A Novel Approach To Fundraising, ICF-style
Karla Haynes Rivera, Branch 108

When it came time to brainstorm for a December fundraising event to support the parish’s Adopt A Family program, the branch was temporarily stumped; then an idea was born. Rather than past years’ luncheon to raise funds, members were asked to donate a bottle of wine from their cellars in order to put together a gift of 12 bottles to raffle off. ICF members were so generous that a total of 24 bottles of wine were donated in all, allowing for two prizes to award! A subcommittee oversaw development of a flyer that went out by email throughout the parish to advertise the big event: a virtual wheel-of-fortune-style game where donors could see their name on a wheel representing the number of tickets they had purchased. Spaces were purchased via a button on the parish website at a cost of $10 per space or three spaces for $25. Donors tuned in to a live Zoom feed for a festive Christmas toast and to watch the wheel spin. Two lucky winners, Cecelia Ponce of Cantwell-Sacred Heart of Mary and Jacqueline Ficht of Holy Family, each received a case of wine valued over $180 to enjoy during the holidays or to spread over the coming year. Branch 108 was pleased with the success of the modest event, which exceeded the fundraising goals. Branches that are limited in the types of fundraisers that can be held secondary to the pandemic could consider trying a fundraiser similar to this one. The time and effort required was minimal and the returns were great. Branch 108 was able to adopt two families and set aside the remaining funds for the next worthy cause.

Karla Haynes Rivera
ICF Branch 108, Holy Family, South Pasadena

Happy Valentine’s Day ICF
Nancy Corsi, Heritage Chairperson

Hoping everyone is staying healthy, well and engaged with family and friends. Though we cannot be together we can still be connecting.

When I think of our Heritage and what it means, it provides me such comfort with thoughts and wonderful memories of what makes us who we are and who we have become over the years. One of the beautiful components of the ICF is really getting to know our “other” family.

I have been a member of the ICF for 47 years. I guess you could say I grew up in the ICF, met my husband (member of ICF), we had our family and now our grandchildren all because of my Heritage.

Keeping in touch with our family members is so important even in these challenging times. Just a quick check in over a cup of coffee is so appreciated and truly a part of who we are.

Heritage translates as something transmitted or acquired from a predecessor, tradition, customs or the traditions, achievements, and beliefs that are part of the history of a group or nation.

Many of our members have varied heritages which makes it exciting to learn about each other and what makes us joyful about who we are. One of our sons had the opportunity to spend 6 weeks in Europe while he was in college and when he came home he said, “now I understand why we do what we do.” When we asked him what that meant, he said, “I felt so comfortable and at home when I was in Italy.” It was the only country where I truly felt at ease and now I just get it. Everything that we did as a family, and in our home with meals, connections, respect and consideration for others is because of how we were brought up. It comes from our long time family connections.

As I think about connections, I urge each and every branch to reach out to your members, check in and see how they are. We are all more isolated now and the connections are of vital importance. Be creative when you can. I hate Zoom meetings……….used to think they were fun, but no more and especially because not everyone is technologically connected.

BUT the phone, now we all get that concept. Now more than ever it has become more important. Celebrate what you can. We have a branch in Central Coast District that had an outdoor rosary at their parish to honor and remember their members. They included the priest and some taped music and was such a wonderful, appropriately distanced event and really meant so much for those that attended. The branch Heritage Chairperson shared this event update with me.

Please feel free to reach out to me or other members of the Heritage Committee: Andy Pappani or Russ and Louise Vento to share ideas to help keep all of us engaged with our family connections.

Nancy Corsi
---

Thalassemia Cooley’s Anemia Trait
Laurice Levine, MA, CCLS

Thalassemia is common in parts of the world where malaria is prevalent because thalassemia trait (also known as thalassemia minor) has protective mechanisms against malaria. Thalassemia trait causes red blood cells to be a slightly smaller size, a condition caused by microcytosis. Since iron deficiency is the most common cause of microcytosis Doctors often mistakenly misdiagnose thalassemia trait as iron deficiency anemia and prescribe iron supplements. However, thalassemia trait and iron deficiency are different.
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Important Notice
The email address for ALL Bollettino submissions is:
editor@icf.org

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

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

Limit photos to 3 or 4 and include captions. Not all photos are able to be used due to possible limitations in space. Prioritize photos if possible. To insure photos are always linked to branch, include branch number when naming photos such as: Br380.SiJoseph.servers.jpeg
Include photo captions with your article submission.

Please keep your submission positive and informative.

March issue deadline is February 10, 2021.
Deadlines fall on the tenth of the month except for the combined August/September issue

Thank you!

No Need to Worry, Help Was Always Here!
Monsignor Daniel Cardelli
ICF Spiritual Director

I can still feel it to this day! Her love and her pride was evident to me even at my young age. When our visit was over, I walked back home with such warmth in my little heart and then went on with daily life. It’s a cherished memory that I relive often.

My four brothers and I all went to public school in Fall River, Massachusetts. When I graduated from the eighth grade, I asked my mother to send me to a Catholic high school so I might be able to discern whether I had a vocation to be a priest. Money was tight for a family with five boys, but my mother agreed that they would find a way. At that time, 1944, there was only one Catholic high school in the city and you had to know how to speak French to go there. So I enrolled at Monsignor James E. Coyle High School in Taunton, Massachusetts, a long bus ride away from our home. Then after my sophomore year, my family moved to South San Francisco, California. I enrolled in Serra High School in San Mateo, California, another long bus ride from home. It was a new school, and my class was the first class to go all four years and the second graduating class.

It was a perfect move for me to help me on my journey to be a priest. Every class at Serra was the first class to go all four years and the second graduating class.

I thank God for my vocation. Being a priest was not always easy, but never did I want to be anything else. In my youth, I felt that the Blessed Mother guided me through the process; and when I was ordained on June 15, 1957, I imagined that Mary said to her Son, “Here he is, so you take over. I will pray for him and protect him as a mother should. But he is yours now!”

For some unknown reason, I knew even before we moved to California that I wanted to be a parish priest. I can’t explain it. I just knew in my heart that, if I had a vocation, it was to be a parish priest. I had the example and guidance of the diocesan priests at Serra to help me make my decision.

So, in my junior year I decided to go to the seminary. I didn’t tell anyone. After graduation, my classmates were surprised at my answer when they asked me what college I was going to go to. I had been president of my class and captain of the football team, plus MVP in my senior year, so everyone was curious about my plans “for greatness.”

“What are you going to do?” they asked. I answered, “I am not going to college. I am going to the seminary to be a priest.” They were more than amazed! So as the saying goes, “The rest is history.” However, it is not history. The rest is another story.

I thank God for my vocation. Being a priest was not always easy, but never did I want to be anything else. In my youth, I felt that the Blessed Mother guided me through the process; and when I was ordained on June 15, 1957, I imagined that Mary said to her Son, “Here he is, so you take over. I will pray for him and protect him as a mother should. But he is yours now!”

Happy Pre-Valentine’s Day Party
(Zoom Style)
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2021
6:30PM TO 7:30PM
JOIN US AS THE CENTRAL COUNCIL INVITES YOU TO SPEND A FUN EVENING AS YOU PLAY TRIVIA, SING ALONG & WIN GIFT CARDS!
ZOOM INFO WILL BE POSTED ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON 2/12 ON THE ICF FACEBOOK PAGE

FRIED BREAD
AND COOKIES
SANDWICHES
AND DESSERTS
Grand President’s Monthly Message

Vince Piro

“And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.”
- 1 Corinthians 13:13

We know these words of St. Paul well. We have heard them spoken at Sunday masses, weddings, funerals, and other occasions. They resonate with us.

And as Christians, we attempt to exhibit these qualities in our daily lives. I would also like to suggest that these are essential qualities of the ICF.

The Federation is first and foremost grounded in our Christian Faith and it is this faith that gives us hope in our ability to transcend our human failings as we join as a community of believers. How do we transcend? Through love.

This is the love we have for our fellow human beings because we see Christ in them.

In so much of what we do, our love of others motivates us at the Central Council, our branches, and branch levels. I know I have discussed this before. However, it never fails to impress me how much members of the ICF show their love for others, especially for those less fortunate.

Mother Cabrini Shrine

Carmelo Sabatella, LA Archdiocese District

ICF will be working with Saint Francis Xavier Church in 2021 for a Novena to Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini from November 1, 2021 and ending on Her Feast Day November 13, 2021 with a Mass and Pilgrimage. A luncheon will be included depending on the status of the Covid-19 Pandemic at that time.

In 2021 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 have been coming to the Chapel in Burbank to continue their annual pilgrimage to pray to Mother Cabrini for strength and guidance and pray for special intentions.

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

In 2021, the Cabrini Chapel and Library Open Houses will be scheduled by appointment only and allow limited visits as allowed by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. Please add the Chapel to your Branch’s list of places to visit in 2021 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.

Membership Reflections

Perry Shurko
Membership Chair

A year ago this month, a group of ICF members from the Los Angeles district and Central Council spent the last weekend of February in Anaheim attending the Religious Education Congress. They were not just attending, but networking from our booth trying to attract new members and gain new branches.

We even had a new slide show to highlight our organization. We talked to seminarians who were delighted to see us there. They remembered us from the many Bishop banquets that have been held at St. John’s Seminary in Camarillo. We chatted with priests and pastors who were interested in a branch for their parish, and we even got a nice surprise visit from Archbishop Jose Gomez. We managed to sign up a few new members for our National Branch #67. Also, we met an interesting gentleman from Wells of Life, which inspired those of us there to nominate the Wells of Life founder for the Pope St. John XXIII award for 2020, which he won. The weekend concluded with a visit from an Italian priest who was visiting from Rome, not just Rome, but the Vatican. He’s the official papal editor, and he donated a collection of Vatican books to the ICF.

