



BOLLETTINO

ICF Celebrating Faith, Family and Heritage



ICF gathers to celebrate faith--family--friends



Contra Costa & East Bay Districts' Bishop's Day



Santee, Br. 449, Guardian Angels



Santee, Br. 449, Guardian Angels



Crockett Branch 14, celebrating Italian Heritage month with some great Italian Food .
It is great to be an Italian.



Contra Costa/East Bay Bishop's Day Seminarians

Christmas in Italy/Epiphany

Louise Vento, Heritage

Christmas as celebrated in Italy. Christmas eve is a time for viewing Italy's artistic and elaborate manger scenes or cribs. They consist of figurines in clay or plaster of the infant Jesus, Mary and Joseph along with the three wise men and shepherds. There is often a contest between churches of the same town or region for the best crib. In some regions they reenact the birth of Christ with real people in the nativity scene. People go from church to church to view and compare the cribs and displays and to attend midnight mass. Christmas eve dinner consists largely of fish. The traditional dish served in Capitone--a big eel. Santa Claus in his red suit is now seen in Italy.



The epiphany is celebrated 12 days after Christmas. In Italy the celebration is called Tutte le festa porta via. The three wise men traveled from Egypt following the star. It took them 12 days to find the place where Jesus was born in Bethlehem. They were the first to worship the baby Jesus in the Crib. The first to offer gifts. The Epiphany is celebrated on January 6th. On the eve of Epiphany, gifts are brought by the La Befana the Italian equivalent of Santa Claus. The Italian Children set out their shoes for the La Befana to fill with gifts like toys, candies and fruit. If they are bad, she leaves then garlic or coal.

Little Christmas, as it is called in Italian communities of America, is celebrated on January 6th--12 days after Christmas. We leave our Christmas tree up until the eve of the Epiphany. May the spirit and meaning of Christmas be with all of you.

Buon Natale and Buon Anno.

Grand President's Monthly Message

Deborah Rodondi

Merry Christmas to you and your family from me and my family. This is the time of year I am busy baking a dozen different types of cookies — you know everyone has a favorite — getting ready for family dinners and gatherings, ICF events and gifts for friends. Let's not forget trying to get out and into place all the hundreds of Christmas decorations I have gathered over the years and continue to add to.



I'll let you in on an embarrassing secret, the tree stayed up this past year — I just changed the decorations to fit the occasion — talk about having too many decorations!!! I know that the executive committee members, who meet at my house monthly, are tired of seeing my tree in the corner even if the decorations are different. Since March of 2020, our family and ICF gatherings have been limited. We are all missing these cherished moments and celebrations. It has been a disappointing few years not being able to celebrate and embrace our family, friends and faith, as we are accustomed to. For me this season is exciting as we are celebrating more like we have in the past.

No matter what we have or are going through in our life, we still have the joy of celebrating our Faith with God and the truly magnificent gift he gave us in the birth of his son Jesus. As a child, I remember the excitement and awe of being able to stay up to go to midnight mass with the family and being amazed at all those in attendance with even the aisles packed with individuals standing to share in the event. Another fond memory was hearing a knock on the door, when answered no one was there, yet the tree was graced with a collection of presents — even my first big girl blue bike! Or the Christmas my dad was so excited he borrowed from a neighbor the suit and dressed up as Santa and came to visit our home... Santa was busted as my much too clever brother Kevin recognized the shoes peeking out from the fake boot sleeve as my Dad's.

continued on Page 4

TIME SENSITIVE: PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY!

BOLLETTINO

Official Publication of the
Italian Catholic Federation

(ISN 0745-256X)

Published Monthly
(except for combined Aug./Sept. issue)
by the Italian Catholic Federation

8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110
Oakland, CA 94621

Readership as of 10/01/22: 4,311

Subscription Rate: \$7.20 per year
\$20/nonmembers

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Periodicals postage is paid at Oakland, CA.,
and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to

BOLLETTINO
8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110
Oakland, CA 94621

Important Notice

The email address for ALL

Bollettino submissions is:

editor@icf.org

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

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

Limit photos to 3 or 4 and include captions. Not all photos are able to be used due to possible limitations in space. Prioritize photos if possible. To insure photos are always linked to branch, include branch number when naming photos such as:

Br380.StJoseph.servers.jpeg

Include photo captions with your article submission.

