
Burbank, CA 91504

DATE: December 1, 2019

PILGRIMAGE: 12:30 PM MASS: 1:00 PM LUNCH: 2:00 PM

COST: \$20.00 / Adults & \$8.00 / Children under 12
“ Each paid Dinner includes one Raffle Ticket for a Special Raffle Prize”

MENU: BAKED CHICKEN, PASTA, SALAD, VEGGIE, COFFEE, TEA,
WINE AND DESSERT (Catered by Jouni's Catering)

RESERVATION(S) DUE BY: NOVEMBER 18, 2019

CONTACT: ANDREA LINN SEND CHECK TO: ICF c/o ANDREA LINN
T. 909-762-1392 4095 Fruit St Sp 342
E. andilinn@gmail.com La Verne CA 91750

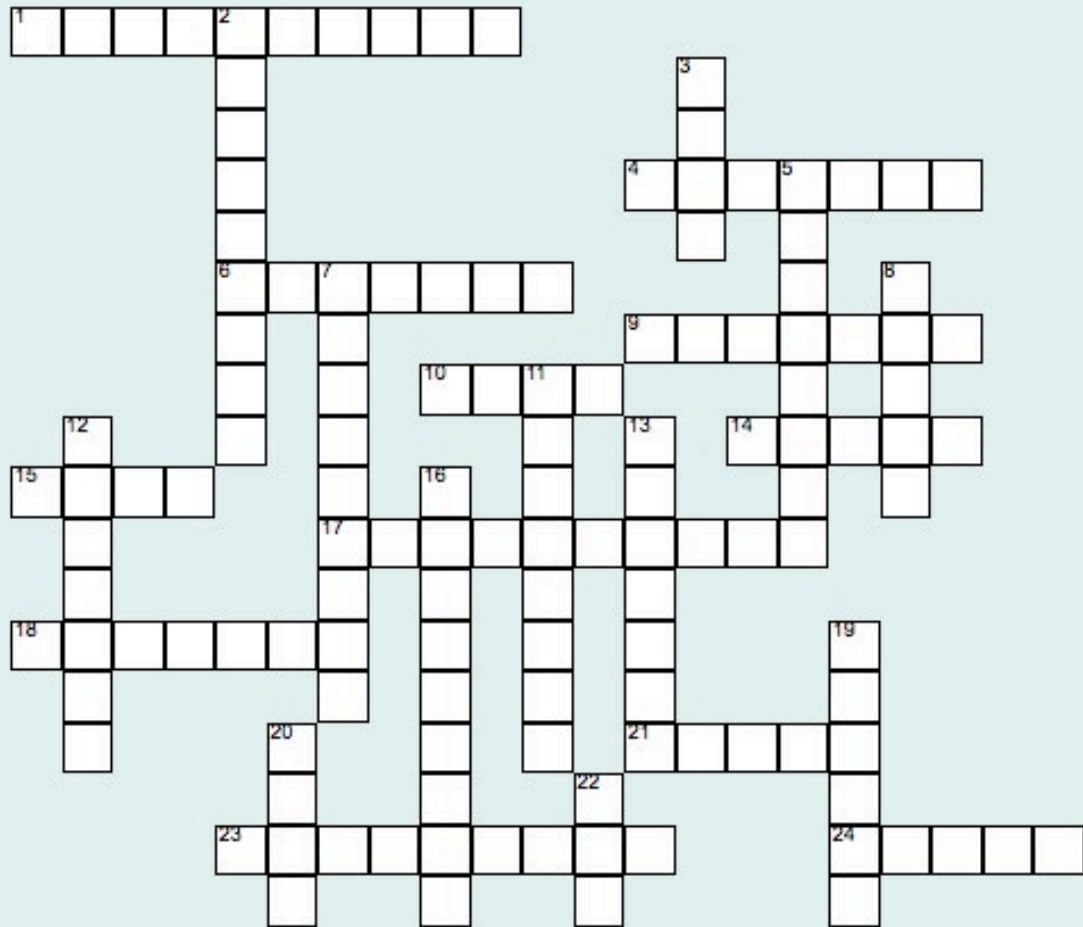
I wish to reserve _____ dinner(s) at \$20.00 dinner; _____ Under 12 at \$8.00 dinner
Enclosed is \$ _____

“All proceeds to help fund the ongoing operations and development of
Cabrini Chapel and Library.”

(Please make checks to the Italian Catholic Federation)
memo: Cabrini Pilgrimage 2019

Zona Divertimento

Feast of All Saints



<https://crosswordhobbyist.com/92133/Feast-of-All-Saints>

Test your Knowledge of Italy

1. What is Italy's highest mountain? It's also the highest mountain in western Europe at 15,771 feet.
2. What is the longest river in Italy at 405 miles?
3. The highest volcano in Europe is in Italy at 11,053 feet. Where is it?
4. What 4 countries border Italy?
5. Italy is about the same size as which state in the USA?
6. Italy is divided into how many regions?



Answers: 1. Monte Bianco; 2. River Po; 3. Mount Etna, Sicily; 4. France, Switzerland, Austria & Slovenia; New York; 5. 20

Across

- 1 Mary appeared to St ____ at Lourdes
- 4 St ____ of Assisi lived a life of poverty and cared for all of God's creatures.
- 6 St ____ is known for her "little way" of loving Jesus.
- 9 St. ____ the Archangel
- 10 St. ____ Bosco cared as a father for the boys who lived at his school
- 14 St ____ is the patron saint of throat diseases
- 15 Our ____ of the Rosary
- 17 The saints were people who lived the ____.
- 18 St ____ de Paul always worked to help the poor
- 21 The day after All Saints is the Feast of All ____
- 23 St ____ of Siena was a Dominican sister who convinced the Pope to return to Rome to live
- 24 St ____ was the first pope

Down

- 2 St ____ : Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- 3 St ____ the Evangelist
- 5 St. ____ had a special love for children and evolved to the modern day Santa Claus
- 7 St. ____ Ann Seton founded the Sisters of Charity with a shrine in Emmitsburg, MD
- 8 Nov 1st is the ____ of All Saints
- 11 The Beatitudes are guides for ____ and happiness.
- 12 St ____ is the patron saint of Ireland and the Irish
- 13 Our Lady of ____ appeared to St Bernadette
- 16 To be officially named as a saint of the Church
- 19 St ____ the Worker; husband of Mary
- 20 St. ____ of Arc led the army of France to victory over the English
- 22 St ____ is Mary's mother



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 (at no cost to your branch).

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.

Branch Reports

SAN FRANCISCO

San Francisco St. Elizabeth, Br. 258

Mark your calendars to Save the Date for Monday, Dec. 2, 2019. We will have our Christmas Luncheon. The Menu will be Turkey and all of the trimmings. The price will be \$16.00 for Members and \$18.00 for Non-Members. Please call Mary Perata at (415) 239-5936 or Florence Mangion at (415) 468-1764. You will enjoy your day.

On December 11th we are going to see the Golden Girls on the stage at the Victoria Theater in San Francisco. Please call Florence at (415) 468-1764.

To all of our members celebrating a Birthday in November - many more years of Much Happiness and Good Health.

Happy Thanksgiving to Everyone. We have a lot to be thankful for.

Please remember our ill and deceased members in your prayers.

Please remember the following dates:

Nov. 24th - Mass

Nov. 25th - Meeting

Ciao,

Eva Perata, President

SAN MATEO

Colma San Vincenzo De Paoli, Br. 19

Hello Everyone,

As usual it has been a busy past month for the Branch. Many thanks are due the well-attended Pedro Tournament (an annual event). Also, thanks to all who helped put it together and worked on it. Everyone had a great time and looking forward to the next one.

The Monday meeting hosted by Joyce Harnett and desert by Jackie Barnes was delicious and well attended. Thanks to Cheryl Simon who takes the reservations for all our dinner.

Coming Activities:

Friday, November 8th: Chaplains Night at San Mateo Elks Club. Please join us as we thank our chaplains for their support and prayers.

Saturday and Sunday, November 16th & 17th: Holy Angels Christmas Boutique at 107 San Pedro Road, Colma CA

Monday, November 11th: No Meeting.

Monday, November 25th: Dinner hosted by Kathy Trevizo and dessert by Deborah Rodondi. RSVP to Cheryl Simon by the 20th (650)755-0878 LEAVE MESSAGE or email cas94015@yahoo.com with reservation.

Most important of all our Christmas Party, Mon., Dec. 9th at Sharp Park Restaurant, Pacifica. Dinner includes appetizers, variety

of desserts, salad, coffee and wine. Call Donna Barnes (650) 991-0178 by December 1st for reservations.

Especially remember our loved on All Saints and All Souls.

N. Thurman

Burlingame Our Lady of Angels, Br. 173

The leaves are falling and we are preparing for our many Autumn events. At our September meeting, we heard all about the wonderful convention and the warm hospitality.

Our October meeting was the election of officers. Maria Camicia chaired the event. The menu included a variety of soups and sandwiches, salad, and dessert.

Our branch Mass in the Friary was Oct. 15 at 7 p.m. There was a small gathering in the lower hall following our Mass.

November 8, Friday Chaplain's Night, San Mateo Elks club. Please let our President, Dorene Campanile know if you will be attending by calling 650-344-7870 ASAP and the cutoff date is November 1, 2019. 6 p.m. cocktails, 7 p.m. dinner/ entree choices: Chicken Marsala, \$45, Broiled New York Steak \$50.00 and Broiled Salmon \$50.

November 10, Sunday Anniversary Lunch 1 p.m., Terrace Cafe, El Rancho Hotel Cost \$45.00 prepaid by 11-1-19 and \$55.00 after 11-1-19. Checks should be made out to ICF Branch 173. Please include your choice of Grilled Salmon Filet, Chicken Picatta and London Broil with your check and send to Lori Clyne, 30 Mounds Rd. Unit #401, San Mateo, CA 94402 650-340-0456 No reservations accepted AFTER 11/5/19. Also indicate who you would like to sit with.

November 30, 2019 Pedro Tournament in the Gym. Coffee and donuts 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. Tournament starts at 10 a.m.

Prayers are requested for Mary Bodisco, Frank Clyne, Elena Malta, Lorraine Rolandi, Jack Sherratt and John and Jean Watterson's daughter Jeannine awaiting a kidney transplant.

God Bless, Rosalind C. Emery

San Carlos St. Charles, Br. 327

November 18th will be the last official meeting of Branch 327. All members are invited to attend. This will be a catered dinner. There will be no charge for this dinner. We do need to have an accurate count of those attending, so please send in your reservation as soon as possible.

At the November 18th meeting we will have our annual toy drive for St. Francis Center. Please remember to bring a toy for Santa to deliver to a needy child.

This is also your last chance to purchase a 2020 ICF calendar. \$25.00 and you not only purchase a calendar but you are entered into the daily drawings for the entire year.

Sunday, December 1st, will be our very last meeting as ICF Branch 327. We will celebrate at the 11:00 am Mass at St. Charles

Church, followed by a reception for all the members, friends and parishioners who have supported us for the last 45 years. Thank you to all.

Ciao,

Virginia Malaspina



Br. 332, Author Natalie Galli signing copies of her book for Br. 332 members.

Millbrae St. Dunstan, Br. 403

We recently held a fundraiser Polenta Dinner which was very successful; thanks to the Millbrae Lions who volunteered to cook, and the many members that helped set-up and those that donated raffle prizes. Also, we had several members from other branches attend this affair which is very much appreciated.

We are looking forward to Chaplain's Night on November 8, 2019 at the San Mateo Elks Club, where we will honor our own Chaplain, Rev. Joseph Glynn.

It is with deep sympathy that we announce the passing of a long time member, Donald Junkin. Donald was an active member of our St. Dunstan's parish and the Millbrae community for many years. Our condolences to his family.

We wish all a very Happy Thanksgiving.

Rose Marie Morando

Corresponding Secretary

Recording Secretary

MARIN

Larkspur St. Patrick, Br. 161

Planning ahead with winter around the corner we will temporarily be changing our meeting nights from the third Tuesday of the month to late Saturday mornings starting in January and continuing thru March. This will allow our members who no longer drive at night to attend the meetings. Each month we will notify our members of the date and time. All meetings are held in Healy Hall at St. Patrick's Church.

Anyone wishing to purchase the 2020 ICF calendar please contact Marlene Farber. They make wonderful Christmas presents. We have had 4 winners this year. Also it's another way for our branch to add to our Treasury as we retain \$5.00 for every calendar sold.

