Heritage Report: Italian Heritage on Parade
Denise Antonowicz, Grand 1st Vice President

October came and went, and something happened that we’ve missed for a few years. PARADES! Yes, I said parades. The ICF was asked to participate in the Parade of Champions in the City of Santa Clara on Saturday, October 9th and then to return to our favorite parade, the Italian Heritage Parade, in San Francisco the next day.

October 9th was a much smaller parade just about a 1-mile event. Here’s a little history about the parade. The Santa Clara Parade of Champions (SCPOC) has been a time-honored legacy in Santa Clara since 1945 when they welcomed home our World War II Heroes. Since then, generations of Santa Clarans have never forgotten the memories and sense of community that the parade reinforced year after year. They are grateful to their grass root volunteers, their Champions and Community Heroes, for the generous support in bringing back the 50-year-old parade after a 24-year hiatus—they made history together! My yellow bug was transformed into a ride that honored our Law Enforcement partners. Our Chicken proudly waved a thin blue line flag. Thanks to my sister Germaine and Mom for helping with decorating the bug. We were surprised at how many lined the streets for this parade.

Continued on Page 2

Santa Rosa District Bishop's Day

The Santa Rosa District hosted Bishop Robert Vasa at our annual Bishop’s Day. It was great to see Bishop Vasa and meet one of our Seminarians, Christopher Girolo. Grand President Deborah Rodondi presented Bishop Vasa with $1,500 from the Providenza Fund. District President Ken Marshall presented $3,100 from the district. Denise DiGirolamo presented our commitment to pray for vocations at each meeting of the district and all branches. Brother Paul, District Chaplain, led us in a decade of the Rosary. Pictured are Bishop Robert Vasa with participants in the program. The district thanks Grand President Deborah Rodondi and Grand Treasurer Lisa Crudo for joining us on this special day.

Santa Clara Valley District Bishop's Day

The Santa Clara Valley District Bishop’s Day was hosted by Branch 47 President Craig Noah with Fr. George Aranha as the Diocesan Chaplain and Fr. Engel Gammad as Branch 47 Chaplain. At the 10 a.m. mass, Eva Stern of Br. 47 presented the Spiritual Bouquet of prayers, masses and rosaries. Bob Basuino, Santa Clara Valley District President and Past Grand President, offered the Seminary Burse of $6,500 to the Most Reverend Oscar Cantu, Bishop of San Jose. Deborah Rodondi, Grand President, awarded the Providenza donation of $2,000. A BBQ lunch followed at the church patio area, enced by CC member and Past Grand President Michael Rossi.

Los Angeles Archdiocese District Bishops' Day

Bishop and Seminarian Recognition Day Mass & Luncheon and program held on Sunday, October 3rd, at St. Raymond Church, in Downey
Lesson Learned

In 1960, when I was a young naïve priest, my pastor appointed me as chaplain of the Mothers Club. One day, the president of the club came to me and said, “Father, all the mothers are upset about what happened the other day.” When she explained the terrible event that took place, I reacted with, “Oh my God!” So, I went at once to the pastor and shared the terrible news. He smiled and simply asked, “Who and how many.” I paused and thought. I could only come up with two names, the president and one other person. This lesson I learned saved me from a lot of future angst.

How easy it is to fall into this trap. Somehow, we relish the criticism of others and the shocking news of other people’s mistakes. It seems to vindicate that we are not like that. It makes us, consciously or unconsciously, feel superior because we say to ourselves, we are not like that. We are better than those people.

Really, though, we know better than that. Listen to what Jesus says about this.

“But to you who hear I say, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.

To the person who strikes you on one cheek, offer the other also; and from the person who takes your cloak, do not withhold even your tunic.

Give to everyone who asks of you, and from the one who takes what is yours do not demand it back.

Do to others as you would have them do to you.

For if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them.

And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do the same.

In 1960, when I was a young naïve priest, my pastor appointed me as chaplain of the Mothers Club. One day, the president of the club came to me and said, “Father, all the mothers are upset about what happened the other day.” When she explained the terrible event that took place, I reacted with, “Oh my God!” So, I went at once to the pastor and shared the terrible news. He smiled and simply asked, “Who and how many.” I paused and thought. I could only come up with two names, the president and one other person. This lesson I learned saved me from a lot of future angst.

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Really, though, we know better than that. Listen to what Jesus says about this.

“But to you who hear I say, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.

To the person who strikes you on one cheek, offer the other one as well, and from the person who takes your cloak, do not withhold even your tunic.

Give to everyone who asks of you, and from the one who takes what is yours do not demand it back.

Do to others as you would have them do to you.

For if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them.

And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do the same.

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

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.StJoseph.servers.jpeg

Include photo captions with your article submission.

Please keep your submission positive and informative.

Deadline for the December issue is November 10, 2021.

Include district name, branch number and branch name in all submissions.

Thank you!
Greetings to one and all and welcome to November.

It looks like our membership numbers have been holding steady with just over 7,000 members, but the number that is concerning is the number of members who are 9 to 12 months delinquent. We have over 800 members who are in serious arrears and it’s up to all of us to talk to those members to see if we can get them up to date on their dues.

The Membership Committee is going to continue where we left off at, and keep pushing the importance of membership drives, parish bulletin articles and just getting the name of our organization out there as much as we can. We are hoping to return to the Religious Education Congress once again. It is here where we have the ability to do some serious networking and recruiting of new members and or new branches. It’s going to be both a live and virtual event in 2022. The dates that it will be held are March 18th through the 20th, 2022. We will also be reviewing the materials that are available on the ICF website and looking into updating the membership application to make it more adaptable to today’s time.

Let us remember all of our Veterans who served our country in the Armed Forces and thank them for their service.

Until next month,

Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving,

Perry Shurko, Membership Chairperson

Grand President’s Monthly Message
Deborah Rodondi

Happy Fall! Traditionally, November is a time of Thanksgiving, ending with Thanksgiving Day, family and food. Last year many families had small intimate celebrations due to the COVID pandemic restrictions. This year, hopefully, families will once again be able to gather and celebrate in thanksgiving. Meanwhile my kitchen will be in a cloud of flour dust, busy making all my cookies for the holidays.

Fall is also a time when many ICF areas celebrate and support our seminarians by presenting the local Archbishop/Bishops (where there is ICF) with spiritual bouquets and monetary donations towards the education of seminarians. My first two official duties as Grand President were attending the Santa Rosa Bishop’s Day and the Santa Clara Valley Bishop’s Day. When receiving the spiritual gift, The Most Reverend Robert Vasa from Santa Rosa shared with us how important and thankful he is for our prayers. And how important we are to the bishops, pastors, and clergy. The bishops and clergy are there to support each other, but it is the lay people that give them the strength through prayers and deeds. The same can be said for the Italian Catholic Federation. We as Central Council members meet, make policy, create programs; but it is you that keeps us going. Your good wishes, support and even guidance sustain us. In Santa Clara, the Most Reverend Oscar Cantu shared with the congregation, during mass, the importance of the Italian Catholic Federation in the community and he stressed that you do not have to be Italian to belong; we welcome all.

Our Central Council Committees are busy having meetings and coming up with plans and ideas for the coming year and the future. Below is a list of committees and chairpersons. Please contact them if you have questions or suggestions. You can get their contact information from the Office.

Fall is also the time our ICF branches and districts elect officers for the following year 2022. If you are not yet meeting, you can do this by email, phone calls and/or Zoom. If you have not done so yet, please take care of your officer elections this month. Be sure to remember to send your list of officers to the ICF office as soon as possible.

Not to be forgotten, November 6th is when we celebrate the outgoing Grand President with a Testimonial. Vince Piro led us through a long period of uncertainty, when our nation was gripped by a pandemic. His strong leadership kept us going, finding ways of staying in touch and functioning as an organization. THANK YOU Vince! Please join us at the testimonial.

The Heritage Committee got us a spot in the San Francisco Columbus Day Parade. WHAT FUN! The energy & enthusiasm were great! We even had the ICF Chicken (Marie Antonowicz) decked out in feathers in a yellow VV! Young and old alike loved the chicken dance, and they were still doing it in groups after we passed them. Since my truck was also used in the parade, I was informed it had to be washed first! I was a bit concerned for fear that the dirt was keeping the truck together—but it performed like a champ. A GREAT DAY! Overhead we had occasional flyovers by the NAVY’s Blue Angels; I thought they were there for me, but I was informed it was fleet week in San Francisco. It was great to see so many of the Italian restaurants with outdoor seating and they were packed with well wishers and Italian enthusiasts. Thank you, Denise Antonowicz for coordinating this fun event. Hoping next year more of you would like to join us for the day.

I am thankful for your support and friendship, and for the support of the Central Council in electing me as your Grand President.

Happy Thanksgiving to you and your family. Take care and be safe.

Membership Matters
Perry Shurko
Membership Chairperson

Apostolate/Charity Committee Reflections: The Catholic Church in Africa
Carmen Kilcullen, Member

During the liturgical year, the Church here in America takes up collections for the foreign missions, many of those in Africa. Not knowing too much about the Catholic Church in Africa, I decided to do some research and discover the importance and impact of the Church on this continent. I would like to share with you.

Christianity emerged in Africa among the 1st century Jewish communities in Egypt. At that time, many influential church leaders were North African. Islam, then, conquered North Africa from 634 to 711 A.D. Islam grew faster than Christianity, making it the dominant religion of this region, even to this day. Catholic missionaries arrived in the 16th and 17th centuries in the west, central and eastern coasts of Africa. The Portuguese were the first, followed by the French, to establish Catholic communities. However, issues over the slave trade, colonialism and ethnic movements often produced mixed results. In fact, colonization and evangelization often occurred together. From the late 1950s to the 1980s, many priests supported ethnic and nationalist movements. In many countries, bishops served as mediators between autocratic rulers and the populace, often achieving democratic reforms. In the era of independence, occurring in Africa today, the Catholic reform movement has played an important role.

However, the Church in Africa faces new challenges. Pentecostal religions are growing as well as Islam. Islam is growing faster that Christianity and, by 2050, from 30% to 35% of Africa’s population is expected to be Islamic.

The Pope’s visit to African countries reflects the Church’s concern and commitment to this continent.

More next issue.

Carmen Kilcullen

Happy Thanksgiving Blessing
May the beauty and blessings of Thanksgiving bring warmth and peace to your home this season.