Well, it wasn’t long after that all Hell broke loose in the world, and everything shut down. Our organization had to figure out what to do, and we did. We discovered a new meeting format called Zoom. The Central Council and districts and branches soon began having regular Zoom meetings. Some branches got creative and were still able to have fundraisers. We were able to even have the Convention by way of Zoom. It’s worked out, but as we know, we’ve lost some members. That’s the hardship we’re dealing with. The Membership committee and the Expansion committee were so looking forward to getting in contact with the pastors on our potential new branch list. Alas, we’ll have to wait a while longer. There’s definitely hope, and we all need to do our job by staying safe and pray that this all ends soon.

Here we are, February 2021, a year later, and Religious Education Congress is going to begin in a few weeks. Like many events, the congress has gone virtual. The ICF won’t be there this year, but I hope to be back again in 2022. Our flame has not gone out. It’s still burning but maybe a little dimmer. So, it’s all of our jobs to stoke that flame, keep that fire burning brighter than ever.

Perry Shurko, Membership Committee Chairperson
Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations*

Received as of January 10, 2021:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>IN MEMORY OF:</th>
<th>DONATED BY:</th>
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<td>Jim, Patty and Rose Jarrett</td>
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<td>Theresa Dianda</td>
<td>The Antonowicz Girls</td>
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GET WELL WISHES:

| Teresa Helfand                       | Giovanni and Nancy Corsi           |

HAPPY BIRTHDAY:

Reverend Monsignor Daniel Cardelli    Officers/Members of East Bay District

IN SUPPORT OF THE PROVIDENZA FUND:

***A donation was made to the Providenza Fund by Branch 191 - San Jose***

*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.

Scholarship Donations

Received as of January 10, 2021:

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<td>Josephine Bertaccini</td>
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<td>Robert and Starla Chimienti</td>
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<td>David and Roberta Madej</td>
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<td>In memory of Andy and Bea Bianco</td>
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<td>Richard and Valerie Vote</td>
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<td>In memory of The Rovera and Sarale Families</td>
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<td>Pat Botta and Family</td>
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<td>Helene and Lonnie Chase</td>
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<td>Angela and Anthony Bilich</td>
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<td>In memory of Theresa Dianda</td>
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<td>In honor of The Entire Dianda Family</td>
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Gifts of Love Donations

Received as of January 10, 2021:

| Branch 39 |
| Branch 115 |
| Branch 213 |
| Wil and Michelle Harmon                |
| In memory of Rudy Dell’Ossio           |
| Officers/Members of Br. 392            |
| Get well wishes for Teresa Helfand    |
| Officers/Members of Br. 403            |
| In memory of Ann Gardner               |
| Pat and Lou Mages                      |
| In memory of Hank Scarpelli            |
| Joan and Jerry Delfino                 |
| In honor of the 90th birthday of Jo    |
| Bertaccini                             |
| Donna Rossi                            |
| In memory of Arline Norsworthy         |
| Eva Stern                              |
| In memory of Angela Cosentino          |
| Charles P. Guiio, Jr.                  |
| In memory of Br. #4                    |
| Triant Varellas                       |
| In memory of Pauline Zouzounis         |
| Teresa and Cory Helfand                |
| In memory of Theresa Dianda            |
| Ray and Judy Mattias                   |
| In memory of Louise Vicino             |

In Loving Memory

(Report as of January 8, 2021)

| Eyda Z Giachetti                     | Robert S Cowan                      |
|                                     | Branch 007                          |
| Robert R Pallotta                   | Domenic B Norcia                    |
| Branch 014                          | Branch 184                          |
| Rod Seigle                          | William J Cole                      |
| Branch 021                          | Branch 209                          |
| Sylvia B Gomes                      | Mary Favuzzi                        |
| Branch 027                          | Branch 213                          |
| Camille R Overstreet                | Vincent Jura                        |
| Branch 032                          | Branch 250                          |
| Eleanor Andreotti                   | Diego Santia                        |
| Branch 032                          | Branch 319                          |
| Mamie Mortillaro                    | Helene P Santia                     |
| Branch 032                          | Branch 319                          |
| Maria Favaloro                      | Robert Hess                         |
| Branch 036                          | Branch 343                          |
| Josephine Rappa                     | Steven J Gouig                      |
| Branch 036                          | Branch 352                          |
| Carol Tefertiller                   | Arline Norsworthy                   |
| Branch 036                          | Branch 391                          |
| Maria Teresa Bravo                  | Rita A Sanchez                      |
| Branch 067                          | Branch 391                          |
| Rita Castania                       | Ann M Gardner                       |
| Branch 115                          | Branch 403                          |
| Louise F Vicino                     | Eleanor M Darby                     |
| Branch 127                          | Branch 413                          |
| Danette Curtis                      | Vito Palella                        |
| Branch 138                          | Branch 418                          |
| Yvonne Bonacorsi                    |                                    |
| Branch 184                          |                                    |

ICF is Going Green!

If you prefer to read the Bollettino at the magnification of your choice in full color on your computer or portable electronic device, and like the idea of saving a tree while helping us save printing costs, visit this link to sign up:

http://eepurl.com/bLaMFb

Cooley’s Anemia Donations

Received as of January 10, 2021:

| Branch 39 |
| Branch 191 |
| Branch 213 |
| Roy and Chris Shackel                  |
| In memory of Phil Shackel              |
Happy Valentine’s Day! Hope you are continuing to stay safe and healthy. This past Christmas six of us at work decided to do a cookie exchange, since so many of our usual celebrations had been cancelled. We thought this would make things feel a little more festive. Many of the cookies I sampled were very good. The first one I want to share with you came from my co-worker Jennifer. She calls it:

Crisp Little Lemon Cookies
1 (18.25 ounce) package lemon cake mix
1 cup rice krispies cereal (I made it heaping-heaping means the product is rounded up in the measuring cup-not level)
1/2 cup butter, melted
1 large egg
Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
In medium bowl combine the cake mix and cereal. Stir in the egg and cooled melted butter until everything comes together.
Roll into 1 inch balls and place them 2 inches apart on an unprepared cookie sheet (I lined with parchment paper). Bake for 10 to 12 minutes. Cool for one minute on cookie sheet before removing to a wire rack to cool completely.
So simple and delicious. When I tasted them I could not figure out the rice krispies as an ingredient, I kept thinking it was lemon candy ground up with material and physical needs. They are the following:

1. Give drink to the thirsty
2. Visit the sick
3. Feed the Hungry
4. Visit the imprisoned
5. House the homeless
6. Clothe the naked
7. Visit the sick
8. Bury the dead
9. Give shelter to those in need
10. Provide education for those in need

As our apostolate works, we need to refresh ourselves on both the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. This article highlights the corporal works. Remember, back in grade school, the nuns would emphasize these works (at least at St. Brigid’s in SF in the 1950s). On one expansion trip that David Botta and I made, we happened to discuss these works in relation to what we were doing. It was interesting to note that we could remember only a few of them. Maybe, it is time to review them in relation to our interactions with others in our daily lives.

The corporal works of mercy are the actions by which each one of us helps others with material and physical needs. They are the following:

- Feed the Hungry
- Give drink to the thirsty
- Clothe the naked
- House the homeless
- Visit the imprisoned
- Visit the sick
- Bury the dead
- Provide shelter to those in need
- Provide education for those in need

You may not have realized it, but these are things most of us do often. We may need a little bolstering in some of them, but this could be a goal for us to work towards. Definitely, in our modern, confused world of today, practice of the corporal works of mercy should be a definite objective for all of us.

Carmen Kilcullen – Apostolate-Charity Committee member

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The Wonder of it all. LIFE LINE
By Msgr. Cardelli

A baby’s smile heals a broken heart.

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ICF Annual Convention Blood Drive Goes Virtual

The Live to Give Committee would like to thank the following people for donating blood as part of the virtual “Sleeves Up” campaign facilitated by the American Red Cross. Lucky 13 units were collected. This means that 39 people will benefit from lifesaving blood components – red blood cells, platelets, and plasma.

Thank you for giving the gift of life!

Joseph Aguilar (donated twice)
Pamela Andersen (donated twice)
Denise Antonowicz
Lou Mages (donated double red)
Nanette ScarPELLini Metz (donated twice)
Andy Pappani
Melissa Rodriguez
Diana Valloroz
Judy Wellbeloved
Leonard Zasoski, Jr. (1 unit of red cells and two units of platelets)

All donors received a Starbucks gift card and the following three individuals were lucky raffle winners:

Joseph Aguilar
Pamela Anderson
Lou Mages

Thank you everyone for your participation in last year’s convention blood drive.

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THE CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY

As part of our apostolate works, we need to refresh ourselves on both the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. This article highlights the corporal works.

Happy Valentines Day! Hope you are continuing to stay safe and healthy. This past Christmas six of us at work decided to do a cookie exchange, since so many of our usual celebrations had been cancelled. We thought this would make things feel a little more festive. Many of the cookies I sampled were very good. The first one I want to share with you came from my co-worker Jennifer. She calls it:

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1 large egg
Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
In medium bowl combine the cake mix and cereal. Stir in the egg and cooled melted butter until everything comes together.
Roll into 1 inch balls and place them 2 inches apart on an unprepared cookie sheet (I lined with parchment paper). Bake for 10 to 12 minutes. Cool for one minute on cookie sheet before removing to a wire rack to cool completely.
So simple and delicious. When I tasted them I could not figure out the rice krispies as an ingredient, I kept thinking it was lemon candy ground up.

Buon Appetito!

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Welcome to New Members (Report as of January 8, 2021)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Branch</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Petra Castiglioni</td>
<td>Branch 021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Soper</td>
<td>Branch 033</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daniel J Turner</td>
<td>Branch 03</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theresa C Cetani</td>
<td>Branch 191</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brandon L Huang</td>
<td>Branch 218</td>
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<tr>
<td>Giselle V Huang</td>
<td>Branch 218</td>
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<td>Lorena Huang</td>
<td>Branch 218</td>
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<td>Ping S Huang</td>
<td>Branch 218</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russell B Huang</td>
<td>Branch 218</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary A Fell</td>
<td>Branch 374</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christina R Balistri</td>
<td>Branch 406</td>
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<tr>
<td>Giuseppe C Balistri</td>
<td>Branch 406</td>
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</tbody>
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2021 Calendar Winners

We held off pulling the calendar winners to give everyone a chance to return their ticket stubs to the ICF office by the January 31st deadline. The winners’ names for January 2021 and February 2021 will be printed in the March 2021 issue. The winners’ names will also be available in the Bollettino highlights on the ICF website at www.icf.org beginning with the March 2021 issue.