Our Christmas Luncheon is December 7th. Please make your reservation by: November 23, 2019. Call our Anna Biggio for additional information.

We wish our members a Happy Birthday, Happy Anniversary and Happy Thanksgiving!

Officers of Branch 161, Larkspur

Novato Our Lady of Loretto, Br. 332

We were delighted at a recent meeting to welcome Natalie Galli, the author of *The Girl Who Said No*, the remarkable story of Franca Viola. In 1966, when she was only eighteen years old, Franca refused to go along with a centuries-old forcible marriage custom in Sicily. Franca's story unfolds when Ms. Galli arrives in Palermo two decades later to search for her while sharing her own poignant and hilarious observations about a vibrant culture steeped in contradiction and paradox. Ms. Galli read excerpts from her book, answered questions, and graciously signed copies of the book for our members. It was an honor and a pleasure to spend the evening with Ms. Galli and her stories.

Thank you to Sylvia Reali and Larry Mazzotta for staffing the Salami Toss booth at our recent parish festival and a big "grazie" to all who made our October Heritage celebration a special evening with delicious food, wonderful music and fun Italian trivia activities.

We hope that all our members will be able to join us in bringing 2019 to a close by attending our November and December dinners and special events, including our Christmas gourmet basket raffle, a favorite of all.

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of long time member, Frank U'Ren. We are grateful to Frank and Pat for their many years of service to our Branch. God bless you Frank.

Blessings to all!

LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE

Well, the year is quickly coming to a close. Halloween has come and gone and Thanksgiving is right upon us. What a beautiful day we had at St John's Seminary, where the LA District celebrated our Bishop and Seminarian Recognition Day. Thank you to Bishop Joe, the Rector Fr Marcos, Fr Ray and all of the Seminarians for helping us celebrate. \$10,000 was raised and donated to St John's.

I also want to thank Grand President Vince Piro and his wife Robin, as well as the MC for the afternoon Leonard Zasoski and his wife BG for coming down to LA to help us celebrate.

November 2 we held our quarterly District Meeting at the San Antonio Winery and elected our new board. Congratulations to you all.

Join us December 1st for the Annual Mother Cabrini Pilgrimage, with mass, procession and lunch. Cost is \$20.

Also, don't forget the Cooley's Childrens Christmas Party on December 15th to be held at the Children's Hospital in LA. This year's theme is a Carnival. Donations of brand new unwrapped toys or gift cards are welcomed.

I would like to wish everyone a Very Blessed Thanksgiving. God Bless.

Los Angeles
St. Peter, Br. 67

Happy Thanksgiving! ICF members and members of other Italian organizations attended the 8th annual Italian American Heritage Month Celebration at Los Angeles City Hall on Oct. 4th, the unveiling of the Historic Little Italy Sign in San Pedro on Oct. 5th and the ICF LAADC Bishop and Seminarians Recognition Day in Camarillo on Oct. 6th. All events were well attended and the food excellent.

Br. 67 is working with Central Council in the development of a new National Branch at St. Peter's Italian Church. (See article from G.P. Piro in this Bolletino.)

We are accepting applications for those interested in joining ICF Br. 67; Contact Carmelo Sabatella at 626 372-7812 or via email at cas1810@aol.com.

Br. 67 continues to work with St. Peter's Church and reaches out to all ICF Members, the Italian Community and those who are interested in continuing an ICF presence at this beautiful Italian National Church.

Spread the word to friends, families and members that the ICF Br. 67 and Padre Pio Society will attend the 11 a.m. (Italian) mass and join St. Peter Parishioners on the fourth Sunday of each month this year.

SAVE THE DATE:

On December 1st at 12:30 p.m., join members at the annual Mother Cabrini Pilgrimage, Mass and Luncheon located at 3801 Scott Road, Burbank 91504. For more information call 626 372-7812 or email andilimn@gmail.com.

Please let me know how you can help us keep the future alive for the next generations at Br. 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

South Pasadena
Holy Family, Br. 108

On September 28th Branch 108 Members prepared a typical ICF Italian Dinner for Patient's Families living at Ronald McDonald House in Pasadena. Thank you ICF Chair Jackie Ficht and Staff for your help in making this a memorable event for Ronald Mc Donald staff and guests of this incredible facility.

On September 21st, Branch 108 held its annual Salsa Dinner Dance in HF Parish Hall. Members and guests enjoyed a delicious all-you-can-eat taco dinner followed



Br.67 Visit to Little Italy



Br. 67 members celebrating together.

by salsa dance instruction and dancing to DJ Tunes.

On September 15, 2019 Branch President John Maggiora visited Mission San Juan Capistrano and was moved by the history and beauty of this well-preserved continuously-operating Church.

SAVE THE DATE:

- December 1st - Mother Cabrini Pilgrimage, Mass and Luncheon at St Francis Xavier Church, Burbank. from 12:30 p.m.
- December 8th - ICF Branch 108 Christmas Party in Connolly Hall from 2 - 5 p.m.
- December 15th - Children's Hospital Cooley's Anemia Christmas in Children's Hospital Los Angeles from 1 - 3 p.m.

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



Br. 108 ICF at Ronald McDonald House



Br. 67 at the 8th Annual Italian American Heritage Celebration



Br. 108 Salsa Night

Montebello
St. Benedict, Br. 111

Ciao a Tutti. A warm hello to everyone. Hope you enjoy the cool fall weather and look forward to the fast approaching holidays! Our November General Meeting is Thursday, November 21 at 6:30 p.m. in St. Augustine House, 200 N. 12th Street, Montebello. Our tradition for our November general meeting is to celebrate Thanksgiving with a potluck dinner. Everyone brings their favorite dishes to share. The Branch provides the main dish and drinks. Thank you to for your participation.

Congratulate the following members which celebrate their birthdays in the month of November: Ren Mata, David Estrada, Georgia Albanez, Joyce Adragna, Joe Canzonieri, Phyllis Grimaldi, Celia Ramos, and Thomas Enrico. Happy Birthday to everyone!! Buon Compleanno a tutti!!

Thank you for participating in this year's Bishop and Seminarian Recognition Day Mass & Luncheon and program held on October 6th, at St. John's Seminary, in Camarillo. Thank you for all the charitable works you do, and in a very special way for your continued and generous support of vocation to the priesthood and religious life.

SAVE the dates for the following events: more information will follow.

Sunday, December 1 - Mother Cabrini Pilgrimage Mass & Luncheon - Burbank

Saturday, December 7 - ICF 111 Branch Christmas Dinner, 6:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M.

Sunday, December 15 - Children Hospital Los Angeles Cooley's Anemia/Thalassemia Christmas Party - Noon to 4:00 P.M. - Carnival Theme.

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

A Presto!

Frank Salomone

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

Our branch is as busy ever! In the past few weeks our members have attended 2 Italian Heritage events sponsored by Councilman Joe Buscaino's office and attended the Bishop Day Banquet. At the banquet our spiritual bouquet and Seminary burse of \$600 was presented.

The fun continues as many of our branch members and friends visited Las Vegas. Thanks to Pauline Iacono for arranging the trip! In Sept 53 members and friends of our branch travelled to the central coast.

At our September meeting Neal DiLeva introduced Father Diego Menniti as our new chaplain. Father asked that we invite friends and family to attend the 4 p.m. Italian mass on Sunday. *(continued above right)*



ICF 111 September 2019 Meeting



ICF 111 Bishop's Day Group



ICF 111 Bishop's Day Group



San Pedro Br. 115 attended the Los Angeles District Bishop Day Banquet at the St. John Seminary in Camarillo, Ca on October 6.



Br. 115 adopted Seminarian Cole Buzon joined them.

Our next Br. 115 meeting will be held on Nov 16th at 7:30pm. Upcoming pilgrimage Dec 2nd to celebrate Mother Cabrini patron saint for immigrants will be discussed. For reservations please call Mary Cigliano at 310 832-0608. This is a wonderful tradition and a great start to the holiday season.

Our Christmas party will be held on Dec 14th at 6 p.m. Party is free for members. \$10.00 for non members. Join us for a delicious dinner and friendship please call Nancy Donato 310 833284

2020 calendars are for sale. \$25.00 not only gets you a wonderful calendar but also 365 chances to win money! Our branch was a winner this year! This is also a fundraiser for our branch.

Happy Veteran's Day to all!

Happy Thanksgiving

Anita Trujillo

Ventura
Sacred Heart, Br. 169

First of all, thanks to Central Council for the very informative convention in Tucson. Our delegates returned energized and shared much of what they learned, encouraging more of us to attend next year.

Congratulations to the newly elected 2019-2020 Executive Board. Thanks to Mike Pettit and his committee for their hard but effective work in putting together the Silent Auction at our potluck in September. The hall looked like an episode of the Antiques Roadshow with everything from bunk beds and secretaries to jewelry, dolls and china sets. It was a fun evening, with many participants walking away with great bargains.

A heartfelt thank you to Pat Mages, Central Council Grand Trustee for her membership presentation. We appreciate her taking time to visit with our branch.

Lastly, we want to thank the ICF for the Bishop's Day celebration at Saint John's Seminary. Our participants had a wonderful time.

God's Blessings to All! Branch 169

**Glendora
St. Dorothy,
Br. 179**

At the September 2019 General Meeting, the ICF Branch 179 presented seven school retention scholarships to St. Dorothy School, Glendora, CA. for a total of \$3,000. Our recipients, their families, the school principal, teachers and clergy were invited for a catered pasta dinner, complete with lots of homemade desserts provided by our members.

Patricia Auriummo

Recording / Corresponding Secretary

**Arcadia
Holy Angels, Br. 218**

We are heading into our very busy season with the following events: Nov 10 – general meeting, Nov 23, 24 – Christmas Boutique, December 7 – Christmas party, Dec 31 – New York New Year’s Eve party. Linda Sz and Aileen LaCorte will co-chair the Christmas Boutique and will need help. Please see either of them to sign up. We need your baked goods which should be brought to the hall Saturday evening or early Sunday morning. Linda Sz will again have our cookbooks for sale. So far we have a net profit of \$874.00 which will be donated to Cooley’s Anemia Foundation.

Backing up a bit, at our September meeting, Gianni Carrano, a member of our Junior ICF, gave a report on the donut sales which this group of kids, aged 11 to 14, will be handling. They will decide where they want the profits to go (with the board’s approval). Great entrepreneurship!

Our condolences to Carol Farrugia and Vivian Pelicano on the losses of their brothers. We also lost member, Mildred Zielinski, who was an active member and contributed much to our branch. Our condolences to her family.

Our Christmas party is Saturday, December 7 and will be a catered event again this year. Santa will make his appearance and all children are welcome. Our donations will be handed out to many of the recipients. It promises to be a very fun evening and we hope to see everyone there. I will be taking reservations.



Br. 179 Pictured are six of the seven recipients, along with their school principal, Adrienne Ferguson, members President Bruce Brancato and member Vince Daigneault.

There will be more detail at our November meeting.

*Everyone have a wonderful Thanksgiving!
Lolly M.*

**Downey
St. Raymond,
Br. 362**

Greetings to all. It’s hard to believe that November is here. The smell of pumpkin spice is everywhere. I hope everyone had a fun and safe Halloween. Our parish held its annual Festival, A Blast from the Past was the theme. The ICF hosted the Bingo Hall where a fun time was had by all. Congratulations to all of our branch officers who accepted a position on our branch board of officers. I also want to thank Bishop Joe Sartoris for joining the LA District at our annual Bishop and Seminarian Recognition Day celebration which was held at St John’s Seminary. This has become one of my favorite days as ICF members mingle with the seminarians and learn about their life at the Seminary. I want to thank all of the Veterans out there. Thank you for your service to our country. Bingo will be held on Sunday November 10 th. Good luck to everyone. Have a very Blessed Thanksgiving, don’t go too crazy on the desserts.

We’ll see you next month.

Perry Shurko, Branch President

**Thousand Oaks
St. Paschal Baylon, Br. 380**

The Fall season is in full swing at Branch 380. On September 21st a group of our ladies from our branch met for a My Stuff blanket making party. They made thirteen blankets which will be given to children in the foster care system.

Our October general meeting was our annual All-Hallo-wine Dinner. Members celebrated with a wine tasting and a costume contest. Vince Pantess, owner of Pantess Cellars, and a member of the branch, gave an excellent talk about wine making. The next day was Bishop’s Day at St. John’s Seminary in Camarillo. A group of our members enjoyed a wonderful Mass and luncheon with the seminarians, as well as a tour of the grounds.