Please keep your submission positive and informative.

**Deadline for the
January issue is
December 10, 2022.**

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

Thank you!



Message from our Spiritual Director

Dear Friends of the Italian Catholic Federation:

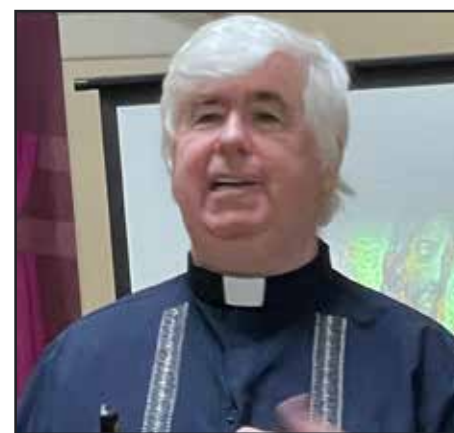
There is always an element of nostalgia in the celebration of Christmas, echoes and ghosts of Christmas past. The Christmas reading asks us to remember not only other Christmases, when we were younger, but it recalls the long centuries of waiting and preparation that culminated in the announcement made by the angel to the shepherds: 'Today in the town of David a savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.' The Infant Savior was born in a stable in Bethlehem. Stables are usually rough places, unkempt and drafty. Yet, the Eternal Son of God was born in a stable. This Christmas, the Christ child desires to make His dwelling within each of us. His birth at Bethlehem assures us that He can be born in the stable of our hearts, imperfect though they may be.

It was not our idea that the Son of God should be born in a stable. And

so, the first thing we learn from Jesus' birth is that the Lord will not always be found where we expect to find Him. We tend to look for Him in the nice, the clean, and the warm. We expect Him to be in churches and in the Bible and in hymns of praise and in Christmas cards which have Scripture verses on them... And if these are the only places we search for the Lord, then we're not looking in the stable.

The stable is an opportunity to open our lives in welcome to Christ's presence here and now. Christ seeks to enter more deeply into our personal lives and into our homes and families, our friendships and relationships, our hopes, and plans. We will hear and celebrate the angels' "news of great joy" only if our lives are touched and transformed by the living presence of the Christ born in a stable.

Indeed, during these weeks of the Christian celebration of this feast, it demands a real sense of spiritual need



Father Christopher Bennett
ICF Spiritual Director

and a personal openness and sensitivity to the one born in a stable, who comes so gently. As we open the stables of our hearts, let us welcome Christ into our lives and the lives of all those we love, offering them generosity, forgiveness, love, and peace. May we remember in prayer the men and women serving in our Armed Services.

So, this Christmas, let us take time out to remember the Christ who was born in a stable and all that it means to us. Let us give thanks to the one Infant Savior who was born in a stable. To share with others this wonderful gift God has given to the world – the greatest and most expensive gift the world will ever know.

This Christmas and throughout the coming New Year, my prayer is that more and more you will deepen your union with Christ through prayer and the celebration of the Eucharist and make Him present in our society by your witness and love.

May the Prince of Peace bless each of you and grant you the joy of His Christmas.

Blessings
Fr. Chris



Birthplace of Jesus



Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus
Under the Spiritual Direction of:

Fr. Christopher Bennett, I.C.F. Spiritual Director
St. Christopher Catholic Church in San Jose, California
12-Days: September 10 to 21, 2023

Pricing, itinerary and registration available after December 1, 2022

For more information, please contact:

Rev. Christopher Bennett
(408) 269-2226
revbennett@sbcglobal.net

Purchase you ICF 2023 Calendar Now

The calendars are great gifts, great raffle prizes and offer wonderful stories and recipes which remind us about our theme "Feast with The Saints" as well as an opportunity to win money. Please keep this in mind with the Holidays coming up. This is a wonderful fundraiser for our Branches as well as a way to fund many of our organization's programs. So, let's focus on selling our calendars!!! Branches have been given their allotment of calendars — contact your local Branch if you are interested in buying one.

