



# BOLLETTINO



## Welcome to Branch 449, Santee, California

Nanette Scarpellini Metz, Editor



Installation of members of Br. 449 at their branch inauguration ceremony



Installation of officers of Br. 449 at Guardian Angeles Catholic Church in Santee

The Italian Catholic Federation is pleased to announce the opening of its newest branch in Santee, California. On November 17, 2019 the Local Expansion Team of Lou Mages (Br. 380), Patrizia Vigili (Br. 230) and newly-elected President Melody Ciaravino opened Branch 449 of Guardian Angels Catholic Church.

The process of opening a new branch takes time and effort from a broad base of supporters. According to Lou Mages, "It's not enough for just a few to be attracted to the idea. The Pastor was fully engaged and couldn't wait to get the new branch involved in parish work." However, it took awhile to build the momentum needed to develop an interested group who were committed to the plan. They worked hard after Sunday Masses, bulletin announcements, and the parish festival to engage the dedicated new charter members they have now.

On November 17, Grand 2nd VP Denise Antonowicz initiated 37 charter members. The Installing Officers were Central Council members -- Michael Rossi, Perry Shurko and Forrest Price to install new branch officers.

- President: Melody Ciaravino
- 1st Vice President: Debbie Reid
- Recording/Corresponding Secretary: Helene McGowan
- Financial Secretary/Treasurer: Donna Killian



Br. President Ciaravino receives Branch Charter from Grand 2nd VP Denise Antonowicz

- Orator: Annelvira Uberti
- Trustees: Patrick McGowan, Tom McGuire
- Sentinel: Kelli Reid
- Chaplain: Father Andre Ramos
- Mentor: Patrizia Vigili

Lou Mages served as Master of Ceremonies. He said, "I am thrilled the group was successful. After the inauguration dinner, all new members were excited to be involved. They found out what the ICF was all about, and are ready to fulfill the goals of the Federation."

The inaugural raffle was off to a strong start. With six prizes, those in attendance earned \$230 for the branch.

Also in attendance, Central Council members Michael Rossi (Past Grand President), Perry Shurko and Forrest Price with wife Prudence Price (Br. 261).

Branch meetings will be the second Wednesday of month. The next meeting is January 8 at 7:00 p.m. For more information, contact President Melody Ciaravino, (818) 399-9353, [melodyciaravino@gmail.com](mailto:melodyciaravino@gmail.com)

## Celebrating David Botta

David Maurice Botta was a force to be reckoned with both within the Italian Catholic Federation and the community beyond. David had a way of engaging with everyone he met. Long before his time as Grand President, he played an important role in the development of ICF.



David Botta and his daughter, Nancy.

Botta's dynamic personality will be sorely missed both within his branch and in the ICF community as a whole.

A Californian through and through, Botta was born on August 10, 1943 in Oakland. He was proud to call Crockett his home. He married his wife Pat in 1965 and had two children: Nancy Kathleen and Douglas Michael. He spent forty years educating the youth of the area as an elementary school teacher.

He joined the ICF as a youth member at just 9 years of age. When he turned 16, he moved into the senior branch and started taking on leadership positions. He performed most of the offices at the branch level before setting his sights higher.

In 1965, in addition to getting married, he became a member of the ICF governing board. In 1981, he became ICF Grand President. The activities during that time would more than fill the *Bollettino*.

At this year's ICF Convention, he was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award. During the ceremony, Bob Acquistapace highlighted some of Botta's contributions.

TIME SENSITIVE: PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY!



**ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION**

*Celebrating Faith, Family and Heritage Since 1924*

*Continued on Page 5*



# BOLLETTINO

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## Important Notice

The new email address for ALL  
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All other email addresses  
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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  
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will not be used.

Finally, a reminder that ALL  
branch and district reports need to  
adhere to the **250 max** word count  
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based on editor judgement.

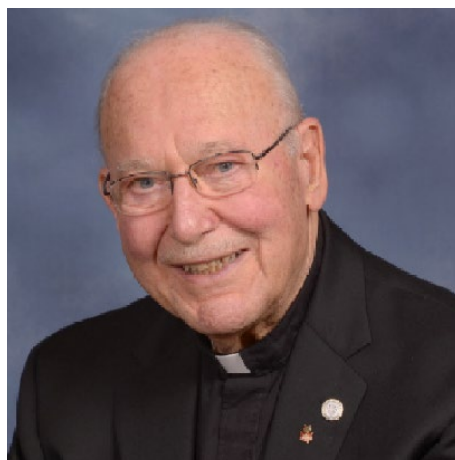
**Limit photos to 3 or 4** and in-  
clude captions. To insure photos  
are always linked to branch,  
include branch number when  
naming photos such as  
Br380.StJoseph.servers.jpeg  
Please keep your submission  
positive and informative.

**February issue deadline is  
January 10, 2020.**

**Thank you!**

# Pancho and David Botta at the Forum

## Monsignor Daniel Cardelli ICF Spiritual Director



(This is reprinted in memory of David from an article written with his consent in 2015. David was a wonderful, Catholic man who loved his God, his family and the ICF. David entered eternal life on November 14, 2019. May he rest in peace!)

Happy New Year to all ICF members.... and those who wish they were! This month I want to share with you a recent experience I had as the ICF "Public Eavesdropper." On my way to the Forum, much to my surprise, I came upon our own David Botta....doing what David does best, chatting up a fellow parishioner. In this case, it was Pancho McNeil.

**David:** "Hi, my name is David Botta and I represent the Italian Catholic Federation. Would you like to join our group?"

**Pancho McNeil:** "Well, I'm not Italian."

**David:** "You don't have to be an Italian to be a member of the ICF. You just have to be a Catholic. We have a great organization. Wonderful people, wonderful outreach!"

**Pancho M:** "There are so many of these kinds of groups. What make the ICF so special?"

**David:** "Thanks for asking. The ICF was founded in 1924 to keep Italian immigrants close to their faith. That was 90 years ago, and the circumstances today are completely different. Now the ICF has evolved into an outreach group and participates in many wonderful charities. Our branches are located in Catholic dioceses in California, Arizona, Nevada, and Illinois."

**Pancho M:** "That's interesting. What kind of charities? Tell me more."

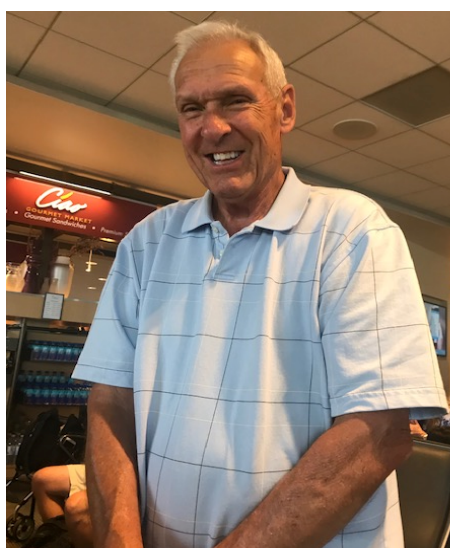
**David:** "Great! By joining a local branch, you will be joining a group of people who are excited about the idea

of giving back. We are bonded by our faith, and we celebrate our diverse heritages in many ways. We know that together we can accomplish more than one can alone. We are active in various cultural events throughout the country, support our local parishes, and provide various charities with financial and other support."

**Pancho M:** "That sounds very good, but what does the ICF do specifically? Get to the point, David."

**David:** "OK, OK, OK. The ICF actively promotes and fosters ...

- **Cooley's Anemia Research.** This is the main charity supported by the ICF. It is called the Thalassemia/Cooley's Anemia Program and is centered at Children's Hospital Research Center in Oakland, CA\*. Since 1994, the ICF has donated \$925,000 for this cause.



- **College Scholarship Programs.** Since 1964, the Italian Catholic Federation has awarded over \$2,000,000 in scholarships to more than 6,000 high school graduates.

- **The Providenza Fund.** The ICF donates money to support seminarians in their vocations to the priesthood.

- **Gifts of Love.** This is a financial assistance program that grants funds to developmentally disabled children and adults seeking to achieve greater independence in their lives.

- **Organ Donor Awareness.** The ICF promotes and encourages people to be organ donors.

**Pancho M:** "This is wonderful! I didn't know the ICF was such a giving, caring organization. Your group does a lot of good."

**David:** "You bet we do! We are proud of what we do for our charities. We also make sure we recognize people

who make outstanding contributions to their communities. Every year, we give special awards to a select few who have made an extraordinary commitment to help others."

**Pancho M:** "Really? That too? Like what?"

**David:** "Well, we have quite a few."

- **St. Pope John XXIII Award.** This is the highest award bestowed by the ICF. It goes to a lay person of any denomination who exemplifies humanitarian service to society.

- **Family of the Year Award.** This award is given to an ICF family who demonstrates outstanding Christian service in their local community and parish.

- **Grand President's Award.** This is bestowed on a member of the ICF for his or her commitment to furthering the ideals and aims of the organization.

- **Mother Teresa Award.** This award recognizes and honors a priest, nun, deacon, or brother for exemplary humanitarian work.

- **Young Adult Leadership Award.** This award has been established to recognize an ICF member who is 39 years old or younger and has demonstrated outstanding leadership abilities.

**Pancho M:** "Wow! I am really impressed. The ICF is busy group, for sure."

**David:** "Wait! There's more! In this NEW YEAR, we are involved in a Strategic Plan. We're taking a good, long look at ourselves to see how we can stay viable in the 21st century as the "New ICF." We're now a vibrant outreach Federation focused on service to our Church and our community. We're also a fun-loving group. We celebrate everything with food, and we have our regular dinners and dances at the same time we raise funds for our charities and parishes. Everybody should know who we are and what we are doing, Pancho. The ICF is a great Federation! So, Pancho, what do you think about becoming a member?"

**Pancho M:** "I am amazed! I thought the ICF was just a social group for Italians. Now I see what the ICF is all about. Yes, yes, I want to be a part of this group. I want to help. How do I become a member?"

**David:** "Here, I will show you. Just go to ICF.org."

Note:

\* Thalassemia/Cooley's Anemia Program now located in Los Angeles, CA.

## Bishops' Days

Feb. 15th	Orange
Oct. 17th	Monterey (Central Coast)
Oct. 18th	San Jose (Santa Clara Valley)

*The value of a man should be seen in  
what he gives and not in what he is  
able to receive. -- Albert Einstein*



# Grand President's Monthly Message

**Vince Piro**

It was the smiles on their faces that I will always remember. An ICF branch had been struggling to find a new president and vice-president for the upcoming year. All the other officer positions were filled - from secretary to sentinel - but no member wished to serve as president or vice-president. The current president and vice-president could not serve again due to personal reasons, and a branch that was about to celebrate its 90th Anniversary was considering closing.

To help them find a solution, I attended several meetings with their branch mentor to discuss the roles of president and vice-president and to offer the assistance of the Central Council. At one point, I looked around the room of about 45 members. There were a lot of sad faces on people who had grown up with the ICF as part of their lives, who had seen ICF as a way for them to serve their parish and community, and who had come to depend on the ICF for friendship and fellowship. Everyone wanted the branch to survive, but there just did not appear to be new leadership.

Then, someone volunteered to be vice-president if someone else would serve as president. The room remained silent for several minutes and one could feel the tension in the room. Finally, at the last minute, a woman who had been an ICF member for only a few years stepped up and said she would be president. She was hesitant but believed in the ICF so much that she was willing to take the time from her already busy calendar to devote to running the branch. The room burst into radiant

smiles. Everyone agreed to support her and several members immediately agreed to chair events for her. On a cold, rainy December night, the Lord had helped a branch find its way. And I will never forget the



room full of smiles.

And this brings us to the second **Core Strategy in the ICF Strategic Plan: Leadership**. In the plan, it is written--

*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.*

As Past Grand President Jim Jones has reminded us on several occasions, leadership is vital to the continued success and survival of the ICF, but it has been a challenge to develop leadership throughout the Federation.

**The Strategic Plan calls for the following actions:**

- 1. Expand leadership training that promotes new leadership (both face-to-face and online).**
- 2. Evaluate and revise current leadership structure from Central Council to branches.**
- 3. Continue to evaluate and revise the current Mentor Program.**

With this in mind, the Central Council is working on several fronts.

**First**, Anne Interrante and the Expansion Committee developed Leadership Training Modules for branch officers. These modules provide many things, such as a list of the officer's responsibilities, helpful tips, templates for reproduction, useful lists, and even diagrams. They really are an excellent overview of each office and can be a helpful guide for any officer. They can be found at <https://www.icf.org/membership/members/>.

**Second**, I have asked Past-Grand President and Life-Member Steve Fuentes to lead the Task Force Committee in a review and revision of branch by-laws. Steve with his experience and knowledge of the ICF will work with the members of this committee to revise the branch by-laws to lessen the burden on local branches. The committee is still in the early stages of this discussion, but some ideas have included decreasing the number of officers needed by each branch and changing some of the reporting procedures so that they are less demanding on branches.

Steve and the Task Force Committee are also evaluating the current leadership structure of the Federation from the Central Council to branches. In fact, Steve will be leading a discussion at the next Central Council meeting to discuss possible revisions to the Federation leadership structure. I have total faith in Steve to lead this discussion because of his deliberate and careful thought process and his understanding of the need for change while respecting tradition.

**Next**, the Workshop Committee, led by Past Grand President and Life Member Leonard Rossi, C.L.J., have a Leader-

ship Training workshop to present to districts and local branches. This workshop covers how to recognize and develop new leadership in your district and branch. Andy Pappani, Leonard Zasoski Jr. and I have given this workshop at a couple of districts and it has been very well-received. In 2020, I would like to see this workshop given at every district and at as many branches as we can. I know Leonard and Dante Galeazzi, Life Member of the Central Council and member of the Committee, are excited to coordinate this effort.

**Finally**, Deborah Redondi, Grand First Vice-President of the Central Council, is revamping the Mentor Program so that it can get assistance to branches in a more timely and effective manner. She, along with Andy Pappani, have been charged with assisting local branches with any challenges they may be facing.

These are ways that the Central Council is attempting to assist branches in the leadership challenges they may be facing. Please, feel free to contact any of the above Central Council members or me to discuss leadership or to request a workshop. It is my strong belief, and one I know that is held by every Central Council member, that the Central Council is here to serve local branches in leadership development. And, personally, I look forward to meeting with you to discuss leadership in the Federation.

What do we hope will be the end result of all of this?

**A room full of smiling faces.**

## Family Recipes

**Deborah Rodondi**  
**Grand 1st Vice President**

The tradition of gift giving for the Christmas Season in Italy is done on the Feast of the Epiphany, January 6th, when the Wisemen following the star came upon the manger with the Christ Child. Bea Tomasello, a member of Branch 173 Our Lady of Angels in Burlingame, told me that they did not get gifts at Christmas but to the Feast of La Befana on January 6th, they would get a basket full of cookies and oranges, sometimes even a toy. Bea is sharing with us the recipe for La Befana cookies that has been handed down in her family.

### La Befana Cookies

- 5 Cups Flour
- 2 Cups Sugar
- 4 Eggs
- 1 Cube Butter (1/4 pound)
- 1 Tbls. Olive Oil
- 4 tsp. Baking Powder
- Rind and Juice of a Large Orange
- 1 tsp. Vanilla

Melt butter and cream together with sugar and eggs. Add orange juice, grated orange rind, vanilla and oil.

Add dry ingredients, flour and baking powder.

The dough should be of a consistency, so that it can be rolled out and cut into your favorite shapes. Roll out on a floured board. After cutting out, take the scraps and reuse for more cut out cookies.

Beat one egg yolk and 1 Tbls. sugar (may need to add a very little bit of water to thin out) and brush over cookies. Decorate with sugar sprinkles.

Bake at 350 degrees for 10 to 15 minutes or until golden brown.

I made 1/2 a recipe-still used the rind and juice from the whole orange. In



doing this I increased the flour by 1/4 to 1/2 cup. I also did not have sugar sprinkles in my pantry so I put a few drops of food coloring into a Tbls. of sugar and blended well. This is not a perfect solution as regular sugar is very fine compared to the sugar used in store bought sugar sprinkles. The hint of orange in the cookie is delightful and what I like about it is that they are not too sweet.

Thank you Bea for sharing a family tradition with us.

Hoping you might like to share some of your specialties or the family recipes that have been handed down

with the members of the ICF. Send them to me at [drodondi@comcast.net](mailto:drodondi@comcast.net) or mail to the ICF office include a story if any. If you have questions send them also, I may not be able to answer them but we can put them out there for our readers and maybe find what you are looking for.

*Buon Appetito!*



Welcome to Our New Members!