We are looking forward to these upcoming events:

October 18th-20th St. Paschal Baylon Parish Fall Festival Italian food booth

Nov. 1st (Fri.) General meeting with Thanksgiving Dinner
Blessings to all.

*Annie Scott
Corresponding Secretary*

**Rancho Palos Verdes
Saint John Fisher, Br. 444**

Happy Fall! On Sunday, September 22, we went to a wine class and tasting event at Total Wines and More in Redondo Beach, California. Many members and their guests got to sample and learn about some of the red and white wines from Italy and enjoy tasty appetizers. Check out the photos. Everyone had a great time! Can you believe the holidays are approaching?! We are getting prepared for the upcoming Cooley’s Anemia Fundraiser/Toy Drive for the Children’s Hospital of Los Angeles. Everyone is asked to bring an approved, new, unwrapped toy/item or they may contribute a monetary donation on behalf of the children. All donations will be given just in time for the Annual Children’s Hospital Christmas Party scheduled in December. The recipients of these gifts will be overjoyed!

Here are some of our upcoming ICF events:

Thursday, November 14: Thanksgiving Potluck/Ongoing Cooley’s Anemia Fundraiser and Toy Drive Collection/ICF Officer Elections for 2020



Br. 444, November. Wine Class and Tasting Event



Br. 380 My Stuff blanket making party



Br.380 Costume night with 2 Iggy Alessandros

Continued on Page 14

Continued from Page 13

Saturday, December 14: Save the Date! Annual ICF Branch 444 Christmas Party at Saint John Fisher Parish Barrett Hall; 6-10 p.m. More information TBA!

If you have any questions or need information about our branch events, please free to send an email to icf444rpv@gmail.com. Grazie!

Tonia Amalfitano

Recording and Corresponding Secretary

OAKLAND EAST BAY DISTRICT

The main topic at our last meeting was the convention. Not only were the workshops well done, but most people believe that the hotel staff was one of the best around. New delegates want to return next year, and with the convention so close they are already making plans.

Pres. Lisa thanked all the branches for their hard work in making a 100% response to both the Apostolate program and the Scholarship program.

The granddaughter of one of our officers was able to introduce the Gifts of Love to a special needs person. She is a young member who learned about the Gifts of Love from attending branch meetings as a member. Glad to hear that the family part of the ICF is still with us.

The district Christmas party will be Sat. Dec. the 7th. This year it will have a new feature, a Pirate Gift exchange. We will bring either an ornament or seasonal decoration for exchange. Sounds like fun.

Also new this year for any youngsters in your family is a letter from La Befana.

In the meantime we will be celebrating Thanksgiving with our loved ones, family or extended family. Please keep all those in need of prayers in your prayers during this hectic season.

May God bless us all with what He sees as our need.

Happy Thanksgiving to all.

Pat Grasso

Alameda Nostra Signora Delle Grazie, Br. 10

Our annual Christmas Party is Friday, December 13, in Monsignor O'Brien Hall, High and Van Sts, Alameda. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for social hour, and the dinner of salad, pasta and meatballs. Dessert served at 7 p.m. We will provide a table for children's gifts and crafts. Santa Claus will visit and may bring presents for the children.

Prices are \$12 for ICF adult members, \$15 for non-member adults, free for children of ICF members and \$5 for children of non-member adults. For reservations, contact Sharon Brunetti, (510) 521-3829 or sharonbrunetti@hotmail.com prior to December 9 at 9:00 a.m. Send payment by check made payable to ICF Branch 10 to Sharon Brunetti, 1813 Fremont Drive, Alameda, CA 94501. Payment in advance to confirm your reservation.

Our first event of 2020 will be our annual Polenta Dinner on Saturday, January 11.



Saluti from Br. 444 November Wine Class and Tasting Event



Br. 444, November Wine Class and Tasting Event

Information will follow in the December Bulletin.

We congratulate Jennifer Ghiglione for being awarded an ICF third-year scholarship. Jennifer graduated from Alameda High School, and her family regularly attends our functions.

We selected our officers for 2020 at our membership meeting of October 3. Elected were Peggy Lubeck, president; Gina Foster, first vice-president; Jan Rosa, second vice-president; JoAnn Dorn, treasurer; Karen Harrington, financial secretary; Jeanette Zugnoni, recording and correspondence secretary; Ernie Poggi, sentinel; Sharon Brunetti, orator; and Anne Gooch, Betty Lupetti, Agnes Marcheschi and Elena Serles, trustees. Peggie Dorrance and John Zugnoni will continue to serve as Heritage scheduler and publicist, respectively.

Come to Alameda for our Christmas Party and Polenta Dinner!

John Zugnoni, Branch 10 publicity

Livermore St. Philomena, Br. 285

We have a busy fall planned beginning with our social/business meeting with a heritage program on Oct. 18. We voted on a slate of officers for next year and a proposed budget. Thank you to our nominating committee.

The St. Michael Festival was a huge success. Thanks to members who helped. The various parish ministries were represented and we ran a membership table resulting in one new member, Mavis McCombs. Welcome Mavis to our Branch. We enjoyed working alongside St. Michael. Festival income will go toward a new parking lot & safety lights on the property.

Our Mass of Remembrance is November 15th at St. Elizabeth Seton. Our chaplain, Father Fili, will be celebrant. A Thanksgiving dinner will follow.

Plans have begun for a Christmas Nativity Display on Dec. 8th at St. Elizabeth Seton Chapel. Our member, Nancy Navarini will chair this event. This is a highlight for parishioners to bring their children and families for the great feast of Christmas. Nativities from around the world will be on display, each having a special significance. All are welcome!

Discussions are in the works to determine how we might better minister to our mostly homebound members so that they feel a part of our Branch.

Plans are underway for our Christmas dinner in early December.

Congratulations to Carl & Judy Bates for welcoming their 1st great grandson, Jay Friesen on Sept. 15th.

We lift up in prayer our members and their families who are dealing with medical issues. We ask for healing and peace.

Until next time, Ciao

Judy Bates

Castro Valley Our Lady of Grace, Br. 343

We put on an outstanding Pasta dinner for the OLG festival. Lisa made one of the best meat sauces, from scratch, that people are still talking about. Next year Pres. Mike plans on us selling even more tickets. Thanks to all who helped, get ready for next Sept.!

Preorders for our Biscotti sales are doing quite well. We may turn Thanksgiving into an Italian holiday yet. We will be distributing the Biscotti after the Masses

the weekend before Thanksgiving, so all bakers on board.

Our Polenta dinner was a sell out, and was topped off by a presentation by Laurice Levine on Cooley's anemia. There were many questions as we had a number of none Italian guests attending. And I might add that there were a few contributions made to our #1 charity.

As we think about the up coming Thanksgiving holiday we will be having a soup meal in Nov. as we gather nonperishable foods for the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Once again we will have Lisa leading the way in the kitchen.

Please keep all those who are in need of prayer and maybe less fortunate than our selves in your prayers during this upcoming holiday season.

A Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving to all!

Pat Grasso,

Branch Sec.

CONTRA COSTA DISTRICT

The Night of Recollection is on Monday November 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the Salesian High School hall in Richmond, CA, hosted by the Richmond Branch. We will enjoy an Italian dinner consisting of salad, bread, ravioli, dessert, wine and coffee. Contribution is \$10.00 per person to be paid at the door. RSVP is required so please let your branch President know that you are attending so you can be included in the head count. I strongly recommend you attend this spiritual event.

By the time you read this article, the District and Branch officers for the year 2020 will have been nominated/elected. Our congratulations to these officers are in order because by accepting their offices they are showing great stewardship by donating their time and talent. The success or failure of any organization is really dependent on its leadership.

The Thanksgiving holiday will soon be here, it is a special time to thank our God for His goodness and kindness. There should be more to it than eating turkey and/or ham and pumpkin pie. In reality every day ought to be a day of Thanksgiving.

The Christmas season is quickly approaching. Christmas trees were already on sale at some stores in September – unbelievable, it is so commercialized.

In closing: *Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.* (Matthew 7:12)

Joseph (joefflores33@comcast.net)

Martinez St. Catherine of Siena, Br. 13

We are busy organizing our fundraising dinner which is always a wonderful gathering of friends and food, and almost missed the submission deadline! (More on the dinner and elections in the December article.) Approaching quickly thereafter, we look forward to our annual Thanksgiving feast. If this reaches you prior, you're invited to join us on Thursday, November 21 in the St. Catherine of Siena Parish Hall. It is our last meeting of the year and we celebrate our thankfulness. Bring along a friend or two and a dish to share that complements a traditional turkey dinner. RSVP ICFbranch13martinez@gmail.com for head count.

As we all continue through the month of November nearing the start of Advent, remember that our prayers on All Souls' Day are to assist those in purgatory to attain their reward in heaven. Let's try to increase the practice of praying a sixth decade of the rosary as the Chaplet of St. Bridget taught us for all the souls in purgatory.

And, I call upon on the holy men and women in heaven to pray for us.

Ciao for now,

Mary Cook

Crockett San Carlo, Br. 14

Ciao Amici!

Team pride was everywhere at our October meeting. Our members donned their favorite sports team gear, and everyone brought canned goods to donate. The hall was alive with colorful jerseys, some good-natured ribbing, and a lot of laughs.

We enjoyed a truly sumptuous Italian Roast Beef Dinner prepared by Chef Steve Buscaglia. The aroma from the kitchen was heavenly, and the meal itself was even better. Many thanks to Steve and his crew!

Congratulations and welcome to our newly elected officers: Donna Hoffman (President), Nancy Botta (1st Vice), Dee Carone (2nd Vice), Carl Heller (Treasurer), Ronnie Jimenez (Financial Secretary), Sylvia Smith (Orator), Clorinda Haisley (Trustee), Vonda Lesti-Egan (Trustee), Addie Bepler (Trustee), and Derek Petersen (Sentinel).

We're wishing for a speedy recovery for our members David Botta, Al Di Prima, Jim Dooley, Brian and Laura Harrah, and Diane Thomas. Our thoughts go out to Ronnie and Mary Lou Costa, Pam Zampa, and Marty DeVenuta who have all recently lost loved ones. You are in our prayers.

It was noted that October is Italian-American Heritage month. It's a time to reflect

ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION

San Martino Branch #13

ANNUAL FAMILY POLENTA DINNER

Saturday, November 2, 2019
6 PM No-Host Cocktails
7 PM Dinner
of Chicken, Sausage, Polenta



Saint Catherine of Siena
Parish Hall
604 Mellus Street, Martinez
Enter Hall on Henrietta Street

**\$20 per person 13 yrs & older. \$8 children 6 to 12 yrs.
FREE ages 5 yrs & under when accompanied by adult**

Proceeds benefit ICF scholarship program which includes the St. Catherine of Siena Eighth Grade Scholarship, the ICF National Charity: Thalassemia research at Children's Hospital, and others.

Tickets Available by Calling 925-229-2665

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR THE
ICF Annual Spaghetti & Meatball Family Dinner on Saturday, May 16, 2020**



Br. 14, David very proud of his Plaque from ICF for all his years of service. Congratulations David. Thank you for making our Branch successful and all your guidance.



Had a special guest Laurice visit our Branch 14, Crockett. Always a pleasure to see you.

on our history and our roots. Tell your story to family and friends. Share your memories, photos, recipes, and traditions. It's important to keep our heritage alive for generations to come.

Speaking of heritage, we have four long-time members celebrating impressive birthdays this year: Lena McCrossen (103), Alice Marshall (101), Sante Cerri (100), and Paulina Cardoza (the 'youngster' at 98). It must be something in the water!

Blessings,

~Helen

Pittsburg San Domenico, Br. 72

Dear Members,

Thank you for bringing yummy dinner dishes for our October meeting. We thank Denny O'Laughlin for the heritage report he gave about Switzerland. Denny and Faye spent a month there. Denny said it was the

best vacation ever!

Our members were proud that our branch was awarded at the convention for all members staying in the branch. All paid dues. Congrats!

Watch for your invitation for our November branch meeting. Will have elections for 2020, celebrate our anniversary and have a free raffle.

ICF calendars will be brought to our November meeting. Remember, for just \$25, your name entered in the daily raffle. Good luck!