Perry Shurko, Membership Chairperson

ICF Committees and Chairpersons

Apostolate – Lauren Kilcullen
By-Laws and Rituals – Leonard Rossi, C.L.J.
Convention Directors* – Roselyne Jarrett
Expansion – Michael Rossi, O.L.J.
Finance – Lisa Crudo
Gifts of Love – Teresa Helfand
Heritage – Denise Antonowicz
Hospitalization – Perry Shurko
Judiciary – Msgr. Cardelli
Live to Give – Kenneth Marshall
Membership – Perry Shurko
Mentor Program – Denise Antonowicz
Public Relations – Leonard Zasowski, Jr.
Scholarship – Nina Malone
Task Force – Steven Fuentes
Ways and Means – Robert Basuino
Workshop – Andrew Pappani
Welcome to New Members (Report as of Oct. 8, 2021)

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In Loving Memory (Report as of Oct. 8, 2021)

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Cooley's Anemia Donations (Received as of Oct. 10, 2021)

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<td>Sam and Dean Balestieri In Memory of Josephine Baldocchi</td>
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2021 - 2022 CENTRAL COUNCIL OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

OFFICERS:
- Grand President - Deborah Rodondi*, Br. 19
- Grand 1st Vice President - Denise Antonowicz, Br. 184
- Grand 2nd Vice President - Franklin Lopes, Jr., Br. 227
- Grand Secretary - Lauren Kilcullen, Br. 52
- Grand Treasurer - Lisa Crudo, Br. 343
- Grand Parliamentarian - Leonard Rossi, C.L.J.* (Karen), Br. 343

LIFE MEMBERS EMERITUS:
- Robert Acquistapace (Kathy), Br. 198
- Jody Balestieri, Br. 229
- Michael Cannady (Donna), Br. 154
- Nettie Descalso-Del Nero, Br. 39
- James Jones (Janice), Br. 191
- Carmen Kilcullen (Larry), Br. 52
- Nina Malone, Br. 438
- Vincent Picciola (Diane), Br. 358
- Leroy Taddei (Stella), Br. 343

MEMBERS EMERITUS:
- Gerald Delfino (Joan), Br. 368
- Maria Di Paolo, Br. 379
- Angelina Iarossi-Armenio (Tony), Br. 218
- Forrest Price (Prudence), Br. 261
- Louisa Russo, Br. 210
- Joseph Santello (Catherine), Br. 358
- Frank Signorelli, Br. 291
- Helen Tatone, Br. 380
- Chris Valentini (Elizabeth), Br. 14
Family Recipe
Deborah Rodondi
Grand President

Happy Thanksgiving to everyone. Hope you are all staying well and healthy. Not too long ago my dear friend Kathy Trevizo (member of Branch 19 in Colma) shared this recipe with me. Like me she tends to adjust recipes, but I will share that at the end. As you may already know, my nephew Tony stays with me 3 to 4 days a week, since he works in San Francisco and lives in Placeville (3 hours away—on a good day). So, needless to say, he is my official taste tester and judge. We found this recipe to be delicious; the honey gives it a great flavor.

Ginger Chicken Stir Fry with Asparagus and Shitake Mushrooms

Prep time 15 minutes
Cook time 20 minutes
Serving 4-6

1 pound boneless skinless chicken breasts (2-3 breasts), cut into ¾ inch pieces
¾ cup flour
1 cup chicken stock/broth
¾ cup honey
¾ cup soy sauce
1 tsp. ground ginger
½ tsp. garlic powder
¼ tsp. crushed red pepper flakes (I used more ½ tsp. or more)
2 Tbls. vegetable oil (divided)
1 pound asparagus, trimmed and cut into 1” pieces (2 ½ cups)
1 small onion, cut into thin wedges
16 medium shitake mushrooms, sliced (I used cremini mushrooms – 8 ounces)

COAT: chicken with flour in medium bowl. Remove chicken. Set aside. (NOTE: if you flour the chicken too soon it will cause the chicken to stick together and be pasty, although still workable). Add stock, honey, soy sauce, ginger, garlic powder and red pepper to remaining flour in bowl, stir until smooth.

HEAT: 1 Tbls. of oil in wok or large skillet on medium high heat. Add chicken, stir-fry 5 minutes or until browned. Remove from wok. Heat remaining 1 Tbls. oil in wok. Add vegetables and mushrooms, stir-fry 5 minutes or until tender—crisp.

STIR: stock mixture. Add to wok; stirring constantly, bring to boil on medium heat and boil 2 minutes or until thickened. Add chicken; stir-fry until heated through.

SERVE: with cooked rice, if desired.

NOTES: I used cremini mushrooms instead of Shitake – so I do not add with the rest of the vegetables to stir fry. I hold off until the last 1 minute before putting in stock mixture.

I also added 1 Tbls. minced garlic; 3 of the mini red and orange bell peppers, I happened to have in fridge.

DO NOT substitute on the honey—this is a key component to the great flavor.

The only addition Tony thought of was mini red and orange bell peppers, I put them out there for our readers and maybe find what you are looking for.

ENJOY!

Hope you might like to share some of your specialties or the family recipes that have been handed down with the members of the ICF. Send them to me at drodondi@comcast.net or mail to the ICF office, include a story if any. If you have questions send them also, I may not be able to answer them but we can put them out there for our readers and maybe find what you are looking for.

Buon Appetito!

Due to Covid Restrictions, the Testimonial for Vince Piro has been postponed until February 19, 2022. More information to follow. Thank You from the Committee

OCTOBER CALENDAR WINNERS

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<td>10/29</td>
<td>Ron &amp; Carole Falconer</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>Lincoln, CA</td>
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<td>10/30</td>
<td>Marcie Soper</td>
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<td>Bakersfield, CA</td>
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<td>10/31</td>
<td>Fr. Generoso Geronimo</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>San Jose, CA</td>
<td>$50</td>
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SEE THESE FIRST ON OUR WEBSITE: ICF.ORG

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 Corner

Dearest Members of the Clergy: Grand President Vincent Piro, Central Council; and ICF Members,

First, I want to convey the sincerest wishes of the hematology section at the Cancer and Blood Disease Institute at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles and from me personally for a successful and productive convention this year and for success in all your endeavors. The members of the thalassemia program at the CHLA remain deeply honored to have been selected by ICF to be a member of your team carry out the mission of helping others.

I am very disappointed not to be there at the convention in person.

I look forward to the ICF convention every year and meeting old friends and making new acquaintances. As I have said before, it gives me great pleasure to listen to all the presentations and in general just to hear about your successes and see the enthusiasm of your members as they relate their projects to help others. I hope by next year the pandemic will be behind us. However, for now, all my travel remains canceled.

I hope that all of you have been vaccinated by now and that you will continue to spread the word that COVID vaccinations are very effective and safe. One of the problems we are facing now is that vaccinated people can be infected and not know it. Thus, they can unknowingly spread the disease. I suspect that that is why the virus seems to be spreading so much faster now. This is why wearing masks and social distancing remains important. Wearing a mask helps you protect others.

This has been an amazing year in the world of thalassemia. First, our program continues to get many new referrals from all over the state and country of children and adults with thalassemia related disorders. Laurice continues to be an important ambassador in this regard along with Cooley’s Anemia Foundation and other community organizations.

Luspatercept was approved by the FDA. This is an injection every three weeks which can significantly reduce the transfusion requirement in transfusion dependent thalassemia patients. It will likely be approved by the FDA this year or early next for thalassemia patients who do not require routine transfusions. CHLA was the first site in the world to open the clinical trial for this drug.

We are opening clinical trials at CHLA for two new drugs for thalassemia that act by a completely different mechanism and are administered orally. These agents can help transfusion dependent thalassemia patients as well as non-transfusion dependent patients. It is possible, that with these new medicines, many patients with mild forms of thalassemia may never have to go on chronic transfusions.

Last, but certainly not least, there has been tremendous progress in curative approaches with thalassemia. At least 16 patients have now been treated with gene editing approaches whereby the patients own bone marrow cells are collected, the abnormal thalassemia gene is corrected, and then the patient undergoes bone marrow transplant with their own corrected bone marrow. All of these patients became transfusion independent and there were no deaths. These approaches are experimental now but hold great promise.

The pace of scientific progress is breathtaking in the genetics era. Think of it: within days of receiving the genetic code of COVID, drug companies were able to start producing an effective vaccine and save millions of lives! Now, we can cure certain genetic diseases previously thought to be fatal. We still need compassionate caregivers. However, it is really fun telling worried new thalassemia families not to Gouge the disease because the online data is misleading and frightening. The current data is clear that the outlook for thalassemia is now excellent. The worst case scenario is a normal life expectancy except for transfusions (by the way, speaking of “normal”, we welcomed 2 new babies of thalassemia moms in our practice this year!), and in the future, we hope to cure the patients early in life.

Thank you all again for all the wonderful things that ICF does and for the spirit that you convey and share.

I hope to see you in person next year.

Tom

---

Thank you from Dr. Thomas Coates

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Cooley’s Corner

September 18, 2021

Dear Paul Grand President Vincent Piro, Incoming Grand President Deborah Roditi, Apostle Chair Lauren Atkinson, Members of the Central Council, Branch Presidents, Members of the Italian Catholic Federation, and ICF Staff:

Thank you so much for your recent donation of $41,000 presented to Laurice at the 90th Annual ICF Convention in Santa Clara, CA. It is no small feat to fundraise, but during a pandemic it is nothing short of miraculous. Thank you for your incredible donation! The gratitude we feel is beyond measure and we truly appreciate your continued support to the Cooley’s Anemia/thalassemia program at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles.

We are immensely grateful to the ICF Members, the Shirley Silva Trust, and the Jax Lustia Trust for their generous contributions. The difference you make in patients’ lives is immense as research continues to progress and patients are living longer than ever in the United States. We still have work to do to assure all patients receive the quality care they need, to educate the medical community on basic standards of care, and assure that the global disparity for people with rare disease lessens. We appreciate your dedication to making sure we continue our good work.

Educating the community about thalassemia and keeping you abreast of the projects that the ICF funds here at CHLA is a priority for us. Until we are able to once again travel and visit your branch, we are pleased to set up Zoom/Virtual sessions (for one or more individuals). If you are interested please contact, Laurice Levine at (323) 861-2023 or Levine24@icloud.com. This of course comes at no cost to your branch.

Thank you again for your generosity and continued support of our program. You are improving the care and quality of life for thalassemia patients.

Sincerely,

Dr. Thomas C. Coates
Director, Sickle Cell Center
Section Head for Hematology
Children’s Hospital Los Angeles

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Sincerely,

Dr. Thomas C. Coates
Director, Sickle Cell Center
Section Head for Hematology
Children’s Hospital Los Angeles
Blood drive coordinators play a vital role in collecting lifesaving blood for patients. Without people to plan blood drives, blood banks would not have as many opportunities to collect blood from donors. Planning a blood drive is fun and easy—however, like planning any event, it takes time. Fortunately, the ICF LIVE TO GIVE Committee and a blood bank representative will help you every step of the way.

The following are helpful tips on planning your blood drive:

1. Find a location. A church hall is ideal. If you do not have access to a big building, you can coordinate with a store, a business, or any location that has a blood mobile come instead.

2. Find out the what blood bank serves your area. For example, the American Red Cross and Blood Centers of the Pacific serve the East Bay.

3. Set a date (three to six months ahead of time), and contact your local blood bank.

4. Set a goal. Your blood bank representative will help you decide how many units of blood you want to collect at your blood drive. Remember, you will need to schedule an additional number of donor appointments to assure that you reach your collection goal.