Gifts of Love Donations

(Report as of November 10, 2022)

Branch 54
Branch 213
Convention Bowl-A-Thon (Fran La Torre)
Joan and Jerry Delfino
In Honor of the 99th Birthday of Marie Antonowicz
Dennis and Debbie Nunes
In Memory of Rosemarie Carminati
Frances Agnello and Family
In Memory of Larry Agnello
Bill and Maria Greco
In Honor of the 99th Birthday of Marie Antonowicz
Bob and Elaine Osorio
In Honor of the 64th Wedding Anniversary of Joan and Jerry Delfino
Joan and Jerry Delfino
In Memory of Barbara Ruffner

Mother Cabrini Chapel & Library

by Carmelo Sabatella

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The Mother Cabrini Mass, Pilgrimage and Luncheon was held on November 13th at Saint Francis Xavier Church in Burbank, California. This year Saint Francis Xavier Church and ICF co-hosted this event to celebrate the 76th Anniversary of Mother Cabrini's canonization to sainthood. Thank you to Father Sebastian Vittickal Pastor of St. Francis Xavier Church for celebrating Mass and Benediction, and to all ICF Cabrini Committee and District Branch members who helped staff and make this a very successful event.

St. Frances Xavier's Cabrini Chapel has opened its doors again for the regularly scheduled Open Houses. Bring members, family, friends and Parishioners to visit the chapel and library in Burbank and learn about America's first saint canonized on July 7, 1946.

For more information on the Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library or to make a donation to help maintain the Chapel facility, 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. Help continue with the annual Pilgrimage event in Burbank.

Your support is greatly appreciated.
--Carmelo Sabatella, AIA, President, ICF LAADC
-- Mother Cabrini Chapel Committee
E: cas1810@aol.com;
C 626-372-7812



Family Recipe

Deborah Rodondi, Grand President

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!!!

This is another must have recipe for the holidays and any special event celebration. The first time I experienced this delicious dessert was at the annual Rodondi Christmas party. My cousin Lori Viti brought this Italian dessert to our table.

Tiramisu

2 ½ cups strong coffee at room temperature
1 ½ Tbls. instant espresso powder
9 Tbls. rum
6 large egg yolks
2/3 cup sugar
¼ tsp. salt
1 ½ lbs. mascarpone (cold)
¾ cup heavy cream (cold)
14 oz. crispy ladyfingers (42-60 count) buy some extra
4 Tbls. cocoa
¼ cup semi or bittersweet chocolate, grated

1. Stir coffee, espresso powder and 5 Tbls. rum until dissolved
2. With whisk attachment on your mixer, beat egg yolks until broken, add sugar and salt. Mix at medium speed until a pale color, about 2 minutes. Blend in 4 Tbls. rum, then add mascarpone to combine. Transfer to another bowl.
3. In emptied mixer bowl (don't clean) beat cream until frothy, about 1 ½ minutes. Increase speed to high and mix until stiff peaks form, about 1 ½ minutes. Fold 1/3 of this mixture into the mascarpone mixture; then fold the rest of the cream into the mascarpone.
4. Quickly drop and roll each ladyfinger in the coffee mixture. DO NOT let them get soggy, just wet. You will have extra liquid.



Arrange ½ of the ladyfingers into a single layer in a 9x13 inch glass dish.

5. Spread ½ mascarpone mixture over ladyfingers. Dust 2 Tbls. cocoa over this using a fine strainer.
6. Repeat another ladyfinger and cheese layer dusting with remaining cocoa.
7. Cover with plastic and refrigerate 6-24 hours.
8. Sprinkle with grated chocolate when serving.