You will not want to miss the Contra Costa district Night of Recollection on Monday November 11. Dinner will be at 6:30 p.m. at Salesian hall in Richmond. Father Larry will give his talk after dinner. There will be a raffle as well. Our Richmond branch will host. Walter, Toni and crew will make and serve Salad, Bread, Ravioli, Dessert, Wine and Coffee. All for \$10 per person. RSVP needed. Call Patty (you have phone number) to let us know how many in your party.

Next month I will list information for our branch Christmas party and District Christmas party. It is our turn to host the Installation of officers Mass, Installation and luncheon. Details will be mailed.

We profited \$400 from the bus trip to Monterey. Thank you Chairperson Joann.

That's it for now. As we say in Pittsburg, Sempre Avanti

Happy Veterans Day.

Patty

Richmond St. Raymond, Br. 154

October 14th meeting started with mass followed by a delicious pasta dinner. Thank you to Fr. Al for always being available to say mass for us. This mass was a celebration of our past presidents.

Nomination of officers was held. Announcement to follow with list of officers for 2020.

Calendars are here and for sale. They are available at each meeting. The calendar also makes an excellent Christmas gift.

Lorraine Acuña gave a heritage report on Thomas Smith who was the first documented resident of California. Thomas Smith was also Lorraine's 5th great grandfather who was not Italian but British. Each month a different member will be asked to give a heritage report at the next meeting.

November 11th, meeting was our district annual night of recollection with Fr. Larry Young. His sermons are always inspiring. A delicious dinner followed.

The December 09th meeting is our Annual Polenta Dinner. Free for all members, \$10.00 for guests. Reserve with Toni Reeder by December 4th, short meeting to follow.

It's almost that time again: Membership renewal!

Find us on FaceBook-St Raymond154. Like Us!

**December Issue Deadline
is November 10th.
Send articles and photos:
editor@icf.org**

Continued on Page 16

Concord Todos Santos, Br. 214

Happy Fall to all of you. Time is going so fast these days. The holidays are upon us.

We have many fun events taking place this year and into 2020.

In October, we are having our nominations for new officers for 2020.

November is our Thanksgiving pot luck dinner. The turkey is provided by our President,

Roberta Healy and members bring delicious side dishes to share. Everyone enjoys this dinner and leaves full.

Also in November is our annual Toys for Tots event. This is a very important event. Our members generously donate great toys to be given to the Marines and distributed to many deserving children. They are so grateful to receive a fun toy or stuffed animal.

December 8th is our annual Christmas party at La Veranda. It is a delicious brunch with many great door prizes.

Many things are planned for 2020. March 7th is a spaghetti and Bingo event. Fun time is had by all with Bingo, cash prizes, desserts, and popcorn while playing Bingo.

In April we will host our annual Tea which is enjoyed by all. A lunch of a salad, variety of finger sandwiches, assorted teas, and homemade cookies.

We also have great gift baskets for raffle prizes. More information about this fun time will follow at a later date.

We pray for our loved ones who can't be with us during the holidays. I hope you all enjoy good health and love from friends and family.

Ciao, Norene DeLuca

Brentwood Immaculate Heart of Mary, Br. 432

Ciao!

Hot August Nights!!! Roadsters, Coupes, Hot Rods and Classic Cars: It doesn't get any better than "FESTA d' ITALIA." That's right, the Italian Catholic Federation, Br. 432 of Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church's 10th annual "Concourse d' Elegance" featuring some of America's greatest automobiles, was held September 27th in the IHM Church parking lot and Hall. With over 40 cars on display to be viewed and savored, hundreds of classic automobile enthusiasts walked up and down the rows enjoying the cars and exchanging stories with the other owners.

This festive event didn't end at the Concourse, dinner was served. Early evening saw a pasta buffet with all the trimmings

rolled out for all participants and visitors to enjoy. Coupled with favorite beverages from the bar, the meal was the beginning of a fitting end for a great day, enjoyed by all who attended.

The celebration of automobiles concluded when all of the cars were paraded in front of the viewing stand where Brentwood's dignitaries and a select committee of other's presented the winning owners with awards for the various classes of show including,



Br. 432, Festa servers, all young, helping to set the world right by what they do



Branch 432 Festa bartenders. Known to all



Diners enjoying the Pasta feed at Branch 432's Festa

"Best Of Show."

The 10th annual "FESTA d' ITALIA" was a glowing success and is growing in popularity every year. This event is open to the public (tickets required).

If you have never been to a "CONCOURSE d' ELEGANCE," you owe it to yourself to come to the "FESTA d' ITALIA" in 2020.

If your facing the right direction then all you have to do is keep walking.

la vita è buona

Pleasant Hill Christ The King Br. 442

Happy November everyone!

Our October Bocce Meeting at Roger Smith Park was a fun time. Thanks to all the members that attended. And thanks to all who

attended our Quarterly Mass and Brunch on October 20th. Always a great morning!

November 11th is the District Day of Recollection. It will be in Richmond at the Salesian Hall. There is always a wonderful talk by a priest and of course dinner. It's a good start to the crazy holiday season. Cost is \$10 for dinner and start time is 6:30

November 17th, Sunday, is our November General Meeting. Set up at 1:00, start time is 1:30. It's a Thanksgiving theme and the club will provide Turkey and Gravy. Please bring your favorite Thanksgiving item to share. Hope many of you can join us, as it is ELECTION TIME! Please consider running for an office. Job descriptions are online at ICF.org. Or just ask an existing officer what the job entails.

December 2 is our district Christmas Party at Devino's Restaurant in Pleasant Hill. EVERYONE is invited. It's a fun time



Some of the cars showing in Branch 432's auto lineup

so please consider joining. 6:30 no host cocktails, 7:00 no host dinner.

Items to remember: Canned food collection at each meeting for our parish pantry, our December meeting is on the 15th, and 2020 calendars are still available for \$25.

As always, please keep our members and their families in your prayers.

Ciao!

Your 2019 Officers

BLESSED SACRAMENT DISTRICT

Sacramento St. Mary, Br. 45

Our final Chicken and Polenta dinner of the year will be held Sunday, November 17, 2019 in Giovanni Hall. The branch meeting will be at 4:30 p.m. with dinner to follow at 6:00 p.m. Menu includes: Salad, roll, polenta covered with meat sauce, ½ baked chicken, dessert, beverage and wine. Pasta available on pre-order basis. Cost to members is \$15 and non-members \$20. Contact me at 916-508-1199 before Tues., Nov. 12th for reservations.

SAVE THESE DATES:

Our Branch Christmas Luncheon will be held on Sunday, December 8th, 2:00 p.m., at Espanol Restaurant. More details to follow at the November dinner.

Our Blessed Sacrament District Christmas Luncheon will be held on Saturday, December 14th, 11:30 a.m., at Max's Restaurant in Auburn.

CONGRATULATIONS to Branch Trustee Frank Lienert and wife on the arrival of a baby boy, Giacomo Dominic, on Oct 2nd. Both mom and baby doing well. Love his name!

Buon Compleanno to the following members with November birthdays: Gina Courey, Alyse DeFazio, Lindsay DeFazio, Michael DeFazio, Verona Devito, Angela Isola, Maria Keller, Frank Lienert, and me.

Ciao, Janine

Auburn St. Joseph, Br. 342

A big thank you to all who helped to make our Harvest Bunco Fundraiser such a huge success! Seventy guests enjoyed an afternoon of games, fellowship, and friends thanks to event chairs Barbara, JoAnn and all who volunteered to help out. We hope you will be able to join us for another fun bingo fundraiser in February.

Can you believe the holidays are almost here? We hope you will be able to join us

for our annual Family Christmas Party on Saturday, December 8th. We will meet at St. Joseph's Hall from 4 to 7 p.m.

A delicious dinner will be served and a very special visitor will be coming by to visit. This is a wonderful family event and a great way for our branch to come together to celebrate the holiday season. We hope you will be able to join us. The calling committee will be contacting you soon to see if you will be able to attend.

The members of Branch 342 would like to wish their fellow ICF members a very Happy Thanksgiving. We hope that you and your families have a wonderful holiday full of family, friends, love and wonderful food. We all certainly have a lot to be thankful for.

Ciao!
Pam Andersen
Bolletino Contributor

Roseville St. Clare of Assisi, Br. 438

Thank you to Florence Kurttila and Rick Steir for hosting our September dinner meeting. Everyone was treated to a wonderful meal of pasta with roasted sausages and peppers... just like Mamma used to make. Delizioso! Our guest speaker for the evening was Kate Tiongson, who spoke about the "Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion" here at St. Clare. She encouraged more people to become involved in this holy ministry.

St. Clare once again hosted the Gathering Inn dinner for the homeless in our community. Over sixty adults and children enjoyed a home-cooked meal and were part of our St. Clare family for the evening. It's so rewarding helping the most needy of our brothers and sisters.

Br. 438 supported our recent Blessed Sacrament District fundraiser at Tahoe Joe's Restaurant. The event was a great success, profiting over \$750.00. Proceeds will go towards helping our local seminarians.

The bus trip to the Italian Festival in Reno is coming up soon. 40 people will be enjoying a day of Italian culture and food in the Biggest Little City in the World! There might be a little gambling going on, too.

We are fortunate to have so many members who give freely of their time and talents. As the new year approaches, we ask our members to consider leadership positions on the 2020 board.

We pray that the Lord hears our many



Br. 103, Butch Biondi and Jo Grant

special intentions and continues to bless and protect us.

Grazie.
Anne Finn, Recording Secretary

SANTA ROSA DISTRICT

Healdsburg St. Francis de Sales, Br. 52

Upcoming Events:

November 5: Regular meeting in the rectory at 5:45 PM. Please come and join us.

November 9: Polenta Dinner. Doors open at 5:45 PM. Dinner: 6:30 PM. This is our first polenta dinner of the season. Get your tickets early, as it always sells out. Call Mary Madden for tickets: 431-0438. Price \$15.00 for members, \$20.00 for non-members. Child prices available.

December 6: Christmas Party. We will have a special guest for the kiddies.

We are selling the ICF Daily Calendar Raffle. For \$25.00, you have 365 chances to win up to \$100. The branch keeps \$5.00 from each calendar sold. So far, this year, I've won \$60! Call Lauren at 478-3639, if you want to purchase a calendar.

If you would like to be an officer for 2019, please contact President Teri. We are a large, active branch that can only continue with good leadership.

As I write this article, I'm sitting in our soon to be completed house waiting for Comcast. By the time the November Bolletino is published, Mom, Dad and I should have been in our house for a few weeks. We thank everyone for your support and prayers these past two years!

Happy Thanksgiving!
Lauren Kilcullen

Cloverdale L'Annuciata, Branch 75

We are well into autumn having survived the heat and electrical outages! Thank goodness we had no fires in our area this year.

We want to thank the Bovone's and the Cuneo's for sharing about their recent pilgrimage to the Holy Land at our last meeting. Walking in Jesus's footsteps was a very spiritual and personal experience.

We had a good showing at Bishop's Day on September 22nd in Santa Rosa. We began with Mass at St. Eugene's Cathedral followed by a wonderful lunch at Cattleman's Restaurant.

There were 8 from our branch who attended. Bishop Vasa was very appreciative of the District's donation to the Seminary Burse.

Our Branch hosted the District Meeting on October 13th. It was a great lunch with wonderful raffle prizes. Thank you to our members who cooked and served the luncheon.

Our next meeting is October 17th. This is an important meeting as we will be voting on the slate for new officers. Our meal

Sonoma St. Sebastian, Br. 103

Tonite Sonoma had a great lasagna dinner with sides being contributed by the members. Great company and above all we were graced by the presence of Laurice Levine from our national charity in support of research and assistance of persons suffering with Thalassemia.

We were hoping for several more diners this month but even though there were few of us we always seem to enjoy ourselves. At our next meeting we will be hosting our Central Council in December. Looking forward to preparing for their visit. Hoping to see more Sonoma members attend.

The clock is ticking so must submit pics from our Larson Park picnic. Wish me luck!!

Marilyn Sylvestri
Recording-Secretary

Ciao and ci vediamo presto!!

Arcata St. Mary, Br. 144

Fr. Pachaco opened our meeting with a prayer. It is wonderful to have an active Chaplin.

The convention reports from our delegates will be given in November. Delegates Judy and Elena plus members Anne and Alfred were off to Italy. We are expecting a trip report also!!!

We were saddened to hear of Joel Canzoneri's (Br. 145) illness. It was voted to send \$200 toward the expenses for Lora to remain near her husband in the Bay Area. Keep Joel and Lora in your daily prayers.