5. Plan a theme for your blood drive (optional). A luau, Mardi Gras, Viva Italian, rock and roll—let your creativity flow!

6. Give away free items (optional, but really appreciated by donors). It is always nice to thank your blood donors with little gifts that you buy or get donated. The blood bank often also has giveaways to contribute. Setting up a raffle is also a fun way to add spice to your blood drive. Some ideas for giveaways:

   - Gift cards—you can get small denominations from Starbucks, Jamba Juice or a local ice cream store. A little goes a long way!
   - Candy and treats.
   - Pens.
   - Items with the ICF logo or the logo for the thalassemia program at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles.
   - Canvas bags—a great prize item, and all your other giveaways can go inside.

   Ideas for raffle prizes are as follows:

   - Gift cards to movies (Regal, AMC); clothing stores (GAP, Old Navy, Macy’s); retail/food (Target, Safeway, restaurants).
   - Themed gift baskets are wonderful for this—for example, a spa kit; a snack basket; or an Italian-themed food basket.

7. Promote the event. About six weeks prior to the blood drive, start promoting the event. Your blood bank will provide flyers—you can hang them at the location of your event and in surrounding areas/stores, etc. Plan to distribute (in person or via postal mail) smaller flyers to friends, family, and your community. Promote your blood drive through e-mail and social media such as Facebook and Twitter. Plan to send weekly reminders starting four weeks prior to your blood drive.

8. Recruit volunteers. The blood bank phlebotomists and nurses will be responsible for collections, registration, intake, and the canteen (snack stand). You will need to recruit volunteers to greet people, run your raffle, and distribute prizes.

9. Gather literature to give away the day of the drive.

   - Give out literature on your organization (ICF brochures).
   - If you are doing a blood drive in honor of a specific disease such as Cooley’s anemia (thalassemia), make sure that you get literature about the disease.
   - Give out ICF blood donation postcards so that people can donate in honor of someone or as a gift

10. Schedule appointments. While publicity is important, there is nothing like a personal touch—contact friends, family members, and fellow churchgoers and educate them on the importance of donating blood. The blood bank will also send e-mails to prior donors in their database. Appointments can be scheduled online.

11. Inform yourself. Learn about donor eligibility guidelines; information on the blood bank website; and the sign-up process. It is vital to be informed so that you can answer questions and/or direct people regarding where to find the information they need.

12. Communicate with your blood bank representative. Communicate regarding donor appointment sign-ups; the day’s schedule; room setup, etc.

13. Reconfirm appointments about one week prior to your blood drive. This can be accomplished via a postcard, e-mail, or phone call. Also remind donors to drink plenty of water and eat a good meal prior to donating.

14. Be ready for the day of the blood drive. Arrive when the blood bank staff arrives to greet them and help set up; assure that the room temperature is adequate; orient your volunteers; and organize your welcome and prize tables. Depending on the number of appointments and the population that is donating, you may get walk-in donors—make sure the lines of communication between you and your blood bank staff stay open to assure that the maximum number of units are collected.

15. HAVE FUN! Show the donors your full appreciation and enjoy the blood drive. At the end of the day, give yourself a pat on the back—your hard work, time, and creativity were instrumental in collecting blood donations and saving lives.

For more information or for assistance planning a blood drive, please contact:

Laurice Levine
llevine430@aol.com
360-860-2023
When autumn leaves are falling and Thanksgiving time is near
It warms the heart to think of those who mean so much all year.
Happy Thanksgiving.

Gifts of Love Donations

Received as of Oct. 10, 2021:

Branch 308
Joan and Jerry Delfino
Harold and Virginia Fuentes
Get Well Wishes for Ron Sanchez
In Memory of Fr. Frank Murray
Joan and Jerry Delfino
Michael Weisenburger
Get Well Wishes for Harold
In Memory of Steve Drobeck
Fuentes
Joan and Jerry Delfino
In Honor of the Birthday of
Nutter
Elaine Osorio
Officers/Members of Br. 403
Bob and Elaine Osorio
In Memory of Helen Habeeb
Get Wishes for Natalie
Laurice, Matt and Ben Levine
Canata
In Memory of Steve Drobeck
Officers/Members of Br. 161
In Memory of Yolanda Fugate

Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations*

Received as of October 10, 2021:

IN MEMORY OF:
Darren Billings
Katherine Codiga
Paul Blefari
Mary Blanco
Rose Gaspari
Darren Billings
Darren Billings
Peggy Lubeck
James Cruz

DONATED BY:
Bob Basuino
Bob Basuino
Donna Rossi
Aldine Grisenti
Jim and Janice Jones
Officers/Members of Br. 191
Officers/Members of East Bay District
Julie and Joe Bonino

THANK YOU FOR BEING MC AT OUR ANNUAL BISHOP’S DAY:
Leonard Zasoski, Jr.
Officers/Members of Los Angeles
Archdiocese District

HAPPY BIRTHDAY:
Fr. George Aranha
Lorraine and Mike Nunziata

IN SUPPORT OF THE PROVIDENZA FUND:
***A donation was made to the Providenza Fund by the ICF Spouses’ Association.***
***A donation was made to the Providenza Fund by JoAnn Maggiora-Donivan of Maggiora Jewelry from the proceeds of the sales of the ICF Jewelry on display at the Convention.***

*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.

Mother Cabrini Shrine
Carmelo Sabatella, LA Archdiocese District

On October 6, 2021, IAMLALA Executive Director Marianna Gatto visited the Mother Cabrini Chapel Library to view many hand-made items that were embroidered over the years by the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart. The Italian American Museum of Los Angeles is in the process of preparing an Exhibit in 2022 showcasing the beautiful artistry of immigrants spanning several decades. The ICF Cabrini Committee is fortunate to have several of these items in the Cabrini Chapel Library Collection and welcomes the opportunity to share this with the greater community.

The Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library will be open for Open House this fall and for the Annual Mother Cabrini Pilgrimage, Mass and Luncheon on December 5, 2021.

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

Additional DVDs on the Life of Mother Cabrini now available. Call 626-372-7812 or email me at cas1810@aol.com.

Your support is greatly appreciated.
Carmelo Sabatella, AIA, President
ICF LAADC Mother Cabrini Chapel Committee
E: cas1810@aol.com C 626-372-7812
American Sfoglino: A Master Class in Handmade Pasta

by Evan Funke, Katie Parla

From the publisher: A comprehensive guide to making the best pasta in the world: In this debut cookbook from Evan Funke, he shares classic techniques from his Emilia Romagna training and provides accessible instructions for making his award winning sfoglino (sheet pasta) at home. With little more than flour, eggs, and a rolling pin, you too can be a sfoglino (a pasta maker) and create traditional Italian noodles that are perfectly paired with the right sauces.

Features recipes for home cooks to re-create 15 classic pasta shapes, spanning simple pappardelle to perfect tortelloni. Beginning with four foundational doughs, American Sfoglino takes readers step by step through recipes for a variety of generous dishes, from essential sauces and broths, like Pasta di Pomodoro (Tomato Sauce) and Brodo di Carne (Meat Broth) to luscious Tagliatelle in Bianco con Prosciutto (Tagliatelle with Bacon and Butter) and Lasagna Verde alla Bolognese (Green Bolognese Lasagna).

Includes stories from Italy and the kitchen at Felix Trattoria that add the finishing touches to this master class in pasta, while sumptuous photographs and a bold package offer a feast for the eyes. Forget your pasta machine and indulge in the magic of being a sfoglino with the help of the rich imagery and detailed instructions provided by Evan Funke and American Sfoglino.

Evan Funke is a master pasta maker and the chef owner of Felix Trattoria in Venice, California.

American Italian: Red Sauce Classics and New Essentials: A Cookbook

by Angie Rito, Scott Tacinelli, Jamie Feldmar.

From the publisher: The words “red sauce” alone conjure images of an Italian-American table full of antipasti, both hot and cold, whisked off to make room for decadent baked pastas topped with molten cheese, all before a procession of chicken parm or pork chops all pizzaiola—and we haven’t even gotten to dessert. It’s old-school cooking beloved by many and imbued with a deep sense of family.

In Italian American, Angie Rito and Scott Tacinelli, the chefs of critically acclaimed Don Angie in New York City’s West Village, reinvigorate the genre with a modern point of view that proudly straddles the line between Italian and American. They present family classics passed down through generations side-by-side with creative spins and riffs inspired by influences both old and new. These comforting dishes feel familiar but are far from expected, including their signature pinwheel lasagna, ribs glazed with orange and Campari, saucy shrimp parm meatballs, and a cheesy, bubbling gratin of broccoli rabe and sharp provolone.

Full of family history and recipes that will inspire a new generation, Italian American provides an essential, spirited introduction to an unforgettable way of cooking.
Branch Reports

SAN FRANCISCO

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

Dear Members:
No activity due to COVID-19.
Branch 1 Officers and Members sincerely thank Toni Morsello for writing the Bollettino article for many, many years.

It was wonderful to see the ICF participate in the San Francisco Italian Heritage Parade!

Happy Thanksgiving to all Branch 1 Members.

Kind regards
Diana Cresci

SAN MATEO

Burlingame
Branch 173, Our Lady of Angels

Our October meeting and Pizza dinner will be held on the 14th and we will hear all about the successful Convention recently held. It was a shame our President, Dorene Campanelli was not able to attend the whole Convention as she was recovering from her recent illness and glad to report she has recovered.

The Pope John XXIII award winner Peter Stiehler from Catholic Worker House was nominated by our Branch and we were so thrilled when he won this prestigious award.

We were honored to have Debbie Rodoni (Branch 19) installed as Grand President of Central Council and know the branches will be lead in a good direction.

It’s Calendar time again and hope we can meet or go ahead of our count from last year. At the October meeting nominations for 2022 branch officers will be nominated.

With Halloween coming up at the end of the month, we are grateful many spooks, ghosts and goblins will be shown all around and the kids can once again go trick or treating.

And, of course, the next day “All Saints Day”, followed by “All Souls Day” where we are reminded of many that we loved are not physically here but spiritually remain with us forever.

Many members of our branch and others need our prayers: Mary Bodisco, Anthony Bruno’s daughter, Anita Ceccina, Lorraine Rollandi, Elena Malta and Melanie Yaeger.

God Bless,
Roz Emery

LOS ANGELES

ARCHDIOCESE

District Council

MARIN

Larkspur
Br. 161, St. James

Marlene Farber has 25, 2022 ICF calendars. The cost is $25, the branch keeps $5 for every calendar sold. If you’re a winner, you receive between $30 and $100. If all 25 calendars are sold, $125 will go to our ICF Scholarship Fund. Please let her know if you would like to buy one.

Let’s all hope that soon we can get back to meetings, dinners and fundraisers.

Please continue to pray for our sick members and families and hope everyone will be back to good health real soon.

Wishing everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving.
Happy birthday and happy anniversary to everyone.