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Thank you everyone for your participation in last year’s convention blood drive.
Cooley’s Anemia

Continued from Page 1

problems, therefore before prescribing iron supplements, doctors should rule out thalassemia trait and/or perform blood tests to evaluate iron levels. A person with thalassemia trait can also be iron deficient, but if he or she is not iron deficient, iron supplements may result in excess body iron, which over time can cause organ damage.

Testing for Thalassemia trait is easy! It involves having a blood sample drawn which looks at the following:

- Hemoglobin electrophoresis with quantitative hemoglobin A2 and hemoglobin F
- Complete Blood Count (CBC)
- Iron studies (free erythrocyte protoporphyrin and ferritin)

It is important for individuals to be aware if they have thalassemia trait, especially people of Italian descent. Again, since there may be no symptoms, an individual may not know they have the trait until they have a child born with thalassemia major, a severe form of the disease. If both parents have the thalassemia trait there is a 25% chance that their child could be born with thalassemia major, a severe form of the disease which requires blood transfusions for life.

If you find out you have thalassemia trait and would like more information, please contact Laurice Levine at LLevine430@aol.com or 360-860-2023.

2021 1st Year Scholarship Program

Information on the 1st Year Scholarship Program that was sent to high schools in November, has now been made available to the Districts and Branches and has been posted on our ICF website 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, 2021. Please discuss participating in the program 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 1st 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 contact 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.

Lisa Crudo, Chairperson

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Turner & Stevens Mortuary

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- Cremations & Burial Plans
- Serving all Faiths

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Se habla Español
Dignity
FD-995

SERVICE BEYOND EXPECTATION
Interested in learning more about the ICF’s National Charity, Cooley’s Anemia (Thalassemia)? Have burning questions to ask? You can still do this even during a pandemic! Set up a phone call, WHATSAPP, FACETIME or ZOOM Conference and have a personal conversation with Laurice Levine, Thalassemia Program Consultant for Children’s Hospital Los Angeles.

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

Learn more about Cooley’s Anemia and the great work the ICF does for this cause.

Donate Love ~~ Donate Life ~~ Donate Blood

Happy Valentine’s Day
From The Live to Give Committee

Children’s Hospital
LOS ANGELES
We Treat Kids Better

God has done it all: I have only been a spectator of God’s work.
— St. Frances Cabrini
Branch Reports

SAN FRANCISCO

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

Dear Members:
Still no activity due to COVID 19. Hope all are staying safe and healthy. Please pay your dues for 2021. Happy Valentine’s Day!
Ciao!
Toni Morsello

San Francisco
St. Elizabeth, Br. 258

Felice Anno Nuovo – A Happy and Healthy New Year to all of our members from Br. 258.
To our members celebrating a birthday in February - many more years of Happiness and Good Health.
Please remember our ill and deceased members in your prayers.
Our sincere sympathy to Rose Mosiant on the loss of her brother, Ernie Campi. The cause of death was the virus. Rose, our prayers are with you and your family.
Let us hope and pray that 2021 will be a better year for all of us.
Please stay well as we love all of you and we need you.
You are in our prayers.
Ciao,
Eva Perata, President

SAN MATEO

Burlingame
Our Lady of Angels, Br. 173

Many of us will agree 2020 was not our favorite year but I received a friend some inspiring words for 2021 which I would like to share:
Flight 2021. Hello and welcome to Flight 2021. We are prepared to take off into the New Year. Please make sure you are on board.
At this time it is sad to report the passing of long time member, Jack Sherratt and to acknowledge Brenda Wemiz’s father and Donna Cervelli’s father-in-law who recently passed away. (Don Cervelli)
Prayers are needed for Mary Bodisco, Anita Cecena, Elena Malta, Lorraine Rollandi, Fred & Melanie Yaeger whose grandchild, Elisha has brain cancer.
God Bless,
Roz Emery
P.S. Zoom meeting 1-14 07:00 PM

So. San Francisco
St. Augustine, Br. 213

At this time it is sad to report the passing of long time member, Jack Sherratt and to acknowledge Brenda Wemiz’s father and Donna Cervelli’s father-in-law who recently passed away. (Don Cervelli)
Prayers are needed for Mary Bodisco, Anita Cecena, Elena Malta, Lorraine Rollandi, Fred & Melanie Yaeger whose grandchild, Elisha has brain cancer.
God Bless,
Roz Emery
P.S. Zoom meeting 1-14 07:00 PM

LOS ANGELES

Archdiocese
District Council

Hello and welcome to February. For being a short month, there’s a lot of activity this month. Did the groundhog see his shadow? Is it six more weeks of winter or is spring right around the corner? We’ve got Super Bowl right on our tails. Good luck on your pool if you have a square or two. Then we have St Valentine’s Day for all you sweethearts followed by Mardi Gras, Ash Wednesday and Presidents Day. But most importantly we begin the season of Lent. We need to prepare ourselves by fasting, alms giving and reconciliation as we look forward to that glorious Easter Day. How are you going to get ready? How is everyone doing with your New Years resolutions? Did you break it yet or are you still going strong? We should plan on another district meeting again, whether it’s Zoom, at the park, or a combo. I hope you continue to stay safe and healthy and keep up the good work. Let’s continue to pray for all of those who are sick, who have passed away, are lonely, or struggling in any way. I do want to remind everyone to be sure to get your dues in. It’s very important that we keep on top of that. God bless you all and we will see each other soon, I pray.
Perry Shurko, District President

MARIN

Larkspur
St. James, Br. 161

Let’s hope that this new year brings us hope, love and health to everyone and that we will be able to hug our grandchildren again.
Please keep Louise Vicino’s family of Petaluma, in your prayers. She passed away in late December. She will be remembered as a wonderful lady who was always full of life and also wrote articles in the Bollettino and Il Leone.
Since we will not be meeting until further notice, please continue to pray for our sick members and hope that everyone will be back to good health soon.
Please don’t forget to wear your mask, please sanitize your hands frequently and please maintain proper distancing.
Wishing everyone a very Happy Valentine’s Day.
Anna Biggio
Recording Secretary

Los Angeles
St. Peter, Br. 67

If you know someone who may be interested in joining ICF National Branch 67, please have them go online to ICFNationalBranch67.org and sign up. We are a virtual branch and reach out to members and nonmembers who do not have an ICF in their area and would like to be a part of the ICF Family. We also would like to have your input as we continue to develop this branch online.
Covid-19 is a challenge and an opportunity to understand what is important in each of our lives. ICF may be just the place for you as we are multi culture-based focusing on Faith, Family, Fellowship and Food.
Please keep our sick members in your prayers that they may reach a speedy recovery.
And to our former Branch members who recently have gone to their eternal reward; May they rest in peace.
Keep safe and Stay healthy,
Carmelo Sabatella, AIA, President
ICF National Branch 67
C 626 372-7812
E Cas1810@aol.com

Happy Valentine's Day

8 - Bollettino
South Pasadena
Holy Family, Br. 108

On January 10th our branch held its first 2021 General Meeting on Zoom followed by online Bingo. Congratulations to the winners and members for continuing with their support of Charitable events as we start the new year. Congratulations also to January Birthday members: Patrick Grimaud, Aggie Dawes, John Maggiora, Joe Mantel, Michele Silveri and Elizabeth Dever.

Until the present crisis changes, we will continue meeting virtually to discuss and encourage participation and donations to help our various charities as we have done over the years.

Parishioners interested in joining ICF please call 626 372 7812 or 626 403 6102 for more information. We are continuing our service to members, families and our communities and are beginning our branch membership expansion this month.

Our prayers go out to all Members, families and friends, with a big Thank You to all first responders who continue to help those suffering under the present “Pandemic.”

Please continue to pray for the speedy Resolution of this crisis and to keep our sick members in your prayers for a speedy recovery; and to our former Branch members who recently have gone to their eternal reward.

May they rest in peace. Keep safe and stay healthy;
Carmelo Sabatella, AIA, Past President
ICF Branch 108
C 626 372-7812
E cas1810@aol.

Montebello
St. Benedict, Br. 111

Ciao a Tutti. A warm hello to everyone. We hope you are all doing well and are staying healthy. Since we still are not able to meet in person, our February General Meeting will be a Zoom meeting scheduled on Thursday, February 18, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Look for our February Branch 111 Newsletter with all the details about joining us at our Zoom Meeting.

We would like to congratulate all the members who celebrate their birthdays in the month of February: Irena Scorcia, Carmelina Palmenti, Lynn Enrico and Christina Castello. Happy Birthday to everyone!! Buon Compleanno a tutti!!

Due to the continued health crisis, at this time we are not sure if our St. Joseph Table this year will be held as scheduled on Saturday & Sunday, March 20 & 21, 2021, or whether we will be able to reschedule it sometime in the summer. We will keep you posted.

We are sad to report that the father of our Orator, Peter Revilla, Peter Revilla, Sr. passed away on January 9, 2021. Our prayers go out to Peter and his family. May Peter Revilla, Sr. Rest in Peace.

We pray for Peter and his family, our sick members and those in need; keep them in our thoughts and prayers. Please continue to stay safe and healthy. We wish all our ICF members and their families continued good health and happiness and we look forward to seeing all of you soon.

Ciao! A presto.
Frank Salomone

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

February is traditionally a month that is all about love and friendship. I believe the ICF is a place where friendships are made and we are always there for each other. During this pandemic I have come to appreciate and enjoy the little things in life. I do miss the monthly meetings, fundraisers and dinners and cannot wait for us to be together.