Report date: December 9, 2019

<b>Branch 021</b> Emilio Giovanni Puccinelli		<b>Branch 391</b> Theresa Marie Harris	
<b>Branch 026</b> Alexandria R Ramirez Diego A Ramirez Michelle J Ramirez		<b>Branch 417</b> Albert J Mitchall Yvonne Osuna	
<b>Branch 033</b> Kelli A Limi		<b>Branch 446</b> Joann Balderrama Kevin Cavanaugh Daniel Coppi Kenneth Coppi Christiana De Stefano Paula De Stefano Joseph Di Camillo Mary Ann Mercieca Sam Mercieca Biagio Pavia Pietronilla Pavia Anna Ficara Reyna Dianne Rogel Karen Rogel Katie Sanchez Lydia Sanchez Anthony J Santorufo Mark V Stratman Antoinette Summers Joseph M Summers William M Summers William P Summers Joyce Tesoro Peter Tesoro Francesca Zummo Tony Zummo	
<b>Branch 036</b> Anthony J Russo		<b>Branch 447</b> Andrew Gaydosh Ariana Gaydosh Blaise Gaydosh Catherine Gaydosh Gwendolyn Gaydosh Liliana Gaydosh Xavier E Gaydosh Ildiko Sorich John Sorich	
<b>Branch 045</b> Anne M Gabri John B Gabri Patricia Korf		<b>Branch 449</b> Angie Busalacchi Frankie J Busalacchi Gia Busalacchi Barbara A Chilton Jennifer M Ciccarelli John E Ciccarelli Logan E Ciccarelli Mary Duarte-Le Leu Ayla J Grazier Brandon Killian Donna Killian James Killian Albert M Massey Dolores M Massey Genevieve D Massey Vincent M Massey Helene C Mc Gowan Patrick T Mc Gowan Liam Mc Guire Robert Mc Guire Rev Andre Ramos Debbie A Reid Erica Reid Jim Reid Kelli M Reid Bryce Robertson Michell Seime John J Taibe Sally A Taibe Annelvira M Uberti Harley E Wallace Maureen Wallace Victoria R Wong Ying Y Wong Elda F Woodson Ronald L Yager Maria Zaso	
<b>Branch 051</b> Lisa M Brom			
<b>Branch 052</b> Rosemary J Opatz			
<b>Branch 054</b> Darla Azevedo			
<b>Branch 082</b> Patricia D Martinelli			
<b>Branch 108</b> Julia Marchese			
<b>Branch 229</b> Rev Eric Tamayo			
<b>Branch 261</b> Jim E Hannibal			
<b>Branch 274</b> Rev Richard M Yones			
<b>Branch 374</b> Nancy Bohte Roseanne Kalaba			
<b>Branch 380</b> Rose Falocco Frank J Scerbo Nancy Scerbo			
<b>Branch 390</b> Charles Norton			

Gifts of Love Donations

Report date: December 9, 2019

Branch 32	The Zan Family
Denise Antonowicz	In memory of Richard Wagner
In memory of Eleonora Bertoli	Officers/Members of Br. 213
Joan and Jerry Delfino	In honor of Branch Mentor
In memory of Eleonora Bertoli	Dorene Campanile
Officers/Members of Br. 403	Teresa and Cory Helfand
In memory of Joe Sigona	In memory of David Botta
ICF Spouses' Association	Officers/Members of Br. 342
In memory of Eleonora Bertoli	Merry Christmas Wishes for
Les Goldstein	Deacon John Sheehan
In memory of Eleonora Bertoli	Fran La Torre
Officers/Members of Br. 435	In memory of Margaret Imhof
Get well wishes for John Gillio	Devengenzo
Eva Stern	Laurice, Matt and Ben Levine
In memory of David Botta	In memory of Eleonora Bertoli
John and Donna Rossi	Officers/Members of Chicago District
In memory of Sal Lipari	In memory of Eleonora Bertoli
Bob and Elaine Osorio	Officers/Members of Br. 36
In memory of Eleonora Bertoli	In memory of David Botta
Bob and Elaine Osorio	Theresa Dianda and Family
In memory of Sal Lipari	In memory of Eleonora Bertoli

2020 1<sup>st</sup> Year Scholarship Program  
Lisa Crudo, Chairperson

Information on the 1<sup>st</sup> Year Scholarship Program was sent to high schools after Thanksgiving, has now been sent to the Districts and Branches in the January mailing and is available on our ICF website [www.icf.org](http://www.icf.org) via a link on the homepage as well as in the documents in the Officers' Portal.

The **Deadline** for Donations and Applications is **March 15, 2020**. Please discuss participating in the program at your meetings by making a donation of a full scholarship of \$400.00, if possible, or a partial donation of any amount. Partial Donations do help to make other scholarships possible when that money is grouped together. Individual Donations are welcomed as well. Please encourage your children, grandchildren or anyone you know who is eligible to apply. They can contact their high school counselors about the Italian Catholic Federation 1<sup>st</sup> Year \$400.00 Scholarship or they can download the application using the link on the homepage of the ICF website.

These are the eligibility requirements for students:  
A **High School Senior**, a **total cumulative GPA (3 ½ years)** of at least **3.2** and meets all of the requirements in either #1 or #2: 1) Are **Roman Catholic** and of **Italian Descent** and **live within the Roman Catholic Dioceses of Arizona, California, Illinois and Nevada, only where Branches of the Federation are established.** or 2) Are **Roman Catholic** but **need not be of Italian Descent** or **live where Branches of the Federation are established** if either **Roman Catholic parent, guardian or grandparent** is a member of the "Italian Catholic Federation" - **membership of a Roman Catholic parent, guardian or grandparent is mandatory for #2.**

Please visit or call your local high schools where you would like to see applicants come from and make sure that they are promoting our scholarship program and have applications available.

If you have any questions or applications are needed, please call the ICF office toll-free at 1-888-423-1924.

Scholarship Donations

Scholarship Donations: 1st Year

Mike and Marcie Rossi	Carl and Marie Caralli
In memory of Sal Lipari	In memory of Sal Lipari
Michael and Julie Harris and Family	Janis Patellaro
In memory of Sal Lipari	In memory of Sal Lipari
Carol and Richard Clarke	Ed and Ginny Lynn
In memory of Sal Lipari	In memory of Sal Lipari
JoAnn Schiro	Cathy and Joe De Maria
In memory of Salvador Lipari	In memory of Sal Lipari
Mr. and Mrs. John O'Brien	Denise Antonowicz
In memory of Sal Lipari	In memory of Sal Lipari
Paul and Johanna Bommarito	Dora Mae Figone
In memory of Sal Lipari	In memory of Sal Lipari
Robert and Mary Lou Lawrence	Zerelda Del Fiugo
In memory of Sal Lipari	In memory of Sal Lipari
Jolene Soares	The Antonowicz Family
In memory of Sal Lipari	In memory of David Botta
Bob Basuino	Frank and Christine Bommarito
In memory of Sal Lipari	In memory of Sal Lipari
Jack Plecque and Family	Janet and Charles Atkinson
In memory of Sal Lipari	In memory of Sal Lipari
Jim and Janice Jones	Carl and Tina Rossi
In memory of Sal Lipari	In memory of Sal Lipari
Russell Vento	Frank and Kathy Ditto
In memory of Sal Lipari	In memory of Sal Lipari
Ed and Jo Bertaccini	Teri Bommarito
In memory of David Botta	In memory of Sal Lipari
Ed and Jo Bertaccini	Edward Romano
In memory of Sal Lipari	In memory of Sal Lipari
Marie Patellaro	
In memory of Sal Lipari	

Scholarship Donations: 2nd to 4th Year

Giulia Gallego
Get well wishes for John Gillio



# Celebrating David

Continued from Page 1

For those new to ICF or members who may not have had the privilege to know David Botta, his influence is spread throughout the organization from the ICF national charity to the scholarship program to the many branches he helped to open and beyond.

Under his jurisdiction as Grand President, ICF chose to have a national charity and subsequently adopted Cooley's Anemia. This cause was selected based on research completed by David Botta and Lauren Pickett. According to Laurice Levine, "The involvement of David and the Federation changed the direction of thalassemia care and research in the US enabling the US to have a global impact. Cooley's was the most impor-



Laurice & David

tant cause for Botta which is why his family chose to have donations go to Cooley's and Branch 14 has been tireless in their efforts."

Additionally, in 1979, Botta and Central Council launched the the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Year Scholarship Program. It was phased in over 3 years. These scholarships benefited thousands of students and their families.

He served as Convention Director from 2000 through 2007. He performed the duties of as Grand Parliamentarian for several years, and worked with Carmen Kilcullen on Expansion opening New Branches and helping those with issues. At Convention, he was part of many Workshop presentations and so much more.

David Botta has left a legacy of caring and involvement through his work with ICF. His impact will continue to reverberate through out he organization and the people it touches long into the future.

Celebrate his memory and live by his example.




David with his wife Pat, daughter Nancy and son Doug.

*I alone cannot change the world,  
but I can cast a stone across the  
waters to create many ripples.  
--Mother Teresa*

## District Installations

Jan. 4th	San Bernardino
	Santa Clara Valley
Jan. 5th	Stockton
Jan. 11th	Marin
	San Francisco
Jan. 12th	Los Angeles
	Archdiocese
Jan. 18th	Central Coast
	Contra Costa
	San Mateo
Jan. 18th	Joint Installation of
	Br. 144, Arcata and
	Br. 145, Eureka
Jan. 19th	East Bay
Feb. 1st	Santa Rosa
Feb 9	Fresno
Feb. 15th	Orange

### ICF is Going Green!



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

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

Visit this link to sign up:  
<http://eepurl.com/bLaMFb>



## Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations\*

### IN MEMORY OF:

Eleonora Bertoli  
Eleonora Bertoli  
David Botta  
Sal Lipari  
Sharon De Sousa  
David Botta  
Eleonora Bertoli  
David Botta  
David Botta  
David Botta  
David Botta  
David Botta  
Giovanna Orlando  
David Botta  
Enrico Puccioni  
David Botta  
David Botta  
David Botta  
David Botta  
David Botta

### DONATED BY:

Franklyn Lopes, Jr.  
The Kilcullen Family  
Bob and Elaine Osorio  
Lorraine and Mike Nunziata  
Officers/Members of Br. 215  
Officers/Members of Br. 442  
Bob Basuino  
Bob Basuino  
Jim and Janice Jones  
Leroy and Stella Taddei  
Russell and Louise Vento  
Officers/Members of Br. 21  
Officers/Members of Br. 21  
Roger and JoAnn Dorn  
Officers/Members of Br. 342  
Dolores McCartney  
The Thomas Sarnicola Family  
Franklyn Lopes, Jr.  
Roselynn Jarrett  
Officers/Members of Br. 258

### GET WELL WISHES:

Joseph Pignati  
Officers/Members of Br. 161

### THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING OUR BISHOP'S DAY:

Grand President Vince Piro  
Officers/Members of Blessed Sacrament District

### THANK YOU FOR SPEAKING AT OUR BISHOP'S DAY:

Fr. German Ramos  
Officers/Members of Blessed Sacrament District

### IN HONOR OF TWO YEARS AS GRAND PRESIDENT:

Andy Pappani  
Larry and Carmen Kilcullen  
Andy Pappani  
Lauren Kilcullen

### IN HONOR OF:

Deacon Tom Boyle  
Officers/Members of Br. 6  
Andy Pappani  
Jim and Mary Ann Friebe

### MERRY CHRISTMAS WISHES:

Deacon Mark Ruiz  
Officers/Members of Br. 342

### IN SUPPORT OF THE PROVIDENZA FUND:

- A donation was made to the Providenza Fund by JoAnn Maggiora-Donivan of Maggiora Jewelry from the proceeds of a sale of the ICF cross necklace offered by the store.
- A donation was made to the Providenza Fund by Branch 227 - Capitola.

\*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.



# Apostolate – Charity Showing How We Care in 2020

Lauren Kilcullen, *The Apostolate/Charity Committee*

The Italian Catholic Federation is known for its many charitable and apostolic works and this should be at the forefront of our calendars in 2020. Doing good works is one of the reasons the Federation was started in 1924 and joining an apostolate and charitable organization is one of the main reasons many members join the ICF.



On a Federation-wide level, districts, branches and members are encouraged to support our charities: Cooley's Anemia, Gifts of Love, Scholarships and the Providenza Fund.

Besides these Federation-wide charities, members can do much good assisting their local parishes and community organizations. Create a "Giving Calendar" for your branch and plan on at

least one charitable activity per month. Some suggestions are:

**January: Participate in a local "One Warm Coat" giveaway.** Encourage members to bring coats to the branch meetings.

**February: Have a blood drive.** Laurice Levine is willing to assist branches in organizing a blood drive.

**March: Send in your branch's donations for 1st year Scholarships** and have an out-reach program to your local high schools to encourage applicants.

**April: Donate Easter baskets** for children in local homeless shelters.

**May: Purchase bouquets for mothers in local rest homes** and deliver them on Mother's Day.

**June: Donate a scholarship** for an 8th grader in your parish school to attend high school.

**July: Donate to the 2nd, 3rd and 4th year scholarship program.**

**August: Send in donations for Cooley's Anemia** to be given at the Annual Convention.

**September: Sponsor a "Stuff a Backpack" program** for local school children. Purchase backpacks and school supplies to fill them.

**October: Donate to your District's Seminary Burse** and the Providenza Fund.

**November: Host a dinner for veterans** in your branch and local community.

**December: Feed the homeless** at a local shelter one day; collect toys for "Toys for Tots"; make your branch's end of year donations to your parish and school.

In 2020, please make a renewed commitment to continue the Federation's legacy of Apostolic and Charitable giving.

Thank you,

Lauren Kilcullen

## Cooley's Anemia Donations

Branch 32

Nettie Descalso-Del Nero

In memory of Eleonora Bertoli

Officers/Members of Central Council

In memory of David Botta

Patty Smith

In memory of David Botta

ICF CC Spouse's Association

In memory of David Botta

Pat and Lou Mages

In memory of David Botta

Laurice, Matt and Benjamin Levine

In memory of David Botta

Laurice Matt and Benjamin Levine

Get well wishes for Marlene Farber

Marlene Farber

In memory of David Botta

Joan and Jerry Delfino

In memory of David Botta

Mike and Marcie Rossi

In memory of David Botta

Bob and Kathy Acquistapace

In memory of David Botta

Diana Bacigalupi

In memory of David Botta

Barbara Cardwell

In memory of David Botta

Nettie Descalso-Del Nero

In memory of David Botta

Lorraine and Mike Nunziata

In memory of David Botta

Wanda Abbondanza and Sante Cerri

In memory of David Botta

Angie and Steve Monson and Mia Basarich

In memory of David Botta

The Orsi Family

In memory of David Botta

Officers/Members of Santa Rosa District

In memory of David Botta

Charles P. Gullo, Jr.

In memory of Vincent Cala

Inez Foley

In memory of David Botta

Roy and Chris Shackel

In memory of Adriana Aquila-Shackel

Officers/Members of Br. 45

In memory of David Botta

Theresa Dianda and Family

In memory of David Botta

## 2019 Convention Raffle

*Special Drawing for Branches that sold more tickets than last year:*

**2 prizes of \$250 each.**

**Congratulations to:**

**Branch 31, Los Banos, CA**

**Branch 108, South Pasadena, CA**

We are looking forward to our 2020 Convention Raffle at the Convention in Anaheim. Branches...sell more tickets than in 2019 and you might win a prize!



## In Loving Memory

Report date: December 9, 2019

### Deceased Members

Josephine Aioldi	Branch 014
David Botta	Branch 014
Michael Kenney	Branch 014
Sal P Cardinale	Branch 036
Minnie C Fragnito	Branch 039
Attilio Legittimo	Branch 050
Evelyn Tournahu	Branch 050
John Cavallo	Branch 052
Sharon L De Sousa	Branch 215
Salvador E Lipari	Branch 391
Elda Canevari	Branch 395
Joe Sigona	Branch 403



Calling all little artists!

The Ways and Means committee will be sponsoring another little fundraiser featuring your children's artwork.

We will be making packets of All Occasion and/or Christmas cards to sell. Please have your children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews submit any kind of drawing that they wish.

It can be themed (i.e. get well, Happy Birthday, Christmas etc..) or just any design they wish to create. They can be as colorful and creative as they want and can submit more than one design.

Please have designs created on clean/unlined/ unfolded paper and mail to the ICF office at 8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110, Oakland CA 94621, attn: ways and means committee.

Our team will then transform their artwork into lovely note cards in packs of 8 for \$10.00.

The deadline for submission will be May 1, 2020. The cards will be available for purchase at convention and by request to the office by September 4, 2020.

See form below to include with submissions:

Childs First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Grandparent: \_\_\_\_\_ Branch #: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please note: Child will be acknowledged by First Name and Age only) if you wish to state other information, please note above (ex: Grandchild of \_\_\_\_ Branch \_\_\_\_)



# Gifts of Love in the New Year

*Teresa Helfand, Chairperson*

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We hope and pray that the holidays were a time of grace and blessings for you and your families. Now a New Year is upon us and we would like to select recipients for our 2020 Gifts of Love Awards.

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

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

In order to generate applications, the Gifts of Love Committee is asking each Branch President to mention the

program at their next meeting and also to publish a request for applications in their respective Church and/or School Bulletins if possible. The application form is available on the ICF web site ([www.icf.org](http://www.icf.org)). Applications should either be mailed to the ICF Office at 8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110, Oakland, CA 94621 or e-mailed to the ICF Office at [info@icf.org](mailto:info@icf.org).

Applications are evaluated on a regular basis by the ICF Gifts of Love Committee which decides who receives the awards and the amounts. We have a great Committee this year and we look forward to helping those in need! Our next meeting will be in February.

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



**The Italian American Museum of Los Angeles seeks images, recipes, stories, and devotional and decorative items related to St. Joseph and St. Joseph's tables.**

Items could include prayer cards, hand-written recipes, photographs, traditional breads, hand-made decorations, and family histories, etc.

Did or does your family, church, or neighborhood construct a St. Joseph's table? Do you make St. Joseph's Bread?

***The museum wants to hear from you!***

Please send an image of the item(s) and a brief description to [info@italianhall.org](mailto:info@italianhall.org)

Please do not mail or bring original items to the IAMLA. Please email images of the item(s) or call 212.485.8432

**Deadline: February 1, 2020**

**Exhibit opens March 2020.**

## IAMLA

The IAMLA is located in the historic Italian Hall, which was constructed in 1908 to serve as a gathering place for the Italian community.