It was reported that the Chicken Polenta Dinner was a success. The attendance was down from previous Septembers. Invite friends, neighbors and coworkers to the February dinner. The calling list will be revised.

November is a busy month. We serve Coffee Hour the month of November. We need two members at each Mass. Call Linda if you are able to help. Our Nov. 6 meeting at

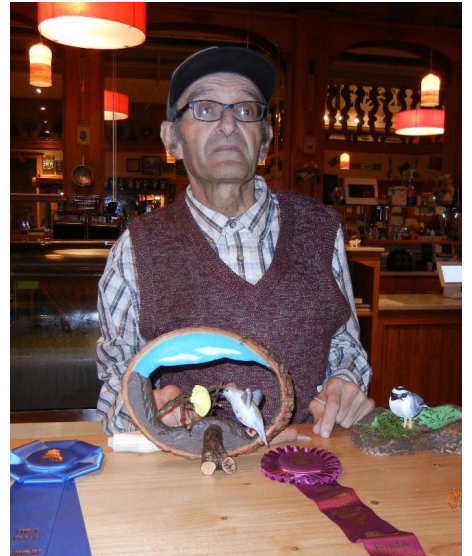
6 pm. will begin with a Mass for our deceased members, followed by a meal, and meeting. Nov. 17, we have a bake sale at both Masses. Heat up those ovens!!!

Our newest member Tony Gonsalves has many talents- one being wood carving. At the County Fair he entered several bird carving. Besides winning first place he won Best of Show. Check out the photos.

A November Happy Birthday to Dina McDonald and Joe Rodriques.



Br. 144, Joan DalPort Apostolate Chairperson holding Convention Award



Br. 144, Tony Gonsalves with award winning bird carvings



Br. 103, Grill master at work



Br. 103, Butch, Marilyn and the Petaluma "Girls", Louise and Mary Ellen

Continued from Page 17

will be an Oktoberfest. The members will provide desserts.

Have a blessed Autumn!

Eureka St. Bernard, Br. 145

We began the month of October with our Jerry Colivas Scholarship spaghetti dinner fundraiser. The event was a big success. We served close to one hundred people. Everyone had a good time visiting, eating spaghetti, and sharing wine. The sauce was made by Jerry Colivas and his brothers all of whom did a superb job. Your dad would be proud of your whole family. We served meat sauce and a marinara sauce, salad, bread and dessert. A huge thank you to all who set up and stayed to help clean up. Also our servers did a spectacular job keeping everyone happy, even though we were short staffed for servers. THANK YOU ALL! Also big thanks to all those in the kitchen taking orders from our servers and filling the requests quickly! Thank you to Marian Griffith and Suanna Rowell for handling our raffle and thank you to Julie Bonino for handling the tickets; lastly, thank you to Bob for handling the bar.

On October the 7th we had an additional fundraiser at Applebees Restaurant. Results of both fundraisers will be announced at the next meeting on November 12th. Please plan to attend.

Santa Rosa St. Eugene, Br. 198

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

President Bob Acquistapace sends his sincere thanks to every Branch member who helped to make our Polenta and Stew fundraiser such a success. The profit we made will allow us to continue our charity and scholarship programs.

Linda Sherman and the ladies in our Branch will be preparing and serving a ham dinner for our Christmas party on December 2nd. We will have Egg Nog in the Brinker Room at 5:30 p.m. and dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. The dinner is free to our members and \$10.00 for any guests.

Congratulations to the officers who were elected at the October meeting. Your service as officers is what allows our Branch to continue. Plan now to attend the installation of officers in Healdsburg on February 1, 2020.

For the "Good of the Order", President Bob has four announcements:

1. Pray for the soul of our charter member, Mary Desideri, who passed away on October 2nd. (We now have only 3 charter members remaining).
2. Congratulations to our long-time member, Carrie Vitellini, who celebrated her 100th birthday on October 11th.
3. Congratulations to our member, Ryan McCalmont, who completed the 2,650-mile hike of the Pacific Crest Trail from Mexico to Canada. He started the hike on April 4th and arrived at the Canadian border on September 14th.
4. Congratulations to our member, Jacqueline McCalmont, who announced her engagement to Josh Brown at Disneyland recently.



The Colivas brothers, Jerry A. and Sam, prepared the spaghetti and sauce for Eureka, Br. 145's Jerry J. Colivas Memorial Scholarship dinner on Oct. 5th.

Happy Thanksgiving to all.
Ciao,
Gail Bongie-Azevedo

Sebastopol St. Michael, Br. 209

At our October meeting, our branch enjoyed pizza, salad and cheesecake for dessert. We look forward to seeing members November 12th for a Thanksgiving dinner.

Branch 209 - 2020 Board Members:

President: Pam Mc Alvaine
1st Vice Pres: Yvonne Dorr
2nd Vice Pres: Roy Spadoni
Recording Secretary: Sharon Vannetti
Financial Secretary: Leona Spadoni
Treasurer: Lorraine Vannetti
Orator: Jacqueline Corsetti
Trustee: George "Bud" Polley
Trustee: Nancy Stedman
Trustee: William Segale
Sentinel: Eugene A. Vannetti

Our October 19th Polenta was well attended and a great success. Thank you to all who helped out with selling tickets, set up, cooking, selling raffle tickets, raffle prizes, tending bar, serving, clean up and all the biscotti bakers!

Charter member Cecelia Lopera passed away on August 18th. Services were held at St. Sebastian's Church for both she and her late husband Red Lopera. We send our condolences to their family.

Don't forget to purchase a District Calendar for a chance to win every day of the year. In the 2020 edition look for member Jackie



Br. 209, Sebastopol ICF Bocce Tournament (more pictures on p. 25)

Corsetti cooking with her granddaughter Catherine.

Mark your calendars for upcoming events:

November 12th – Thanksgiving dinner with regular meeting to follow.

December 7th – Branch 209 Anniversary - Ravioli dinner. Call Lona for tickets at 707-527-1021.



Br. 209, Grammy Yvonne Dorr

Please pray for our sick members: Colombina Albini & Marilyn Andrews.

Ciao,
Sharon Vannetti

FRESNO

Madera Santissimo Crocifisso, Br. 27

The meeting in September was held on the 10th and the dinner included hamburgers with all the fixings, potato salad, beans, chips and dessert. Many thanks to members Marcia and Jennifer Valorosi for donating the beautiful fresh tomatoes. Thanks to the September committee, chairmen: Jim and Kerin Cavallero and the committee: Mary and Mike Keitz (thanks Mike for barbecuing all those burgers), and Celeste Voyles.

Lou and Rosemary Janis were our delegates and they traveled to Tucson for the convention. Rosemary gave a report on the break-



Br. 209, ICF Family of the Year 2019 including Grand president, Andy Pappani & VanDyke/Weissenburger family from Colorado.



Br. 27, Double winners! Mr. & Mrs. Aldo Bottini each win a salami at the ICF salami spin booth.

out sessions and the other information she learned at the convention.

The annual Harvest Festival was held on the 20th & 21st of September and Branch 27 held their traditional salami spin.

The event was well attended and we ran out of salami as everyone who stopped by tried to win. Our booth raised over \$500.00 and money was donated to Saint Joachim Church.

Branch 27 is hosting the annual Bishop's Burse on the 24th of November. Our Bishop Joseph Brennen will be saying the 11:00 mass. Members are making preparations for this exciting event.

Other upcoming events are the Christmas Party on December 8th and a fun day at Good Company Players or Chukchansi casino date is TBD.

Please continue to pray for our ill and injured members.

Ciao,

Kerin Cavallero

Los Banos Santa Lucia, Br. 31

Hello again from branch 31! We started out last month very busy; making and jarring over 300 quarts of pasta sauce. The club sales the jars during the holidays and uses the money made to help fund our scholarship program. It was a fun and productive night that, of course, ended with a pasta dinner.

The holidays are coming up and that's usually a busy time for all. There is no meeting

Remember, start sending in
Bollettino submissions
for the December issue.
Deadline is November 10th.
Get your articles and photos in to
editor@icf.org
**Be sure to include
the branch number.**



Br. 27, St. Joachim School cheerleader, Emily Massetti, proudly shows the salami she won at the ICF booth.



Branch 31 Members jarring pasta sauce

this month, but I know we are all looking forward to our annual Christmas party. Well wishes of safe travels and a great holiday. Happy Thanksgiving and God Bless!!

Ciao,

Giona Boffa

Fresno Our Lady of Victory, Br. 32

The new officers for 2020 will be: President: Michael Caglia; Vice President: Monica Ficher; Corresponding and Recording Secretary: Sally Caglia; Financial Secretary: Paulette Volpa; Treasurer: Patricia Vivenzi; Trustees: Martha Acuna and Evelyn Nieto; Sentinel: Vicki Lionetti-Teore; and Orator: Evelyn Lopez.

Our October dinner was furnished by Paulette with deli sandwiches, homemade macaroni salad and Watergate salad.

Bishop's Day is November 24. Mass is at 11 a.m. in Madera at St. Joachim's Church. The meal will be served following mass. The cost is \$27.50 per adult. Notify your president if you want to attend.

We are nearing the end of the Open Enrollment for the hospital plan. Anyone can join, no age limit. After December 31, 2019, only members who are under the age of 70 can enroll in the health plan. Contact Paulette Volpa (908-7398) for more information. Act now!

Our final meeting of the year is Nov. 5, at the St. Alphonsus grounds. Meeting begins at 4:45 p.m. with dinner to follow in the

Big Picture School Hall.

If you would like more information, please call Elaine Lencioni (559) 834-2278 or Paulette Volpa (559) 908-7398. Hope to see you!

Paulette Volpa

Financial Secretary

Merced St. Cecilia, Br. 39

Our October dinner was a first-rate potluck. Thanks to members who brought their tasty dishes to share. The homemade apple cobbler a la mode was to die for. Such gastronomic fun!

We reviewed our slate of officers for 2020 and vote in November. Heads up: there are a few positions to fill and our Nominating Committee may phone you. As an officer for 11 years, trust me that getting involved on the board level enhances one's interest and commitment. And it's personally rewarding.

Join us for our Wednesday, Nov. 13, Thanksgiving dinner meeting at 6 p.m. Put on by the officers, it's a full-on feast with wine and dessert included. For an unbelievable \$7 cost, it doesn't pay to stay home! Bring family, friends and neighbors. All are welcome. Come at 5 p.m. and explore your creative side by making a pasta or cork ornament. More fun to be had!

On Sunday, Nov. 24, 1 p.m., help Maryellen Mazzei decorate our tree for the Courthouse Museum Christmas Open House.

Join us Sunday, Dec. 15, 12:30-3 p.m., at the Italo for our joint Christmas party with the Lodge members. This is a free event; just bring non-perishable food items to distribute to the needy. Entertainment by the local Ukulele players, bingo, delicious food, drinks, sweets and a special Santa visit are all part of our holiday party. Bring yourself, your kids, grandkids, great-grandkids, and anyone who likes to have a good time.

We wish you an early Happy Thanksgiving.

Stephanie Lucich

Sanger Sant' Antonio, Br. 70

On Sept 29 we had our annual Spaghetti and Meat Ball Fundraiser which included a bake sale table. We thank Bob Merlo and his crew of cooks for a job well done. President Kay Lopez and her mom, Josie Lopez, set the tables and decorated them beautifully with red checkered table clothes and flowers.

Katlyn Silvana, Rosemary Wymenga, Elaine Lincioni and I worked at the bake sale table. Thank you for your help and supplying us with the delicious goodies. All in all the fundraiser was very successful.

We are looking forward to Bishop Day in November.



Continued on Page 20

Continued from Page 19

We send out our get well wishes and prayers to Enis Giovacchini, Blanche Mendoze and Florence Carrara. We love you, pray for you and hope you have speedy recoveries.

Happy Thanksgiving and God Bless to all.
Orsolina Casella

Clovis Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Br. 250

Our two long time members, Sherrie Atolico and Tony Rainaldi, are still on the mend so keep them in our prayers.

Our branch just completed another successful effort at the Parish festival. Our meatball sandwiches are so tasty! Many thanks to those members who served beyond the call of duty to make it a fine effort.

The Lavagninos returned from a 10-day visit to family in beautiful Humboldt County and its great 70 degree weather. They also spent time in Lake County with Leanne's sister in Lakeport.