Anna Biggio
Recording Secretary

Thanksgiving Greetings!
As we approach this holiday of gastric delights and family get-togethers, let’s remember to give thanks that we can do so safely if we put some effort into it. Obviously, those who can get vaccinated should do so and those who are feeling sick should stay home. Another tool we can use to help, are the at-home rapid Covid antigen tests that will soon be more available at your local pharmacy. Feeling a scratchy throat, headache, runny nose? Is it just allergies or do I have “it”?Similar to those home pregnancy tests that have been around for quite some time, these tests can be quite definitive and have just been approved by the FDA. They have been used in Europe quite widely over the past year. The Federal Government will be subsidizing the manufacture of these tests to keep the cost down:

For now, a package of two tests for $25 but have heard that some are only $12. As we move indoors for winter, at-home testing could prove to be a game-changer. If you test positive, isolate yourself and get a PCR test to confirm your at-home diagnosis. And don’t forget to get your flu shot!

On the subject of giving, November 30th is “Giving Tuesday”: many charities count on that day to raise money for their worthy causes.

Finally, the 2022 ICF calendars are now available for purchase. For $25, you not only get a beautiful calendar, but 365 chances to win some cash. And, you can win more than once! In addition, your branch gets to keep $5 on each one sold.

Ciao tutti,
Adonna Amoroso

Los Angeles

Br. 67, St. Peter

BUON RINGRAZIAMENTO A ICF MEMBRI, FAMIGLIE E AMICI!
On October 3, NBr 67 President Carmelo Sabatella and several NBr 67 members attended the ICF Los Angeles Archdiocese District’s Bishop and Seminarian Luncheon held at St. Raymond Catholic Church in Downey. Bishops, priests and seminarians joined members at a special Mass and Luncheon to support St John’s Seminary.

NBr 67 members continue to meet in person and via Zoom to discuss the development of Heritage and Public Relations Committees to work with members interested in developing presentations and videos along with ways to fundraise for scholarships and other Charitable projects. Additional committees will be formed and assignments made over the next few months.

ICF National Branch 67 is a virtual branch that reaches out to members and non members who do not have an ICF in their area and would like to be a part of the ICF Family. Your input is valued in developing this branch online.

Visit ICF.org and select ICF National Branch 67 for more information. Please join us at ICNFnationalBranch67.org and complete the application process.

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 cultural-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 Car1810@aol.com

Thank you for making the Bollettino article for many, many years.

Ciao tutti,
Diana Cresci
South Pasadena
Br. 108, Holy Family

Happy Thanksgiving to members, families and friends!
Officers came together at the Branch 108 Zoom Board Meeting on October 5, and rescheduled the next general meeting to November 7, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. in lieu of October 10th.
Members will celebrate Thanksgiving dinner at this meeting with a stuffed Turkey supplied by the branch and all the trimmings supplied by members. After the meeting, members will celebrate birthdays and may play Bingo.
If you are interested in “Giving Back” to your community, please call or email me at the number(s) below. You can also find out more information online at ICF.ORG.

Keep safe and Stay healthy,
Carmelo Sabatella cas1810@aol.com

Montebello
Br. 111, St. Benedict

Ciao a Tutti. A warm hello to everyone. Hope everyone is enjoying the cool fall weather and looking forward to the fast-approaching holidays! Congratulations and Happy Birthday to the following members who have birthdays this month: Rene Mata, David Estrada, Massimo Sorce, Georgina Albanez, Joe Canzonieri, Christina Orofino, and Celvia Ramos. Happy Birthday to everyone! Buon Compleanno a tutti!!

Our November General Meeting will be on Thursday, November 18, at 6:30 p.m. at the St. Augustine House, 200 N. 12th Street, in Montebello. It has become our tradition for our November general meeting to celebrate Thanksgiving with a potluck dinner and everyone brings their favorite dishes to share with everyone. The Branch will provide the main dish and drinks. Thank you to everyone for your participation.
Thank you to everyone who are participating in this year's Bishop and Seminarian Recognition Day Mass & Luncheon and program held on Sunday, October 3rd, at St. Raymond Church, in Downey. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for all the charitable works you do, and in a very special way for your continued and generous support of vocation to the priesthood and religious life.
SAVE the dates for the following events: more information will follow.

Saturday, December 18, 2021 - Branch 111 Christmas Dinner, at Salvatore’s Italian Restaurant. 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Please continue to stay safe and well. We wish all our ICF members and their families continued good health and happiness. We pray for our sick members and those in need; keep them in our thoughts and prayers. A presto.

God Bless!
Frank Salomone, Br. 111 President
San Pedro  
Br. 115, St. John Joseph of the Cross  

Thank you to all our members and friends who will join us on our first fundraiser to Las Vegas. We wish you all much success and a safe trip.

We had such a great response to our first fundraiser that we decided to host a turnaround trip. Please join us for a fun filled day at Pala Casino on Dec 9th. $40.00 per person. Bus will leave from Boys and Girls club. Please call Pauline for reservations 310 832-0563.

Please join us on our annual pilgrimage to Mother Cabrini on Dec 5th. Bus will leave at 11am from the Boys and Girls club. $20.00 per person includes lunch. This is a wonderful tradition and a great start to the holiday season.
Please call Neal DiLeva for reservations.

Happy Thanksgiving to all! Let’s wish member Russell Bradford a Nov 18th at 7:30 p.m. in auditorium. This is also a fundraiser for our branch. Our branch has had a few winners this year. Also 365 chances to win money! Our 2022 calendars are for sale. $25.00 notions 310 833-9444.

Please call Anna DiLeva for reservations. A clothing drive is scheduled for some early Sunday. Please bring in Saturday afternoon or table and we will need your donations.

Mass. There will be a baked goods and a sandwich sale is after the 5:00 p.m. Setup will be Saturday afternoon and the venue will be held on the 3rd. Wednesday of the month. They will continue to be potluck meetings at the same location at 6:30 p.m. Attendance at our meetings is crucial to keeping our branch viable and to encouraging the social mission of our organization. Plus, they are informative as we usually have a speaker. We miss you and your good food and want to see you in person.

The annual Bishops’ Banquet was attended by members Robert and Jo Barbera. They thoroughly enjoyed the event. The Cabrini Mass, Luncheon, and Procession will be held on Sunday, December 5th at St. Francis Xavier Church, Burbank. This is another event that fulfills ICF’s apostolic mission. Contact Mark at 818-952-2847, if you would like to attend.

We’re Back! The first in person general meeting in two years took place in September, but due to a conflict with another ministry group we ask your patience to use the new permanent meeting schedule for the rest of the year. Please note that meetings will now be held on the 3rd. Wednesday of the month. They will continue to be potluck meetings at the same location at 6:30 p.m. Attendance at our meetings is crucial to keeping our branch viable and to encouraging the social mission of our organization. Plus, they are informative as we usually have a speaker. We miss you and your good food and want to see you in person.

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Arcadia  
Br. 218, Holy Angels  

Our first meeting in the hall last month after 1 ½ years of meetings was enjoyed by all. We welcomed 4 new members, Bernice, Vicki Gibbs, Lorena and Ping Huang. Election of officers was held, and we have two new board members and half Mazzolini and Lorena Huang, who will fill the positions of trustees. Thank you to Jenni Hauge for giving a very interesting and lively heritage report. And, thanks to Teri Carrano for arranging our delicious luncheon after the meeting.

Our Christmas Boutique is scheduled for November 21st from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Setup will be Saturday afternoon and a sandwich sale is after the 5:00 Mass. There will be a baked goods table and we will need your donations. Please bring in Saturday afternoon or early Sunday.

A clothing drive is scheduled for some time in November. The Christmas party is scheduled for December 11th in the hall. However, there is a chance that we may not be able to host it in the hall, so Jerry and I are arranging for Plan B just in case.

I hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving and hope to see all at our meetings and functions.  
Lolly M.

Claremont  
Br. 319, Our Lady of the Assumption  

Happy Thanksgiving to all of you. How are you doing? This year has gone so fast. In September we had our first in person meeting with only 8 members. Some members are still cautious about meeting. It was suggested to wait until January to start meetings.

The parish had our fiesta Oct 1st and 2nd. The ICF did pizza. It was what all day so it was slow but cooler at night so more people came out. It appeared to be a success. We will do coffee and donuts for veterans day and a collection for the USO Nov 14.

The board will try to meet to to plan some activity for 2022. Stay safe and healthy God Bless you all Andrea Linn,Pres.

Downey  
Br. 362, St. Raymond  

Happy Harvest time! It’s now November and wow, what a year it’s been. Last month our district gathered together to celebrate vocations, our seminarians, our priests and bishops. Bishop Dave O’Connell stopped in for Bishop Trudeau and did a fantastic job, as did Fr Sam our pastor. We got to meet two young men from the Queen of Angels House of Priestly Formation - Christian and Randy and a seminarian from St John’s who is assigned to St Dorothy’s for his internship, Tommy Green. We will continue to pray for you and hopefully we will see you next year at St John’s. Our Branch had a fun little fundraiser last month to see whether or not you think pineapple belongs on pizza or not. The proceeds are going to our renovated and newly named Holy Faith Chapel. Also in October, Fr Sam was officially installed as our newest pastor by Bishop Trudeau. We look forward to many wonderful years of having you not only as our pastor, but also as our branch chaplain.

We will be discussing this month on when and where to have our Branch Christmas party. It’s hard to believe that Christmas is right around the corner.

On the 14th we will have our next Bingo luncheon so bring a friend or two or three. We can use all of the bingo players we can get.

I would like to conclude by wishing all of you a very Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving.

Perry Shurko, Branch President

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

We’re Back! The first in person general meeting in two years took place in September, but due to a conflict with another ministry group we ask your patience to use the new permanent meeting schedule for the rest of the year. Please note that meetings will now be held on the 3rd. Wednesday of the month. They will continue to be potluck meetings at the same location at 6:30 p.m. Attendance at our meetings is crucial to keeping our branch viable and to encouraging the social mission of our organization. Plus, they are informative as we usually have a speaker. We miss you and your good food and want to see you in person.

The annual Bishops’ Banquet was attended by members Robert and Jo Barbera. They thoroughly enjoyed the event. The Cabrini Mass, Luncheon, and Procession will be held on Sunday, December 5th at St. Francis Xavier Church, Burbank. This is another event that fulfills ICF’s apostolic mission. Contact Mark at 818-952-2847, if you would like to attend.

Mark and Emy Mannarelli attended the convention in Santa Clara and have come back with renewed enthusiasm and ideas for the future of our branch, particularly ideas to promote membership. But also remember that the best way is to introduce a friend to ICF.

The board has met on Zoom and in person and has continued to do its work selecting scholarship recipients and fundraisers.

($1450) and making many monetary donations to various charities ($1100), as well as to Anew ($1500) due to a healthy bank treasury. But now it is time to plan our major event, the St. Joseph Table and Auction, or we will not be able to continue to make our donations which is an important part of our ministry. Phyllis Harb, our auction guru, will chair the Auction but we are desperately in need a chairperson for the Table. Please consider taking all or part of the responsibility of this role. We need to continue to promote this important tradition.