# Want to Learn about Cooley's Anemia?

*Laurice Levine, Chairperson*

As you know, the ICF's National Charity is Cooley's Anemia (also called Thalassemia). I am a 47-year-old patient living with Thalassemia and have been collaborating with the ICF since 1999 on educating the ICF community and raising awareness on Cooley's Anemia. Currently, I work with Dr. Coates at Children's Hospital Los Angeles (where the funds are donated to) and help oversee the annual ICF donation.

When an individual or organization donates to charity, I think it is vitally important to know where your money goes and how it is spent. That is why I have been working to travel to branches and provide a presentation on Cooley's which includes what it is, who it affects, how the ICF got involved, and how funds are used. I also share my own personal story in an effort to put a face to the charity that you so generously support.

I have been to some branches countless time and others not at all, but my

goal is to go to each branch at least once. If you and your members are interested in having me come speak (at no cost to you of course), I would be honored. It can be a regular branch meeting or a branch or district event - I am happy to speak to anyone - whether it is 5 people or 150.

Everyone is worth my time. I am fairly flexible with dates and times given notice, so please let me know if you are interested and when.

Thank you for your continued dedication and support to Cooley's Anemia.

### Contact Information:

Laurice Levine

360-860-2023

[LLevine430@aol.com](mailto:LLevine430@aol.com)



# Do You Want to Save Lives?

*Kenneth Gene Marshall, Live to Give Chairperson*

In 2011, under the direction of then ICF Grand President Jane Dianda, the Live to Give Committee was born. The Committee began with the mission to promote blood donation and also to provide additional support too patients with Cooley's Anemia, who require routine blood transfusions to survive.

### The Goals of the Live to Give Committee are as follows:

- Raise awareness and promote the importance of donating blood.
- Dispel myths that exist about blood and blood donation the ICF community.
- Write monthly articles for the ICF *Bollettino* to educate the community.
- Pay it forward – give blood to replenish the blood supply.
- Give blood in honor of someone, something, or a disease such as Cooley's Anemia or Cancer.

Along these lines, designating donated blood for a specific individual is problematic and costly so what is recommended instead is donating blood in honor of a person or an occasion. We created the ICF Live to Give Post Card for this reason – to give blood in honor of or in memory of someone or to celebrate an occasion.

- Plan an annual blood drive at convention. In the past 7 years we have collected 202 units, saving 606 lives!
- Encourage and assist branches and districts in planning blood drives.



The last goal is why I am writing you today. Will your branch consider planning a blood drive at your church or in your community with our help?

In our next mailing to the Branches and Districts we will include information on how to plan a blood drive as well as a list of blood banks by district.

If you can provide a location, we will do everything we can to help and make your branches blood drive a success. Please contact me at [irishken.marshall@gmail.com](mailto:irishken.marshall@gmail.com) or Laurice Levine at [LLevine430@aol.com](mailto:LLevine430@aol.com) if you are interested. Thank you for your time and consideration. Together, we can save lives!

*Sincerely,  
Kenneth Gene Marshall  
Central Council Member  
Live to Give Committee Chairperson*



# Mother Cabrini Shrine

*Carmelo Sabatella*

On December 1, 2019, the Annual Mass, Pilgrimage and Luncheon was held in honor of Mother Cabrini. Thank you to the Mother Cabrini Chapel Committee members for coordinating and staffing this event again this year. Thank you also to Msgr. Antonio Cacciapuoti, Sister Regina Palamara of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart and guests for supporting the Chapel and Library for future generations to enjoy.

In 2020 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.



DVD Copies of the movie "Frances Xavier Cabrini: the People's Saint" produced by Lucia Mauro are available for sale in English and Italian. The Gift Shop also received copies of the latest book on Mother Cabrini entitled "GOD'S MESSENGER, THE ASTOUNDING

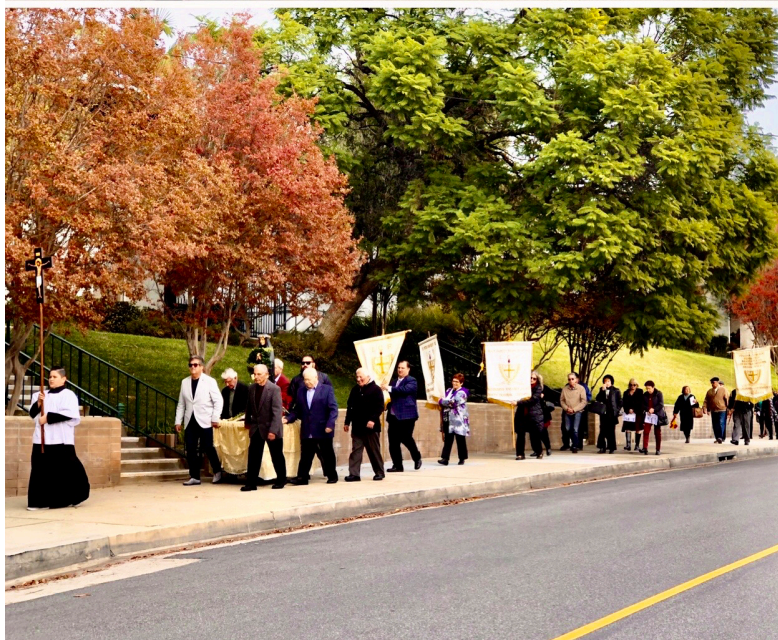
ACHIEVEMENTS OF MOTHER CABRINI ..... " by author Nicole Gregory. Purchase a copy for your Branch and help support the Mother Cabrini Chapel. To order please call 626 372-7812 or email: cas1810@aol.com.

The next Cabrini Chapel Open House is scheduled for Sunday, January 12, 2020 and February 9, 2020 from 9 am to 12:00 pm. Please add the Chapel to your Branch's list of places to visit in 2020 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.

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](http://www.icf.org).

**Thank you for your continued support!**

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



## What Makes Your Branch Unique?

*Pat Mages, Membership Chairperson*

Happy New Year to all! I hope your holidays were all you hoped they would be.

One usually thinks of the new year as a time for new resolutions which, unfortunately, in our eagerness, we do not always make the most attainable or practical goals. Let's this year, as an ICF member, continue to work on previous years 'resolutions,' goals and build on them. The goals have a strong foundation and will sustain additional building upon them.



I would like to suggest, as we review the past year, we each look at our branch. Each branch has that one 'thing' that makes it unique. It doesn't have to be big or obvious. It may be taken for granted and forgotten.

For example, I was speaking with a member whose branch helps support an orphanage in Tijuana. They see this as something they do routinely. I asked if they realized what a great recruitment tool they possess. New members will see a different side of an Italian organization. They see a branch committed not just to the Italian community, but to the world beyond their parish, city, country.

I'm positive each branch has that some-

thing which shows its commitment to Faith, Family and Service to Others. Let's all take another look at our branch and realize the positive and good it brings to the community and lives.

*-Pat Mages*



*We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called Opportunity and its first chapter is New Year's Day.*

*- Edith Lovejoy Pierce*



IRS AND STATE OF CALIFORNIA FRANCHISE TAX BOARD

As you are aware, the IRS and Franchise Tax Board for the State of California require annual tax returns to be filed by our Districts and Branches.

It is important to remember that all Districts and Branches now have two numbers - a Federal Tax ID Number for any forms filed with the IRS and a State Tax ID Number for any forms filed with the State

The IRS limit for the tax year ending 2019 is the following:  
**Branches or Districts with Gross Receipts of more than \$50,000.00 will be required to file IRS Form 990 EZ or 990.**

**Branches or Districts with Gross Receipts of \$50,000.00 or less will be required to electronically file IRS Form 990-N which is an e-Postcard.**

The State limit for the tax year ending 2019 is the following:  
**Branches or Districts in California with Gross Receipts of more than \$50,000.00 will be required to file State Form 199.**

**Branches or Districts in California with Gross Receipts of \$50,000.00 or less will be required to electronically file State Form 199-N which is an e-Postcard.**

\*\*\*THIS IS IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND MUST BE STRICTLY FOLLOWED\*\*\*

**Both Forms must be filed no later than May 15, 2020. The IRS and State strictly adhere to this date, so please take this process seriously.**

**Any District or Branch who does not file for 3 consecutive years will lose its tax exempt status with the IRS and the State. If you lose your tax exempt status you will have to file paperwork and pay a fine in order to regain your tax exempt status.**

Included in the Financial Secretaries' packet are materials that the District and Branch Financial Secretaries will need to help them with this process. District and Branch Presidents - please work with your Financial Secretary to go over the information when it is received and see that the appropriate forms are filed by the due date.

\*\*\*\*\*

Please make sure all District or Branch finances are in order and that Bank Statements are reconciled through December 31, 2019. Remember that the Gross Receipts are total amounts received without subtracting any costs or expenses. These amounts include, but are not limited to, Membership and Hospitalization Dues, Dinners, Fundraisers, Raffle Tickets, Income from Convention Raffle Tickets and Calendar Sales, Interest from all Bank Accounts, Monetary Donations, etc.

If you have any questions, or need help filing, please call the I.C.F. Office at 1-888-423-1924.

Thank You,  
Franklyn Lopes, Jr., Grand Treasurer



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](mailto: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.

Italy word search

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

AMERIGO VESPUCCI	AUSTRIA	CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS
EU MEMBER STATE	EUROPE	FRANCE
GALILEO	GENOA	ITALIA
ITALIAN	ITALY	THE BOOT
LATIN	VATICAN CITY	LEONARDO DA VINCI
LOSTIVALE	MACHIARELLI	MARCO POLO
MEDITERRANEAN	MICHELANGELO	MILAN
REPUBLIC	ROMAN EMPIRE	ROME
SAN MARINO	SARDINIA	SEASONAL CLIMATE
SICILY	SLOVENIA	SWITZERLAND
TEMPERATE		TURIN
GIOVANNI DA VERRAZZANO		

December Calendar Winners

DAY	NAME	BR	CITY	WINS
12/1	Irene Simoni	145	Arcata, CA	\$30
12/2	Eleanor Andreotti	32	Fresno, CA	\$30
12/3	Margaret Woosley		Bakersfield, CA	\$30
12/4	Phyllis Chiaino	75	Cloverdale, CA	\$30
12/5	Harry Tocce	391	San Jose, CA	\$30
12/6	Branch 281		Bakersfield, CA	\$30
12/7	Barbara J. White	184	Los Gatos, CA	\$30
12/8	Nancy Turnipseed	33	Bakersfield, CA	\$50
12/9	Tammi Cuthill	342	Roseville, CA	\$30
12/10	Evelyn Lopez	32	Fresno, CA	\$30
12/11	Marie Mungai	227	Watsonville, CA	\$30
12/12	Victor & Patricia Arnaudo	1	Daly City, CA	\$30
12/13	Rev. Ramon Bejorano		Modesto, CA	\$30
12/14	Nancy Flocchini Stenzler	395	Stockton, CA	\$30
12/15	Bob Keeler	218	Temple City, CA	\$30
12/16	Mike Bacchetti	390	Tracy, CA	\$30
12/17	Bev Rossi	391	Brentwood, CA	\$30
12/18	Joanne M. Tornatore-Pile		Oakland, CA	\$30
12/19	Joe Buonsante	285	Livermore, CA	\$30
12/20	Virginia Fuentes	213	Belmont, CA	\$30
12/21	Agnes & Fiore Marcheschi	10	Alameda, CA	\$30
12/22	Stephanie Marchini	39	Le Grand, CA	\$30
12/23	Gina & Mike Frey		Bakersfield, CA	\$30
12/24	Anne Meert		Bakersfield, CA	\$50
12/25	Bobbie Etcheverry		Tracy, CA	\$100
12/26	Ryan Altersott		Bakersfield, CA	\$30
12/27	Marissa Spallino		Windsor, CA	\$30
12/28	Connie Bohannon	237	Gardena, CA	\$30
12/29	Rev. William Mason	40	Oakland, CA	\$30
12/30	Jean Cosentino	445	San Jose, CA	\$40
12/31	Terrie Rhodes	39	Merced, CA	\$50

SEE THESE FIRST ON OUR WEB SITE: ICF.ORG



## Branch Reports

### SAN FRANCISCO

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

Dear Members:

Upcoming: Please note no meeting in January:

January 11 - Installation of Officers - St. Vincent De Paul - San Francisco - Time 11:30 a.m.?

Happy New Year to all Branch 1 Members and their Families.

*Ciao! Toni Morsello*

**San Francisco**  
**St. Elizabeth, Br. 258**

Felice Anno Nuovo to all of our members and their families.

We hope the New Year will bring much Happiness and Good Health to everyone.

We all say a big Thank You to Florence for all of the great trips we had during the year. Tante Grazie!!

A Big Happy Birthday - 80th - on Nov. 16th to Florence. Many more years of much Happiness and Good Health.

On Jan. 27th we have a trip planned to Thunder Valley Casino.

To all of our members celebrating a birthday in January - Much Happiness and Good Health.

Our Love and Prayers go out to the David Botta Family. David is going to be greatly missed by his family and many friends. David would always make it a point to come and talk to us - Br. 258 - at our I.C.F. doings. God Bless You David.

Please remember our ill and deceased members in your prayers.

Please mark your calendars for the following dates:

Jan. 26th - Mass

Jan. 27th - Meeting

*Ciao,*

*Eva Perata, President*

**San Francisco**  
**St. Cecilia, Br. 365**

Our Branch 365 had a very uneventful year in 2019. Due to illnesses and other reasons (which I don't know) our branch had very few meetings last year. However, on November 30, we had an emergency meeting at Liliana and Italo's house. Although, all the officers were invited, only six members were able to attend... Italo & Liliana Zarich, Cosmo & Mara Amato, Mary Fe, and Elena Kelly. After a lot of discussion concerning our branch and what we can do to get the branch back on track, our final conclusion at the end of the meeting was very "GRIM!" On a happier note, grazie Liliana for the use of your lovely home and for treating us to your delicious homemade cookies!

At this meeting, we voted to give St. Cecilia's Church our annual Christmas donation... the Church has always been



Br. 213 members and guests enjoying food and fellowship

so supportive of our ICF Branch 365. Our Chaplain Fr. Landi is also always there to "watch our backs"...Grazie, Father!

Our members also decided to celebrate a belated "Christmas & 2019 Year End" party on January 18 in the Green Room at St. Cecilia's Church at 12:00 Noon. An announcement has been mailed to each member stating the details of the catered luncheon. If you have not received the flyer, please phone Cosmo at 415-392-3560.

Please, keep our sick, homebound, and deceased members in your prayers. For those members who have heavy loads to carry in their daily lives, may God guide you on your journey!

*Ciao, Mara Amato*

### SAN MATEO

**Colma**  
**San Vincenzo De Paoli,**  
**Br. 19**

Hello Everyone,

It was a great year for the Branch with its meetings, dinners and different projects for 2019. We want to thank everyone who participated in all the dinners and activities. Also thank all of you who came to the functions and supported us. Let 's make 2020 even better.

The Christmas and Anniversary Party was great thanks to everyone who was involved.

#### COMING ACTIVITIES:

Monday, January 13: Dinner meeting – contact Cheryl Simon by the 20th

(650)755-0878 LEAVE MESSAGE or email cas94015@yahoo.com with reservation.

Saturday, February 29; Champagne Bingo - Opens at 1:00, lunch at 2:00 with bingo following. Chicken, pasta, champagne and 1 bingo card \$16.00. Reservations call Deborah Rodondi (65) 583-0805.

No one under 21 allowed. Help is always welcomed.

*As we begin the New Year here is wishing everyone a Happy, Healthy and Good one.*

*N. Thurman*

**South San Francisco**  
**St. Augustine, Br. 213**

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Branch 213, St. Augustine. Catching readers up with our activities...

Many of our members really enjoyed attending the Chaplains Night in October. Our November 12th meeting was well attended, and hosted by Joe and Judy Crosetti. Pizza and salad were served. President Joyce told the group about her conversations she had at the event and the great time had by all. Our group had a great holiday lunch at Basque Cultural Center on December 1st. The luncheon was wonderfully organized by Judy Crosetti and Robert Franchini. Basque Cultural Center is famous for it's French bread. We are looking forward to meeting members from other branches at the upcoming Installation Dinner at the Terrace in Millbrae.

Readers are invited to like and follow our Facebook Group at : <https://www.facebook.com/ICFSSF213> See our pictures and follow our activities. Our monthly newsletter is also posted there.

*Ciao from Branch 213*

*Victor Spano*

**Millbrae**  
**St. Dunstan, Br. 403**

Peace on Earth to All and Merry Christmas

We celebrated the Holidays with our annual Christmas Party and dinner. We had a great feast, sang Christmas carols and suddenly Santa appeared. Our president, Paul Larsen, looked outstanding riding a reindeer.

Our Heritage Committee, Mary Vella Treseler with her daughter Adonna, gave an interesting presentation of "How the Christmas Holidays are celebrated in Italy".

We are looking forward to our Installation of Officers which will take place on January 18 at the Terrace Cafe in Millbrae.

*Rose Marie Morando*

*Corresponding Secretary*

Remember, start sending in *Bollettino* submissions for the February issue. **Deadline is January 10th.** Get your articles and photos in to [editor@icf.org](mailto:editor@icf.org)

**Be sure to include your branch number to ensure publication.**

Happy  
New  
Year!

**Bilingual Staff**  
**Information • Referrals**  
**Social Service Coordination**  
**ITALIAN-AMERICAN**  
**COMMUNITY**  
**SERVICES AGENCY**  
providing services to the  
Italian-American  
community since 1916

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



## MARIN

**Larkspur  
St. Patrick, Br. 161**

Special Notice:

Branch 161

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2020!

On June 9th we will be celebrating our 58th Anniversary.