NOTE: ALWAYS refrigerate due to the raw eggs.

SERVES: 10-12

This was a big hit at a past Christmas Rodondi celebration and will be a big hit at your table.

Replacing some of the rum with amaretto gives a nice flavor also. I cut this recipe into a third and make into small individual glass dishes for a nice presentation.

I would like to say thank you to a member of Branch 173 in Burlingame Helene Quilici, for dropping off a recipe book called *The de' Medici Kitchen* at my Aunt Rosemarie Gregori's

house for me. At first when I saw it, I wondered how Helene could possibly know that we believe our family tree (on my dad and aunt's side) branches down from the Medici family but then realized she was sharing a book she had gotten from a KQED cooking show and the cook just happens to share a common name with us. I am looking forward to checking out the recipes and hopefully sharing some with you in future articles.

Hoping you might like to share some of your specialties or the family recipes that have been handed down with the members of the ICF. Send them to me at drodondi@comcast.net 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.

Remember a good Italian cook measures with their eyes and heart!

Buon Appetito!

How did the celebration of Christmas start?

Carmen Kilcullen, Former Grand President



We now celebrate Christmas on December 25. But, for the first 300 years of Christianity, no such celebration existed. The birth of Christ was not given much importance. No one is quite sure when Jesus was born. Even though the Gospels give us historical data that Christ was born under the reign of Caesar Augustus, the exact date is unknown. By the 4th century, many Christian groups started to observe Christ's birth. However, different groups celebrated this event on different days. In 350 A.D., Pope Julius set December 25 as the date of Christ's birth. This corresponded with the Roman feast of Saturnalia, the festival of the Unconquered Sun. In the 4th century, Emperor Constantine built the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem and declared Christ's birthday as an official Roman holiday. The Bishop of Rome affirmed December 25 as the day to celebrate the birth of Christ. In the 6th century, the Church set aside the four Sundays before Christmas as the Advent season. In the 13th century, St. Francis of Assisi introduced the nativity scene accompanied by festive carols. The first mention of a Christmas tree is thought to have come from German traditions of the 17th century. In the mid-19th century, composer Handel wrote his famous "Messiah". In the present time, Christmas is celebrated with much fanfare. Besides the religious services of Christmas, there are all kinds of fun activities associated with the season. It is truly a joyous time of the year, especially for children. In this uncertain world of today, we pray that the Baby Jesus will guide us and help us as we gather together with family and friends to enjoy this blessed season. We will be spending Christmas with my sister and her family. May your families also come together in the spirit of the season. From my house to yours, I wish everyone a Blessed and Merry Christmas!

Carmen Kilcullen

GP's Monthly Message --continued

Deborah Rodondi

continued from p. 1

We should reflect on all the gifts in our life year-round. For some reason, at the end of one year and the beginning of the new year, we tend to review in a deeper sense. I look back on the gifts given to me throughout the year: my family, my dear friends and you — the members of the Italian Catholic Federation. I reflect on what I did and what I can do better in the coming year. Let's remember to appreciate our family and friends — let them know how important they are to you and what they mean in your life. I appreciate all you do for the ICF, your parish and community. You enrich my life and make this world a better place. Thank you!

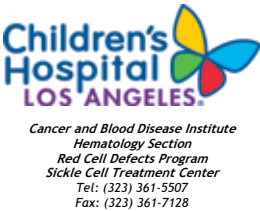
By now your District and Branches should have elected your officers for 2023. I look forward to seeing you at District Installations and Bishops Days in the New Year. In 2022 many of our District and Branches struggled to get going. Let's make 2023 the rebirth of our Districts and Branches, and once again be able to join together in person. Extend a hand to struggling branches. Sometimes all they need to know is that someone out there cares.