We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting Wednesday, November 17th at 6:30 in the Parish Center. God Bless,

Diane Restivo

Rancho Palos Verdes  
Br. 444, St. John Fisher  

On September 12th, members of Branch 444 gathered at St. John Fisher Church for community, coffee, and conversation. Cristina Baldemor greeted everyone with a smile, and she handed out free raffle tickets to members. During this meeting, we were fortunate to welcome our youngest member, Cameron. He is pictured below with his great grandfather, Guido Frassinelli (who is standing in the back row, first person on the left), & his mother, Julie.

As the meeting began, Marianne CNETTI led all in prayer. Then, as members enjoyed coffee and cookies, our president, Hany Francis, brought us up to date on ICF happenings, including upcoming events. Tonia Amalfitano shared news regarding our Pampered Chef fundraiser and Bruno Viera reviewed the branch finances. Members brainstormed ideas for future events and fundraisers.

Going forward, Branch 444 will be meeting on the second Sunday of each month at 7 p.m.in the Auditorium. We look forward to seeing you all at the meetings!

Respectfully Submitted,
Carol Piccirillo

St. John Fisher, Branch 444 September Meeting
Manhattan Beach
Br. 447, American Martyrs

Ciao Tutti,
Our Parish is not yet booking space for in-person events. So, we thought it would be fun to go Wine Tasting! Our next General Meeting will be held at Barsha Wine & Spirits in Manhattan Beach on Thursday, October 14, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. We look forward to a fun and relaxing evening catching up with our friends.

Save the Date – Annual Christmas Celebration - December 4, 2021 at 11:30 a.m. at the Italian American Museum of Los Angeles (IAMLA) for a docent-led tour of the museum. We will then continue our Celebration at San Antonio Winery for lunch and a wine tasting and tour. The winery will be decorated for Christmas and it will be a wonderful way to celebrate the holiday with each other. More details to follow!

Some of us went to the Mass and Bishop’s Banquet where Bishop O’Connell celebrated the mass and attended the luncheon. It was a beautiful event and we were blessed to meet Bishop O’Connell and the Seminarians. See Photos

We hope that each of you will enjoy and wonderful Thanksgiving!

God Bless,
Stephanie DeRaddo

San Bernardino
Upland
Br. 446, Saint Anthony

Branch 446 in Upland gathered together for the first time in 18 months with an Ice Cream Social at a local park. Thanks to the recruiting efforts of our Sentinel, Anna Reyna, we welcomed 6 new members of the Ricci Family. Currently, our members come from the neighboring parishes of Saint Joseph, Saints Peter and Paul, Our Lady of Lourdes, as well as our home parish, St. Anthony.

In October, we attended Saturday evening Mass together. Afterwards we met for pizza at San Biagio’s Restaurant, owned by our members Pietronilla and Biagio Pavia. In the future we will be rotating our Mass attendance to all the parishes represented within our branch. We look forward to many more events and social occasions.

OAKLAND
EAST BAY
District Council

We are still doing Zoom meetings but are making plans for some upcoming face to face activities. Br. #10 will begin, low-keyed with a drive-through Ravioli dinner.

The next thing on our agenda is the District Christmas Party @ Buon Appetito Restaurant in early Dec.

In the meantime, Fran and her committee is working on Installation at the Fratellanza Club in mid-Jan. And Leonard and his committee is working on the Crab Feed the next Sat. We will be a busy group praying that Covid-19 is gone and that we are back to “normal”. Elections are also this month here’s hoping that you have given some serious thought about running for office.

On a sad note, I must share the news of death of 2 long term District members; Peggy Lubeck, Br.#10, an officer of both her Branch and the District and Jan Karp, Br #215, who has been hospitalized for the past few years. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

Have a Happy, Healthy and Blessed Thanksgiving.
Pat Grasso,
District Sec.
CONTRA COSTA District Council

At our last meeting we voted to have a Christmas party & raffle. Patty is looking into venues and will give a report at our next meeting. Roberta offered to chair the raffle. The district will supply a raffle prize and we are asking each of our branches to donate one as well. We also discussed the upcoming installation of officers which will be held in January or February of 2022. Walter will check on the availability of the Galileo Club and will confirm details at our November meeting. At that time, volunteers will be needed to be part of the planning committee.

Roberta has volunteered to be our new membership chairperson in addition to being our secretary. We thank her for stepping up.

We are proud to announce that our district scholarship recipient this year is Michael Santich from Alamo. We wish him well.

Our district currently has seven men- tors, but with 8 branches, we need one more for our Martinez branch. If you are able to serve, contact Rose at: angels8199@aol.com

Our next meeting will be held at the Martinez Round Table Pizza party room in November. The date and time will be emailed to branch presidents. Each branch should send two delegates in addition to the president. Please list this on your meeting agenda and ask for volunteers.

Wishing all of you a very Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving!
Diana Mackinson
1st Vice President, Contra Costa District

Martinez
Br. 13, San Martino

This month, we begin to prepare and plan for the holidays: by mid All Saints Day asking all holy men and women to pray for us; followed by All Souls Day remembering those in purgatory with prayers to assist them in attaining their heavenly reward.

As the month progresses, we gather with family and friends and as a nation on Thanksgiving. This is a time to remember each of us is uniquely created in God’s image with something distinctive to share; and part of a larger communion of persons--all members of one race: the human race. “Get along with each other and forgive one another. If someone does wrong to you, forgive them because the Lord forgives you. Do all these things; but most important, love each other. Love is what holds you together in perfect unity. Let the peace that Christ gives control your thinking because you were all called together in one body to have peace. Always be thankful.” Colossians 3:13-15

We bring the month to a close with the start of Advent—the expectant waiting and time of preparation for Jesus' nativity. The four weeks of Advent each have a significance of their own. The first week, we talk of Hope; the second week we understand Peace; the third week, Gaudete Sunday, we remember the Joy that the world experienced at Christ’s birth; and, the fourth week recognizes the Love of our Savior.

May all your advent journeys be meaningful expressions of your faith. Happy Thanksgiving.

Ciao for now, Mary Cook

Martinez
Br. 14, San Carlo

Ciao Amici!

November is our time to give thanks and to remember. In Italy, as in many other Christian countries, the day after All Saints’ Day is All Souls’ Day. Across Italy’s many regions, centuries-old traditions take place where they celebrate with prayers, flowers, and of course, food. Some believe that the spirits of those departed return to earth on this day. To welcome them, one common Italian tradition was to set an extra place at the table or put out a tray of food for invisible visitors. In Sicily, those who return bring something with them. Children who’ve been good and remembered departed relatives in their prayers are rewarded with gifts of toys and sweets. In parts of Piedmont, families traditionally go to the cemetery in the evening without clearing the dinner table, so that spirits can come and help themselves without being disturbed.

As we move through November and the holidays, we also remember those that we have lost, and maybe this year we can set a place for them at our Thanksgiving tables.

We don’t have a lot of news to share this month. A big thank you to Donna and the Officers for continuing to meet regularly to make plans for when we can all return in person. Please pray for good health and peace for all of our members.

Happy 102nd birthday to our friend Sante Cerri (We think there was some mistake made on his birth certificate). Let us know how you stay so young! Wishing you all a very Happy Thanksgiving!

Blessings, ~Helen

Happy 102 Birthday, Sante Cerri from Branch 14, Crockett. The Bocce King of Martinez.

Branch 10 is saddened to inform the Federation that Peggy Lubeck, our president in 2019 and 2020, died on September 21. Her Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at the Cathedral of Christ the Light in Oakland on October 9. Father Joy Kumarharusseni, mf, the former pastor of our sponsoring parish, Saint Philip Neri, Saint Albert the Great, presided. Our media husband Bob worked tirelessly for Branch 10 during their years of membership. Peggy is survived by Bob, to whom she was married for 53 years, sons Stephen, John and Scott, their wives, eight grandchildren and six of her eight siblings. The Lubeck home in Alameda was known as such a welcoming place that the eulogist could recall their telephone number and mentioned it in his talk. Peggy arranged for church functions throughout Alameda and served as docent at the Cathedral. She cared deeply for her family, the ICF and her parish.

In Memory of Peggy Lubeck, Branch 10

Alameda
Br. 10, Nostra Signora Delle Grazie

At our October meeting we elected our officers for 2021. Our new president is Jim Lubeck, who succeeds James McGee. Sharon Brunetti is transitioning from orator to trustee, and Terry Greig will take Sharon’s place as orator. Officers continuing in their positions are Gina Foster, first vice president; Jan Rosa, second vice president; Karen Harrington, treasurer; JoAnn Dorn, financial secretary; Jeanette Zugnoni, secretary; Betty Lupeetti and Agnes Marcheschi, trustees; Ernie Poggi, sentinel; and John Zugnoni, publicity.

We enjoy James’ kindness and his sense of humor. Since James also served as president for a year in the 1980’s, when he was just two years out of high school, we are not certain whether to consider him as one president or as two presidents.

Jim also knows how to lead and represent an organization. He just completed a three-year term as president of Saint Vincent de Paul of Alameda County and has also served as president of the Saint Albert the Great-Saint Philip Neri conference of SVdP. He also happened to have attended the Lubeck wedding conference of SVdP. He also happened to have attended the Lubeck wedding conference of SVdP.

As Fall begins, we are continuing to enjoy our successful Social Business meetings outside our churches. Our membership brochure has been updated and to encourage membership we have been inviting prospective members to our meetings and attaching a new membership form to our member emails. Attached also is our Fun Italian Activity list which includes Italian themed movies, books and web sites has proved to be very popular.

One of our members, Chuck Meier, is the author of 2 mystery books, Nuclear Shadow and Silver Shadow, based in Nevada, which can be found on Amazon and on lansingpublications.com.

We are looking forward to a local restaurant fundraiser in the Fall.

In November we will have our Mass of Remembrance where we remember our beloved departed loved family members and friends.

Our annual Christmas party will be held at Pasta’s in Pleasanton this year. Hopefully the lifting of Covid restrictions will allow us to participate fully in our annual events.

Continued prayers for our sick and convalescing members and friends.

Carlotta Schauer
Co-Recording Secretary

Castro Valley
Br. 343, Our Lady of Grace

This is an important month for our Branch as we are hosting our 1st dinner/meeting in many months, it seems like years. Our plans for a Pasta dinner are being our secretary. We thank her for stepping up.

We are proud to announce that our district scholarship recipient this year is Michael Santich from Alamo. We wish him well.

Our district currently has seven mentors, but with 8 branches, we need one more for our Martinez branch. If you are able to serve, contact Rose at: angels8199@aol.com

Our next meeting will be held at the Martinez Round Table Pizza party room in November. The date and time will be emailed to branch presidents. Each branch should send two delegates in addition to the president. Please list this on your meeting agenda and ask for volunteers.