Here is Marlene's speech at the 50th Anniversary Dinner. It should be noted that both Arnold and Lois Pieri and Ralph and Margaret Derango still attend our meetings.

1962! John F. Kennedy Was President of the United States of America. Joseph L. Casalnuovo was Grand President of the Italian Catholic Federation.

It was a very productive year for the Italian Catholic Federation in many respects, but it brought about important changes in Northern California, where the Archdiocese Of San Francisco was divided into several dioceses.

Monsignor Donnell A. Walsh became the New Grand Chaplin of the Italian Catholic Federation. The new Archbishop of San Francisco was Joseph T. Mcguken, a Life Member of the ICF, while the new Bishop of Santa Rosa was Monsignor Leo T. Maher, The Former Grand Chaplain and Life Member of Central Council. Bishop Hugh Donohoe became the new Bishop of the Stockton Diocese and Bishop Floyd Begin became the new Bishop of Oakland.

Five new branches came into existence: February 3 ~

Branch 160 Santa Maria; June 9 ~ Branch 161 Larkspur/

St. James; September 13 ~ Branch 162 Chicago/Immaculate

Heart Of Mary; October 7 ~ Branch 163 San Mateo/St. Matthew and November 11 ~ Branch 164 Highwood, Il/St. Anna.

Our Very First Minutes Read ~ June 9, 1962.

Branch #161, known as St. James in Larkspur, California was formed. Initiation of 29 Members was held. Officers were installed as follows:

President ~ Salvatore Lococo

First Vice President ~ Dr. Arnold Pieri

Second Vice President and Marshall ~ Felix Ruggiero

Financial Secretary ~ Sylvia Gardin

Treasurer ~ Karen Krause

Recording Secretary ~ Florence Falvey

Orator ~ Lois Pieri

Trustees (3) Pompeo Gardin, Joe Krause, Frank Mazzaferro

Sentinel ~ Robert Prouse

Members of the Central Council were the installing officers. Luigi Providenza President, Father Anthony Dal Blon Chaplain.

Members of the San Rafael Branch and Fairfax Branch were present. Refreshments were served.

From 1962 to the present our branch has had 12 presidents.

Salvatore Lococo, Dr Arnold Pieri, Tony Compagno, Frank Rinaldi and Louis San Filippo held two years term. In 1972 Robert Smith term was four years, Ralph De Rango's three years, John Matteucci five years, Florence Falvey two years, Leroy Cheda eleven years, John Gallagher three years and in 2006 I became president.

Marin's involvement with the federation began on October 9, 1927 with Branch 16~San Francesco di Assisi. On December 15, 1954 Branch 116 ~ Mary Queen of the Universe started. We in 1962 and on June 5, 1977~ Novato Branch 332 ~ our Lady of Loretto.

On January 23, 1993 Branch 116 closed after 39 years, followed by Branch 16 on December 13, 1995 after 68 years.

Through no longer a district, Marin will always be an important part of the Italian Catholic Federation!

## LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE District Council

I would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year. I hope everyone had a very blessed Christmas.

Let's hope and pray that 2020 brings many blessings to us all and Peace on Earth.

The LA District meeting takes place on January 12 at St. Peter's in LA with a family style lunch afterwards. I hope to see as many of you there as possible.

Don't forget that our next District meetings take place in February. The Officers Meeting takes place on February 1st at Holy Family in South Pasadena at 9:30 am. Our General Meeting will be on February 29th, Leap Day, at San Antonio Winery also at 9:30 a.m.

Remember to stop by the ICF Booth at Religious Ed Congress. It takes place the weekend of February 21 through 23.

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

ICF Branch 67 is working with Central Council along with present and former Branch members in the development of a new National Branch 67 at St. Peter's Italian Church. (See Article from Grand President Vince Piro in the November 2019

*Bollettino*. We are now accepting applications for those interested in joining ICF Branch 67; please contact Carmelo Sabatella at phone no. 626 372-7812 or via email at [cas1810@aol.com](mailto:cas1810@aol.com).

Branch 67 will continue to work with Saint Peter's Church and reaching out to all ICF Members, the Italian Community and those who are interested in continuing an ICF

presence at this beautiful Italian National Church. Interested members are asked to call 626 372-7812 for membership in or a position on the Branch 67 Board.

Please spread the word to friends, families and members that the Italian Catholic Federation Branch 67 and Padre Pio Society will attend the 11:00 a.m. (Italian) mass and join St Peter Parishioners on the fourth Sunday of each Month this year.

SAVE THE DATE:

Mother Cabrini Open House on February 9, 2020 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. For more information visit [Icf.org/MotherCabriniShrine](http://Icf.org/MotherCabriniShrine).

Please let your family and friends know that National Branch 67 is now accepting applications for membership regardless of their place of residency. You can help us keep the future alive for the next generations at Branch 67 in Los Angeles. We are asking for your ideas, prayers and support.

*Your help is greatly appreciated.*

Carmelo Sabatella AIA

President Branch 67

Italian Catholic Federation

T. 626 372-7812

E. [cas1810@aol.com](mailto:cas1810@aol.com)



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SERVICE BEYOND EXPECTATION



Continued from Page 11

## South Pasadena Holy Family, Br. 108

On December 8th, Members attended the annual Branch 108 Christmas Party in Connolly Hall. All celebrated Christmas with great food, singing Christmas songs and a surprise visit by Santa Claus. After the Christmas Party elections for the 2020 Branch Board was held and moderated by ICF Mentor Steven Drobeck.

Congratulations to new Officers: Immediate Past President John Maggiora, President Thomas Haubrick, 1st VP Tad Shaw, 2nd VP Patrick Grimaud, Treasurer Linda Sabatella, Financial Secretary Theresa Shaw, Recording Secretary Patricia Richards, Trustees Diana Plescia, Jackie Ficht, Aggie Centurioni Dawes, David Tetreault, Paola Frattino, Andrea Maggiora, Orator Patricia Avila and Sentinel Bill Dawes.

Thank you Santa Claus, ICF Mentor Steven Drobeck, ICF members, guests and families for making this year's celebration a beautiful event.

## Montebello St. Benedict, Br. 111

Ciao a Tutti. A warm hello to everyone. Tanti Auguri per un Felice Anno Nuovo a tutti! A heartfelt Best Wishes for a Happy, Healthy, Joyful, & Prosperous 2020 to everyone!

Our January General Meeting will be on Thursday, January 16, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. at the St. Augustine House, 200 N. 12th Street, (corner of Cleveland Ave.) in Montebello. Come join us! We would like to congratulate all the members who celebrate their birthdays in the month of January: Phillip Pace, Anthony DeLorenzo, Cettina Mauro, Alma Gutierrez, Joey Wadzinski, Frank Gomez, Frank Salomone & Rita Estrada. Happy Birthday to everyone!! Buon Compleanno a tutti!!

The 2020 ICF Officer's Installation will on Sunday, January 12, 2020. Mass at 11 a.m. at St. Peter's Church, Los Angeles, followed by the Officer's Installation and lunch at Casa Italiana.

Mark your calendars—our St. Joseph Table this year will be held on Saturday & Sunday, March 21 & 22, 2020 at St. Benedict Parish Hall. The monies we will raise at this event will allow us to support our parish, offer scholarships to St. Benedict Parish School graduating students, support our clergy and Seminarians, scholarships to graduating high school students, to Cooley's Anemia, and other worthwhile charities. We need everyone's support to make this a successful event! Thank you for all you do for the ICF and may St. Joseph and God Bless you abundantly.

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

Best Wishes for a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous 2020 to everyone! Tanti Auguri per un Felice & Prospero Anno Nuovo 2020!

A Presto!

Frank Salomone

Branch 111 President



Br. 111, Celebrating Linda & Sal's Birthdays



*Ricordati sempre che  
la tua risoluzione al suc-  
cesso è più importante di  
qualsiasi altra.*



Br. 111, November 2019 Meeting & Thanksgiving Dinner





Br. 111, Members at Mother Cabrini Chapel

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

Branch 115 ended the year with a fun filled Christmas party which included a delicious dinner and fun games and activities. The 2020 officers were introduced. Neal DiLeva will continue as President. Anna DiLeva 1st VP, 2nd VP Frank Colonna, Recording Secretary Nancy Ventimiglia, Corresponding Secretary MaryAnn Lauro, Financial Secretaries Pauline Iacono and Nancy Donato, Treasurer Anita Trujillo, Orator Nicolina Mattera, Sentinel Mary Cigliano, Trustees Frank Amalfitano, Bob Hohman, Letiza Chaparro, Giovanna Gioiello and Carmela Funicello., They will be installed at St Peter’s Italian Church on Jan 12th.

Please plan on attending our first branch meeting on Jan 16th at 7:30 p.m. Please invite friends and family to attend.

Our branch’s first casino run will be to Harrah’s casino on Feb 4th. \$20. 00 for members non members \$25.00 Please call Pauline Iacono for reservations 310 832 0563

Dues of \$39.00 are now payable. Dues can be paid at our monthly meeting or mailed to Pauline Iacono at 1072 W 8th Street, San Pedro, Ca 90731

Our monthly meeting on Feb 20th will be our potluck meeting. Please sign up at meeting and let us know what tasty dish you will be sharing.

We are also planning a San Manuel Casino trip on March 24th Call Pauline to reserve your spot.

President Neal DiLeva will be discussing our next fundraising event our annual Crab dinner. Save the date March 7th

*Happy New Year to all!*

**Leonard Zasoski, Jr.**  
Vice President Construction Operations  
Director of Safety  
Cell: 661-978-5622

  
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own resolution to succeed is more  
important than any other.*



San Pedro Branch 115 participated in the Pilgrimage of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini in Burbank on December 1, 2019.





Br. 169 2019 Children's Hospital LA Toy Drive  
Anita Trujillo Treasurer

### Ventura San Bonaventura, Br. 169

A heartfelt thank you to our 2019 Children's Hospital Los Angeles Toy Drive coordinators, Taylor Barnes and Fred Baskin. Through their hard work and the generosity of our community, our branch was able to contribute generously to the toy drive. As our coordinators said, this act of kindness is going to bring these children happiness at a time when it is really needed. The toys pictured were collected during our joint ICF/50+ potluck. Further, congratulations to our newly elected Board for 2020! We look forward to continued growth and opportunities to serve our community.

*God's Blessings to All and Happy New Year!*

Branch 169

### Arcadia Holy Angels, Br. 218

A very happy New Year to everyone. And, a huge thank you to all that helped me with our Christmas party, especially President Jerry, Matt and Audrey Luchetta, Scott Carrano and Gianni Carrano for playing a Christmas song on his ukulele and Joe Lanera, again our Santa, and everyone else that contributed. President Jerry presented Ann Armenio and Matt Luchetta with parting gifts as they have dropped off the board after many, many years of serving. It was a very enjoyable evening.

As of this writing our New Years Eve Party has not occurred, but I am going to assume that it was a fun and successful event as always. Our next meeting is January 12 and we will be preparing for the pancake breakfast on January 26 with set up on the 25th. This fundraiser is for Holy Angels School. Scott Carrano will again be coordinating the workers. Please see him if you wish to help out.

*Hope to see everyone at our next meeting.*  
Lolly M.

### Gardena St. Anthony of Padua, Br. 237

Dear Members,  
Happy New Year!!!

We had a great time at our annual Birthday party for Jesus. It is our opportunity to say thanks to our supporters of the ICF, without

them we are not able to contribute to all of charities!!!! Thanks again.

We attended the annual Christmas party for Children's Hospital, details next month.

Remember calendars are still available, check out January.

May the New Year be a blessed one for all.

*You will show me the path to life, abounding joy in your presence, the delights at Your right hand forever. Psalm 16:11*

*Respectfully,*

Micheal Bohannon Roa

### Diamond Bar St. Denis, Br. 317

Merry Christmas from Branch 317 in Diamond Bar!

The 317 ICF "Elves" along with the Knights of Columbus and Women's Council held our Annual Breakfast with Santa on Dec. 1. (Former ICF President, Roxanne Perry, started the event many years ago.)

The ICF "Elves" decorated the Hall to look like Santa's House complete with a fireplace, piano and 2 trees where adopt-an-Angels hung. We even had Santa's Sleigh.

Breakfast began at 7:30am and we served until noon. All the proceeds from breakfast went to St. Denis Christmas Baskets.

We had photos with Santa, a raffle table and "Adopt a Pet" with stuffed animals. For \$1 the kids put their hand in the box and pull out a "pet". The proceeds to the St. Denis Adopt-A-Family program.

Branch members will go to the CHLA Christmas Party for the Children with Thalassemia. Our Branch received a generous donation from AB Personal in Riverside to purchase gifts

for the children. We are Very Grateful to them.

We are starting our Cannoli pre sales earlier this year. Orders start the 1st Sunday of February. Delivery is the Sunday before Ash Wednesday. (One last "Hooray" before Lent starts.) Also this year we are going to ask the Parishioners that when they come to pick up their Cannoli to please bring a non perishable food item to help restock the St. Denis Food Pantry.

From All of the Members at the St Denis ICF--We Wish You All A Very Happy, Healthy and Blessed Christmas. BUON NATALE!

*Pamela-Anne Roemer  
President, Branch 317*

*St. Denis Catholic Community*

### Downey St. Raymond, Br. 362

HAPPY NEW YEAR! Welcome 2020.

Well we made it through another year, onward we go into a new decade. We begin with the LAAD Installation of Officers being held at St Peter's Italian Catholic Church in LA, with an amazing lunch afterwards.

I'm looking forward to working the ICF Booth at the Religious Ed Congress in February, if you're attending, look for us and stop by.

February also brings our first Bingo Luncheon of the New Year. I want to acknowledge the great work that was done by our Branch in 2019. Great Job.

We celebrated our Branch Christmas Dinner at Johnny Carino's with some delicious pasta and meatballs and played a fun --gift passing game.

*Here's to a successful, happy, healthy 2020!*





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

### BRANCH 374 VISITS MICHELANGELO EXHIBIT

ICF members and friends from Branch 374 in La Canada Flintridge traveled to the new Christ Cathedral of the Orange Diocese in Garden Grove to see the Michelangelo Sistine Chapel Exhibit.

The exhibit showcased museum quality near life sized reproductions of the iconic master's 34 frescos that adorn the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican. The exhibit is located

on the campus of Christ Cathedral (the renovated former Crystal Cathedral purchased by the Diocese of Orange for its cathedral).

The group enjoyed a luncheon following the tour at Carolina's Italian Restaurant nearby.

The branch sponsors tours and field trips for its members to foster camaraderie and evangelization.

**ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION  
Branch 374**

**AL C. RESTIVO, PH.D.**

**PRESIDENT**

*St. Bede the Venerable Roman Catholic Church*

*La Cañada Flintridge, California  
(818) 952-1969*

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

Branch 380 celebrated the Christmas season with our annual Christmas party and raffle on December 7th. We enjoyed a delicious lasagna dinner, Santa made an appearance and passed out gifts to the children, and many lovely raffle prizes were handed out. It is always a special evening with friends and family.

We are looking forward to a new year filled with fun activities and service projects.

*Happy New Year to all!*

*Annie Scott, Corresponding Secretary*



Br. 380, Visiti with Santa

**February Issue Deadline  
is January 10th.  
Send articles and photos:  
[editor@icf.org](mailto:editor@icf.org)**



Br. 374, Pictured here are left to right Branch Treasurer Mark Mannarelli and Emy; Maria DelSalguero; Nancy and Vincent Ammirato, Branch President Al Restivo, and Branch Second Vice President Diane Restivo; guets Susan Toubes and Joan Miner, and branch member Patricia Harris.



Br. 380 Raffle prizes



Br. 447

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

On Thursday, November 14, 2019, we had a Friendsgiving Potluck Dinner, our ongoing Cooley's Anemia Fundraiser & Toy Drive Collection for the Children's Hospital of Los Angeles, and ICF Branch 444 2020 Officer Elections. Everyone brought and shared their favorite dishes and desserts. Members and their guests also brought new, unwrapped toys and items for the recipients to enjoy. It was a great evening! Check out the photos!

Here is the list of our 2020 ICF Branch Officers:

President: Hany Francis

1st Vice President: Marianne Canetti

2nd Vice President: Kathleen Buchanan

Treasurer/Finance Secretary: Bruno Vieri

Recording/Corresponding Secretary: Vacant

Orator: Janos Bakos

Sentinel: Cristina Baldemor

Sentinel: Fran Noday

Trustee: Carol Piccirillo

Trustee: Tonia Amalfitano

Our Annual ICF Christmas Party was on Saturday, December 14, 2019 from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. in the Saint John Fisher Parish Barrett Hall. Everyone enjoyed the festivities which included appetizers, dinner catered by Giorgio's Restaurant, music, dancing, and raffles! On December 15, 2019, some of us attended the 3rd Annual Thalassemia Christmas Party at CHLA. It was such a joy seeing the kids and everyone having fun!

The Branch Officers and their guests will be attending the Installation Mass and Celebration being held at St Peter's Italian Catholic Church on January 12, 2020.

Our next general meeting will be on Thursday, January 16, 2020 at 7 p.m. If you would like more information about our upcoming events, please feel free to send an email to [icf444rpv@gmail.com](mailto:icf444rpv@gmail.com).

*Buon Anno!*

*Tonia Amalfitano*

## Manhattan Beach American Martyrs, Br. 447

On Sunday, December 1st, several of our members participated in the Mother Cabrini Pilgrimage, and luncheon in Burbank. It was a very special celebration of Mass, followed by the pilgrimage, visit of the Shrine, and luncheon. It was wonderful learning about the life of Mother Cabrini and her work with Italian immigrants and her special connection to American Martyrs.