Thank you to all who have renewed their membership. If you haven’t please reconsider. We hope you do! Dues are $39.00 for the year and can be mailed to Nancy Donato 1718 Miracosta St San Pedro 90732

Due to the pandemic our traditional Crab dinner dance in honor of St John Joseph of the Cross has been cancelled. 8am mass will be celebrated on March 5th. Please observe social distancing and wear your mask.

Scholarship applications for graduating high school seniors are now available online at www.icf.org. deadline to turn them in is March 15, 2021.

Many of our members are fighting this virus. Please keep all of our members in your prayers. We wish all a speedy recovery. Continue to pray for an end to the pandemic.

Anita Gioiello Trujillo

Glendora
St. Dorothy, Br. 179

Happy New Year! Branch 179 members have not met in months; however, we continue our ministry in support of St. Dorothy Parish Community. In 2020, we collected over $13,000 in donated clothing. Therefore, we were able to help our parish through the COVID transition in contributing toward the additional expenses such as audio/visual equipment, tenting, cleaning supplies, and heaters. We were also able to support our parish seminarian with a donation in his name to St. John’s Seminary. And finally our Branch was able to award retention scholarships to several students returning to St. Dorothy’s School for a total of $5,000.

Branch 179 continues to do all we can to support our community. We pray for healing of all those afflicted with the virus and for the strength of their families. Stay safe all.

God’s blessings.
Patricia Aurienmo
Recording/Corresponding Secretary
Arcadia
Holy Angels, Br. 218

As of this writing our board meeting has not occurred. At this meeting we will be discussing optional fundraisers as the St. Joseph’s Table will not be held this year.

President Jerry has also mentioned having our meetings possibly in a park or some other venue where we can be spaced apart. Watch for Jeanne’s newsletter which should have more information.

Everyone have a nice Valentine’s Day and hopefully we can all be together soon.

Stay safe. Lolly M.

Gardena
St. Anthony of Padua,
Br. 237

Happy Valentine’s Day,
This past year has certainly been a different way of experiencing everyday living. We are praying for a kinder, happier and healthier New Year! 2019, our branch celebrated our 50th Anniversary. We were blessed to have President Vince and member of the council attend our annual Columbus Day Dinner Dance, this event is our annual fund raiser. This past year due to the pandemic, we have no opportunity to host the dinner. So with the support of our Pastor, Msgr. Sal Pilato, the branch called and e-mailed family, friends and sponsors and posted notice in the parish bulletin that the branch was requesting financial assistance to continue our scholarship program. It was more than we could of wished for. We collected over $7200 in four weeks. We thanked all that participated and we again high lighted the good works of our branch. These were also recognized by Central Council awarding our Branch with First Place in the Charity report at the 2020 convention. Our branch continues to encourage others to join us and its mission “To Light a Fire”.

Our calendar for this year is on paper, we are hopeful that we will have the opportunity to experience all that has been planned.

Saint Padre Pio, pray for us. From your place in Heaven, please petition the Lord Jesus to watch over, bless and protect me, my family and all my loved ones…..

Cordially,
Micha’e Bohnannon Roa

Downey
St. Raymond, Br. 362

Hello branch members,
Well, we made it passed the holiday rush, and have moved right into February. I hope you all are doing well.

Usually at this time we would be planning our St Joseph day celebration, as you know, things aren’t the same. I’m hoping we can have a mini version with some kind of altar at least. I will be discussing that with Fr John.

I want to wish you all a Happy Valentine’s Day and Happy Mardi Gras!
We begin our Lenten season too this month, so let’s prepare ourselves so we can graciously celebrate Easter.
I want to remind you, if you haven’t gotten your dues in to please do so as soon as you can, and if you can afford to donate any extra amount our branch would appreciate it since we haven’t had or won’t have any fundraisers.
I ask that everyone continue to stay safe and follow all COVID rules, and let’s get back to normal soon. Have a great month.

Perry Shurko, Branch President.

Manhattan Beach
American Martyrs, Br. 447

The Board has continued to meet on Zoom to conduct our monthly Board meetings. We are developing plans for engaging our members during the pandemic, as well as planning events for when we can return to meeting in person. At this time, we host Zoom events for members every other month.

In the meantime, we stay engaged with our Members by offering free weekly yoga sessions with Monica (on Zoom) and recording and sending recipes and cooking videos.

To celebrate Valentine’s Day, we created Valentine’s gift bags and delivered them to our members containing Valentine’s surprises for our Valentine’s Game Night on Zoom. We played the “Not So Newlywed Game,” Valentine’s Bingo, scavenger hunt and some other family fun games.

Branch 447 was formed in 2018 and we have been blessed with a very active Board and engaged members. We miss getting together and look forward the day we can finally meet in person, hopefully later in the year. In the meantime, our members will be contacted regarding our Membership dues and our new 2021 Membership Dues Program to keep everyone active and engaged with Branch 447.

Our Sleeves Up Blood Drive is underway and runs through April 30, 2021. There is still time to give the gift of life-saving blood. To schedule your donation, Google “Italian Catholic Federation SleevesUp” and make your pledge to give blood at a place and at a time of your choosing.

If you are interested in joining our weekly Yoga with Monica sessions held every Thursday at 9:00 a.m. on Zoom, or if you would like to be on our cooking video distribution list, please contact Stephanie DeRaddo, President, Branch 447 at stephaniederaddo@gmail.com or (310) 863-4597.

Peace & Blessings, Stephanie DeRaddo

Deadline for March Issue is February 10th.
Send articles and photos: editor@icf.org

Alameda
Nostra Signora Delle Grazie,
Br. 10

We again thank Peggy Lubeck for serving as our president for the past two years. Peggy and her husband Bob have given hundreds of hours to Branch 10 and to the East Bay District.

Peggy is being succeeded by James McGee, who will be our president for the second time. James previously served as president in the mid-1980’s, when he had just graduated from Alameda High School. He delivered the eulogy at the funeral of our beloved Dave Rose in July 2018 and served as master of ceremonies for the 2019 District Installation. James also belongs to Branch 215.

Our other officers are continuing in the positions which they held in 2020: Gina Foster, first vice-president; Jan Rosa, second vice-president; Jeanette Zugnoni, secretary; Karen Harrington, financial secretary; JoAnn Dorn, treasurer; Sharon Brunetti, orator; Agnes Marcheschi, Betty Lupetti and Elena Seres, trustees; and Ernie Poggi, sentinel.

Sandy Manzo will continue as “Sunshine Lady,” and John Zugnoni will remain publicity.

John Zugnoni
Branch 10 publicity

Oakland
East Bay District Council

Well here we are still “ZOOMing” into 2021! Sorry to say that we are still on lock-down and may be for quite some time. But life goes on, and we are looking forward to our first Instillation via ZOOM. We are pleased that our Central Council President Vince Piro will be able to join us. Now we are looking forward to a good turnout from each of the Branches. District Pres, Lisa has made all the arrangements.

In the meanwhile, please try to stay healthy and take your vaccine if you are eligible. Remember to wear your mask, keep your distance and wash those hands.

Wishing all you ICF sweethearts a Happy St. Valentine’s Day.

Pat Grasso,
District Sec.

Happy Valentine’s Day
February 2021

**Livermore**

St. Philomena, Br. 285

As we look forward to this new year of 2021, it is hard for us to even start to make our plans. But we must keep our faith and hopes that now things will be going forward to a new normal for us. I am Judy Wellbeloved president of our branch. And I would like to introduce you to our board for 2021:

* Patricia Brick 1st.Vice
* Carolyn and John Cardinalli 2nd Vice
* Carlotta Schauer Secretary
* Philamena Buonsante Co. Sec.
* David Wellbeloved Fin.Sec.
* Elaine Meier Treasurer
* Kathleen Elm Orator
* Irma Giannotti Trustee
* Virginia Williams Trustee
* Patrick Brick Trustee
* Anna Yoacham Sentinel

We are hoping, as all of us are, that we will be able to plan our fundraiser this month to help continue our support of the very important High School Scholarship Fund. Our membership donated over $850 to the Giving Tree project within our Oakland District.

We will continue to have our monthly general meetings on Zoom. Zoom has been a saving grace for us. We look forward to our Installation of Officers on January 25th and hope everyone will join us. More information is to come.

Membership renewal is now under way and I hope all of our ICF family will continue to support their branches. It will not be long before we can get back to socializing, having our great meetings and potlucks.

* Keep well, God bless you all and God bless the ICF.
* Judy Wellbeloved President

**Castro Valley**

Our Lady of Grace, Br. 343

We are about to embark on the branch’s first meeting/Zoom meeting of 2021. Since this article is due four days before our meeting, I cannot comment on the turnout but hopefully it is a good one. Besides saluting the New Year we hope to begin to work on some projects to raise some of the money we need to support our charities.

We are fortunate that Lisa Crudo has been able to set up these meetings for us, thank you Lisa.

Let's all try to remain healthy while on lock down and support others who may need our help. So onward we go, keeping our distance, wearing the mask and washing our hands. If you are able to get the vaccine, please do so ASAP.

Happy Valentine’s Day to all our ICF sweethearts.

Pat Grasso,
Branch Sec.

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**CONTRA COSTA**

District Council

We will have our annual ICF district installation of officers on Saturday afternoon, Feb 6, 2021 at 2:30 p.m. at Christ the King Church, 199Brandon Rd in Pleasant Hill under the outdoor worship tent.” At this event, new branch and district officers for 2021 will be officially installed from all the branches in our district. The event will be held in a safe manner as are all masses at the parish: it will be completely outdoors, and all will be asked to stay socially distant (at least 6 feet) from one another. Also, everyone is asked to bring their own folding chair and wear a mask. The event will be a touchless ceremony and no scarves will be used in the ritual. It is customary to celebrate the Eucharist together before the installation, but instead, members can stay and participate in the regular Saturday evening parish mass at 4 p.m. after the end of the installation. This installation will not be followed by a luncheon as in the past because of Covid restrictions. New officers should inform their branch president as to whether they will attend.

Details about our next district meeting will be announced by email later. We wish you all a Happy Valentine’s Day with lots of love to all!