Wishing all of you a very Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving!
Diana Mackinson
1st Vice President, Contra Costa District

Martinez
Br. 13, San Martino

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Martinez
Br. 14, San Carlo

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Blessings, ~Helen

Happy 102 Birthday, Sante Cerri from Branch 14, Crockett. The Bocce King of Martinez.
Concord
Br. 214, Todos Santos

Cari Amici:
We were finally able to have our first meeting in Cauche Hall. It was so nice to be able to be together.
Jo Lee said special prayers for healing of our member, Ron Artale who is still in the hospital, and Maria Marshall’s son Mikey who is in the hospital battling Covid-19. We pray they get better soon.
We welcomed our new members who were in attendance, which makes our membership 56 with more joining.
We had a bake-less Bake sale and made a lot of money. Angie Monson was in charge of this.
We sold many calendars at our meeting which are still available at $25. We had four members who won this year.
We discussed our upcoming Christmas party the beginning of December. It is always a hit and a lot of fun.
Roberta reminded us of the 55th Anniversary dinner on March 5, 2022.
Roberta reported about the convention she attended. She has many new ideas for our fundraising. Attendance was low.
We had a fundraiser for charity which were diapers and wipes which we received a lot of donations from our members. Half went to the Crisis Nursery and the other went to Birthright. Thank you for all who donated.
Have a safe Halloween. Children will be able to go door to door this year.
Ciao,
Norene Deluca
Correspondence Secretary

Pleasant Hill
Br. 442, Christ the King

Happy Veteran’s Day to all of our members! Hope you’ve started to make your ravioli per le feste. Sadly, our Anniversary Dinner had to be cancelled due to the pandemic. But, non ci pensare, because we will keep you posted on other possible fundraisers.
Please check your email for upcoming holiday events and activities during this month and next.
Statemori bene. Tanti auguri! As my Nonna would say, “Appi Tanchisgivi!”
Ci vediamo quando siamo piu’ vecchi,
Teri Martinucci Hurlbut

BLESSED SACRAMENT
Auburn
Br. 342, St. Joseph

Due to everchanging COVID conditions and an overabundance of caution, it was decided to postpone our Bishop’s Day and Memorial Mass until the Spring.
Our Branch will be holding our annual Christmas Dinner on December 11th. It will most likely be a takeout event. Our calling committee will be contacting you soon with more details. Also be on the lookout for an email about the event.
Ciao!
Pam Andersen

SANTA ROSA
District Council

After many months of silence, our District Council finally commenced on August 22nd. There were 22 members present and 2 guests. Bishop’s Day was discussed and took place in September.
We were honored with the presence of our Bishop Vasa. Dessert and coffee were served in the Parish Hall of St. Eugene’s, Santa Rosa.
Several of our local branches are meeting, actually Br. 198, Sonoma Br. 103, and Br. 127 for its Board members.
To be precise the District Council is meeting again on October 24, Sunday in Sonoma at Father Robert’s Hall. All our welcome to attend. Please R.S.V.P. to Marilyn at 707-933-0239.
In the meantime, let us prepare for more continued meetings and dinners. We all deserve social contact.
Marilyn Sylvestri
Recording-secretary
Santa Rosa District Council

Healdsburg
Br. 52, San Francesco di Sales

Greetings to all our members.
Upcoming events:
ICF Monthly Meeting: Tuesday, November 9 at 6:00 p.m. in the rectory.
ICF Monthly Mass: Sunday, November 7 at 10:00 a.m. Mass.
Polenta Dinner: Saturday, November 13. Price: $20.00 for adults, $10.00 for children. This will be a drive – through dinner (hopefully our last drive-through event). For tickets, please call Carmen and Lauren at 595-3111, or get tickets after the Masses or come by the rectory.
Deadline for reservations is Sunday, November 7. Please attend and support the branch.
We are planning in-person events for 2022. Polenta Dinner: February 5 and Fish Fry: April 8. Mark your calendars!
Happy Thanksgiving!
Lauren Kilcullen

Cloverdale
Br. 75, L’Annunciata

Ken and Claudia Cuneo and I enjoyed a lovely Bishop’s Day at St. Eugene’s Becker’s Hall. We witnessed the presentation of a Spiritual and Monetary Bouquet to Bishop Vasa which he accepted in his charming, gracious manner. The money will go towards assisting our seminarians in their journey to the priesthood. One of the seminarians gave a heartfelt speech and told of his call to the priesthood. We were served a tasty cake and coffee dessert and sent forth by Central Council to “grow” our branches.
Accustomed to our pre-Covid dinners at Cattlemens’ Restaurant, the Cuneo’s and I celebrated the day with a drive following dessert! Great fun!
Our Branch joined with other groups in fundraising for our parish. We sold desserts, hot dogs and hamburgers. Altogether we raised over $5 thousand dollars.
We have not yet selected a slate of new officers but pray the Holy Spirit will nudge the right person into leading our Branch into the future!
Ciao
Patsy Buchignani

Sonoma
Br. 103, St. Sebastian

Hail Columbus!! He is still on the calendar. Make every day a day to celebrate. Sonoma Br. 103 had its first Board meeting of the year which included 2 members AND Carmen Kicullen with Lauren Kicullen from Central Council. AS per their advice, we will be reaching out to the Expansion Committee to help keep our Branch alive.
Our next board meeting will take place on October 11, which is a Monday in stead of our regular Tuesday. Our fate may be decided. In any event, I will keep you all posted.
For those of you who live in Sonoma we are finally wakening... some venues are no longer available which makes it difficult to nurture our past affiliations with other ICF branches and SOI. We are now in cooler weather, leaves turning orange and yellow. Perhaps November will bring more freedom...
Tanti saluti,
Marilyn Sylvestri
Recording Secretary

Petaluma
Br. 127, St. Vincent

Dear members,
Please don’t forget to mark our 2nd Monday of the month meeting night on your calendars. Looking forward to seeing you there.
All of our scholarship winners have written thank you notes, including their updated educational goals. It’s good to know we have helped and that it is appreciated.
May many blessings come your way during the upcoming holidays.
Dennis DiGirolamo

Arcata
Br. 144, St. Mary

ICF Br. 144 will be selling tickets on this beautiful hand-crafted quilt shown by Barbara Vanni and Joan Dalporto.
Drawing will be Dec. 20, 2021. Call any member for tickets. $5.00 ticket or 3 for $10.00.

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

Bishops’ Day presentation of a Spiritual and Monetary Bouquet to Bishop Vasa
Eureka
Br. 145, St. Ambrose

At the Sept 21st meeting of the ICF Eureka Branch a motion to cancel the scheduled Colvis Memorial Scholarship spaghetti drive-thru dinner was approved.

The proposal stated that in lieu of holding the dinner this year the Colvis family would agree to put $800 in donations to the scholarship fund this October.

In addition, if those who have pledged to provide food and supplies for the dinner instead donated the cost of those supplies to the fund directly, a financial outcome similar to the 2019 dinner ($1318.) would be realized.

Later during the meeting, a suggestion was put forth to have a socially distanced biscotti sale after the masses on the weekend of November 6th & 7th. Doing so would help our Branch checking account and keep our club in the minds of Eureka parishioners.

Finally, Betty Senestra announced that Fr. Sudhakar Mannam, Parochial Vicar of St Bernard and Sacred Heart Parishes, has agreed to serve as our Branch #145 Chaplain. Fr. Sudhakar previously served as Chaplain for ICF-Branch #103 in Sonoma.

November and December birthday wishes to Nancy Renzo, Lora Canzoneri, and Betty Senestra!

Santa Rosa
Br. 198, St. Eugene

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Following our October potluck and our turkey dinner in November, we look forward to our Christmas party in the Parish Life Center. Eggnog at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6:00 p.m. Thank you to all our members who brought food items to the November meeting to be donated to the Redwood Empire Food Bank.

Nancy Azevedo will have your dues envelope ready to pick up at the December 6th meeting. We want everyone to continue as members of our Branch. Also, at our December 6th meeting we will once again be collecting unwrapped toys to donate.

At the time this article was written, our officers for 2022 are:

President - ??
Vice President - Mike Milano
Financial Secretary - Nancy Azevedo
Secretary - Gail Azevedo
Treasurer - Robert Acquistapace
Orator - Lynette Lucia
Trustees - Steve Azevedo, Marc Bisio, Christine Liberto
Sentinel - Bill Pisenti

Thank them for accepting their offices. We really need them.

Please pray for our deceased and ill members as we celebrate with the Church – All Saint’s Day and All Soul’s Day.

May everyone have a truly Happy Thanksgiving.

Ciao, Gail Bongi-Azevedo

FRESNO
District
Madera
Br. 27, Santissimo Crocifisso

At this writing, Madera is enjoying a beautiful, 71-degree, blue sky October day, following a brief rain shower yesterday morning. Please pray for continued rain in the months to come.

Our Branch participated in the annual Harvest Festival at St. Joachim School in early October. We hosted our traditional salami booth. The festival was well attended, as always.

Just a reminder that our regular meetings on the second Tuesday of the month have resumed at the church, but there is no meeting in December.

Blessings to all members,

Mary Keitz

Clovis
Br. 250, Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Happy October birthday to Shirley Mitchell! The Zanarini’s report their Granddaughter, Emily Diener, started her freshman year at Montana State University in Bozeman. Emily is majoring in Environmental Engineering.

Did you know that Italy has more masterpieces per square mile than any other country, reflecting the country’s love for great art?

Mark these events on your calendar:

October 31: Membership breakfast meeting at the Old Town Waffle Shop in the Barnyard shopping center in Clovis, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

November 14: Fundraiser at Cool Hand Luke’s restaurant in Clovis. Take out or dine-in, noon to 9:00 p.m. Tickets are $20.

Choice of BBQ chicken, 7 oz. sirloin or ribs. Our Branch makes about $6 per ticket sold. Call Rich or Mary Zanarini for tickets.

It’s essential that these events receive everyone’s help and participation so we may support our Parish and school, as well as the many non-profit organizations. THIS IS THE LORD’S WORK!!

Do you know which Pope commissioned the painting of the Sistine Chapel ceiling? See answer near end of column.

A big congratulations to those who helped organize this year’s convention—just a reminder that the venue or presentation isn’t so important right now. But those who have come to the few get-togethers that we have had are so happy to see one another; it appears that the venue or presentation isn’t so important right now.

In closing, these are November’s birthdays to celebrate:

Sue Bellangero, Mary Jo Belli, Patricia McNeal, Eugene Panelli, Louie Pao- lino, Cindy Schuette, Wayne Shaffer, and Jack Stagnaro. Happy birthday God bless and stay healthy

Patty Morelli
Secretary Branch 21

MONTEREY
CENTRAL COAST
Santa Cruz
Br. 21, N.S. Del Soccorso

Buon giorno, Tutti! We hope that you all continue to do well and are ready to join in on up-coming ICF Branch 21 festivities.

The Take-out Pasta Dinner was a big success and we thank all those who took orders, shopped, cooked, packed up and handed out the dinners to folks passing through the Hall parking lot. John Barisone’s delicious marinara sauce really got past the pasta and meatballs. Thank you, John, and thanks to you all who bought the dinners. We had a great response!