On December 9th, we were so blessed to have a very well-attended 2nd Annual Christmas Celebration with our members and guests. We had a catered Italian dinner enjoyed by everyone. We focused much of our celebration on the children who wrote letters to Santa, made gingerbread houses and were surprised and delighted when Santa stopped by. We enjoyed relaxing dinner music by Mike Roberti and wrapped up our meeting with dessert, Christmas caroling and a 50/50 raffle.

Our next General Meeting will be Monday evening, January 27th, 2020 at O'Donnell Hall. We will keep it simple with pizza, salad, dessert & Bingo! It will be a mixer to get to know each other better and discuss ideas for future meetings in 2020.

We will also begin planning our next major General Meeting which will be held on Sunday evening at 5:00 p.m. at O'Donnell Hall. We will be celebrating with Mass, followed by a St. Joseph's Day Table and an Italian dinner. More details to follow.

*On behalf of the Board, we hope that everyone enjoyed Christmas with family and friends, and we want to wish everyone a very Happy New Year!*

*Stephanie DeRaddo*

*2020 President*

## OAKLAND EAST BAY DISTRICT

What a fun time we had at the District Christmas Party. Thanks to Lisa, Melody and Gary we had really great party favors to decorate the tables with and then take home. This year we had a pirate gift exchange that everyone seemed to enjoy, even those who forgot to bring a gift. Hopefully they will remember next year. Thanks to Dorothy and Pat for the raffle baskets.

Our next big event is installation of officers on Jan. 19th. This will take place at the Fratellanza Club and will be co-hosted by Branch 91 and Branch 215. We are looking forward to some new faces along with some that we more familiar with through out the years. It is a time to meet your peers from other branches and get a few new ideas. This year will be somewhat saddened for us, as we will have one less set of officers, as Branch 40 from Oakland is closing. If we are lucky some members will transfer to other branches and bring their talents with them.

On Feb. 1, 2020 we will host our Dave Rose Memorial Crab Feed at St. Philip Neri Parish Hall. Come on out and enjoy great food, Hors d'Oeuvre and raffle baskets and lots of fun.

*Happy Sweet Hearts Day to all those big, loving "Italian" Hearts out there.*

*Pat Grasso,*

*District Sec.*



## Alameda N.S. Delle Grazie, Br. 10

Almost 600 family and friends filled Saint Philip Neri Church in Alameda on Saturday, December 7 for the funeral Mass for Daryl Dorn, the son of JoAnn Dorn, the former president of the East Bay District, and her husband Roger. Daryl had been ill for the previous two months. He is also survived by a sister, JoAnn presently serves as treasurer for Branch 10.

Daryl was known for bringing a large group of celebrants to the East Bay District's Dave Rose Memorial Crab Feed. His 1983 Class of Saint Philip Neri School celebrated its 35-year reunion at the 2018 crab feed.

We will also miss Dave Botta. We are all thankful that we were able to enjoy his lively personality, his warm, welcoming smile and his devotion to the ICF.

At our membership meeting of December 5 we voted to donate a total of \$1,800.00 to a number of charities, including \$500.00 to Cooley's anemia research. We also voted to give various amounts to Saint Philip Neri School, victims of the Kincaide Fire in Sonoma County, the Cub Scout Pack and Boy Scout Troop sponsored by Saint Philip Neri-Saint Albert the Great Parish, the John Rosa Memorial Scholarship Fund and Catholic Charities.

We concluded last year's social calendar with our Christmas party on Friday, December 13. Our 2020 social calendar opens on Saturday, January 11 with our annual Polenta Dinner.

*Respectfully submitted,  
John Zugnoni  
Branch 10 publicity*

## Livermore St. Filomena, Br. 285

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and PEACE ON EARTH as we celebrate the birth of Christ in our homes and our hearts.

In the spirit of Christmas, we will join fellow members for a dinner on December 11th at Pasta's Restaurant in Pleasanton.

The Christmas Nativity Display at Saint Elizabeth Seton on December 8th is promised to be a wonderful event, sponsored by our branch. Thank you to Nancy Navarini who has been chairman and to all other members and friends who have brought their precious collections of nativities.

Our sunshine committee has been visiting our home-bound members and have found it very gratifying. It has brought a smile on the face of all who have participated.

Congratulations to Anna & Michael Yocham who are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary this month.

We welcome our new member, Jerry Vattuone. Moreno & Nancy Navarini welcome their new granddaughter, Rosamaria Navarini, born in November.

Wonderful Christmas concerts at Saint Elizabeth Seton on Dec. 13th and combined choirs concert of Saint Charles Borromeo & St. Isidore in Danville on Dec. 15th.

Lots of great events being planned for 2020 for our Branch as we close another year. We pray for healing to all who are dealing with health problems

*We wish each and everyone a HAPPY NEW YEAR AND BLESSINGS FOR 2020.  
Until next time, Ciao--Judy Bates*

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

Our successful Biscotti sale was in time to make those who purchased them, for the holidays, have less work to do and more time and fun with family and friends.

Election of officers for 2020 was held with some changes in positions and new faces joining the group. The results are: Pres. Mike Miraglia; 1st Vice Pres. Leonard Rossi; 2nd Vice Pres. Margaret Speranza; Sec. Pat Grasso; Treas. Lisa Crudo; Fin. Sec. Al Proietti; Orator, Maria Ruggeri; Sentinel, Dorothy Cassani; Trustees, David Taddei, Melinda Klever and Dorothy Giammona. Thank you for taking on the challenge, and welcome aboard!

We are looking forward to our belated Christmas party during our Jan. meeting, during which we will donate new baby clothes, diapers, etc. to Birth Right. So we will have a longer Season of Giving this year.

We are also looking forward to a lovely St. Valentine's Day celebration and will be working on that for Feb.

*So, a Happy Valentine's Day to all the sweethearts out there, whoever you are.  
Pat Grasso,  
Sec. Br. 343*

## CONTRA COSTA DISTRICT

We hope you enjoyed the holiday season and are now ready to make your new year 2020 resolutions come to fruition.

Some members passed away in 2019. This includes David Botta (Mr. ICF) who was a wonderful human being and a great member of our Federation. We extend our condolences to his family and friends. May He and all the members who have passed away rest in peace at the side of our God.

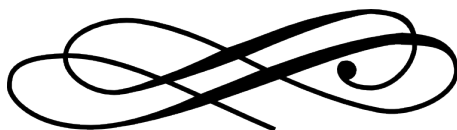
Our Contra Costa District Installation will be on Saturday January 18, 2020. The Pittsburg branch is hosting it at the Galileo club in Richmond. Mass will be celebrated, followed by our Installation, a social and then our luncheon. All are welcome. We strongly recommend that all officers attend the installation. You do not have to attend the luncheon if you do not have the time to stay. Check with your branch President for additional details. Branch Presidents must turn in the branch luncheon headcount by January 14 to Patty Jarrett. Each branch must also mail a check to Treasurer Walter Costa by the same date.

Our next district meeting is on Thursday January 23, 2020 at 7:00 PM in the Round Table Pizza Parlor banquet room in Martinez. Please send two representatives from each branch and bring your 2020 district assessment check.

Please let me know if anyone is interested in writing future District Bollettino articles.

In closing: *Prayer is the breath, the watchword, the comfort, the strength and the honor of a Christian. (author unknown)*

*Joseph (joefflore33@comcast.net)*



## Martinez San Martino, Br. 13

For heritage, we shared stories of our friend, David Botta, who returned to heaven well before we were ready to let him go. We will love and remember him for years to come. Vaya Con Dios, David.

We begin a new decade thinking about the unity and kinship we share as we celebrate our love of God. The ICF anthem "Noi Vogliam Dio" translated into English means "We Love God." Being an English-speaking-second-generation-Italian-American, I often feel lost when members sing this official song. To know me is to know that I sing at home, in church, in the car, walking the dog, basically whenever the mood strikes. My children are aware, as I often tell them in tune, that there is a song for everything. "Last Night's Pizza in My Breakfast Bowl" is a favorite as is "Do Small Things With Great Love," a song on the teachings of Saint Teresa. Notwithstanding the Italian tradition imbedded in the Federation, it appears that the majority of the membership uses English as a first language. I would hope that similar to multi-lingual Masses, the ICF would continue to encourage unifying its members and begin singing stanzas of this anthem in both languages. Let's try it. ICF website lists both versions.

### WE LOVE GOD

O we want our God to protect us, /And to guide us in the best way.

If in the struggle He will aid us, /From evil shall we win the fray.

Rise up all you faithful, /Uphold the Faith and sing:

O we want God Who is our Father; /O we want God Who is our King.

In this Land of strength and freedom /We gave our vigor from the start;

Quick to defend, O noble people, /The name of Christ that's in our heart.

Rise up all you faithful, /Uphold the Faith and sing:

O we want God Who is our Father; /O we want God Who is our King.

How beautiful to ask God to protect us and our loved ones during this new decade.

*Ciao for now,*

*Mary Cook*

## Crockett San Carlo, Br. 14

Ciao Amici,

As we gather, we're reminded that green, white, and red are not just colors representing the holiday season, but they're also the colors of the Italian flag. It's said that green represents hope, white represents faith, and red represents charity. How appropriate for this time of year and for our organization.

We recently saw quite a bit of green, white, and red at our Christmas Potluck. Thanks to the Cabral family, our hall was decorated in the holiday spirit with twinkling lights on a beautiful tree.

Multiple generations of families arrived early in the evening, full of anticipation. The holiday revelers were serenaded with the musical stylings of Aaron Cargo on the accordion. As our friends were arranging their specialty dishes and other goodies, Jim Thomas was busy preparing rigatoni to round out the buffet. The long tables were bursting with delicacies, and I'm happy to say that everyone showed an appropriate amount of decorum.

Just as we were about to eat, we heard jingle bells off in the distance followed by a hearty "Ho Ho Ho" and guess who appeared? That's right, none other than Santa himself (who coincidentally bears a striking resemblance to Johnny V.) Santa came well-prepared with a sack full of presents and a study lap for all the kids. A big thank you goes to all of Santa's helpers, and everyone who contributed to another successful celebration!

*A new year brings new hope. May we all enjoy a Happy New Year!*

*Blessings,*

*~Helen*

Remember, start sending in  
*Bollettino* submissions  
for the February issue.  
**Deadline is January 10th.**  
Get your articles and photos in to  
[editor@icf.org](mailto:editor@icf.org)  
**Be sure to include  
the branch number  
to ensure publication.**



Br. 14, Crockett having a toast for David Botta on our bus trip. He enjoyed these trips. Miss you David





Br. 14, Thank you Johnny,Helen,Derek,Roni and Sylvia for representing Branch 14 , Crockett at the Town Tree Lighting Celebration.



Br. 14, Crockett. Some of the little ones Celebrating the Christmas Holiday with Santa



Br. 214, Toys for Tots and Veterans



Br. 214, Terri Di Loreto and Rick De Santos with the Marines



Br. 214, District Christmas party

## Pittsburg San Domenico, Br. 72

Happy New Year to all members of Branch 72. We have made many memories over the years. We will make more in 2020.

Our branch is hosting the District Installation of officers. This event will be held on Saturday January 18 at the Galileo Club in Richmond. Our District Chaplin Father Larry Young will offer Mass. The Installation of officers will follow. Then a social before our luncheon. By now you have received your invitation with all the details. Please RSVP to Patty by January 14 if you want to attend the luncheon. Also mail your lunch check for \$30.00 made payable to ICF branch 72 to Helen before January 14.

Invitations will be mailed for our January meeting. We will finalize our 2020 calendar at that meeting. We will also celebrate the legend of La Befana.

Our treasurer has mailed the Branch membership dues slip for 2020. Please mail your dues check as soon as possible.

We have a few ICF calendars still available for purchase. Each calendar is \$25.00. Your ticket stub is included in the daily raffle. Even if you win your stub is placed back in the raffle giving you many chances to win. Let Patty know if you want a calendar before January 15.

Our branch offers condolences to the family of David Botta. David died in November after a brief illness. David was the deputy for our branch many years ago. He was a past Grand President and held many other titles in the ICF. He will be missed and never forgotten.

That is it for this time.

*As we say in Pittsburg, Sempre Avanti*  
Patty



Br. 214, Christmas Brunch

## Concord Todos Santos, Br. 214

Buona Feste a tutti

I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving.

We have been a very busy branch with so many events having taken place.

We had our Toys 4 Tots drive which was a huge success and so many people donated great toys. We had the privilege of having Sgt. DeMartini, and Sgt. Tau speak about the importance of the toy drive for under

privileged children. It was headed by Terri Di Loreto. We honored the many veterans from our branch and thanked them for the years of their service.

We enjoyed the annual District Christmas party on December 2nd at DeVinos in Pleasant Hill. This included all branches. There was good food and raffle prizes were won by many members which included gift cards, poinsettias and scratchers. It was a fun event.

On Sunday December 8th 26 members of branch 214 attended the annual Christmas brunch at La Veranda in Clayton. The raffle prizes were handed out by our president Roberta Healy. They were panettone and poinsettias.

In January we are having a clothing drive for the homeless. Gloria Shafer is the chairperson. We always have a wonderful response from our members for this important event.

We are looking forward to the installation of our branch officers on January 18th. It will be held at the Galileo Club in Richmond.

We wish you all a happy, healthy holiday season and blessed wishes for the New Year.

*God bless the sick, homeless and our troops.*

Norene De Luca



Continued from Page 17

## **Brentwood Immaculate Heart of Mary, Br. 432**

At our October meeting, we held elections for our new board for 2020. We have 3 new board members; 1st Vice President, Sam Scalise, 2nd Vice President, Brain Montone and Secretary, Peggy Scalise. 2020 will start off with a bang—we acquired 5 new members who will be joining us in January.

On November 10th, we had our first Murder Mystery Dinner Show, called “Funeral for a Gangster”, which was a fund raiser for scholarships. It was a big success, and presented by, “Caught In the ACT Theater Company.” Hopefully, this will become our annual event to raise money for scholarships and other charities.

In September, our annual “Fiesta d’Italia Car Show and Pasta Dinner”, was (as always) a big success. October was a busy month for ICF-432, we supported Immaculate Heart of Mary’s annual “Marian Conference,” where over 750 people attended. ICF helped in working several different booths, food preparation, setting up tents, tables and chairs. It was a lot of work, but well worth it!

December 2nd, ICF 432 held our annual Christmas dinner at CAPS, a local restaurant in Brentwood. Sixty-four members attended the dinner and we all had a great time—we even had some of our members sing old Neapolitan songs. I don’t know how good we sounded, but we had fun! The ICF members enjoyed going to CAPS so much, everyone wants to return next year for our 2020 Christmas gathering.

## **Pleasant Hill Christ The King Br. 442**

Happy 2020 to Everyone!

Please welcome our 2020 officers: President-Diana Mackinson, 1st Vice-Matt Dallara, 2nd Vice-Joan Cummings, Recording Secretary-Juliette Cote, Financial Secretary-Judi Dallara, Treasurer-Paul Peterson, Orator-Donna Veneziano, Sentinel-Peggy Hagerthy, Trustees-Ann Counsul, Eileen McGauran, and Jan Wrobel. The Corresponding Secretary position is OPEN. Please consider helping us fill that job. The job description can be found at ICF.org in the member section. Congrats to all!

January 12th is our next monthly meeting. Watch for details by email. We will have our annual calendar ready for distribution. If you are considering heading up a committee, January is a good time to volunteer.

January 18th is our Installation of Officers. All are welcome. Start time is 10 a.m. with lunch to follow. Cost is \$10. Location: the Galileo club in Richmond. Please let Diana know if you’d like to attend.

January 26th will be our 1st quarterly Mass and Brunch of the year. (Original date of 1/12 was changed due to our meeting). Please join us at the 10:45 mass. We sit in the front, on the right as you enter church. Brunch at Mr. Lucy’s after.

Items to note: Canned food and paper grocery bag collection at each meeting for our parish pantry. **DON’T FORGET TO BUY YOUR 2020 calendars for \$25. 2020 DUES of \$42 are due this month!** Look for your envelope in the mail or please See Judi Dallara. Prompt payment is very appreciated.

*Ciao! Juliette Cote*

## **BLESSED SACRAMENT DISTRICT**

### **Roseville San Vito, Br. 73**

On Saturday evening 16 November, Branch 73 hosted its annual autumnal polenta/chicken dinner for some 250 guests. Good food and companionship were enjoyed by those in attendance. Thanks are again due to Tony and Kathy Barsotti and their kitchen crew for preparing an excellent repast. Also to be thanked are those who prepared the hall, sold dinner, raffle, and drink tickets, and manned the bar. Special thanks are due to Jennifer Barsotti for obtaining the raffle prizes and attractively arranging them.

On December 7, Tony Barsotti prepared food for the joint ICF, Knights of Columbus, and ACTS Christmas festivity. ICF members and friends served the food.

By the time the Bollettino arrives, Christmas will have passed; our hope is that it was a happy occasion for all the members of Branch 73. For all of them may the new year, to begin soon, be marked by good health and much happiness and accomplishment. *Che Dio ci benedica con salute e felicità durante tutto l' Anno Nuovo.*

*Robert Delpippo*

### **Auburn St. Joseph, Br. 342**

The date of our annual Polenta Dinner is quickly approaching! We hope you have your tickets by now, but if you do not, call Mary Ann Mikles (916)759-8466 before they sell out. This is an event that you do not want to miss!