Shirley Mitchell returned after an enjoyable trip to the Grand Canyon, Laughlin, and the Tuolumne area.

Happy October and November birthdays to Shirley Mitchell, Teresa Weatherly, Rachel Bejarano, Dirk Charley, Silvia Dalton, Cynthia Newton, John Rainaldi, and Rich Zanarini.

Upcoming events: Bishop's Seminary Burse on 11/3 and our annual pasta dinner with sausage and meatballs on 11/10.

Did you know that in the year 452, Pope Leo the Great convinced the barbarians to spare Rome from looting and pillaging? Perhaps Leo promised him some home-made ravioli?

Pray fervently that supporters of abortion will finally recognize the sanctity of life and give innocent infants their right to life.

Thought for the month: *The world only beats a path to your door when you're in the bathroom.* --Guido Gambastorta

Ciao!

Carlotta Cacciatore

Bakersfield Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Br. 281

Fall is upon us! Along with the crisp and cooler weather Branch 281 has no shortage

of activities for our members and parish community.

George & Terri Carson represent ICF by hosting coffee & doughnuts once a month after all the Masses. They happily take volunteer helpers too!

The month of October also means our annual Marion Zasoski memorial horse races.

This is the fourth year we have teamed up with St Francis Branch 33 for an evening of food fun and fellowship. We can almost hear Marian cheering from above when bets are placed and the horses are released from the gates! The horse races were definitely 'her thing'.

Our branch also hosts a Fall pancake breakfast. Our fellow parishioners get to see those people in those distinctive red, green and white aprons working together and serving up a delicious breakfast!

Finally, our Autumn activities would not be complete without our annual turkey Bingo. In addition to a sumptuous meal, our members get to enjoy good company as they take try their luck at BINGO to win some great prizes.

Blessings to you and your family. We truly have much to be thankful for.

Theresa Amarante

CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT

Santa Cruz Nostra Signora del Soccorso, Br. 21

Buon giorno! It's pumpkin and turkey time! And it's also that time of the year when we nominate and elect new Branch 21 Board members. As you know, the position of President is a lot of work and responsibility. For that reason it was decided that this year the position of President will be shared by three persons, and each person would serve four months. Our new slate of officers is as follows: President: Gary Castiglioni, Rebecca Hernandez, and John Barisone; First Vice President: whichever two of three Presidents are not serving as President; Second Vice-President: Mickey Aluffi; Recording Secretary: Patty Morelli; Financial Secretary: Rosa Radicchi; Treasurer: Maria Reames; Orator: Mari Segura; Trustees: Sue Della Santina, Mary Jo Belli, and Carmen Locatelli; Sentinel: Cynthia Schuette. We congratulate the new Board members and ask God's blessings upon them.

The Spaghetti and Meatball Dinner was a great success. We want to thank the Knights of Columbus for sharing this event with us. Also, we thank all those who helped with setting up to cleaning up; you are the lifeline of our events. Coming up on November 3rd is one of our favorite events, the Memorial Mass.

And on December 6th, our Christmas Party! Information on both these fun events to follow.

In closing, we would like to offer prayers and support to Raymond and Zelma Fambrini whose son, John, recently passed away. He was well loved.

Emily Dickenson wrote: *Unable are the loved to die....for love is immortal.*

Ciao per ora.

Patty Morelli

Secretary Branch 21

Salinas Sacred Heart, Br. 25

Thanks to all member volunteers who manned the Pizza booth at the Sacred Heart Parish International Festival on Sunday, Sept 22, 2019. Our next event will be a "Paint & Sip Water Color Class" fundraiser on Sunday October 27 from 2-4 pm at the Knights of Columbus Hall meeting room. We are getting read for our largest fundraiser, the Polenta Take Out Lunch and Bake Sale on Wednesday, November 13, 2019, at the Sacred Heart Parish Hall. Our regular November meeting will be held during our prep day, Tuesday, November 13, at the Parish Hall, our annual election will be held during that meeting. Please mark your calendar for our Annual Christmas Party on December 15, to be held at JM Ranch. We will all our members and all of ICF a wonderful Thanksgiving Holiday with family and friends, and safe travels.

JoAnn Sullivan, Recording Secretary

Hollister Sacred Heart, Br. 26

Greetings from Hollister, Branch 26! Our branch President, Harry Hill, is a District Council Trustee now. Mary Ann Friebe and Cheri Huntley were our Convention representatives. They had a great time learning about the ICF and networking with new and old friends. Andy Papani is now an Executive Board Member since his term as Grand President has ended. Thank you, Andy, for all your efforts to keep the ICF moving forward this past year.

On October 26, Bishop's Day will be held at 11 am Mass at San Carlos Cathedral, Monterey. Come and listen to our guest speaker, Andy Papani. Cost is \$15 and benefits Bishop Daniel's Burse.

Andy Papagni's testimonial dinner will be November 2 at the Moose Lodge, Del Rey Oaks. The \$40 cost includes dinner, coffee,

and dessert. All profits benefit seminarians.

We are currently involved in electing new officers. We should finalize the positions by the November meeting. Anyone interested in serving as an officer should contact Branch President, Harry Hill. Hollister will host the installations of Branch officers with a Mass and luncheon most probably at Paine's Restaurant. There will be more info to come on the exact time and location.

Please pray for our members who have died recently, Rosalie Campisi, 100, and Michael Pera.

Remember also, those members who are ill-Jim Friebe, John Vodanovich, and Kathy Hill.

Brenda Ellis

Recording Secretary, Branch 26

Monterey Santa Rosalia, Br. 36

Branch 36 wishes you and your families a Blessed Thanksgiving. *Let us come before Him with Thanksgiving Psalms 95:2*

September 19: Our branch cooked a successful Spaghetti dinner fundraiser for San Carlos School 8th graders. Funds will be used for their Washington DC trip. Thanks to all our members as well as parents of San Carlos School for volunteering for this worthwhile event.

October 3: Over 230 members and guests enjoyed an outstanding Autumn Flavor dinner and monthly meeting. Election of 2020 officers took place - congratulations and sincere appreciation to all.

October 26: Central Coast District - Bishop's Day, hosted by Branch #36 Monterey, honoring Bishop Daniel E. Garcia. Mass, presentation of Seminary burse, great raffle prizes, and lunch - a wonderful event. Thanks to all committee members and district officers and branches for making this a special day.

November is also a busy month for our branch: Andy Papani's testimonial dinner on 11/2, our annual Thanksgiving Dinner/Meeting on 11/7 with canned goods for Saint Francis Xavier Church food pantry, and Dinner Show with DiFranco Family Singers on 11/16.

Calendar:

December 7: Christmas Dinner Dance

December 15: Children's Christmas party, with lunch, gifts, games, and Santa - fun



Br. 36. pictures of our members at work and at play

for all ages!

*Give thanks to the Lord
For he is Good
His love endures forever*
1 Chronicles 16:34

*Sii Grato (Be Thankful),
Elaine Valentine, Financial Secretary*

Castroville Santa Caterina de Siena, Br. 51

Happy Thanksgiving!

I would like to begin this entry with a Thanksgiving prayer:

For each new morning with its light,

For rest and shelter of the night,

For health and food,

For love and friends,

For everything Thy goodness sends.

We thank you, Lord, for Thy love and kindness that never ends.

Amen.

Our branch asks all of our members to send positive thoughts and prayers to Mary Jane Howard, who is battling cancer. Mary is the sister-in-law of our member Vera Doris. Prayers of strength and love go to Mary, her family, and friends.

Happy Birthday to our November babies: members Virginia Frassetto, who has been a member for sixty-nine years, and Egidio Tonus, who has been a member for forty-one years! Thank you both for being dedicated members to our branch.

I hope everyone has a blessed season of thanks and remembrance surrounded by family and friends.

Until next time,

Natalie Carbonel

Capitola St. Joseph's, Br. 227

Our October meeting featured Polish sausage, potatoes, homemade sauerkraut and Fresh Apple Cake prepared by Heidi Ambiel and her crew. It was our own version of Oktoberfest and enjoyed by all.

Our Orator, Danny Scott, found it necessary to resign due to all his other obligations, including operating his body shop business. Danny always did a nice job of offering the opening and closing prayers at our meeting and we thank him for that.

Get well wishes go to Carl Schaarschmidt, who is recovering from heart surgery, and Lou Boczek, who is dealing with a recent health issue.

We were sorry to learn from Ida Lomazzi that her sister, Ruth Datko, passed away in October. Ruth was a member for 22 years and up until her illness, faithfully attended our meetings. Condolences to all her family.

Our appreciation goes to Monterey Branch 36 for hosting Central Coast District Bishop's Day in October.

We'd like to give special recognition to Kay Waldvogel who is celebrating her birthday in November. Kay and her husband, Ken, have been dedicated members since 1970.

Kay can always be counted on to lend a hand where it is needed, and her homemade desserts are a real treat.

Best wishes for a happy Thanksgiving. Let's all take time to remember and be grateful for the blessings God has bestowed upon us.

Deanna Musler, Secretary

Paso Robles Saint Rose of Lima, Br. 354

On Friday October 11th we were blessed to celebrate a beautiful life. It was member Theresa Sollazzo's 99th birthday. Buon compleanno, Theresa! We send a big "thank you" to Theresa's family for including us in the festivities.

Our branch donated \$300 to Saint Rose Catholic School to help sponsor the October 23rd middle school's religious retreat. It was led by 12 members of the National Evangelization Team (NET Ministries) and ICF member Shannon Uribe. Shannon serves as the Saint Rose Catholic School Campus Minister and Middle School Religious Education Teacher.

We thank the newly elected Branch officers for stepping up to take a leadership position, and wish them the best for 2020 as they guide our club into the future.

Branch 354 will be attending Bishop's Day on October 26th, hosted by Branch 36, Monterey. We are excited about the opportunity to meet and welcome our new Bishop Daniel Garcia to the Diocese and to the ICF.

We have two or three families interested in our Registration Assistance Program. Hopefully they will decide to join this great (ICF) organization.

Saturday, November 16th, 2019, is our next Pasta Dinner at the Saint Rose of Lima Parish Hall, proceeds to benefit ICF Charities.

- Take outs start at 4:30 p.m. and sit-down dinners are served from 5 pm to 8 pm.

- Adults - \$14.00, and children - \$7.00, please come and support us.

Our annual Madonna Inn Christmas Luncheon Party will be held on Saturday December 7th from 12-3 p.m.

Yvonne Maddalena

CHICAGO DISTRICT

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

It seems like just a few weeks ago we Chicagoans were complaining about the extreme summer heat we were having. In the blink of an eye, summer is gone, along with the high electric bills due to air conditioners running 24/7. I'm a bit disenchanted now that summer has turned to fall. Then I realize that its beauty is the best of all. The autumn colors cannot be duplicated by Crayola.

Some of our members attended the district's

golf outing, whether golfing or coming just for dinner. Raffle prizes were great and the event, chaired by Al Cimino, was a financial success. Great job!!! We planned a bake sale for Oct. but it had to be postponed as 3 of our bakers were sick and/or hospitalized. Through our prayers, they are doing much better. Elections are on the agenda and hopefully we can get some new officers for 2020.

Gobble-gobble day is approaching -- let us take the time to stop our daily routines and say thank you. We are abundantly blessed. Even if there were some adverse moments, we know we can call on God to be there and lift us up or send someone who could help us at that moment. His journey for us is already written, and we rejoice in it. Dear Lord, thank you for this gift of food you've placed upon our table. And help us all to do your work in any way we're able.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Leonora

SANTA CLARA VALLEY DISTRICT

Benvenuti to all the returning convention delegates. All seemed to be impressed with how well the convention went and we scored some impressive accomplishments as a district. Grand Parliamentarian for Bob Bausino and Second VP for Denise Antonowicz. Outstanding achievement on Heritage and 100% of all branches awarding full scholarships. District President Bob Bausino added that all branches and some individuals contributed \$14,180 toward scholarships.

Branch 368 was awarded 4th Place for Apostolic 3rd Place for branches with 71-129 members. Branch 435 received awards for 1st Place Heritage, 3rd Place most new members and 1st Place increased new members in a branch with 71-129 members. The branch is in the top 5 with three family memberships. Branch 445's Jan Stumhofer received 1st Place for an outstanding Heritage Report.

Marie Yurosko added a footnote to Craig Noah's recent account of the inauguration of Branch 47 which cited that the "Ave Maria" was sung at the Mass by Cora Radisich. Marie said her mother was that singer. Then she played a recording of her mother singing that song. Fr. Bennett is planning a "Day of Recollection"; More details to follow.