On November 7th there will be the Memorial Mass celebration at 8:30 a.m. at Holy Cross. In place of the after mass breakfast there will be coffee and snacks served outside the church. Different but it will be nice. Then we will be moving on to our annual Christmas party on December 9th. We haven’t decided how this will be presented as yet, so stay tuned. As you know, we are still in transition from Covid lock down to being completely back to normal.

But those who have come to the few get-togethers that we have had are so happy to see one another; it appears that the venue or presentation isn’t so important right now.

Happy Birthdays to our members who are celebrating birthdays in November:

Sue Bellangero, Mary Jo Belli, Patricia McNeal, Eugene Panelli, Louie Paoli no, Cindy Schuette, Wayne Shaffer, and Jack Stagnaro. Happy birthday God bless and stay healthy

Patty Morelli
Secretary Branch 21

Ciao, Georgina Glop

Thought for the month:

“For every child as tenderly as if there were one”

Ciao,

Georgina Glop

Capitola
Br. 227, St. Joseph

Branch members had their first in-person meeting in October after a year and a half. Members gathered at Stewart’s Floral in Santa Cruz and were delighted to see each other. After a great deal of thought and discussion, members voted to move to our neighboring parish, Aptos Resurrection, starting on January 1. The details about this move will be coming soon from President Franklin Lopes.

Officers for 2022 will be elected in November. Many thanks to Rosa Radici and Bryan Sow who volunteered to serve as the Nominating Committee.

We were happy to learn that our branch took first place at the convention for Apostolate Charity Work in branches with membership of 71 to 129.

Remember to get your 2022 calendars. They are available at Stewart’s Floral, 1658 Soquel Drive, Santa Cruz. Cost is $25 and $5.00 of that stays at our Branch.

Happy Birthdays to our members who are celebrating birthdays in November:

Jane Kotila, Howard Barber, Sister Judy Lopes.

We are planning our annual Turkey Dinner in November. More information will follow soon.

Please continue to pray for all members that are ill, hospitalized, recently lost a loved one and any of their special intentions.

Bless the food before us,
The family beside us,
And the love between us.

Amen

Elaine Valentine, 1st Vice President Branch #36

Monterey
Br. 36, Santa Rosalia

Happy Thanksgiving to you and your family. May we thank GOD for all our Blessings he has given us and thankful for our faith that keeps us strong. Let our Lives be full of both Thanks and Giving.

“Grace and Peace be yours in Abundance” Peter 1:2

We have donated $1617.50 to our Seminarians. Bishop’s Day will be on October 24, Holy Cross Church, Santa Cruz, CA.

We are planning our 85 and over birthday party on October 30. We will be honoring 99 members that are 85 and over. Many of these members have dedicated many years to our Branch #36 and we appreciated all their hard work they have given us. Our oldest member is Ruth Flynn, age 103. Pictures and details of this event will be next Bollettino.

We are planning our annual Turkey Dinner in November. More information will follow soon.

Happy Thanksgiving from Branch 36

Happy Thanksgiving from Branch 36
Fall, the loveliest season of all is upon us, with the beauty of the changing leaves, pumpkins lined up in the fields ready for picking, pumpkin pies in the stores ready for eating, and See Canyon’s juicy apples waiting to be plucked from the trees. And, Paso Robles is reporting a bountiful grape harvest this year. God is good!

Thank you to members Jackie Beato and Joan Ryder for representing Branch 354 at our Italian Catholic Federation Convention in Santa Clara. They both had a wonderful time and reported that the convention “went great.” Congratulations Branch 354 for being awarded a second place for Apostolic Works of Charity for small branches. Start stashing your gambling money ‘cause next year we celebrate convention in Las Vegas.

Unfortunately, due to the Covid crises, our “almost famous” Pasta Dinner planned for November 6 has been postponed until a later date. Oh, and by the way, David Zanini, our fearless leader, is another year older. Happy, happy birthday David.

Yvonne Maddalena
Recording Secretary

CHICAGO District Council

Warm greetings from the Chicago Area Branches!

After almost two years of staying in the safety of our homes due to the pandemic, the ICF—Chicago Area Branches gathered at St. Francis Borgia Parish for a joyous Bishop’s Day celebration honoring the young men preparing for the priesthood. ICF of St. Francis Borgia – Branch 392, hosted the uplifting festivities, which took place on Saturday, September 25th. Although the event was smaller in scale when compared to previous years, the inspiration and happiness generated was still bountiful.

Representatives from Mundelein Seminary, ICF members with families and friends, and parishioners (all still wearing the required facial masks, some still practicing social distancing) got together for the festivities, which began with a beautiful Mass celebrated by our Father Mario Stefanowski and Father Thomas Byrne, a Director at Mundelein Seminary. A delightful seminarian, introduced to us as Conrad, did the readings.

At the end of the Mass the presentation of the Central Council and Chicago District donations was made by Teresa Helland, representing the Central Council, and Maria Perna, the Chicago District President. Father Byrne gave a lovely speech thanking the ICF for the annual donations, which are used to help meet the seminarians’ educational costs.

The evening’s festivities concluded with a reception in the parish hall, where refreshments were served. It was a most enjoyable evening, which served as the initial step to restart “normal” activities.

Notwithstanding the challenges being caused by COVID-19, the celebration was well attended. Many thanks to all of you!

May the Lord guide the young seminarians as they prepare to serve God and see to the needs of Catholics.


Aurora Pensa
First Vice President
ICF Chicago District

SAN JOSE SANTA CLARA VALLEY District Council

Santa Clara Valley District President Bob Basuino presents the District seminary bursar to the Most Reverend Oscar Cantu, Bishop of San Jose.

The Bishop’s day Mass at St. Joseph’s Mt View with Deb R Grand Pres, Bob B SCVD Pres, Craig Noah Br Pres Br 47 and Eva Stern - Financial Sec Br 47 thx,

Ric
Gilroy
Br. 28, Santa Maria Ausiliatrice

On October 3, 2021, at the Bishop’s Day event at St. Joseph Church in Mountain View, Br. 28 presented Bishop Cantu with a $1000 donation in support of the Diocese. Also, in coordination with the ICF Oakland Office, Br. 28 funded a second-year scholarship of $500.00 awarded to Megan Carpene of Morgan Hill who will be attending the University of Nevada, Reno. President Joe Fortino and wife Peggy represented ICF Br. 28 at the Convention and were present at the award ceremony presenting the plaque to the Sam and Judy Bozzo family for the “Family of the Year.” At submission of this report, we are looking forward to our first dinner meeting in over a year and a half on October 18th in Cullen Hall.

I and members would like to extend to Joe Fortino our appreciation for his stewardship of Branch 28 the last three years. Joe took the helm of Branch 28 during those turbulent times when variants, infectious breakthroughs, and booster shots were the talk and debates of the day. Joe kept his hands on the wheel and navigated through those unsettled waters. My husband John weighed in regarding Joe Fortino’s tenure as President. He said going to High School and Jr. College with Joe reminded him of that star football status he exhibited of strength, determination, and skill as an offensive guard, which Joe translated to President of Branch 28 of the Italian Catholic Federation. On behalf of members of Branch 28 of the Italian Catholic Federation, thank you Joe, and Happy Thanksgiving to all.

Peace and God Bless,
Kim M. Filice

St. Mary
Br. 184, Los Gatos

This was a quiet month. Not much going on. Donna Pfaff has the annual raffle calendars. $25 each, you have 365 chances to win. Even after you’ve won, your name goes back into the raffle barrel, and you have another chance. This year’s calendar is dedicated to “A Year of Hope.” Grandchildren, nieces, and nephews of our ICF members drew pictures that appear on the calendar pages.

Thanks to Donna and Dick Pfaff who attended Bishops Day to represent our Branch. Bishop Cantu spoke very well of the ICF and how important we are to the church and our community. Our Branch supported the parish country faire with a beautiful raffle basket given to the Bingo Committee.

Not what we say about our blessings, but how we use them, is the true measure of our Thanksgiving. W. T. Purkiser

A holiday blessing to all,
Shirley Catania

San Jose
Br. 191, Saint Frances Cabrini

This was a quiet month. Not much going on. Donna Pfaff has the annual raffle calendars. $25 each, you have 365 chances to win. Even after you’ve won, your name goes back into the raffle barrel, and you have another chance. This year’s calendar is dedicated to “A Year of Hope.” Grandchildren, nieces, and nephews of our ICF members drew pictures that appear on the calendar pages.

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Our next meeting will be the week of Oct 18. I will be contacting you to see which day and what time is best for everyone.

Happy October birthdays! Happy Thanksgiving! May you finally be able to meet with your families and friends!
Ciao, Denise Antonowicz, President
November 2021

San Jose
Br. 368, Santa Teresa de Avila

Br. 368 will have our regular ICF meeting on Wednesday, November 10th at 7 p.m. to discuss upcoming events and plans for forward for next year. Our Sunshine person, Avis Erkel, is still recovering from illness and is grateful for all the prayers offered for her. Pray for Paul Butler who is still very ill. President Mary Ridi has returned from her trip to Italy. Joyce Robba, first vice president, did a nice job as backup for Mary. Father George’s new book is here, “Pandemic Priest: Lifting Hearts in Covid times.” The office has copies. Attention!! , “Happy September Birthday to Father George.” Father blessed the animals on the feast day of Saint Francis of Assisi. We will be preparing for the election of ICF Br. 368 officers. If you are interested in being part of the board, please let the board know. The parking lot mass was started in March of 2020, because of Covid, and will move into the church at the end of October. Mass will still be streaming every week on Youtube, as it has during all of “Covid Time.” Mary’s Garden has a new entrance and the main entrance to the church has a nice new patio. Check it out. In March of 2020, during covid shutdown, the board voted to have two Memorial Bricks made and installed at Avila Hall Memorial Area in honor of Fr. Pegman and Monsignor Maloney. This is for their contributions to ICF and Santa Teresa Parish.

Happy Halloween,
Tom Myers

San Jose
Br. 391, St. Martin of Tours

In October our Branch met for the first time during our first post-covid meeting, which was held at St. Martin’s following the 11:30 Sunday Mass. Al and Daina Vallor and team served lunch, which was enjoyed and appreciated by all who attended.

At the Convention, Branch 391 was awarded the third-place certificate for our Apostolate and Charity program. Congratulations to members who perform such good deeds.

Also in October, Mike and Marcie Rossi and Steve and Cathleen Lencioni attended the Bishop’s Day Mass and BBQ Luncheon held at St. Joseph’s in Mountain View. ICF’s Santa Clara District and Central Council presented Bishop Cantu with prayers and a $8,500 donation for the training of seminarians.

On Saturday, November 6, our Branch will sponsor a St. Martin Feast Day pasta take-out dinner at St. Martin’s after the 5:00 p.m. mass.

Thank you, Tina Rossi and members, for selling 61 Convention raffle books—our branch received $610 from these sales!