Congratulations to the newly elected board members of our branch:

President: MaryAnn Mikles

Vice President: Sue Tidball

Secretary: Pam Andersen

Financial Secretary: Flo Mooneyham

Treasurer: Adriana Jensen

Orator: Bridget Piziali

Sentinal: Barbara O'Rourke

Trustees: Trish Putkey, JoAnn Swars, Adele Valdez

*We wish you all a happy new year filled with good health and love.*

*Ciao!*

*Pam Andersen*

### **Roseville St. Clare of Assisi, Br. 438**

Our November meeting served up a delicious turkey dinner, complete with all the trimmings. We tried something different this year and had our local Sam’s Hof Brau Restaurant provide the turkey. It was wonderful!

Everyone brought their favorite side dish along to share. It was great tasting all the different family recipes. Who knew there were so many ways to make sweet potatoes?

One thing is for sure. We have some very talented cooks in Br. 438. It was special celebrating Thanksgiving with our ICF family.

We also held our election for 2020 officers at the November meeting.

Congratulations and thanks to everyone who stepped up to the plate, offering their time and talents.

President: Joe Aguilar

1st Vice President: Brad Senges

2nd Vice President: Pat Brown

Recording Secretary: Anne Finn

Treasurer: Rick Steir

Financial Secretary: Claire Salsman

Orator: Susan Ches

Trustees: Vera Beine, Carol Bacigalupi, Tina Flanders

Sentinels: Virginia Bergman and Dawn Beck

Our Christmas party is scheduled for December 20th. Original Pete’s Restaurant will be catering the dinner, which will include pasta with marinara sauce, meatballs, shrimp linguine, and a Caesar salad. Sounds yummy! Santa will be coming, too!

As we wind down 2019, we thank the Lord for all our blessings and ask for his continued support and guidance in the coming year.

*Wishing everyone a blessed and Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2020! Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo!*

*Anne Finn*

*Recording Secretary*

## **SANTA ROSA DISTRICT**

### **Healdsburg San Francisco Di Sales, Br. 52**

Even though we had to cancel our Christmas Party, we distributed our charitable donations. Due to the support of our members and friends during the year, at our dinners and fundraisers, we were able to donate to St. John’s Church, St. John’s School, St. Vincent De Paul Society, Corazon Healdsburg and Reach for Home.

Upcoming Events:

Jan. 7: Branch meeting at the Rectory. 6:00 PM

January 11: Polenta Dinner. Happy Hour: 5:45 PM Dinner: 6:30 PM. Price: \$15.00 for members and \$20.00 for non-members. For reservations, call Mary Madden: 431-0438. This will be our last Polenta Dinner until November.

Saturday, February 1: We are hosting the Santa Rosa District Installation of Officers. Mass: 12:00 Noon with Installation and lunch to follow. For tickets, call Carmen or Lauren: 595-3111. Members are encouraged to attend this event to meet ICF members from other branches. Price: \$25.00.

March 27: Mark your calendars for our very popular Fish Fry. More details, next month.

Remember to pay your dues.

*Happy New Year!*

*Lauren Kilcullen*

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

Greetings from Petaluma!

I hope that everyone had a beautiful Christmas with all your family and friends. Spending the holidays with family is so important. Don't just tell them you love them and give them lots of love on the holidays, but make it a point to do it everyday. That's what love and family is all about.

May joy, good health and happiness be yours throughout the New Year.

We had our Christmas Party and it was a nice day, everyone enjoyed themselves and you could feel the pleasure it gave everyone. Marilyn Lombardi and I wanted you all to have a good time and it looked like you did. Thank you Marilyn for being such a good co-chairman. I want to thank all the Members who helped in any way. And I want to thank Lois, Ann and Margaret who live in the Cottages of Petaluma for helping. Alex for being our Santa Claus.

Jan. 13th - Soup/Dessert Nite -Rm 9-6:00 p.m. Cost \$5

Feb. 10th - Regular Meeting

Feb. 22nd - All You Can Eat Crabfeed - hors d'oeuvres, pasta, all the crab you can eat, and dessert. Cost \$50 Reservations necessary - Louise: 707-769-7389

Our condolences to the family of Kathleen Walker on the loss of their mother. Kathleen was a member of our Branch who always helped. She will be missed by all. Also condolences to David Botta's family, he will be missed and lives in our hearts. He was a wonderful and gracious man whom everyone loved.

Get well wishes to Jim and Margaret Cordrey, Roseanna Cresci and any others who are ill. Glad to see Ann Cameron is out of the hospital and doing better. Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary to those celebrating.

*Be nice to someone you will always get it back in return.*

*Ciao, Louise Vicino*

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

Buon Natale a tutti!

Branch 144 had our monthly meeting beginning with a potluck featuring so many delicious foods. All would agree that the highlight of the meal was the beautifully prepared calamari, cooked by our own Alfred Eanni. What a way to start the meeting! And speaking of Alfred, he and Anne delayed their Heritage Report on their recent trip to Italy because they couldn’t locate their projector in order to share their photos with us. We will have to be patient.

We have several birthdays in our Branch this month including Rosemary, Linda, Paula, Pete, Larry and Pat.

Our Christmas Basket that was assembled by Linda was a huge hit at the District Meeting and no doubt had a lot to do with the \$1,100 collected in the raffle. Linda always does a stellar job arranging the Italian and locally-made goods.

Our free parish Advent Breakfast, given as a Gift Of Love to our parish community will be held on Dec. 15 in collaboration with the Knights of Columbus. We all assembled Advent wreaths to be displayed on the tables at the event. It will be a time of food, fellowship and fun!





Branch 27 ICF members and guests enjoy the Bishop's Burse.

Our Befana will be held on Jan. 5. What treats will Befana bring the youngsters this year? We also have our Installation Dinner coming up on Jan.18. The proposed menu sounds wonderful and Branch 144 will supply the appetizers. We have amazing cooks in our Branch!

*Have a loving Christmas and New Year's celebration with your family and friends.*

*-Paula Proctor*

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

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Our Christmas Party on December 2nd was a huge success. President Bob recognized the chairperson, Linda Sherman, and her many helpers: Kathy Acquistapace, Rina Elia, Marge and Mike Milano, Gene and Annie Zingarelli, Heidi Timko, Linda Pisenti and Vic Torchio for their terrific support. A special thanks to Lorraine Castelli for the beautiful decorations. Finally, President Bob thanks those who attended and supported our Branch all year.

January 5th marked the ceremony of our 54th Anniversary as a Branch and we look forward to many more years.

All officers should plan to attend the District Installation at St. John's in Healdsburg on February 1st starting with Mass at 12:00 noon.

May our 2020 be filled with joy and good fortune.

*Happy New Year and God bless all the members of ICF Branch 198.*

*Ciao,  
Gail Bonghi-Azevedo*

**Sebastopol  
St. Michael, Br. 209**

At our December 10th meeting we enjoyed a Christmas Social with finger foods and the traditional "Tom & Jerry's," prepared by Carolyn Bowen & Gene Vannetti. Santa arrived to the delight of all the children and grandchildren in attendance, and handed out gifts to each of them. Member's generous donations of unwrapped children's toys, were delivered to the Sebastopol Fire Department for their annual Toys for Tots, Toy Drive.

Our December 7th Ravioli dinner was well attended and delicious as always.

Thank you to all who helped out by selling tickets, setting up, cooking, selling raffle tickets, raffle prizes, tending bar, serving, clean up and all the raw apple cake bakers!

Mark your calendars for upcoming events:

January 14th – Regular meeting following dinner.

February 1st – Installation of District Officers hosted by Healdsburg Branch #52

February 22nd – Polenta Dinner at St. Sebastian's Hall, Sebastopol

March 29th – Quarterly Communion 8am

Please pray for our sick members: Colombina Albini & Barbara Bidia. Also prayers for a speedy recovery for Lorraine Vannetti who underwent hip replacement surgery in December.

*Auguri di buon anno,  
Sharon Vannetti*



Br. 27 Central Council, Fresno District and Bishop Brennen enjoy luncheon at the Bishop's Burse.

**FRESNO**

**Madera  
S.S. Crocifisso, Br. 27**

The November 12th dinner meeting was lasagna, salad, garlic bread, and dessert.

Thanks to the November committee, chairmen: Jim and Carol Espinola and the committee: Rose Meister, Kathy Parrish, Theresa DeFrank, Marcia Valorosi and Jennifer Valorosi. You guys did a great job!

We were fortunate to have 2 special guests at that meeting; Grand President Vince Piro and District Deputy Mabel Wilmon. On November 24th Branch 27 hosted the Fresno Districts Bishop's Burse. It was wonderful to meet the new Bishop, Joseph Brennen.

It was a beautiful event thanks to many hands from the branch but special thanks to Jennifer Valorosi for the fabulous table decorations. Thanks, too, to Elsie Bottorff and her crew for the appetizer plates. There were over 100 guests in attendance and all enjoyed a delicious catered luncheon of tri-tip, chicken, salad and pasta.

Hope all of you have a very safe and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Roger Rocka's is still in the planning stages for February. Please continue to pray for our ill and injured members.

*Ciao, Kerin Cavallero*



Bishop Joseph Brennen and Jim Cavallero Branch 27 President

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## Los Banos Santa Lucia, Br. 31

Hello again and Happy New Year from Branch 31! I hope you all had a wonderful holiday filled with love, family and maybe a few gifts. :) Our annual Christmas dinner was a huge success last month. Special thanks to Kevin Nelson, Steve Rocha and everyone who helped make the wonderful meal. Also, thank you to Linda Silva for her tasty desserts we had to finish off the evening. It was a fun night that helped kick off the holiday season.

As we start this New Year, we are preparing for our annual Polenta dinner fundraiser. The dinner will be held on February 8th at the DES Hall. Make sure to get your tickets for some delicious polenta and BBQ chicken. Don't have tickets or need more? contact Terri Post. Looking forward to seeing you all there, don't forget to bring your appetite.

Our next meeting will be a dinner meeting held at Round Table Pizza on January 13th at 6:00 p.m. We would like to wish everyone the best of luck in the New Year and prayers to anyone in need. God Bless!!

Ciao,

Giona Boffa

## Fresno St. Alphonsus, Br. 32

November's meeting with a delicious pot-luck of pre-celebration for Thanksgiving. Also at the meeting, Sally Caglia gave information about the Fresno County Historical Museum of Italian Heritage. The museum is located at the Fresno County Fairground. In September 2019, Nat Di Buduo and a small group of visionary friends applied for a grant funding the Vincent Isnardi Foundation to expand the Italian Heritage exhibit. Once the grant is awarded, expansion can officially take place and additional artifacts and stories can be added to the existing collection. For more information, please contact Sally at (559) 260-3617.

November sausage sandwich/bake sale hospitality was a huge success and the December bake sale helped donate \$300 to St. Alphonsus. We appreciate the support of the parishioners of St. Alphonsus.

November 24 was Bishop's Day held at St. Joachim's Church in Madera. It was very enjoyable. The Bishop attended and spoke.

New members in 2019: Father Dominic Rajappa, Michael Caglia, Vicki Teore, Peggy Barbato, Elsie Garcia, Isidra Murillo and Lupe Avila.

Pray for the deceased members we lost in 2019: Annie Caprioglio and Ann Saladino.

The next ICF meeting is January 7, at St. Alphonsus. Call Mike Caglia (559) 360-8332 or Paulette Volpa (559) 908-7398 for details.

Annual dues have been mailed out. If you haven't remitted them, please do so as soon as possible to Paulette Volpa.

Please pray for Vocations and for all the ill and homebound.

Happy New Year!

Paulette Volpa

Financial Secretary



Merced Br. 39 baking biscotti for their semi-annual fundraiser. (l-r) Jan Lorenzi, Patrice Marvulli, Chris Martin, and Janet Dal Porto.



Br. 39, (l-r) Ruth Redondo, Maryellen Mazzei, Janet Pugliese and Anne-Marie Bandoni did a festive job decorating our annual "Pasta Tree" contribution for our local museum's Holiday Open House.



Br. 39 (l-r) Co-chair Maryellen Mazzei taking out the dozens of baked biscotti from the ovens.



Br. 39 (l-r) Sisters Sally Latorraca and Nancy Silva measuring ingredients while Mabel Willmon in the background slices the cooled biscotti.

## Merced St. Cecilia, Br. 39

We had a festive time at our Lodge/ICF Christmas party. We feasted, played bingo, listened to ukulele players, sang Christmas songs, made crafts, and delighted in Santa's visit. A big thank you to chair Janet Dal Porto and branch officers.

Welcome to our 2020 branch officers: Michael Belluomini-President; Christine Martin-1st V.P.; Maryellen Mazzei-2nd V.P.; Mabel Willmon-Recording Secretary; Sandy Del Real-Financial Secretary; Sally Latorraca-Treasurer; Anne-Marie Bandoni, Pattie Simas, Dena Medeiros-Trustees; Sr. Rachel Monteil-Orator & Chaplain; and Carol Salmeri-Sentinel. Thank you all for serving as officers of our branch. Your time, effort and commitment are much appreciated!

Join us at our Wednesday, January 8 dinner meeting when we initiate our new officers. 5 p.m. social hour, 6 p.m. dinner, 7 p.m. meeting. Remember, as the price

of food has gone up, now must the price of our dinners. We haven't raised them in about 10 years. They will now be \$10, \$5 for children under 12. But look at all you get: Maryellen and Crew, with renowned visiting chef Dominic Giampietro, serving home-made Italian sausage with grilled peppers and onions over pasta, green salad, roll and butter with wine and dessert. Still a fantastic price as it includes a pleasant evening of camaraderie with fellow members. See you there!

The biscotti fundraiser was very profitable with a net of \$2,462! Thanks to the expert organization of chairladies Janet Pugliese and Maryellen Mazzei. They give a big shout out to their bakers, baggers, sellers, and those who donated money or ingredients. Tante Grazie a tutti!

*Tutto va bene durante questa stagione invernale. You all keep well during this winter season.*

Stephanie Lucich



## Gustine N.S. Del Pettoruto, Br. 54

Charter member Frank Scesa, 102 years young, together with President Diane Rebelo and Vice President Frank Borrelli, celebrating at Gustine Branch 54 annual Christmas Brunch.

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

By the time this article appears, Christmas will have passed by and we are getting ready for a busy 2020.

Several of our members attended the annual Seminary Bourse activities in Madera. Bishop Brennan provided everyone with an inspirational, and witty, homily. And, the luncheon was outstanding! Well done Madera branch!

Our December Christmas party was well attended and we enjoyed the camaraderie and the snacks. On January 7, we celebrate the Epiphany with the baby Jesus and the Kings cupcake along with the gift exchange. Our first Branch meeting of 2020 will be on January 21 during which we will be treated to a ham dinner with all the trimmings.

January birthday celebrants are Verona DeLuca, Tony Rainaldi, and Ron Travis.

Some history trivia: Did you know that some archeologists now believe that Vikings were the first Europeans to land in the Americas, possibly as early as 900 A.D. which means that they beat Chris Columbus by some 500 years! Is nothing sacred!

Last month, we inserted a motto in Latin, "Luceat Lux Vestra". It means "Let your light Shine". I believe it means the light within us. Right?

And remember, "It's not hard to meet expenses, they're everywhere".

Ciao,

Josef Juzgechheyski



# CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT

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

Happy New Year, Tutti! Another year has passed and we wonder where the time goes. At Branch 21, we make the most of time and are grateful for all who participate. Our annual Christmas Dinner was a great success: it was well attended and everyone was in a happy, festive mood. We want to thank Ardilla Camarlinghi for providing creamy hot toddies; John Barisone and Gary Castiglioni for cooking the delicious polenta dinner; Roseann Costabile, Mary Jo Belli, and Sue Della Santina for doing the fabulous appetizers, and all those folks who helped with setting up and cleaning up. We also thank those who brought raffle baskets; they were beautiful and helped boost ticket sales! Also that night, six attendees signed up as new Branch 21 members!

As a reminder, on January 18th, there will be the installation of all branches new officers in Hollister. On February 22nd, there will be the Central Coast District meeting in Paso Robles. These are interesting events that any member can attend. If you would like to go, we usually carpool from Holy Cross Hall parking lot. Also a calendar of events will be coming out for year 2020, so stay tuned.

We are sad to note that Giovanna Orlando has passed. She was a 43-year member of Branch 21 and her dear presence will be missed. We send our thoughts and prayers to her family.

*In closing, if you made a New Year's resolution, Godspeed!*

*Patty Morelli*

*Secretary Branch 21*

## Salinas Nostra Signora Del Sasso, Br. 25

Winter has arrived and Happy New Year to all of the ICF Family. Branch 25 hosted our second Paint & Sip Class with a winter theme that could be used for Christmas Cards. Once again, the event was taught by acclaimed local artist, Laurie Meyer and was lot of fun. The next class will be in March, date TBD.

Branch 25 will be hosting our annual Christmas Party and Lunch on Sunday, December 15, 2019 at JM Ranch with 30 members and guests expected. Photos will be coming in the next issue. Members are also planning on assisting Sacred Heart Parish with the annual Community Christmas Lunch, starting at 11 am on Christmas Day. The lunch is free to all and features Santa and toys for all children who attend.

Member dues statement will be mailed out to all members. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Salinas.

*Happy New Year to all!*

*JoAnn Sullivan, Recording Secretary*



Mr and Mrs Claus (Wayne and Jo Shaffer) at Branch 21's children at Annual Christmas Dinner.



Branch 25's December 8, 2019 Paint & Sip Fundraiser was taught by acclaimed local artist, Laurie Myers (center), featuring a holiday wreath.



Sister Noella leads Branch 21 in Christmas Song sing along.

## Hollister Santa Barbara, Br. 26

### December Meeting Branch 26

After a sumptuous meal at Paine's Restaurant, President Harry Hill opened our meeting on December 4. Orator Joanna Mc Mahon led us in a holiday prayer. We pledged allegiance to the flag and saluted the Italian flag. Andy Pappani, Deputy and past-Grand President, was our guest. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Officers present at the dinner meeting were President Harry Hill, Treasurer Tony Lo Bue, Secretary Brenda Ellis, Trustee Martha Gibson, and Orator Joanna Mc Mahon.