Andy Pappani thanked everyone for support



Br. 28: New Members (left to right) Carolyn Olsen, Julia Cordoza and Joe Cardoza being installed at the September 16th dinner meeting.

given him at convention and mentioned that John Gillio gave Fr. Cardelli one of his crosses and father was impressed.

SCV District Bishop's Day – October 26

Andy Pappani's Testimonial Dinner – Moose Lodge Del Rey Oaks, Monterey – November 2

Mike Nunziata

Santa Clara N.S. Assunta, Br. 5

Hi, come one come all to the November Meeting and Dinner on November 14, 2019.

Thanks goes to Joe Martinez and his crew for an excellent Pork Loin Roast Dinner in September.

Good Job.

May all Members have a Blessed and Happy Thanksgivings Day Holiday. Drive safe and remember to give thanks to God.

It was a wonderful Bishop's Day Mass at St. Clare's Church and an enjoyable lunch. Thanks to

all who made it possible.

The time is here to renew your Membership. Cost: \$43.20 per Member. Hospital dues are

\$25.00 and Family dues are \$10.00. Dues are all due by December 31, 2019.

God Bless,

Marlene J. Rotolo

Gilroy

Santa Maria Ausiliatrice, Br. 28

At the September 16th dinner meeting David and Valerie Vanni and family provided members and guests a sumptuous meal of pork loin and pesto pasta. Thank you to the Vanni family for providing a wonderful meal year after year for Branch 28.

Our branch membership now stands at 179 with the addition of Joe and Julia Cardoza and Carolyn Olsen. A big welcome to you all.

On September 11th ICF Branch 28 officers Joe Fortino, Vince Saso, Diana Berry, Patricia Cordich and Kim Filice met with our new pastor Father Michael Hendrickson to discuss Branch 28's role in conjunction with the Parish. Father Hendrickson demonstrated a strong understanding of the Italian Catholic Federation, and indicated that he will assist doing whatever he can to see our branch prosper and thrive. We are blessed to have Father Hendrickson and Father John Tu Hoang whom will also be active in our branch.

Our bake sale is scheduled for November 17th after morning masses in the Youth Center next to St. Mary Church. Donated bake sale items will be accepted from 6:30 a.m. to 8 a.m. on Sunday the 17th and 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday the 16th at the Youth Center. Father Hendrickson will lead us in the Rosary in the Grotto following the 11 a.m. mass.

November 4th - member Thanksgiving dinner, Cullen Hall

December 16th - member Christmas dinner,

Continued on Page 22

Continued from Page 21

Old City Hall Restaurant

January 4, 2020 - District Installation of Officers 9:30 A.M. St. Mary Church, Luncheon at Old City Hall following.

Peace and God Bless,

Kim M. Filice

Los Gatos St. Mary, Br. 184

There were 350 attendees at the 95th Convention in Tucson, AZ. The whirlwind of activity included Blood Drives, Rodeos, Bocce, Food, Music and Spirituality. Our Branch President, Denise Antonowicz was elected Grand 2nd Vice President, as well she was made Chairman of the Heritage Committee. Congratulations Denise! Father Chris Bennett from Transfiguration gave workshops on Spirituality, which workshops were very well attended and appreciated. Masses were celebrated with voices united in song.

Plans are now underway for our Polenta Chicken Cacciatore Dinner Dance this coming Saturday. The committees work very hard to host this dinner. We donate the proceeds to various charities as well as to Scholarships.

Recently we received a Thank You letter from the Grand Lodge for the following: \$500 2nd year scholarship to Owen O'Brien, attending U.C. Santa Cruz; \$600 3rd year scholarship to Katherine Taylor, attending University of Michigan at Ann Arbor; \$500 2nd year scholarship and \$600 3rd year scholarship to a deserving Sophomore and Junior respectively; \$500 2nd year scholarship to Skyler Jiminez, attending Gonzaga University in Spokane, WA.

Can you believe Thanksgiving is around the corner? The fall colors are beautiful.

Please take care until next time, and keep our members in your prayers,

Lucy Amico

San Jose St. Frances Cabrini, Br. 191

Our cool fall weather is upon us, with brisk mornings and darkness falling early each evening.

October brings us to election time for Branch 191. Please give some deep consideration to running for an office. Branches are only as good as their members and officers, to have a branch thrive and be successful. We ALL have great ideas and talents to be utilized, be involved run for an office. If not this year, next year for Sure!!!

The month of November, November 9th in particular, will have us dancing the night away with our "50's Sock Hop". Our dance committee has been hard at work with decorations, last minute meal preparations, and surprises galore to make this a real Sock Hop!!! Don't Delay. Please call Debbie Piro at 408 306 9244 for your dinner reservations. It is never too late to have an enjoyable evening.

Some other activities up coming on the



Jim Jones at district meeting for Branch 191

event calendar:

Bishop's Day Oct 26. Mass @ St Claire Church 11am. Luncheon at 3 Flames

Oct 23. Mass at 5pm for Father Paolo At SFC, followed by 6pm Dinner

District Meeting November 11, at Santa Theresa 7 p.m.

December 1. Layette Shower. St Christopher's Church 2 p.m.

For Summer's passing and harvest home

For Autumn's splendor and winter's chill

For seed that has fallen the promise of spring....

We thank you...

--Anonymous

Many blessings and prayers to our sick and infirmed members

Shirley Catania

Sentinel

San Jose Santa Teresa de Avila, Br. 368

We appreciate the encouraging words of our Grand President, Mr. Vince Piro, in his acceptance speech at the Convention and reprinted them in the October issue of the Bollettino. We see reflected in our branch many of the activities he has encouraged us to do, such as assisting our pastor, Father George Aranha, in fundraisers and ministries.

A big thank you goes to all of our members for their hard work making our Santa Teresa

Parish Festival the weekend of October 5 and 6 a huge success. Besides contributing our time, money, and talent to the festival, our ICFers regularly help out at our parish crab feed, the pasta dinner, the rib dinner, and Monte Carlo night. We serve the parish as Eucharistic ministers, lectors, and hospitality ministers. Branch members bring the Eucharist to the home bound and distribute food during the holidays. We are very close to our parish.

Because we were recovering from our work at the festival, at our October 9 meeting we enjoyed salad, pizza, and desserts, a meal that did not require hours of effort.

After the meal we discussed joining other Santa Teresa organizations in purchasing a single-person lift that we can use in the church, the hall, and the parking lot to complete projects such as replacing light bulbs or hanging banners, which require a person suspended safely in the air.

We elected officers for next year. That's it!

God hold you in the palm of His hand at Thanksgiving and always, Judy Zahn

San Jose St. Martin of Tours, Br. 391

President Mike Rossi opened our October meeting by thanking the cooks for our delicious Octoberfest dinner of bratwurst and sauerkraut.

Congratulations to our 2020 officers, who were re-elected: President-Mike Rossi; First Vice President-Marcie Rossi; Second Vice President-Doug Schenk; Financial

Secretary-Tina Rossi; Treasurer-Steve Lencioni, Orator-Sister Jane Garrison; Trustees-Donna Rossi and Linda Vallorz, and Sentinel-Linda Ochinerio. Also, we congratulate our new officers, Secretary-Susan Busco and Trustee Mayme Abbott.

We appreciate and thank you, officers, and outgoing Secretary, Louise Vento, for your service to our branch.

Also, thank you, Cathy DeMaria, who continues to do a great job in presiding over the nominating and voting process.

Guest speaker, Sal Talamo, gave an informative presentation on PG&E's Energy Savings Assistance Program, which provides qualified seniors with common home

improvements to help keep homes more efficient and safer.

Mary Lipari reported on second- and third-year scholarships granted to Skylar Jiminez, Stephany Jiminez, Talia Rossi, and Gabi Busco.

Don't forget to come to our next fundraiser—Ravioli and Meatball Dinner on November 16, 2020. We ask that members support this fun event. Please sign up to bring a dessert for our raffle at our next meeting. Contact Cathleen Lencioni for tickets.

ICF Calendars for 2020 will be on sale in the coming months. Remember some of the proceeds are returned to our branch.

Upcoming events: Branch 391 Meeting—November 5, 2019, 6:30 p.m.; Ravioli and Meatball dinner--Saturday, November 16, 2019, 5:00 pm-7:00 pm.

Have a healthy and happy Thanksgiving!

Janis Patellaro

Sunnyvale Resurrection, Br. 408

Br. 408 Member Al Chanteloup presented the Resurrection School Principal Mrs. Wright with a check from the Branch for the \$500 raised from the Pancake Breakfast after the 815 AM Friday School Mass to be used for Tuition Assistance. Mrs Wright gratefully received the Check.

The Branch held a very successful Columbus Weekend Bake Sale. Thank you to Sandra and Patricia for Organizing this Event. A special thank you to all our bakers,



Lorraine Nunziata and the ladies from Branch 368 prepare items for the diocesan layette program.



Br.408 Bake sale Oct 19 Sandra, Tina, Donna & Patricia

donors and volunteers.

We look forward to seeing you all on Saturday, 26 October at Saint Clare for the 11 AM Mass with Bishop Oscar followed by lunch at Three Flames on Meriden. This will be our first chance for the ICF Organization to meet with our new Bishop. We look forward to a good turn out.

Please remember to include our sick members in your prayers – including former Fred Petralia (passed) and Paul and Dori Blefari.

Morgan Hill Santa Caterina D'Alessandria, Br. 435

As I am writing this, we just completed an exercise in futility preparing for a massive planned power outage. Although I am grateful that we did not lose power, we still had to make some adjustments and take steps to mitigate any losses. My sympathies go to those folks who did lose power. I hope they get it back on soon.

Enough of my complaining. We had a nice September dinner at Morgan Hill Cellars, outside on the covered patio, where we dined on pulled pork sliders, coleslaw, baked beans and corn pudding, followed by a delightful array of little cupcakes and cookies provided by Sal and Denise Campagna. The weather was perfect and everyone enjoyed themselves. Our October dinner will be more in line with our Italian heritage as we will be having pasta and meatballs prepared by Tommy Palmer, an ICF member and professional chef.

St. Catherine's parish sponsored a Ministry Fair the weekend of Sept 21/22 and Br. 435 picked up one new member bringing our total membership to 121. Thanks to all our members who helped out after mass that weekend.

Our second year scholarship winner is Anthony Scarpene, who attended St. Catherine's and is now attending the University of Nevada at Reno. The \$500 will come in handy.

It's officer election time. Hopefully, some new folks will take over some of the positions. It's good to have new ideas.

Please keep all of our members in your prayers, especially those who are ill or infirm.

God bless! Maryclaire

STOCKTON DISTRICT

Modesto

St. Stanislaus, Br. 48

Our Bake Sale is the biggest fund raiser for our Branch and our members went all out with their baking and we had a very successful bake sale. Thanks to all our members that helped, your help is appreciated.

We have the convention calendars for sale. The calendars share recipes of children baking with their grandparents and I might add some very good recipes. If you haven't been to the meeting and want a calendar call me (Cecelia (209)524-7866) and I will see that you get one.

The election of officers will be held in November due to some members not able to attend the October meeting.

Our next big event will be the Stockton District Installation of Officers January 5, 219. It will be a Roast Beef dinner. Hope to see all of you there. Details will be in the December Bollettino.

Mass for our deceased members will be Sundays November 10, 2019 and December 12, 2019 at the 8:00 am mass at the Maze Blvd. Church.

Refreshments for the November 13, 2019 will be furnished Nancy Souza.

Bank night winner was Cecelia McGhee.

Happy Thanksgiving to all our families.

Coming up:

Nov 13 - 7:00 pm Meeting J Street Hall 7 & K Streets

Dec 11 6:00 pm Christmas potluck and meeting

Jan 5 1:00 pm mass and installation of officers

Jan 8, 2020 7:00 pm Meeting J Street Hall 7 & K Street

Cecelia McGhee

Lodi

St. Anne's, Br. 82

Ciao a tutti!

Being the harvest season, at our Oct. general meeting, members shared their favorite harvest dishes and participated in an apple naming contest. Did you know that there are 7500 varieties of apples, and that Italy grows the most apples for consumption in Europe? Also, thank you to John Spagnola for sharing your family's journey from Italy to PA to OH and finally to CA!