MERRY CHRISTMAS and a safe and HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

NOVEMBER CALENDAR WINNERS

DAY	NAME	BR	CITY	WINS
11/1	Dana Bayer		Castro Valley	\$50
11/2	Kathryn Acquistapace	198	Santa Rosa	\$50
11/3	Nicolette Eyherabide	33	Bakersfield	\$30
11/4	Billy Joe Brown		Citrus Heights	\$30
11/5	Jackie Smith	213	Daly City	\$30
11/6	Jan Lorenzi		Merced	\$50
11/7	Christine Martin	39	Atwater	\$30
11/8	Art & Suzanne Dykzeul	390	Ripon	\$30
11/9	M.A. Caglia	32	Fresno	\$30
11/10	Elizabeth Van De Car	210	Forest Falls	\$30
11/11	Allison McGuirk	214	Castro Valley	\$50
11/12	Abby Thomas		Vacaville	\$30
11/13	Lori Hale		Bakersfield	\$50
11/14	Susan Colon	408	San Jose	\$30
11/15	Jennifer Souza Riback		San Diego	\$30
11/16	Donna Ogden	408	Sunnyvale	\$30
11/17	Nathan Thomas		Vacaville	\$30
11/18	Aldine Grisenti	391	San Jose	\$30
11/19	Kathy Cardoza		San Jose	\$30
11/20	Terrie Rhodes	39	Merced	\$30
11/21	Ruth Zamora		Visalia	\$30
11/22	Ellen Pedersen		Newcastle	\$30
11/23	Emily Higuera	36	Monterey	\$30
11/24	Fr. Al Mengon	154	San Francisco	\$100
11/25	Debbie Z. Singleton	413	Angels Camp	\$40
11/26	Father Saju Joseph	391	San Jose	\$30
11/27	St. Alphonsus Church		Fresno	\$30
11/28	Loretta Symes	39	Merced,	\$30
11/29	Darice Soottoo		Danville	\$30
11/30	Nicole Heron		Eureka	\$30

SEE THESE FIRST ON OUR WEB SITE: ICF.ORG



October 31, 2022

Dear Grand President Deborah Rodondi, Members of the Central Council, Branch Presidents, Members of the Italian Catholic Federation, and ICF Staff:

Thank you so much for your donation of \$41,000 presented at the 91st Annual ICF Convention. We were so disappointed to miss seeing all of you in Las Vegas and we are happy to hear reports of a successful convention.

We are truly grateful that Cooley's Anemia/Thalassemia continues to be your national charity as there are countless worthy causes you can support. Since thalassemia is a rare disease in this country and funding is less for rare diseases the ICF has proven to be a lifeline for the thalassemia program at Children's Hospital Los Angeles.

The difference you make in patients' lives is invaluable. Recent progress in gene therapy is groundbreaking as the FDA finally approved this one-time curative therapy in August. There is also research in new therapies that can improve hemoglobin levels. A significant difference between 20 years ago and present is that patients now have some treatment options and this has been lifesaving for many. 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 assuring we can continue making strides.

Educating the community about thalassemia and keeping you updated on current research and projects that the ICF funds here at CHLA is a priority for us. Laurice has started visiting branches in the greater bay area and until she is comfortable flying she is willing to set up Zoom/Virtual session for you or your branch. If you are interested please contact her at (360) 860-2023 or LLevine430@aol.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,

Thomas D. Coates, MD
Section Head for Hematology
Director, Sickle/Hemoglobinopathy Program
Children's Center for Cancer and Blood Diseases
Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Professor of Pediatrics & Pathology
Keck School of Medicine
University of Southern California

P: 323-361-2352

Tax ID: 95-1690977
To comply with federal rules on charitable giving, we certify that Children's Hospital Los Angeles has provided no goods or services in consideration of your contribution.