Last month's minutes and the Treasurer's report were read and approved.

Please save January 18, 2020 for the Central Coast District officers installation. This year Hollister, Branch 26, will be hosting an 11:00am Brunch catered by Paine's Restaurant. Immaculate Conception Church in Tres Pinos will hold the installation at 12 noon with Mass at 1:00pm. Fr. Rudy Ruiz will officiate the Mass.

On March 14, 2020, we have planned a Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner Fundraiser. It will be a dine-in meal including salad, potatoes, carrots, bread, and ice cream. Wine will be available along with other beverages. Dominic Cosentino will chair this event.

Kaye Larkin and Andy Pappani celebrate December birthdays.

Please also keep Charles Gallegos in your prayers as he has died.

Join us for our next meeting on January 8, 2020 at Paine's Restaurant.

We wish everyone a blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

*Respectfully submitted by Brenda Ellis, Secretary*

## Monterey Santa Rosalia, Br. 36

May the New Year bring you blessings and an abundance of love, joy, peace & prosperity.

Congratulate newly elected officers: Robert Huffer (President), Joe LoManto (1st VP), Turie Cavaliere (2nd VP), Elaine Valentine (Financial Sec.), Sandie Russo (Recording Sec.), Antonia Ruccello (Corresponding Sec.), George Leonard (Treasurer), Nick Bermudez (Sentinel), Jane Gasperson (Ora-

tor), Bob Bianchi, Elizabeth Grammatico, Antonia Ihnot, JoAnn Riso, and June Serrano (Trustees).

Thank JoAnn Riso and committee for a wonderful fundraiser on Nov. 16 with the DiFranco family singers. Everyone enjoyed the entertainment and food. We generated a net profit of over \$1700 for our Scholarship Fund.

Our Christmas dinner dance on Dec. 7 was a lot of fun and festive. Thank PJ Curatolo and crew for providing a great 4-course meal. We danced the night away to the US Express Band music. Thank Antonia Ihnot & June Serrano and committee for making our party bright and merry.

Our Children's Christmas Party was Dec. 15 with fun, food, games and gifts from Santa. Thank you to Joe & Sharon LoManto and Barbara Lucido and team for a festive time.

Our condolences to Angie and the family of Salvatore (Sal) Cardinale, who passed away on Nov. 28. Sal was a member of Br. 36 for 8 years and a community leader for many more. And our condolences are also extended to Patricia and the family of Emilio Cal who recently passed away. Cal was a member of Br. 36 for 16 years and loved coming to all of our events.

Upcoming events:

-January 9: Monthly Dinner/meeting / speaker Laurice Levine

-January 23: Volunteers Dinner

-February 6: Monthly Dinner / meeting / new member initiation

-February 28: 1st Lenten Dinner of 2020!  
*Felice Anno Nuovo,  
Elaine Valentine  
Financial Secretary*

*Continued on Page 22*





Br. 36, Bill Bianchi active trustee officer in Br 36 Monterey with both Robert Sequeria plus Dante Galeazzi LifeMember from Branch 139, Manteca.... reminisce of memories day in Manteca....

**Castroville  
Santa Caterina Da Siena,  
Br. 51**

Happy New Year!  
I would like to begin this entry with a New Year's prayer:  
Let us live each day in the most loving ways.  
Let us serve all who are in need regardless of race, color, or creed.  
May your year be filled with love, peace, prosperity and cheer.  
*May God's blessings shower upon you a bright, healthy and peaceful new year.*  
*Amen.*

Our branch would like to ask for our members for a moment of peace to remember Wilma Cursi. Wilma passed at the age of ninety-eight and was a member of our branch for fifty years. Wilma was a wonderful friend to all and will be truly missed. Prayers of remembrance and love go to Wilma's family and friends.

Happy Birthday to our January babies: beloved members Leonora Barlow and Carlo Cortopassi!

Thank you for those who helped make our Epiphany party a festive and fun success! It was a pleasure seeing our members interact, laugh, and enjoy the festivities.

*Until next time,  
Natalie Carbonel*

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

Many thanks to all those who made our annual Christmas party such a success. Helping Ellen Pauly cook were Sherry Doubleday, Monica Crowley, and Manuel and Magdalena Martinez.  
Delighting the children with gifts were Santa Claus Bruce Dunn and Jean Dunn, Mrs. Claus.

Ellen wants to thank those members who helped set up in the morning and clean up afterwards. Special mention goes to Deluxe Foods who provided the roast beef at cost!  
Our Lenten Fish Fries begin on February 28 and again, we are asking for members to pitch in to help. There will be sign-up sheets at the January meeting.  
Condolences to our devoted member Alice Ponza on the passing of her son, Anthony, due to a workplace accident. The Ponza family are long-time, well-known Soquel residents. Our hearts go out to them.  
We were also saddened to learn of the death of former member Bob Martinelli.  
Bob served our branch as a Trustee in 2015. Sincere sympathy to his wife, Kathleen, and their family.

Thanks to Hollister Branch 26 for hosting the Central Coast District Installation of Officers on January 18.  
*The gift of a new year is one of God's many blessings. May he bless you all with a happy and healthy 2020.*  
*Deanna Musler, Secretary*

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

We held our annual Christmas Luncheon at the Madonna Inn on December 1st and it was a lovely afternoon full of fun, food and fellowship! Members enjoyed a delicious meal, musical entertainment by the Pacific Horizon Chorus and there were raffle prizes for all! The Christmas Luncheon committee once again outdid themselves, so a big thank you to Joanna Van Blaricom, Sylvia Nasholm and Beth Nakamura for putting together this wonderful event for our Branch!  
Our Lenten Fish Fry season is right around the corner; however, we'll once again have a pre-Lenten "Mardi Gras" Fish Fry—to raise money for our Catholic School Registration Assistance Program—on Friday, Feb. 21. Our LENTEN Fish Frys will start up the following week on Friday, Feb. 28th, & continue on March 6th, 20th, 27th & April 3rd.  
We are currently selling Fish Fry Raffle



Br. 291's Christmas Party Committee: Sylvia Nasholm, Joanna Van Blaricom, Beth Nakamura and Pres. Pete Gallagher.

Tickets for a chance to win FOUR fish dinners each week during our five Lenten Fish Frys. That's 20 dinners total and a \$280 value! Raffle tickets are \$10 each and you can purchase them from any Br. 291 member. We will draw four lucky winners on Feb. 21st during our Mardi Gras Fish Fry. All proceeds from the raffle benefit our Catholic School Registration Assistance Program.  
*Wishing you and your families the very best in the New Year!  
Happy New Year!  
Keely Sanchez  
Recording Secretary*

**SAN JOSE  
SANTA CLARA  
VALLEY DISTRICT**

We paid tribute to all veterans and our servicemen who help keep this country safe. Noreen Gillio's spiritual reflection was a testimonial about Fr. Emil Kapaun and his service in WWII. As a chaplain he helped many wounded soldiers survive. He received the Bronze Star in 2013 and the Medal of Honor posthumously. He died at the age of 35. Jo Bertaccini gave thanks to

all who served and those still serving with a poem "In Flanders Field"  
New mentor assignment for Branch 28 Gilroy – Bob Bausino. Calendar sales are very brisk, Branch 28 – 32; Branch 391 – 22; Branch 409 – 25; and Branch 435 – 25. Fr. Mike, pastor of St Mary's helped promote celebrating Mother Cabrini's 100th anniversary with a pilgrimage after the November 13, 11 a.m. mass.  
Jim Falcone (president-elect of Branch 445) commented that we would have to tolerate his "nonsense" for another year. On a serious note, he said branch raised \$160 at recent Pancake Breakfast which they used to buy some fifty sets of socks, gloves and hats for the homeless. Branch 368's Joyce and Phil Robba (co-chairs for the Santa Teresa's food pantry) and volunteers assembled and distributed over 700 food bags, including turkeys, to needy families for Thanksgiving.  
Bishop Cantu thanked SCV District contribution of \$6500 toward Seminarian Fund.  
SCV District Officers Installation -ICF Branch 28 St. Mary's Gilroy – Saturday, Jan. 4, 2020  
SCV District Meeting – ICF Branch 408 Resurrection Church, – Monday, February 10, 2020  
*Felice Anno Nuova  
Mike Nunziata*



**Gilroy  
Santa Maria Ausiliatrice,  
Br. 28**

On November 17th ICF members of Branch 28 attended the 11:00 a.m. mass in which Father Michael Hendrickson acknowledged and blessed ICF with a statue of Saint Francis Cabrini our patron saint in a prominent place on the altar. After mass Father Michael lead us in the rosary in the grotto area next to the church. The rosary was said in English, Spanish, Filipino, Vietnamese and Italian emphasizing our being a fraternal organization for Catholics of all cultures. That same morning, we held our bake sale in the community room which raised \$1463 for our scholarship fund. Thank you to all members and friends of ICF who helped make this a wonderful bake sale event.

On December 9th 2019 ICF Branch 28 members Joe Fortino, Margaret Fortino, Vincent Saso, Rita Saso, John Filice, Kim Filice, Pat Cordich, Louise Segreto, Diana Berry and Mora Taormino attended the Santa Clara Valley District Annual Christmas Party and Raffle at Tony and Alba's restaurant in San Jose. Father George Aranha said mass prior to dinner and was accompanied by Monsignor Joseph Milani a longtime spiritual supporter of the Italian Catholic Federation. A wonderful time was had by all.

Notices for Branch 28 dues are being sent out for the 2020 year. Please renew your membership by January 31, 2020.

Our next dinner meeting is scheduled on January 27, 2020. Members will be contacted by the calling committee. Hope you will be able to attend.

*Best wishes to all in the New Year!*

*Peace and God Bless,*

*Kim M. Filice*

**Mountain View  
San Giorgio, Br. 47**

Branch 47 members and guests enjoyed a wonderful Christmas feast of prime rib with all the trimmings courtesy of our branch officers on Saturday December 8. It was great to have our Past Grand President and current SCVD President Bob Basuino and our current 2nd Grand Vice President and SCVD 2nd V.P. Dennis Antonowicz attend. It was also great to be able have our wonderful chaplain Fr. Bob Moran attend as well.

In addition, the branch has also donated \$500.00 to each of the following ICF charities: 1) Gifts of love, 2) The Providenza Fund and 3) Cooley's Anemia. The branch also supported one of our members, Camille Thrall, with a 1st year scholarship to the University of California at Merced.

We look forward to our annual Crab Dinner February 8, 2020 and will be calling on members to help put on another fabulous dinner.

*Wishing all of you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.*

*Sincerely,*

*John Canata*



Br. 28 – Louie Cordich, Joe Fortino and Vince Saso checking out the wonderful items at our bake sale on November 17th.



Br. 184, Dave Romeri and Donovan Elba cooking chicken for the Cacciatore.



Br. 184, Donna Pfaff working on the raffle baskets.



Br. 28 – At the November 4th dinner meeting, Janice DeCosta won the membership card drawing. Make sure you bring your membership card to each meeting.



Br. 184, Jim and Janice Jones with Emily Corral.

**Los Gatos  
St. Mary, Br. 184**

President Denise Antonowicz thanks all those members who worked so hard and supported our Branch in 2019. Denise is the dynamo that gets everyone motivated to help! The Polenta Chicken Cacciatore Dinner Dance was such a great event. We were happy to see many members attend, and made it a truly successful evening. We cleared a good amount for our charities.

The Antonowicz Family hosted their annual Christmas Open House on December 15. Donations will go towards their Scholarship Fund.

Our Branch Christmas Party was held at Double D's Restaurant. Thank you Marie Yurosko for the clever gift exchange game. Everyone had such fun.

We are sad to say goodbye to our Mentor Maria Greco. Her calm manner and spiritual suggestions were always appreciated. She announced that our new Mentor will be Shirley Catania from Branch 191. We say goodbye to Maria and give a hearty hello to Shirley.

When installation takes place at St. Mary's in Gilroy, we welcome Germaine Antonowicz as our newly elected Sentinel.

Prayers are greatly needed for our members Rose and Don Arnaudo, Fran Filice and Dom Norcia. May God Bless each and every one of our members AND their families, now and in this New Year.

*Ciao, Lucy Amico*

*Continued on Page 24*



Continued from Page 23

## San Jose St. Frances Cabrini, Br. 191

Shhhhh.....Elvis was just seen " Strolling" out of the building...The Saint Francis Cabrini, Branch 191, Sock Hop was a huge success, as we danced, strolled, and sock hopped to our favorite 50's tunes. We would like to thank our dance Committee, Julie and George Midwin, along with Rosanne and Pete Huey for a night of memories, music, and great food. If you missed it, we hope to see you at another Branch # 191 dance affair!!!

As Branch 191 heads into Christmas and the New Year, we look forward to our New Board, with New ideas, Enthusiasm, and a welcome mat for new members. Installation will be on January 4, 2020 in Gilroy. Mass at 9:30 a.m. at St Mary's, with a luncheon to follow at the Old City Hall Restaurant.

January is the start of 2020, and the New Year, and with that comes the time to get high school seniors to think about applying for ICF scholarships. Information and applications can be obtained on line at the ICF web site. Encourage our young adults to apply and be a part of ICF.

Our Branch members and our Board wish each of you a very Merry Christmas with all of the love of friends and family. May your New Year be open with New Hope, Joy and Good Health in the coming Year.

*May the Joy of Christmas and the peace which the Birth of the Savior brings into the world be in your hearts forever.*

-Pope John Paul II

Shirley Catania  
Branch 191 Sentinel

## San Jose Santa Teresa, Br. 368

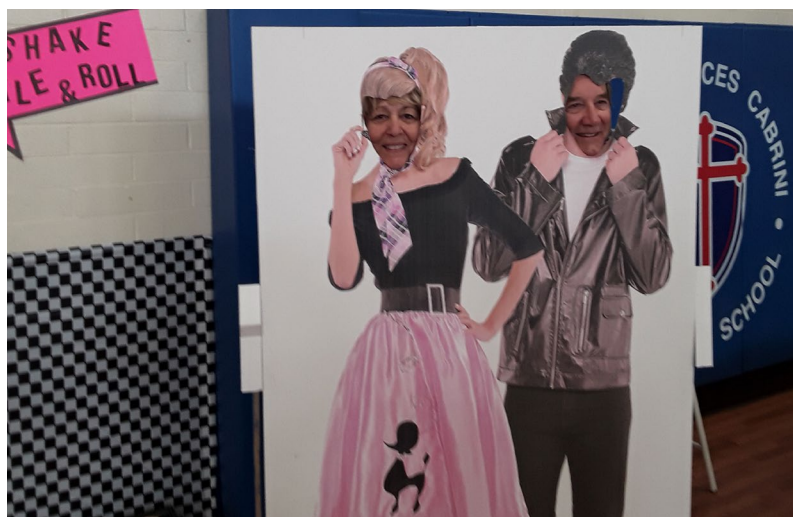
Our Christmas dinner was catered, and what a magnificent dinner it was! Between mouthfuls of prime rib, stuffed pork chops, and delightful trimmings, we really enjoyed the socializing and exchange of holiday greetings. Thank you, Noreen Gillio and her lady elves who prepared the room.

Joyce and Phil Robba organized our distribution of food boxes to 140 families the Saturday before Thanksgiving. Their next project was replenishing our parish pantry, preparing to fulfill requests for food for Christmas dinners. For Thanksgiving we provided frozen turkeys; Christmas food boxes came with hams or turkeys, all donated by parishioners. Thank you to the Robbas and to our many branch members who donated food and helped distribute the boxes to families in need.

Before we announce our new officers, we recognize the tremendous contribution retiring president John Gillio has made to our branch. For years he has been one of the "go to" guys for help and information. Almost daily John can be seen on the parish grounds, lending his expertise to a zillion projects, ICF and otherwise. Of course, behind any fine man is a fine woman, and Noreen has served right along with John. Noreen is a past president also, and continues to be our "go to" lady. Healthy again, both Gillios assure us they will continue as Br. 368 members.

Fortunately for us, many of our fine officers will continue to serve in 2020. More on that after the January installation of officers.

*Blessings to all for 2020! --Judy Zahn*



Branch 191 sock hop fun



Branch 191 practices for the sock hop

## San Jose St. Martin of Tours, Br. 391

Father Saju opened our December celebration with a thoughtful advent reflection, thanking our ICF members for "who we are and what we are." We were treated to a wonderful dinner of pot roast, mashed potatoes, and all the trimmings, prepared by the Al and Diana Vallorz team! President Mike Rossi thanked Al and Diana, Marcie Rossi for the festive table decorations, and our faithful servers and hospitality team.

It was the time of year when our branch presented donations to the following: Father Saju, St. Martin's Parish, its Food Box and Homebound and Care Programs, ICF's Gifts of Love, St. Vincent de Paul, Layette Program, and Sacred Heart Nativity School.

Christmas came early with a visit from "Santa" Al Vallorz, who honored our hospitality team and volunteers with gift certificates to Tony and Alba's. Thank you to "Santa Al" for providing the entertainment and to Donna Rossi and Bianca Vallorz, who closed our evening by singing Silent Night.

There are still a few 2020 ICF Calendars-please contact Tina Rossi. Remember this is one of our many fundraisers for our branch and the ICF.

Our popular Valentine Dinner Dance will be held on February 8, 2020. Don't miss this fun event.