In support of our St. Anne's School and to



Br.82.St Anne's Salami Toss in Action



Br. 82, St Anne's Salami Toss; Patty, Elisa, Julia

promote ICF, we sponsored a Salami Toss booth at their October Harvest Fest. Amazing how that oddly shaped piece of potato when thrown doesn't go where you want. It was 2 days of fun games, good eats and lively entertainment.

Member recruitment is going to be a priority for the month of Nov. At all masses during the first week, ICF members will share ICF's mission with the St. Anne's congregation.

We're gearing up for our 1st Annual Polenta Dinner on Sat., Dec. 7th at 6:30 p.m. in St. Anne's Hall, \$25/adult; \$10/ children 12 and under. Come join us for no host bar and a delicious chicken cacciatore/ polenta dinner while listening to accordion favorites. Then, try out your dancing shoes to the sounds of DJ Vincent Reyes. Raffle prizes, a dessert auction, and children's activities round out the evening. Proceeds from this fundraiser will help support the St. Anne's Youth Program. Contact Lisa for tickets at lisafugazi@sbcglobal.net. Spero di vedervi li.

Have a Blessed Thanksgiving!

Patty Litts

Corresponding Secretary

Manteca

Nostra Signora del Buon Viaggio, Br. 139

Among the 2019 ICF Scholarship winners announced were four students from Branch 139. Second-year awards of \$500 went to Anna Bonfiglio, a student at the University of California (Los Angeles), the grand-daughter of August and Roberta Bonfiglio; and Emily Cunial, a student at the University of California (Santa Barbara), the daughter of Dan and Annie Cunial and grand-daughter of Dino and Sharon Cunial. A third-year award of \$600 went to Emily's sister, Carly, a student at California State Polytechnic University (San Luis Obispo). A fourth-year award of \$1,000 went to Jordyn Posz, a student

at California State University-Stanislaus (Turlock), the daughter of Rich and Cary Posz and grand-daughter of Joe and Pat Pellegrino.

New members Louise Hill and Eric Oliveri were welcomed to the ICF.

At our September branch meeting, a letter was received from Stockton Bishop Myron Cotta thanking us for our generous donation to the Diocesan Seminarian's Fund.

Our annual Biscotti Baking for the holidays will begin the week of November 24, with Anna Mello in charge. Our November branch meeting will be cancelled due to this baking activity.

Mr. and Mrs. Steve Ridolfi from the Tracy branch were guests at our September meeting.

Ciao per ora,

Mariano

Tracy

St. Bernard, Br. 390

Congratulations to our third-year scholarship winner, Jackson Lieberg! It's marvelous to see our scholarship students keeping their grades while hopefully enjoying college life. Keep up the good work, Jackson!

Memberships in Br. 390 are staying at a nice number heading into end-of-year renewal season. We are maintaining 177 members with a few new applicants. We are grateful that our branch is keeping a healthy number of members during these trying times.

St. Bernard's annual festival was well-attended and our booth sold almost 100 pizzas and lots and lots of lemon icees. Thanks to all the hard-working members who manned the booth for the weekend event.

October dinner meeting was another big

Continued on Page 24



Mike Bacchetti and Louie Serrato getting takeout plates ready to go.

Branch 390 Tracy, CA First Meeting of the New year



The "Don" pouring wine for a guest.



Checking in



Great Country Ribs and Beans



Ready to Eat!

hit- we served polenta and chicken cacciatore to almost 200 folks. Thanks to all the hard-working cooks, cleaners, bartenders, raffle ticket sellers, money collectors, wine openers and all the great people who supplied desserts and raffle prizes. November 20th is the next dinner meeting with traditional turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes and all the trimmings. Donations of canned food are welcome and will go to parishioners who are in need.

Br. 390 December dinner meeting is already scheduled for Thursday, December 12th with ravioli and tri-tip you have all grown so fond of. Buon appetito everyone!

2020 Calendars are for sale (where did the century go?) and we will have them at the check-in table at all the remainder of our dinner meetings until they are all sold!

Check out our branch website for photos and selfies - www.icfbranch390.org or <http://www.icfbranch390.org/picture-gallery/>.

Ciao for now,
Betty Hollars

Stockton

Presentation of the BVM, Br. 395

What do you get when you combine Chinese food and elections? Branch 395's most recent meeting! What a great night.

We are excited to announce our 2020 board:
President--Mary Ann Piana Chapman



Branch 390 Delegates

Lt. to Rt. Stephen Ridolfi (Alternate), Anita Ridolfi (Delegate), Serena Martocchio, (Delegate), Lucy Orsi, (Delegate), Nancy Schlemmer, (Delegate), Joe Schlemmer (Alternate).



Mary Gualco
\$1500 Convention Raffle Winner
Branch 390

Patricia (Pat) Reeves
\$1000 Convention Raffle Winner
Branch 390



1st VP--Marilyn Ramacher
2nd VP--Bob and Linda Langone
Recording Secretary--Josephine Weber
Financial Secretary--Mary Fry
Treasurer--Pat Beglau
Orator--Karen Rosson
Sentinel--Pat Bertilacchi

Trustees--Bernice Nickols, Becky Vergaro, Paula Watt

We recently lost long time ICF member, Elda Canevari. Her husband David and son Tim presented the branch with a second year



David Canevari and his son Tim present Branch 395 a second year scholarship in honor of his wife/mother Elda who recently passed away. Elda was a long time member and supporter of ICF.

In Memory of CAROL M. CIRRINCIONE



Carol Cirrincione, a long time member of Green Valley’s Our Lady of the Valley Branch 425, passed away peacefully in her sleep on Sunday, September 8th at her daughter, Laura’s home. Laura is also a member of Branch 425.

Born in Buffalo, New York in 1934, she was preceded in death by her husband, Frank (1992). She is survived by Laura (Laurie), and sons, Andrew of Reno, NV; Franklin of Hamburg, NY; John of Rio Rancho, NM; and grandchildren Michael and Caitlin Cirrincione of Hamburg, NY, as well as Erik Hensler of Rio Rancho, NM. She had one great-grandchild.

Carol and her husband owned and operated a popular Italian restaurant, Francesco’s, in her hometown.

Carol moved from Western New York to Green Valley in 2004, where she immediately began making friends.

She was a member of Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church and soon joined the Italian Catholic Federation. She was a wonderful volunteer for the branch, helping with the twice yearly Lasagna Dinner fundraisers and baking cookies for the branch’s cookie sales.

Carol also played cards at the East Center in Green Valley and became a Green Valley recreation monitor. She co-founded the GVR Singles club.

Carol’s memorial mass will be held on Tuesday, October 8th at 11 a.m. at Our Lady of the Valley Church, with a reception to follow.

We, the members of Branch 425 will miss her wonderful smile, her sense of humor, and kind spirit.

scholarship in her name. It will be given in her honor next year to a well-deserving student from our branch. Thank you Cannevari family.

Craving Polenta, save the date, our annual Polenta dinner will be Thursday, February 7, 2019.

Alla prossima,
Mary Ann

Angels Camp St. Patrick, Br. 413

Hello to all our ICF Family and friends from the foothills! We celebrated Columbus Day with a Lasagna Dinner that was delicious! The number of guests was smaller than years past, but it was a good time with raffle prizes and cozy fellowship.

Everyone enjoyed themselves talking with friends, and there were some tables with the winning tickets for prizes. Tom and Mary Kingshill and Glenn Meeks co-chaired the event. Mary and Tom did the food shopping and Glenn did the cooking of the lasagna. Mary made a wonderful bread pudding that was as popular as the lasagna!

St. Patrick’s has a new pastor, Father John Paul ...With his guidance, may God



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bless the parish and strengthen our love for one another and God. ICF Branch 413 looks forward to working with him.

Our next event will be the free breakfast that Branch 413 makes for the parish in December. Happy Thanksgiving!

Ciao,
Annette Pachinger
Correspondence Secretary

TUCSON

Green Valley Our Lady of the Valley, Br. 425

Our September meeting found many of our members attending; though many of our snowbirds are have still not arrived. We celebrated the return of fall with pizza, a yearly tradition.

With the passing and ill health of many of our members, our branch is re-evaluating what activities, both fundraising and social, we will now be able to accomplish in the

coming years. Discussion is ongoing, but cutting back seems to be the way to go. To that end, we will be reducing both our bake sales and pasta dinners to one a year.

We are continuing with some of our other traditions, though. So in December, the branch will be going to the Gaslight Theater in Tucson to see their yearly Christmas

To speak gratitude is courteous and pleasant, to enact gratitude is generous and noble, but to live gratitude is to touch Heaven.

Johannes A. Gaertner



Br. 209 Bocce Ball tournament. For Br. 209 article and more pictures, see page. 18.

THE ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION



LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE DISTRICT
Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library Committee

Presents

SAINT FRANCES XAVIER CABRINI
PILGRIMAGE, MASS AND LUNCHEON

*"CELEBRATING THE 103rd YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF
MOTHER CABRINI'S DEATH"*

at

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church
3801 Scott Rd
Burbank, CA 91504

DATE: December 1, 2019

PILGRIMAGE: 12:30 PM MASS: 1:00 PM LUNCH: 2:00 PM

COST: \$20.00 / Adults & \$8.00 / Children under 12
"Each paid Dinner includes one Raffle Ticket for a Special Raffle Prize"

MENU: BAKED CHICKEN, PASTA, SALAD, VEGGIE, COFFEE, TEA,
WINE AND DESERT (Catered by Jouni's Catering)

RESERVATION(S) DUE BY: NOVEMBER 18, 2019

CONTACT: ANDREA LINN SEND CHECK TO: ICF c/o ANDREA LINN
T. 909-762-1392 4095 Fruit St Sp 342
E. andilinn@gmail.com La Verne CA 91750

I wish to reserve _____ dinner(s) at \$20.00 dinner; _____ Under 12 at \$8.00 dinner
Enclosed is \$ _____

*"All proceeds to help fund the ongoing operations and development of
Cabrini Chapel and Library."*

*(Please make checks to the Italian Catholic Federation)
memo: Cabrini Pilgrimage 2019*

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October, 2019

Dear Branch President,

As you know, many Individuals, Districts and Branches traditionally place Christmas and New Year's messages in the December issue of the *Bollettino*. These can be sent in, already designed and sized, or the text may be provided and we will create the design. These are the choices and prices for the ads:

2 1/2" x 2 1/2" (one column square)	\$25
2 1/2" x 5" (vertical or horizontal)	\$35
4" x 5" (horizontal)	\$50
6 1/2" x 5" (horizontal, quarter page)	\$70

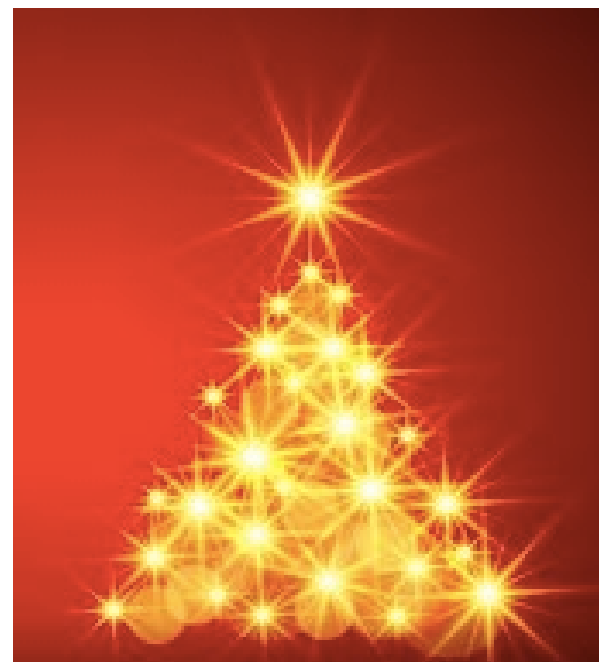
To place a message, please send in your ad by e-mail, either finished or just the text you want, size selection, and your check made out to the ICF (noted Christmas ad), to:

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

Please send all ad files electronically to info@icf.org.

The deadline is November 10th. Thank you.

ICF Office





Step Right Up and Join Us for a CARNIVAL



To Celebrate The 3rd Annual Thalassemia Christmas Party

When:

Sunday, December 15, 2019, 12:00 noon – 2:00 pm

Where:

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

RSVP:

By December 1st to
Kelly Russell

323-361-3269, or, krussell@chla.usc.edu

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

We Hope You Can Join Us!



Please review Toy Donation Guidelines on page 5 of the **Bollettino**.