Diana Mackinson, CC District First Vice President

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**Martinez**

San Martino, Br. 13

February is the month dedicated to love. Think about the unity and kinship we all share as we celebrate our love of God. Jesus encourages us to love, not just those who love us back, but also those who do not reciprocate. All of us have such people in our lives: family, friends, employees, etc. Our calling, as followers of Christ, is to love them and do good for them, not in order that they might respond, but so that we might live each day as beloved, faithful children of our Heavenly Father. As author Frank Clark writes, “Real generosity is doing something nice for someone who will never find out.”

As we approach Lent with Ash Wednesday on February 17 and prepare ourselves for Jesus’ resurrection on Easter, ICF members are asked to offer prayers for the intention of Bishop Barber of the Oakland Diocese. Annually the Contra Costa District tabulates members’ intentions and presents them to our Bishop. Intentions are in the form of an imaginary bundle called a Spiritual Bouquet together with a monetary burse for the benefit of Seminarians which is donated from combined ICF funds. A Spiritual Bouquet is a personal offering and, therefore, anonymous. Names need not be on the paper you provide. Please submit to the president the number of Masses, Communions, Stations of the Cross, Triduum, Rosaries, and/or Novenas you would personally offer for the Bishop’s intention with your love.

With the love of God, I ask, “Will you be my Valentine?”

Ciao for now,
Mary Cook

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**Crockett**

San Carlo, Br. 14

Ciao Amici!

From hearts and flowers to chocolates and romantic gifts, there are many different ways to celebrate St. Valentine’s Day. In Italy, St. Valentine’s Day is called La Festa Degli Innamorati—meaning The Feast of Lovers, where tradition dictates this feast day is strictly for those who are romantically involved. For Americans, it’s common to send a little card to someone you care about, or for children to send fun valentines to their parents and friends. No matter how you celebrate February 14th, be sure to reach out to someone and show them some love.

This month, we’re making plans for our upcoming Corned Beef and Cabbage ‘Drive-Thru’ Dinner. This shindig will be held on Saturday, March 13th, and all dinners will include our world famous, mouth-watering, leprechaun-good corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, carrots, roll, and butter. Dinners can be delivered at the Boy Scout Hall on 991 Loring Avenue in Crockett from 12:30–4 p.m., or picked up at Christ the King Church in Pleasant Hill between 3:30 and 5:30 p.m. Tickets are $20 per person, and must be reserved in advance. For reservations, contact Donna @ (510) 367-5669, or email dhoffm3101@aol.com no later than March 8th.

Sadly, we learned of the recent passing of two of our long-time members, Bob Pallotta and Pat Guerrieri. Both Bob and Pat were characters in their own ways, and we will miss seeing their smiling and friendly faces. Please remember Bob and Pat and their families in your prayers.

It’s still not too late to get your 2021 ICF calendar – you could be a winner!

Blessings,
Helen

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**Pittsburg**

San Domenico, Br. 72

Dear Members,

Hope this finds you well. The new year is going by fast. Let’s pray it’s a better year for all of us.

As you know, we will take part in the District Installation of officers. It will be held on Saturday February 6, 2021. We will meet at Christ the King church in Pleasant Hill under the large tent outside. The Installation will start at 2:30 p.m. and end by 3:30 p.m. Mass will follow at 4 p.m. We will not use our scarves this time. Please bring a chair to sit on and wear a mask. We will not have a luncheon due to Covid restrictions. A big thanks to Pleasant Hill branch 442 for hosting this in a safe way for all of us.

Remember 2021 dues are due. You should have received your dues check from our treasurer. So, unless you have done so, please mail your check made payable to ICF Branch 72. Send it to, Helen Politakes 953 Veterans Drive Martinez, CA, 94553.

We will discuss how to move forward with our meetings this year. We can have phone conference meetings. We can also discuss zoom meetings. If you have suggestions, let Patty know.

That is all for this month. Until next time, Keep well and happy.

And as we say in Pittsburg, Sempre Avanti.

Patty

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**Richmond**

St. Raymond, Br. 154

As we enter February, we pray for a much better year than 2020. We continue to miss our friends in ICF and the camaraderie we shared. We miss the fabulous dinners put together by Walter Costa and Toni Reeder. Membership dues are payable now! If you haven’t mailed them in by the time you read this, your heading to delinquency. Please mail your dues to Toni Reeder.

Calendars are still available contact Toni for a calendar.

We are sad to announce the passing of Joyce Peterson. Joyce had been a member since 1989. She will be missed! We send condolences to her family. Please keep her in your prayers.

Please add attending a meeting to your New Year’s resolutions for 2021, when it is safe to do so of course!

Happy Valentines Day!

Martinez

Casa Palomar

442 Loring Ave, Crockett CA 94525

The ICF Contra Costa District tabulates these intentions and presents them to the Bishop annually in the form of a Spiritual Bouquet together with a monetary burse donated from the branch. If you would like to offer any number of prayers in any different forms, please indicate the number on the list below and return to the district president for submission. Since this is a personal offering we don’t ask for any names. Thank you for participating in this annual gift for our bishop.

**ICF MEMBERS’ SPIRITUAL BOUQUET OFFERINGS:**

Each year prayers are offered in various forms for the intention of our Bishop. It is a personal offering. The Contra Costa District tabulates these intentions and presents them to the Bishop annually in the form of a Spiritual Bouquet together with a monetary burse donated from the branch. If you would like to offer any number of prayers in any different forms, please indicate the number on the list below and return to the district president for submission. Since this is a personal offering we don’t ask for any names.

**NUMBER OF MASSES**

**NUMBER OF COMMUNIONS**

**NUMBER OF STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

**NUMBER OF TRIDUUM**

**NUMBER OF ROSARIES**

**NUMBER OF NOVENAS**

---

**San Domenico, Br. 72**

**Blessings,**

**Helen**
Pleasant Hill
Christ the King, Br. 442

The February meeting will be held on Saturday, February 6 prior to the District Installation of Officers. Our branch is hosting the Installation during this time because our site’s facilities and accommodate this event.
Our meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m. with a box lunch of Chinese cuisine (more details via Evite), followed by the Installation at 2:30 p.m. For those who would like to stay for Mass, that will be celebrated at 4:00.
There are not any events or projects slated right now. Please be safe, wear your masks, wash your hands and practice social distancing. The hug that you don’t give now will be there waiting for you when the surge is behind us.
Happy Valentine’s Day and Presidents’ Day!
Ci vediamo quando siamo più ‘vecchi,
Teri Martinucci Hurlbut

BLESSED SACRAMENT

Auburn
St. Joseph, Br. 342

A big thank you to all who have agreed to serve as a 2021 Branch Officer! Our site’s facilities and accommodate this event.

We are now facing a New Year and right now I am assembling the 2021 Packets. As soon as I receive the last of the 2 Officer’s Rosters from Arcata and Cloverdale I will start to copy and then mail. Quite an experience. Ken Marshall keeps me updated so I can depend on him for help and guidance. Unfortunately I have no knowledge of anyone on our Board initiating a Zoom meeting. But above all, I want to wish all of you a very prosperous New Year from all of us on the Board.

Blessings to all!!
Marilyn Sylvestri
Recording-Secretary

Healdsburg
San Francisco Di Sales, Br. 52

Upcoming Events:
Tuesday, February 9: Monthly Meeting. 7:00 p.m. via Zoom
Sunday, February 7: ICF Monthly Mass, 10:00 a.m.
Bill Jones has mailed the 2021 dues notices. We encourage everyone to renew their membership, promptly. The 2021 branch activity calendar and letter from Pres. Teri Rolleri are also included. So far, response from our members has been good.
The officers are starting to plan our springtime Drive-thru Dinner. Read the email blast for more information.
Mass continues to be outside in the school patio at 4:30 PM on Saturdays and 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM and Noon on Sundays. Wear a mask and dress warmly!
Continue to pray for an end to the virus.
Happy Valentine’s Day.
Lauren Kilcollen

Santa Rosa District Remembers Louise Vicino

Louise Vicino, long time member of Branch 127 in Petaluma, recently passed away. Louise joined the branch in August of 1993 and quickly became very active. During her years of membership, Louise served as President, Vice-President and Trustee for the branch. For a number of years, she was also a mentor to Branch 18.
Louise served as trustee and heritage chair for both her branch and the Santa Rosa District. As heritage chairperson, she always had a pertinent and often humorous presentation. She took great joy in relating to us significant events of Italian heritage.
When her husband, Lou, became both branch president and district president, Louise was always at his side helping in any way she could. Jointly, they received the Santa Rosa District President’s Award.
Louise was known for “working the room”. She went around the room and greeted members and guests at various ICF events. She had a kind word and a smile for everyone. Her infectious personality had positive effects on all who met her. Louise befriended everyone she met and truly cared about their well-being. She was a dear, sweet lady in the greatest sense and we will all miss her greatly.

Ciao, Louise!

SANTA ROSA District Council

Cloverdale
L’Annunziata, Br. 75

Masked in plastic and protecting themselves and Food Pantry clients with distance, Patrick Houston and MJ Dell’Aquila served up smiles and bags of groceries on Friday, January 8th. It was a smooth operation as men loaded cars and women packed bags with milk, eggs, bread, meat products and other goods donated by the food bank and other members of the community. Past President, MJ, has been doing this for over fifteen years in cooperation with other Churches and Service Groups in Cloverdale.
We’re so sad to hear of the death of beloved Louise Vicino from Petaluma. We could always count on her to bring her group of friends to our events as well as her silly jokes to our district meetings! Be sure to read her last Bollettino article in the January issue and know we have another friend in Heaven!

Two of our members contracted COVID-19 but battled and won. Our Priest was recently exposed but is quarantining and closing his Church events awaiting test results. We love our outdoor Masses on Sunday and limited Masses during the week.
We are canceling dinners and Branch events until further notice as we await the safety of a vaccinated population and the return to relative normalcy.