Upcoming events: Officer Installation—January 4, 2020, 9:30 a.m. Mass at St. Mary's in Gilroy, followed by ceremony and lunch at Old City Hall Restaurant; Branch #391 General Meeting—January 7, 2020 at 6:30; and Valentine Dinner Dance—February 8, 2020.

*Wishing you a Happy and Healthy New Year!*

Janis Patellaro



Br. 391 Chef Al Vallorz, Ravioli and Meatball Fundraiser

## Sunnyvale Resurrection, Br. 408

Felice anno nuovo!

May God Bless us all in the New Year!

We had a very successful year supporting Scholarships, our Pancake Breakfasts, our Bake Sale, Pasta Dinner, Cooley's Anemia, Bishop's Burse for Seminarians, our Parish Blood Drives, the Lenten Soups and our Socail night @ Ludvig's.. Thanks to all who donated time and talent and prayerfully supported our various Service Activities.

And a Special Thanks to all who helped make our Br 408 Christmas Lasagna Potluck a success especiall, and to those Branch members who supported our Parish Christmas Party.

We also thank our new Officers for committing to a New Year of Service.

We congratulate our Br. 408 Scholarship



Br. 391 Pres. Mike Rossi presents donations to Fr. Saju Joseph



Br. 391 Santa Al Vallorz & Susan Busco at the annual Christmas Celebration

Winner – Brianna Thomas and wish her much success in the upcoming Semester.

Our SCVD Installation of Officers is just around the corner. It is scheduled for Saturday 4 January 2020 @ a very early 930 a.m. @ St. Mary's in Gilroy. Mass starts at 9:30 a.m. followed by lunch at the restaurant "The old City Hall." We need our count of attendeess in by 23 Dec. We hope to see you there.

Please pray for our sick members – especially for Dori and Paul Blefari and for all our deceased ICF members.



Br 408 Christmas Potluck



2019 SCVD District Mass & Christmas Potluck



## Morgan Hill Santa Caterina D'Alessandria, Br. 435

Well, the rain finally made it with a vengeance. It's always feast or famine in California when it comes to rain but it's definitely a feast when it comes to our ICF meetings. I had some problems with our internet last month and our October/November report is somewhere in email limbo, so here's a quick recap.

Our October dinner was a traditional Italian meal of homemade pasta and meatballs and sauce, salad and homemade focaccia bread with Caponata and a side of stuffed mushrooms, followed by a delicious dessert of homemade tiramisu, all prepared by Tommy Palmer and his family. Tommy attended the Italian Culinary Institute in Italy and we have been enjoying the results on numerous occasions.

Our November dinner was a tasty baked ham, two renditions of sweet potatoes and a lovely green salad prepared by Giulia Gallego and Toni Foggato. Sal and Denise Campagna brought a fun dessert of ice cream served in waffle cone cups with a variety of toppings so we could get as decadent as we wanted.

We had our Christmas dinner at the Longhouse restaurant in Gilroy with everyone in their finest holiday outfits and we all enjoyed singing Christmas carols led by Sue Monahan. In addition to our ice cream dessert we enjoyed more of Tommy Palmer's talents with some scrumptious fruit filled Italian cookies.

We elected our new officers for 2020 and hope to see you all at the Installation Ceremony at St. Mary's in Gilroy on January 4th.

*Buon Natale! Felice Anno Nuovo!*

*Maryclaire Sampognaro*

## San Jose Transfiguration, Br. 445

At our general meeting night in November, Branch members assembled "Blessing Bags" filling each with a knit cap, pair of gloves and thermal socks. A total of 180 bags were assembled. The Branch also donated 50 hygiene bags filled with various toiletries to be given to the homeless.

A branch Thanksgiving potluck dinner was enjoyed by all and a heritage report was presented on the Origins and Traditions of Christmas Celebrations in Italy.

Our 2020 Branch 445 officers were also elected that night:

Jim Falcone- President;

Janie Falcone- 1st Vice-President; Jan Stumhoffer-2nd Vice-President;

Recording Secretaries Jean Cosentino (for General Meeting minutes) and Richard Pfaff (for Board Meeting Minutes);

Phil Lang- Financial Secretary;

Jim Canger -Treasurer;

Emily Corral - Orator;

Lorraine Sellarole - Sentinel

Chic Cannon - Trustee

Kathy LaScola-Trustee

Diane Devine - Trustee

Branch 445 hosted an Advent Spiritual Journey for ICF members and parishioners on December 8th. This Mini-day of

Recollection entitled "Doors of Faith" was presented by our branch chaplain Rev. Chris Bennett. It was very insightful, thought provoking and well received. Thank you Fr. Chris.

Later that night branch members gathered together for our annual Christmas dinner and gift exchange at Palermo's Restaurant in San Jose...Delicious and Fun!!

*Hoping everyone had a Buon Natale!*

*Auguriamo a tutti un felice anno nuovo!!*

*Fino al prossimo mese*

*Jan Marianelli Stumhoffer*

## STOCKTON DISTRICT

### Modesto

### St. Stanislaus, Br. 48

Our new officers for 2020 are Pres: Antonella Truchetti, 1st VP: Thomas Silvaggio, 2nd VP: Louise Alberti. Rec. Sec.: Cecelia McGhee, Fin. Sec.: Carla Wagner, Orator: Nancy Souza, Trustees: Kathleen Ostorero, Analisa Zamora, Ermelinda Zamora, and Sentinel: Marie Bertolotti.

Thanks to Mary Jennings our past president for all her work when serving as president. She always enjoyed making the decorations and did a beautiful job. We hope she is enjoying her new home on east coast.

We are a very small branch but we have some of the best help. They make our bake sales very successful and we have a great time at our St. Joseph's Table Celebration. We thank our branch and our sister branches that help us with the Installation of Officers in January. We appreciate all their help.

Mass for our deceased members will be Sundays: January 12, 2020 and February 9, 2020 at the 8:00 a.m. mass at the Maze Blvd. Church.

*We wish all our friends and families a very Happy New Year!*

Coming up:

Jan 5 1:00 p.m. mass and installation of officers 709 J Street, Modesto

Jan 8, 2020 7:00 p.m. Meeting J Street Hall 7 & K Street

Feb 12, 2020 7:00 p.m. Meeting J Street Hall 7 & K Street

Feb 9, 2020 1:30 p.m. District Meeting Tracy

Mar 11, 2020 7:00 p.m. Meeting J Street Hall 7 & K Street

Mar 15, 2020 2:00 p.m. St. Joseph's Table Celebration

*Cecelia McGhee*



Br. 445 Chaplain Rev. Christopher Bennett



Br. 445 Annual Christmas Dinner and Gift Exchange



Br. 445 assembling blessing bags for the homeless.



Br. 445 enjoying a Thanksgiving potluck dinner

*Continued on Page 26*



## Lodi St. Anne's, Br. 82

Felice Anno Nuovo, ICF Famiglia!

The year went by so fast! As we look back, the branch is very proud of our accomplishments during this first year. These were possible due to dedicated officers, awesome members, and guidance from our extended ICF family - our Stockton district branches and the Central Council. We look forward to 2020 being a smoother year for our branch now that we have some experience under our belt.

Our biggest event yet – our Polenta Feed Fundraiser on Sat., Dec. 7th was a huge hit! Raffle prizes lined several tables, silent auction desserts enticed the attendees, accordion tunes flowed through the air, and the savory scent of chicken cacciatore and polenta floated from the kitchen. The sounds of social conversation and laughter could be heard from the crowd while the big kid adults and the real little kids danced to the sounds of the DJ. Everyone had a marvelous evening!

The next day at church those that attended commented, “the food was outstanding; the raffle prizes were great; the silent auction desserts were delicious; hope you’re doing it again next year; wow, Italians know how to throw a party!” We are very pleased that this event was well received, and are grateful to all those who donated time and items to make this a successful fundraiser benefiting our St. Anne’s Youth Ministry.

*Beginning the year on such a high note is a blessing for our branch!*

*Patty Litts, Corresponding Secretary*

## Manteca N.S. Del Buon Viaggio, Br. 139

In addition to all the merriment at our annual Christmas party at Cucina Queirolo, there was some business to attend to: the 2020 budget to approve and reports to be heard.

But first, after a prayer by our chaplain, Father Chris Varghese, our crowd of members feasted on prime rib, ravioli, beans, salads, French bread and desserts. Chef Tony and wife Ida were responsible for preparing the delicious dinner.

We decided to fund the conversion of the lights in St. Anthony Church to LED lighting. The project was a top priority of our pastor, Father Chad Wahl.

Anna Mello reported that her group of volunteers baked 9,000 biscotti for our annual holiday fundraiser.

Plans are beginning and committees formed for our “All You Can Eat” shrimp dinner, to be held on April 18.

Outgoing Branch President Dr. Elizabeth Demichelis was thanked for her three years of leadership and President-elect Jim Alfieri and his corps of officers was assured of the same level of support that was given to Elizabeth.

Father Chris was serenaded with “Happy Birthday” on turning 37 years old.

2020 is expected to be busy and satisfying year for the ICF.

*Buon Anno Nuovo a tutti,  
Mariano*



Br 82, Polenta Feed youth attendees



Br 82, Polenta Feed Fun with Lisa, Lou and friends

## Tracy St. Bernard, Br. 390

Branch 390 Board of directors for 2020 have been elected and they are:

President Anita Ridolfi, 1st Vice-President Chuck Tusio, 2nd Vice-President Nancy Schlemmer, Recording Secretary Lucy Orsi, Financial Secretary Annette Elissagay, Treasurer Serena Martocchio, Correspondence Secretary Betty Hollars, Orator Joe Schlemmer, Sentinel Steve Ridolfi, Trustees Marilyn Tusio, Mary Gualco, Art Dykzeul, Chaplain Pete Ryza.

Thanks to all who made our December dinner meeting special - especially the kitchen crew who prepared the Ravioli and Tri-Tip with all the trimmings. We also want to thank those members and guests who brought their favorite appetizers and don't want to forget the desserts supplied as well. A great BIG thank you to those who contributed the raffle prizes - the ticket sales for raffle prizes continue to AMAZE at each meeting - approaching \$400 at times and...we had a surprise visit from Santa and his Mrs.

The Happy New Year January dinner meeting on Thursday January 23rd will be polenta and chicken cacciatore, salad and desserts. New 2020 members will be initiated that night. Hope to see you all there - all are invited so bring friends.

Steve Ridolfi continues to treat you to seeing yourselves on our Website:

[www.icfbranch390.org](http://www.icfbranch390.org) Great way to go find yourself!

*Warm wishes for a healthy, happy and safe New Year to all.*

*Ciao, Betty Hollars*

## Stockton Presentation of the BVM, Br. 395

Can you believe that 2020 is already here? We still feel the Christmas spirit of our Branch holiday party last month. We can't thank member, Jo Weber, enough for organizing such a wonderful event.

Our new officers were officially installed on January 5 in Modesto and everyone is excited to get started in their roles. It is always special to get the District together and “mille grazie” Modesto for always taking on this event.

Our heritage talks continued in January. During the last quarter of 2019, we brought in different ethnic foods for dinner each month and then discussed their Italian connection. Did you know that Filipinos form the fifth-largest migrant community in Italy and Rome is home to the largest Filipino community?



Br. 82, Sofia and Gianna having a wonderful time dancing with Daddy John



Br 82, Lori working the Polenta Feed raffle prize table

Our annual Polenta dinner is just a month away. Mark your calendar, Thursday, February 13th.

This fundraiser will be held at Presentation Church in Stockton. No reason to cook that night when you can enjoy a delicious polenta, chicken and sausage dinner. Did I forget to mention dessert too? This will be a sellout event, so call today for tickets--Jo Weber at 209.481.0006.

All the members of Branch 395 would like to wish you buon anno and Happy New Year. May 2020 be filled with lots of new ICF members and many opportunities to give to charity.

*Alla prossima,  
Mary Ann*



Jo and Bob Weber, Branch 395, welcome Presentation Church's new Pastor, Rev. Fr. Mark Wagner.





Branch 395. Christmas 2019 with family and friends!



Br. 413 Breakfast



Members of ICF Branch 423, St. Thomas More Church, and family members gather with the statue of Mother Cabrini.



Br. 423, The baldacchino is readied for the procession into St. Thomas More Church for the Mother Cabrini Mass.

Due to a health problem, 2nd VP, Denise Antonowicz could not be there.

The members attending this annual dinner event brought many bags of food, which will be given to St. Vincent's Pantry, whose ongoing mission is to feed the homeless and hungry in our Reno community

On November 9, our Branch held its annual Polenta and Chicken fundraiser dinner with the Assembly #3118 of the Knights of Columbus. A great crowd of over 300 people enjoyed the food and the entertainment. Many thanks to all our members and the Knights who worked hard making the dinner a success. We split the proceeds.

Our next meeting will be January 12, 2020.

*Happy New Year!*

*Charlyne Pacini*



President Charlyne Pacini presenting the Seminary checks to Reno Bishop Randolph Calvo at Branch 135's Bishop's Dinner

*Continued on Page 28*

## Angels Camp St. Patrick, Br. 413

Happy New Year! We hope that everyone is having a very blessed 2020, so far. It is still 2019 as I type this, but I'm keeping a very positive attitude for the future.

On December 8th, our branch held its annual free Parish Breakfast and bake sale. It was a hit with the parishioners, and everyone enjoyed the delicious scrambled eggs, sausages, and pancakes. Our hats are off to our cooks, Tom Kingshill, Jon Singleton, Wendell Barnes, Dewayne Brown, and Tom Dutil! They did a great job and are much appreciated.

The bake sale went well, and the branch was able to add a little money to support the parish. Thank you to all the branch members who made baked goods for the sale, and God bless all those who bought the goodies.

Installation of Officers for the Stockton District is January 5, 2020. We hope to see all of the branch officers there. Thank you to Branch 48 for hosting the Installation and meal.

*Ciao,  
Annette Pachinger  
Correspondence Secretary*

## ORANGE

**Irvine**

**St. Thomas More, Br. 423**

Welcome and buona fortuna to the newly elected officers of Branch 423 for 2020! They are: Kellie De Leo, president; David Melvold, vice president; Tony Gonzalez, 2nd vice president; Jerry Donaldson, financial secretary; Maureen Melvold, secretary; Rose Giannantonio, sentinel; and Deana Donaldson, orator.

The Mother Cabrini Mass was celebrated Nov. 16 in our church. The statue of St. Frances Cabrini was carried into the church in a grand procession beneath the beautiful baldacchino that was held aloft by members of the chapter. Marcida Dodson read the first reading of the Mass in Italian, and Father John Janze and Deacon Tony Patronite spoke to the congregation of the many accomplishments of Mother Cabrini. Afterward, we gathered at a local Italian restaurant for good food and companionship.

A grand Christmas Party was enjoyed by all on Dec. 14 at The Groves Clubhouse. There was a fun gift exchange, and we ate great food.

*Buon Anno! Happy New Year!*

*— Marcida Dodson*

## RENO

**Reno**

**St. Albert, Br. 135**

Our annual Bishop's Dinner was Dec. 8. We honored our Bishop and presented him with monetary gifts to fund the education of our diocese Seminarians and a weekly Mass televised on a local station Sunday morning.

We welcomed 31 members and guests to enjoy an excellent dinner. Special thanks to everyone involved in the dinner. Bob & Suzanne Capurro prepared a delicious dinner of roasted pork loin, ravioli with meat sauce, roasted carrots, and salad. Rachael & Bobby Ferrari made and served a delicious homemade apple strudel. Lydia Brunelli & Mel Sullivan prepared the appetizers.

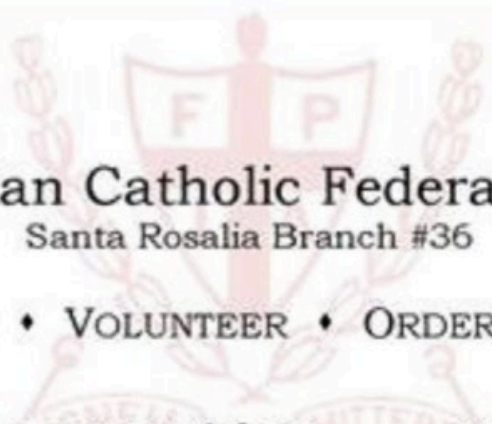
Special guests in attendance included Bishop Randolph R. Calvo, Bishop of the Reno Diocese, and Father Patrick Klekas, Parochial Vicar of St. Albert the Great Church.

President Charlyne Pacini presented Branch 135 gifts of \$1,000 to Bishop Calvo for his Seminary fund and \$250 for his TV Mass ministry. She also presented the check from Central Council's Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund.





Branch 135 Chaplain, Brother Matthew Cunningham; Reno Bishop, Randolph Calvo; Branch 135 President, Charlyne Pacini; and Parochial Vicar of St. Albert the Great Church, Reno, Father Patrick Klekas



**Italian Catholic Federation**  
Santa Rosalia Branch #36

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website: [www.montereyicf.org](http://www.montereyicf.org) P.O. Box 2286  
email: [info.icf36@gmail.com](mailto:info.icf36@gmail.com) Monterey, CA 93942

## In Honor of David Botta

On behalf of Dr. Thomas Coates, Laurice Levine, and patients and families in our care, we would like to thank you for changing the lives of countless Cooley's anemia patients. By adopting Cooley's anemia as the ICF's national charity during your Grand Presidency, you changed the direction of thalassemia research and care. Your support and dedication to Cooley's anemia has been unwavering.

We have been touched by your humor and kindness, and we cherish your friendship. With love and gratitude, we thank you.

September 1, 2019

## Visited the ICF Website Yet?

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

Here are some of the many things you can do:

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

Visit today, or have someone show you how!



## Officer Training Available

Attention ICF Officers!

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

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