It’s that time of year again when the ICF 2022 Calendars go on sale for $25 each.

San Jose
Br. 445, Transfiguration

After receiving their COVID vaccinations, our members started to travel again by planes, trains, automobiles and even an authentic Paddleboat! Br. 445 members Diane Devine, Jennifer Nisch and Donna Pfaff had a marvelous time exploring stops along the mighty Mississippi River from Memphis to New Orleans!

Our Sandwich Ministry continues to provide a weekly lunch to 120 people in need. Sandwich kits, costing about $40 each, are filled with bread, lunch meat, cheese, cookies, chips, drinks, napkins and condiments to make 15 sack lunches per kit. Several kits are delivered for assembly each week. They are then collected and distributed to 3 socially active organizations in San Jose. Over 7,000 lunches have been distributed through this Ministry to charitable groups since April 2020. In addition to the volunteers who are assembling these sack lunches, our friends and families are being asked to help sponsor a sandwich kit with a donation of $40. If you’d like to help please send a $40 check made out to “Church of the Transfiguration” which is the parish handling the bookkeeping for this project. Please write in the Memo Section of your check:

‘LUNCH KIT SPONSOR’. You will then receive a tax document as your receipt. Send your donation to coordinator:

Bill Perry
5946 Bridgeport Lake Way
San Jose, CA 95123

Thank you for your help.

Happy November Birthday wishes to members: Diane Devine, Art Maggio and Bill Howell! Tanti Auguri a tutti voi!

‘Felice Ringraziamento’ … Happy Thanksgiving to all.

Until next month stay safe and well ;-) – Jan Marianelli Stumboffer

San Jose
Br. 455 - Jennifer Nisch & mom Donna Pfaff in New Orleans

Morgan Hill
Br. 435, Santa Caterina D’Alessandria

Once again, a fun filled time at our yearly Bar B Que at the Guglielmo Winery. A beautiful setting and wonderful food! Thank you, George and all your crew. Our members look forward to this event every year.

A heartfelt wish to the Jim Friebel family and friends on our loss of Anna Friebel. She was a most popular member and schoolteacher of our area. Condolences to Jim and family.

Can you possibly put this in??

Having had a wonderful time at our 2021 Convention, our President Giulia Gallego is moving on to our Christmas celebration.

Thursday, December 2, 2021, is our date. Due to Santa Clara County mandates regarding Covid-19 we could not secure a venue in our hometown. The Longhouse Restaurant in Gilroy has hosted us in the past with our events. They are always pleasant to accommodate us and within our budget. We hope to have a big turnout and anxious to have a good time. See you there!

More information to follow.

Sincerely submitted,
Sylvia Sorci
Giulia Gallego, President

Sunnyvale
Br. 408, Resurrection

Our Branch participated in the 2021 Santa Clara Valley District (SCVD) Bishop’s Day hosted @ Branch 47 in St. Joseph’s of Mountain View on Sunday 3 October 2021. Where Patricia Look and Tina Dutra coordinated a successful lunch on the new Outdoor Plaza.

Bishop Cantu Presided at the Mass and after Mass concluded, ICF donated over $8500 to support our Diocesan Seminarians. Bishop Cantu was also given a Spiritual Bouquet presented by Eva Stern on behalf of members of the District.

SCVD District Bishop’s Day cake

We will be holding Branch Elections in October, so please talk to any of the Branch Officers if you are interested in serving in 2022. Sandra will be stepping down as Secretary as takes the Lead of the Craft Guild supporting

Congratualtions to Donna Ogden our Fundraising Catalog winner of $30!

Br. 445 - September Cruising

Br. 445 - Jennifer Nisch & mom Donna Pfaff

Br. 445 - Diane Devine in Memphis

Br. 445 Jennifer & a baby alligator!
STOCKTON

Modesto
Br. 48, St. Stanislaus

It seems like we go two steps forward and one back. We are a month behind in what we are to do. We did manage to help with the St. Stanislaus Fall Festival by making items to donate to the auction and country store and buying the dinners and other food that was available. As with other events, it had many changes. The one big thing that was new is they held a Cornhole Tournament and had a lot of fun with it.

We have been asked to hold our meetings at our members’ homes for now. I was going to have the meeting at my home but had to undergo some repairs and was out of my house for ten days. I am back in it now, so I hope to have a meeting before the end of October to get caught up. We would like to take orders for our baked goods then have them come by my home to pick them up since I am a short distance from the church. The information on what we can sell at the church are still a little unsure.

I hope our members will come up with some other ideas at our meeting to help keep us going.

Stay healthy and safe.

Cecelia McGhee

Lodi
Br. 82, St. Anne’s

Happy Holidays!
Yes, they are coming!! Seems once Halloween arrives, the rest fly by.

Hope you had a chance to stop by St. Anne’s School October Harvest Fest for food fun and fellowship. Our ICF Salami Toss booth was a huge success. Many were seen walking with their winning salami. Grazie to all who donated salami/potatoes and volunteered their time to decorate and work the booth for those 2 days.

At our October meeting, members showed their creative side with spooky snacks like devil egg eyeballs and mummy dogs. Those were munchied on as we watched videos about the Catholic History of Halloween and All Saints/All Souls Day. It was an enjoyable evening of tricks and treats!

Want to add a delizioso antipasto to your upcoming holiday feasts? Then, come to our Tues., Nov.22nd meeting where you’ll learn to create charcuterie boards. We begin at 6:30 in the Youth Room. Bring a friend and un buon appetito!

Over the Advent season, we’ll have another go at Secret Pal with a reveal event after Christmas. If interested in participating, contact me, Elisa, or icfstanne@gmail.com.

Dec. 1st is the 3rd anniversary of our branch re-establishment. Mark your calendar for Sun., Dec. 5th, to attend 8:30 Mass together, then celebrate afterward over breakfast. Place to be announced.

Heartfelt appreciation is extended to all Veterans every day, but especially on your special day of remembrance, Nov. 11th. Your unselfish service is commendable. May God grant you peace.

Have a wonderful, safe Thanksgiving gathering with family and friends!

Saluti... Patty Litts, President

Manteca
Br. 139, Nostra Signora del Buon Viaggio

Branch President Jim Alfieri welcomed visitors to our September meeting. Doreen Cytivanovic from Foster City and Dominic Queirolo (son of Tony and Ida), who is visiting from New York. Central Council member Dante Galeazzi was also in attendance.

Before we enjoyed a tasty dinner of spaghetti, meat balls, baked squash and salad prepared by Chef Tony, and a delicious dessert provided by Paula Beck and Pat Pierano, Jim led our members in a Hail Mary for our seminarians and in Grace.

Prayers are asked for Branch Treasurer Lillian Paulletto, who has had to resign her office because of health issues.

Jim and wife, Colleen, attended the Grand Convention in Santa Clara and provided an overview of the events. Ed and Patti Fichtner are selling the 2022 calendars this year.

Anna Mello has agreed to again chair our biscotti baking/selling for the holidays if permission to use the parish facilities can be obtained from our pastor, Father Chad Wahl. Branch First Vice-president Birdie Nieri has been assigned that task. This activity is a major fundraiser for our branch.

After all the meeting’s business had been covered, President Jim led us the closing prayer and the Federation Anthem was played.

Fino novembre, Mariano

Stockton
Br. 395, Presentation of the BVM

Our Branch Chaplain, Fr. Mark Wagner, surprised us and wanted to hold an Italian mass to honor St. Francis of Assisi. With the help of the fantastic members of Branch 395, we had a beautiful Italian mass at 6:30 p.m. on October 3. Josephine Weber and I did the readings in Italian, and we had a cantor who sang in Italian too. It was a very special evening, followed by a rinfresco hosted by our Branch in the Presentation Church Hall. We truly hope that this will become an annual event.

By the next Bolletino, we will have our election results. Newer members have been encouraged to take on leadership roles and we appreciate their willingness to do so. 2022 should be a great year for the ICF?

*A couple fun facts about St. Francis of Assisi before I conclude:*

He was a catholic friar who gave up a life of wealth to live a life of poverty. He was known for his love of nature and animals. He established the Franciscan Order of friars. He was known for his love of nature and animals.

St. Francis set up the first known Nativity scene to celebrate Christmas in 1223.

Alla prossima,

Mary Ann

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

Br. 395, Food looks a bit different during COVID, but still delicious!

Br. 395 members enjoy the rinfresco after the Italian Mass at Church of the Presentation.

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After all the meeting’s business had been covered, President Jim led us the closing prayer and the Federation Anthem was played.

Fino novembre, Mariano

Tracy
Br. 390, St. Bernard

Get ready for November take-out dinners—the night of Thursday, November 18, Father Fleming Hall is the place for Turkey dinner with all the trimmings, just like last year’s, prepared by Mike and his crew. See you there!

It’s time for nominations for board of directors of Branch 390. Let us hear from you if you are interested, please!

Steve Ridolfi continues to post the life of our branch though pictures on our Website: www.icfbranch390.org.
Be sure to check out the added attraction of our HERITAGE section—If you haven’t sent Steve yours yet, send them please! The newsletter on our website would love to hear from you!

Stay healthy, happy and safe,

Betty Hollars

Stockton
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Br. 395, Food looks a bit different during COVID, but still delicious!

Br. 395 members enjoy the rinfresco after the Italian Mass at Church of the Presentation.
On October 9, 2021, Guardian Angels Catholic Church ICF Branch 449 (Santee, California) served their first ever pulled pork BBQ dinner at the annual parish fall festival. The popular BBQ dinner has been around since very first Guardian Angels Parish festival in 1962, but was canceled in 2019 due to lack of available resources to help with the dinner. Branch 449 was able to reinstate the popular event this year due to the generosity of ICF members Diane and Joe Ameng who prepared and cooked the dinner while the rest of the branch members served festival patrons. Over 300 dinners were served during the festival and Branch 449 received many kudos and thanks for bringing back the signature dinner that so many have come to associate with the Guardian Angels Fall Festival.

All the best,
Helene McGowan
helene@cox.net
Corresponding Secretary
Guardian Angels
Italian Catholic Federation, Branch 449
Zona Divertimento

SAVE THE DATES
June 24 & 25, 2022

The Central Council Golf Tournament--Friday, June 24 at Bennett Valley Golf Course in Santa Rosa

Wine Tasting Tour or an antiquing trip with a lunch-Saturday, June 25.

Details to follow
Purchase Your
ICF 2022 Calendar Now!

The ICF 2022 Calendars are great gifts and ideal raffle prizes. They offer wonderful drawings and pictures of our children which remind us about our theme “The Year of Hope.” Also, the calendar offers you an opportunity to win money.

Please keep the calendars in mind with the Holidays coming up. This is a simple & effective fundraiser for our Branches as well as way to fund many of our organization’s programs. So, let’s focus on selling our calendars!!!

Branches have received their allotment of calendars. Be sure to contact your local Branch if you are interested in buying one.
November, 2021

Dear Branch President,

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

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

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

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

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

The deadline is November 10th.

Thank you.  
ICF Office