Happy New Year!
Patsy Buchignani

Sonoma
St. Sebastian, Br. 103

Notable days this month are:
Valentine’s Day, President’s Day...Let us honor all our past Presidents despite your party affiliation. Lent begins early this year on February 17th. Looking forward to lighter skies and less social restrictions. Unfortunately this is a day to day existence.
Right now trying to assemble 2021 packets for our next meeting of the Santa Rosa District Council members who know we may not meet sooner than anticipated. I still hope to see many members attend. You are all welcome. Looking back a few years I was always eager to attend many meetings and support all the social activities while a new member.

I regret deeply losing a cousin (Louise #127) who I did not know existed until she heard my last name at a ICF meeting. I was born late in life so many distant relatives had filtered out to other areas. She knew I was contemplating a move out of Sonoma and quickly volunteered to “squire” me around Petaluma in hopes of finding a suitable abode to rent. It will be difficult to fill her shoes. Regrettably, I never found out how closely we were related. She would simply say, “hello cousin.”

I am happy to celebrate the end of 2020 like many of you with real hope for 2021 to be a year of healing and return to normalcy. Happy to realize the successful rollout of 2 vaccines...a real miracle.

Hoping that all our members are staying safe and well, sopra tutto!!
Ciao e ci vediamo presto!!
Marilyn Sylvestri
Sonoma 103
Ciao,

home and share your love.

A reminder – if you haven’t paid your start for our ICF family. continue the good works of our Branch.

to this terrible pandemic so we can once

Please, God, may this year see the end

and restart their activities. Please don’t

are thinking of them. This is a positive

member or a friend to see how they

may give up, Linda suggests adding

that Lent begins on Ash Wednesday,

Do take care, wear a nose and mouth

Happy and Fruitful New Year!

blessings during 2021 and to wish all a

Anniversary folks for January many

Thank you Linda for your efforts.

yet to discuss or implement any of the

will keep us busy and on our toes. Of

course we have not had a meeting as

Leaving, as I write this letter, we

the benefits of being a member and

continue our faith, heritage, and chari-

table works.

Again, we thank our current officers for

continuing their respective positions for

2021. Pensando a tutti voi e pregando per la

vostra sana salute e il vostro spirito

forte. Thinking of you and praying for

your sound health and strong spirits.

Blessings (Benedizioni),

Stephanie Lucich

Sanger

Sant’ Antonio, Br. 70

Happy New Year to all! We hope it will

be a good year. Of course anything will

be better than last year!

Our President Kay Lopez has informed me our officers will remain the same for this coming year. Our dues have all been paid and we sold out all of our fundraising calendars.

We don’t have much to report on. Ev-

everyone is staying home and seems to be doing well. None of our members have contracted Covid, so we are pleased with that.

We look forward to when things return to normal.

god bless you all and stay safe.

Orsolina Casella

Merced

St. Cecilia, Br. 39

Another new year, and let us hope and

pray for a healthy, happy, year of spiri-
tual renewal in 2021.

Happy Birthday greetings to Sherrie

Attolico and Frank Pimentel!

Happy birthday greetings to Sherrie

Attolico and Frank Pimentel!

Did you know that February 14th is the

official start of the bird mating season? So I guess it’s true when they say that love is in the air! Speaking of love, we also send out love and best wishes to those members with a February birth-

day. They are Linda Albiberti, Mickey

Aluffi, Katherine Aspesi, Donna Moro,

Margaret Hartman, Claudio Locatelli,

Dan Locatelli, Marie Locatelli, Don

Morgan, Marie Netto, Alverda Orlando,

Pauli Pappas, Clarence Prado, and Al-

len Reames. Have a Happy Birthday

filled with good fun and good health.

Our President Rebecca (Rosser) Her-

andez continues to conduct both Gen-

eral and Board meetings to keep Branch

21 members informed even during this

time of so many limitations. The next

General meeting is scheduled for March

2nd at 5:30 on Zoom. Information about access will come to you via an e-mail or you can call Roseann Costabile for in-

formation. January’s meeting included

the installation of Branch 21 officers and

we want to thank Franklin Lopes for officiating over the proceedings.

Finally, we sadly announce that Doro-

thy Sunzeri has left us to join Heaven’s

angels. She was a long time ICF Branch

21 member and will be missed. We

extend our thoughts and prayers to her
gfamily.

In closing: remember, God’s gift of

Spring is just around the corner; a time of rebirth and longer and warmer days.

Patty Morelli

Secretary Branch 21

Do not hallucinate.
Monterey
Santa Rosalia, Br. 36

During this Lenten Season, we ask our Lord to nourish us with HIS word of life and make us one with HIM in love and prayer.

On Friday December 18, we held our first event since last February, a take-out dinner/first fundraiser at the Moose Lodge. Thank you to all of the crew and volunteers, as well as the Moose Lodge folks, for preparing ~225 turkey dinners with all the trimmings, and to all that made this a successful event. Donations to San Carlos Cathedral, Carmelite Monastery, and San Carlos Cathedral priests were made from the proceeds, and from generous donations from members.

We held another take-out dinner event on Friday, January 15, also at the Moose Lodge. We’re thankful to all of our members and friends for their support.

Lenten Dinners are being planned from the Moose Lodge, beginning Friday, February 19, for seven weeks through Friday, April 2. Please check our website (MontereyICF.org) for more information and details.

Scholarship information and applications for 2021 senior graduates are available on our website (MontereyICF.org). Contact Antonia Ruccello (831-594-1895) for further details.

We would like to send a prayer to anyone who is in need of Your love, thoughts, and prayer. Please send them the strength and guidance they need as we continue through this new year.

Amen

With much love,
Natalie Carbonel

Castroville
Santa Caterina da Siena, Br. 51

Happy Valentine’s Day!
Let us all wish a big “Happy Birthday!” to our February babies: members D.L. Grier, Dennis Hibbs, Franca Rossi, Amber Souza, and Gregory Stefan! It is with a heavy heart, we announce the passing of ICF Branch 51 member, Carlo Cortopassi. Carlo was a member for 8 years, and served as Sentinel on the board. He loved to lead us all in song with his favorite instrument, the “Ching a lинг”. Carlo also loved to share stories of his hometown Massarosa, Italy. He even sponsored his friend, Rosella Salarpi from Massarosa. She is also a member of our branch, thanks to Carlo and his warm and welcoming hospitality and passion of sharing his Italian heritage with others.

Carlo will be dearly missed by all those who he touched and inspired.
Our branch sends our love, thoughts, and prayers to Carlo’s family at this time.

Capitola
St. Joseph’s, Br. 227

Financial Secretary Marie Mungai has mailed dues information to all current members. They are due by February 15 and should be made out to ICF Branch 227 and returned to ICF, c/o Stewart’s Floral, 1658 Soquel Drive, Suite A, Santa Cruz, CA 95065.

The dues are $43.20 per member. For those with hospitalization, it is an additional $25 per member. Please consider rejoining. Even though we are still sheltering in place, we will eventually have meetings and Fish Frys again.

Capitola
St. Joseph’s, Br. 227

Lenten Fish Frys are indefinitely postponed. Board and General Membership Meetings are canceled until further notice. However, we may hold a safe, socially distanced Board Meeting in the near future. Stay tuned, Br. 291 Board members!

Branch 291 encourages all ICF members to continue to pray our communities and nation will be back to “normal” very soon so our parishes and their facilities can fully reopen and ICF members will be able to meet again in person. However, we are very blessed living here on the Central Coast—which offers beautiful weather most of the time—allowing our parishioners to enjoy outdoor Mass each Sunday. But rain is greatly needed, so please pray for some rain, preferably to arrive Monday – Saturday!

With Lent quickly approaching, we are sad to announce that our very popular Lenten Fish Frys are indefinitely postponed. Board and General Membership Meetings are canceled until further notice. However, we may hold a safe, socially distanced Board Meeting in the near future. Stay tuned, Br. 291 Board members!

We recently lost a longtime member, Rose Renna Guzzetti. Rose passed away at the age of 101, but up until the pandemic hit, she stayed active playing Bridge and Rumikube with her friends. Once she was unable to be with her friends, she slowly went downhill. Please keep Rose’s family in your prayers as they mourn the loss of this lovely lady.

Please keep all our seniors in your prayers as most of California continues to remain under stay-at-home orders. It seems to be very difficult for our seniors during these isolating times. Think about reaching out with a phone call to someone you haven’t talked to in awhile. It just might make their day!

Happy St. Valentine’s Day! “But for now, these three remain: faith, hope and love. And the greatest of these is love.” 1 Corinthians 13:13.

Keely Sanchez
Recording Secretary

Arroyo Grande
St. Patrick, Br. 291

In response to a request from Good Shepherd School Principal Richard Determan, the Board voted to donate $250 to cover extra costs incurred in reopening the school COVID-safely. Because of the pandemic lockdown, Board members conducted the vote by e-mail.

Happy Birthday to the following members who will be celebrating birthdays in February: Mario Beltramo, Linda Beltramo, Patrick Kretsch, Nancy Olson, Bryan Stow and Janice Shevellen. I can’t think of a better Valentine’s Day blessing than this from John 13:34: Love one another as I have loved you.

Deanna Mueller, Secretary

Bolletino
The members of Paso Robles Branch 354 wish to thank the following for their continued participation as newly elected officers:

Fr. Rodolfo Contreras–Chaplain  
David Zanini–President & Treasurer  
Karen Kudija–First Vice President  
Irma Zanini–Second Vice President  
Yvonne Maddalena–Recording & Corresponding Secretary  
David Kudija–Financial Secretary  
Jackie Beato–Orator  
Jogina Cashmore–Trustee  
Joan Ryder–Trustee (optional)  
Lucille Olson–Trustee (optional)  
Michael Federico–Sentinel  
Pete Gallagher–Branch Deputy

San Jose  
Santa Clara Valley District

We made it to the new year but somehow nothing seems to have changed. We are still under the mandatory quarantine and still unable to resume our daily routines. I do not fret about adults as, much as young people especially school age ones. Depending on your age we made it through much tougher times that this pandemic. But the younger generation faces something they never have had to cope with. I think barring them from face-to-face schooling is not good.

There are some bright spots in our District. Our District board is still in place ready to commence as soon as things clear. Fr. George Aranha (Central Council Chaplain) continues to provide his face-to-face masses from Tuesday to Friday and parking lot masses on the weekend. Fr. Chris Bennett (Br. 445 Chaplain) sends a Spiritual Care Package periodically and we can take solace from them. Following is a prayer snippet from the Spiritual Care Package: “Help us to keep our focus first on you this season. Please forgive us for giving too much time and attention to other things, for looking to other people before coming to you first. Help us to reflect again, on what Christmas is really all about. Thank you that you came to give new life, peace, hope, and joy.”

During these times, I rely on Santa Teresa’s Prayer – “Let nothing disturb you, - Let nothing frighten you - All things are passing away - God never changes - Patience obtains all things - Whoever has God lacks nothing - God alone suffices”.

SCV District Meeting – Cancelled until further notice.

Mike Nunziata

Paso Robles  
St. Rose of Lima, Br. 354

Teresa R. Sollazzo  
Teresa peacefully left this world in the arms of God’s angels  
– January 7, 2021

May our hearts always remember

Lucille Olson–Trustee (optional)

Joan Ryder–Trustee (optional)

Jackie Beato–Orator

Jogina Cashmore–Trustee

Joan Ryder–Trustee (optional)

Lucille Olson–Trustee (optional)

Michael Federico–Sentinel

Pete Gallagher–Branch Deputy

Yvonne Maddalena

SAN JOSE  
SANTA CLARA VALLEY

San Jose  
Santa Clara Valley District

Los Gatos  
St. Mary, Br. 184

Our beautiful matriarch, Marie Antonowicz, now dressed as Santa’s Elf, removed her mask so I could snap her photo! The Antonowicz family held their annual Open House for their scholarship fund on December 13. They were gracious enough to make the take away bags of wrapped goodies for attendees. It was so nice to have some event familiar and welcomed in these unprecedented times.

On a much more somber note, our branch mourns the loss of two members in 2020, but not to Covid. Dom Norcia and Bob Cowan, two men who were always eager to work for our Branch, will be sorely missed. Our love goes out to their families.

The holidays have passed and we have done our best to stay in relative isolation. Now we can only hope that the vaccine will prove to be successful, so we can once again plan and work together. Until then stay strong, stay safe, e Dio vi Benedica,

Lucy Amico

Gilroy  
Santa Maria Ausiliatrice, Br. 28

The monthly membership drawing winner was pulled by member Viola Carr with the winner of the $75.00 gift certificate to the Milias Restaurant in Gilroy going to Julia Cardoza. Julia and Joe enjoy the food from the Milias Restaurant and thank you for being such, willing to help, Branch 28 members.

Viola was born and raised in Gilroy and was married for many years to Tom Carr who was a Past President of Branch 28 and who was very active in community affairs. Viola has been a member of Br. 28 since 1978, and in those 43 years has been a trustee and is currently a caller. She organized the branch Christmas dinners and would make her favorite Pasta Piselli for member dinners. She was introduced to ICF through her mother Angelina Filice and in her subsequent 43-year membership she describes Br. 28 as a family of old friends while constantly meeting new friends. She describes an ICF convention in Los Angeles where the elevator got stuck which provided the opportunity for the party to really get started. Viola has 3 daughters, 5 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild. Viola has hosted a weekly Thursday dinner at her home for 12 to 14 family members for 30 years until last March. Her generosity to the branch is epitomized in the raffle basket fundraiser which she donates twice a year for a two-night stay at her beach house in Capitola, CA. With our deepest gratitude, thank you Viola.

Dues statements should have been received. We miss you.  
Peace and God Bless,  
Kim M. Filice

Br. 28 - Viola Carr playing the winning membership ticket.

Br. 28 - Viola Carr holding a bouquet of flowers which expressed Branch 28’s appreciation and gratitude for her many years of dedication and her outstanding generosity.

Mike Nunziata

Br. 184, Marie Antonowicz as Santa’s Elf

Marie Antonowicz, now dressed as Santa’s Elf
San Jose
St. Frances Cabrini, Br. 191

The New Year brought our Branch the first Zoom Board Meeting of 2021. Thank you Father Paolo for joining us, and hope to see more of you in our future Zoom meetings.

Our first meeting of 2021, discussions wrapped up old business. Our branch donated 20 hams, and 150 boxes of food to needed families at the SFC food give away. Also, donations were given to the Lelley Program.

Looking to keep our branch active involves each and every member. To reach that goal, President Debbie Piro will have a General Meeting on Zoom. Please take a moment, and consider participating. We cannot afford to lose our very valuable members. We need each and every one of you to survive! Get the kids/grandkids to help you with Zoom. It will be a fun evening to reconnect. More details coming. Make this a New Year’s Resolution.

Speaking of reconnecting, we thank the Phone Committee in continuing to call our members. Checking on all of us has been its goal. We are happy to hear their voices, exchange a few stories, and have some well-deserved laughs.

Let us pray for our dear Br. 191 members, Angela Cosentino, who went to her eternal resting place on Dec 24. Angela, and her husband Sal (deceased) were Charter Members of our Branch. Angela was a very active member, with dances, dinners, and her devotion to St. Joseph, and the St. Joseph’s Day Table. May we keep her family in our prayers at this difficult time.

Buon San Valentino
Shirley Catania
Sentinel

San Jose
Santa Teresa de Avila, Br. 368

Only a little while longer, dear friends. We have had great help in getting through these last eleven months. Father George sings and reads to us on Wednesdays, the phone committee cheers us, Ed and Jane send us help. The live-streamed masses help a lot, too. We all hope of being able to share hugs again.

We hope February finds you healthy and safe. We think about our members who are having health problems, worry with them, and pray for them.

We have a wonderful phone tree committee who has contacted each member with loving greetings and reassurances. Hearing a warm, friendly voice of a fellow member was such a blessing to me. Joyce Robba, a committee member, said, “We were excited to be involved in reaching out to our members.” Thank you to all the callers, Avis Erkel, Cathie Orlowski, Mickey Sanitate, and Robyn.

San Jose
St. Martin of Tours, Br. 391

In January, President Mike Rossi thanked members for their generosity and for supporting our Branch 391 and St. Martin of Tours during this past year. Mike reported that, despite a year of Covid, we managed to donate over $11,000 to our charities in 2020. He also reminded us of the many kindnesses of Al, Diana, and Linda Vallorz, who organized two special fundraisers for our branch.

Thank you to our 2021 officers of Branch 391 who volunteered to remain in their same officer positions this year - President Mike Rossi, 1st VP Marcie Rossi, 2nd VP Doug Schenk, Secretary Susan Busco, Financial Secretary Tina Rossi, Treasurer Steve Lencioni, Ora

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Buon San Valentino
Shirley Catania
Sentinel

Morgan Hill
St. Catherine of Alexandria, Br. 435

There seems to be a light at the end of the tunnel. Several vaccines have been approved and are already being administered to many first responders and senior citizens. Please keep doing your part to keep this virus at bay and let us all get back to “normal” soon. Some of our members have been affected by Covid-19 but thankfully, they are doing well and recovering.

Thank you to all who have renewed their membership in the ICF by sending in their dues for 2021. Please remember that we will be doing all the things we were doing before in a few months and we are looking forward to gathering together once again.

Some of our members are continuing to support the local community through volunteering and donations to St. Catherine’s ReachOut and St. Vincent de Paul programs. You can always go online to contribute to this program as well as many others in our parish.

We hope you all had a happy and safe holiday.

Take care and stay safe.
Maryclare Sampognaro
President, Br #435

Sunnyvale
Resurrection, Br. 408

Wishing a Blessed and Happy New Year to all our Members!
We ask the Lord to Bless us and Keep us in the New Year.

Thank you to all our Generous Blood Donors for Winter Blood Drive.
We welcomed 29 Donors to the Stanford Bloodmobile which was once again parked in the Farana Center Parking Lot on a rather chilly morning. Stanford Hospital’s need for units of whole blood continues despite of the Pandemic. We also thank Al Chanteloup and Kate Shimshock for spending their Saturday helping coordinate the Blood Drive. ICF hosts its first blood drive of 2021 on Saturday, 6 March.

We held a Zoom Christmas Get together which Sandra Coordinated for us – Thank you Sandra! A good time was had by all.

We look forward to a vaccine and a year of relaxing COVID rules.

Please Pray for our sick Members: Dave O’Hara, Steve Richey, Patricia Look, Paul and Dori Blefari

Br. 435 Board from 2020 Installation Ceremony
As I write this article, it is January 6th the Feast of the Epiphany which is celebrated throughout Italy and the world. Many children awakened joyously to the gifts left by Italy’s La Befana. Yet, it is a dark day for American history as our Nation’s Capitol was stormed by rioters. It is our hope and prayer that our nation will go forward with a peaceful inauguration of President Elect Joe Biden and Vice President Elect Kamala Harris.

From the start of Covid to the end of the 2020, our Homeless Ministry distributed over 4,000 sack lunches to those in need. We are thankful to the YarnSpinners of S.J. Elks Lodge #522 for their Christmas donation of knitted hats, scarves, shawls and blankets to our ministry.

Our continued thanks to our many members who volunteer their time in support of this project. Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta once said, “Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love”. Although “Carnevale” will be much different this February, photos of times shared bring joy that we may soon be able to meet in person again.

Stay safe and well.

Submitted by,
Jan Marianelli Stumhoffer

STOCKTON

Modesto
St. Stanislaus, Br. 48

The dues for 2021 were due in January. Please pay them as soon as you can since our income is very limited and we need to cover our expenses.

If you have a member of your family or a friend that is applying for a scholarship please remind them the applications have to be in by March 15, 2021.

Thanks to all our members and friends that bought convention calendars. Some members took some for gifts which helped a great deal. I was unable to reach some of the contacts this year that have always bought calendars but some called to see if we were selling them this year. Indeed we are was my answer and they met me at my door to pick up their calendars.

Our event calendar for the year has not been okayed by the parish yet for the use of the hall and the church. When we are able to gather at an event they will let us know since so far we have had to cancel everything.

Most of our business has been taken care of by text message. We still have some that have to be called or a note dropped to them.

God’s Blessings to all of you, stay Safe and Healthy.

Cecelia McGhee
Danette was born and raised in Stockton, California, graduated from Edison High School in 1981, and earned her Bachelor of Art in Business Administration from the University of Phoenix. She worked in the Diocese of Stockton for nearly 20 years, starting as a teacher for St. Luke School in 2001, and then transitioning to the Office Manager and 8th grade religion teacher where she stayed until 2019. In 2019 she began working for St. Mary’s High School where she was the Accounts Payable Manager for one year and then Registrar.

Danette used her talent for teaching and inspiring people in adult religious education (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults - RCIA), and she sponsored many people into the Catholic faith. She liked being outdoors, entertaining her family and friends, decorating for sporting events. She liked being outdoors, entertaining her family and friends, decorating for sporting events.

Danette was instrumental in reinitiating the ICF Branch #138 in St. Luke Parish. She was vivacious, witty, intelligent, beautiful, kind, compassionate, and she is sorely missed by those who knew her. Please keep her husband, Joe, their three daughters, and her family in your prayers. Pray for end to COVID.

The take out dinner planned for January 2021 was postponed by the board members due to the recent increase in hospitalizations bringing the lockdown back to California residents. We re-scheduled the next take-out dinner for the month of February, date TBD. It was a tough decision for the board since the December take-out dinner brought over 200 folks to our door and provided our branch with greatly needed funds to keep us going in our endeavor to provide scholarships and donations in the future.

We continue to offer our prayers to those of you who have family members and friends who are ill and struggling with both health and financial issues. We should try to remember it’s God’s plan, not our plans, that affect us when we are trying to join family members and friends…with masks and social distancing, knowing that we Italians are a ‘hugging’ bunch. Praying God plans to end this soon.

Just a heads up, you will soon be receiving your bill for your annual dues. The life of our branch and Federation depends on its members, so when you receive your dues envelope, please enclose your check and mail it back. Please continue your support to our branch--it is vital, especially during these trying times. Thank you in advance.

Our condolences and sympathy go out to the family members and friends of branch member Deolinda Mattos, who passed away in December.

When you need a little pick-me-up, don’t forget Steve Ridolfi continues to post the life of our branch though pictures on our Website: www.icfbranch390.org.

Hope everyone stays healthy, happy and safe,
Betty Hollars

Stockton
St. Luke, Br. 138

The members of ICF Branch #138 were devastated to learn of the passing of Danette Curtis, Recording Secretary, and dear friend, on December 21, 2020 due to COVID.

The life of our branch and Federation depends on its members, so when you receive your dues envelope, please enclose your check and mail it back. Please continue your support to our branch--it is vital, especially during these trying times. Thank you in advance.

Our condolences and sympathy go out to the family members and friends of branch member Deolinda Mattos, who passed away in December.

When you need a little pick-me-up, don’t forget Steve Ridolfi continues to post the life of our branch though pictures on our Website: www.icfbranch390.org.

Hope everyone stays healthy, happy and safe,
Betty Hollars

Tracy
St. Bernard’s, Br. 390

Stockton
Presentation of the BVM, Br. 395

Last year at this time our Branch was getting ready for our Polenta dinner, an annual tradition that hundreds of individuals from all faiths and ethnic backgrounds looked forward to. Our first Polenta dinner was held about twenty years ago in our modest Guadalupe Hall. Our members did all of the cooking and a little over hundred were in attendance. Fast forward to 2020; we held that same dinner in Presentation’s Community Center that holds over 500 people. The event is now catered and consists of raffles and silent and live auctions. Last year we were fortunate to hold our Polenta dinner just before everything shut down. This year will mark the first time we haven’t held our polenta dinner, but we will be back in 2022 and have lots to celebrate!

One of our caterers were our own ICF members, Joe and Danette Curtis. It is with great sadness that we lost Danette due to COVID. Danette was a member of our branch for several years before reopening Branch 138. She will truly be missed and our prayers go out to her family.

I think it is fitting to conclude with the following Prayer of Solidarity:

For all who have contracted coronavi

For those who are particularly vulner

For affected families who are facing difficult decisions between food on the table or public safety, we pray for policies that recognize their plight.

For those who do not have adequate health insurance, we pray that no family will face financial burdens alone.

For those who are afraid to access care due to immigration status, we pray for recognition of the God-given dignity of all.

For our brothers and sisters around the world, we pray for shared solidarity.

For public officials and decision makers, we pray for wisdom and guidance.

Father, during this time may your Church be a sign of hope, comfort and love to all. Grant peace. Grant comfort. Grant healing. Be with us, Lord. Amen.

alla prossima,
Mary Ann

Stockton
Presentation of the BVM, Br. 395

Angels Camp
St. Patrick’s, Br. 413

A Happy and Blessed Valentine’s Day to all from Branch 413!! This is the month that we usually hold our Valentine Day Dinner/Dance, but that isn’t in God’s plan for us this year. Last year, we had a wonderful dinner and there was dancing to happy music, raffles and prizes. Weren’t those the days?! Well, last year at that dinner, our wonderful priest, Fr. John Paul Pasala, offered to be raffled off as a chef for one dinner. He would cook one Italian style dinner for a group of people to enjoy. Suddenly the virus struck, and all was put on hold until later in the year when our county was in the yellow. Then Fr. John Paul cooked the meal, the families who won the dinner raffle said it was delicious, and our branch made $1,300. When Fr. John Paul volunteered to be a chef, his intent was to raise the money so as to be able to give it to the Bishop at the Bishop’s Burse. The branch will honor that request, and hold the money for the future Bishop’s Burse. A big thank you to Father and the families that won the raffle!!

In this year, we pray for all our ICF Families and ask God to give you health and His peace. Please be safe and keep us all in your prayers.

Ciao,
Annette Pachinger
Correspondence Secretary

Happy Valentine's Day

I travel, work, suffer my weak health, meet with a thousand difficulties, but all these are nothing, for this world is so small. To me, space is an impercep-

tible object, as I am accustomed to dwell in eternity.

- Frances Xavier Cabrini
ICF TRI-FOLD BROCHURE

This informative brochure (updated in 2020) can be a great part of your ICF Visitor Packet and is available from the ICF office in Oakland, CA. Contact (888) ICF-1924 to order copies for your branch.

(Outside)

(Inside)

DEADLINE

February 10th for March Issue of the ICF Bollettino
Submit your articles and photos to editor@icf.org

Workshops Are Available On Our Website

Workshop:
SUCCESSFUL BRANCHES
Progress During a Pandemic

Presented by: Rose Jarrett
Central Council Life Member

"DON'T LET WHAT YOU CAN'T DO STOP YOU FROM DOING WHAT YOU CAN DO."

-John Wooden
ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION CONVENTION AWARD CATEGORIES

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

Pope Saint John XXIII Award

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

Saint Teresa of Calcutta Award

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

Grand President’s Award

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

Family of the Year Award

The I.C.F. Family of the Year is recognized during the Saturday General Session. This award honors an I.C.F. Family which has made a significant contribution to their branch, district, parish and/or community. A $500 donation will be made to the family’s I.C.F. charitable program of choice.

Young Adult Leadership Award

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

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

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

Nominations must be postmarked on or before May 1.
Please include with this application:
- A maximum of three letters of endorsement.
- Copies of awards or publications, if available, to support the nomination.

The Central Council will vote on one finalist for each award at the June meeting. The Grand President will notify the winners of their achievement and invite them to attend the I.C.F. Convention to receive their award. Transportation, one night lodging, and admission to the Saturday night banquet will be provided. Central Council Members, Members Emeritus, Life Members Emeritus or Members of their immediately families are not eligible for nomination.

Nominated By Individual, Branch or District:
___________________________________
Contact Person:
___________________________________
Phone: (____) ________________________
E-mail: _____________________________

Statement of Endorsement:

Qualifications Summary:
Please summarize the major accomplishments of the nominee. If known, include offices and chairmanships held (within the I.C.F., parish and community) along with information on any significant contributions. You may attach additional sheets of text.
Italian Catholic Federation Twenty First Annual

**GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**DATE:**
FRIDAY, JULY 30, 2021

**SAVE THE DATE**
(TENTATIVE)

- JOIN US IN THE •
- WINE
- COUNTRY •

FOR OUR

21ST
YEAR
EVENT!

MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW. START MAKING YOUR PLANS TO SHARE IN THIS NEW GOLF VENTURE AND MAKE THIS A MEMORABLE 21ST ANNIVERSARY EVENT!!!

ICF, 8393 Capwell Drive, # 110, Oakland, CA 94621 • 888-423-1924 • FAX: (510) 633-9758 • Web Site: icf.org • E-mail: info@icf.org
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 2020 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 2020 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, 2021. 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, 2020. 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
The Ways and Means Committee presents the 2022 “Daily Raffle” theme:

“Coming To America”

We need your participation. So how can you help?

Share the story of your FAMILY’S JOURNEY to AMERICA!

- Share RECIPES that your family brought to America with them.
- Share PICTURES that hold fond memories of your Family’s Heritage.
- Sell! Sell! Sell! The “Daily Raffle” is a great fundraiser for the entire Italian Catholic Federation, since a portion of every sale goes directly to your Branch!

ANOTHER WAY TO HELP

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

PRICE SCHEDULE

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

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

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

Deadline for names and payment is: June 1, 2021

Mail information and checks payable to:
Italian Catholic Federation
8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110
Oakland, CA 94621

The Committee thanks you for your continued support. Chairperson: Bob Basuino
Members: Lisa Crudo and Franklyn Lopes, Jr.
Advisor: Leonard Rossi, C.L.J.

For further questions, call the I.C.F. office at (510) 633-9058