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Laurice Levine

Laurice Levine, MA, CCLS
Thalassemia Outreach
Program Consultant

P: 360-860-2023

4650 Sunset Blvd. | Los Angeles, CA 90027 | 323.660.2450 | CHLA.org

Cooley's Anemia Donations

(Received as of November 10, 2022)

Cooley's Anemia Donations
Branch 14
Branch 54
Branch 213

Branch 442
Officers/Members of Br. 144
In Memory of Doris Delashmutt

Welcome New Members (Report as of November 10, 2022)

Branch 036	Angelina Favaloro Linda Murtland Judy Ryan	William G Funkhouser David Pellegri
Branch 051	Linda Oania	
Branch 108	Fulvie Kern	Mark Kern
Branch 115	Maria Antolos Anthony J Mascola	Christopher Marino
Branch 139	Timothy J Cabral	
Branch 209	Emily Marian	Michelle S Nichols
Branch 218	Sylvia Fator	
Branch 285	Roger E Martinelli	Pauline Montano
Branch 332	Beryl Bourke Tony J Balzer* Frank Lavin* Katherine W Young*	Dianne M Balzer* Jill Kelly* Teresa A Lavin*
Branch 351**	Angela Buonocore Michael Pepo	Luisa Buonocore Rosanna Pepo
Branch 352	Bill Breyton Anna Friedeberg Paul A Morassutti	Lynette Breyton Louisa P Morassutti
Branch 390	Joe L Curtis	
Branch 438	Cristine M Reeve	

Correction to prior membership listing--Apologies for the error and any confusion this may have caused.
*New members are part of Br. 332 not Br. 209 as previously listed.
**New members are part of Br. 351 not Br. 352 as previously listed.

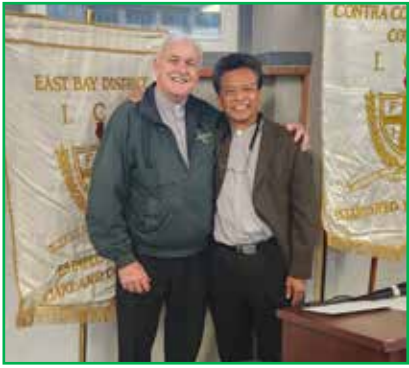
Scholarship Donations (Received as of November 10, 2022)

Scholarship Donations - 1st Year
Convention Bowl-A-Thon (John and Jeanette Zugnoni)
Convention Bowl-A-Thon (Jo-Ann Maggiora-Donivan)
Larry and Carmen Kilcullen
In Honor of the 99th Birthday of Marie Antonowicz
Lauren Kilcullen
In Honor of the 99th Birthday of Marie Antonowicz
Jo-Ann and John Donivan
In Honor of the 99th Birthday of Marie Antonowicz

Contra Costa District Bishop's Day



Bishop & Event Coordinator Mary Cook



The Dynamic Duo



Seminarian Antonio



Pleasant Hill at Bishop's Day

Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations*

Received as of Received as of October 9, 2022:

IN MEMORY OF:	DONATED BY:
Elaine Wettling	Jim and Patty Jarrett
Ron Heidenreich	Russell and Louise Vento
Reverend Monsignor Daniel Cardelli	Officers/Members of Br. 352
Bob Benya	Officers/Members of Br. 215
Josie Dacquisto	Officers/Members of Br. 191
Joseph Santello	Officers/Members of Central Council
Joseph Santello	CC Spouses' and Family Association
GET WELL WISHES:	
Patty Smith	Officers/Members of Central Council
IN CELEBRATION OF 40 YEARS ORDAINED TO THE PRIESTHOOD:	
Reverend Monsignor Rob Wenzinger	Antoinette and Angelo Pecora
BISHOP'S LUNCH APPRECIATION:	
Lou Mages	Officers/Members of San Bernardino District
HAPPY 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY:	
Marc and Jeanette Matteoli	Joe and Julie Bonino

HAPPY 99TH BIRTHDAY:
Marie Antonowicz
Marie Antonowicz
Marie Antonowicz
Marie Antonowicz
Marie Stalteri Antonowicz
Marie Antonowicz
Marie Antonowicz
Marie Antonowicz
Mike and Marcie Rossi
Franklyn Lopes, Jr.
Leonard and Karen Rossi
Bob Basuino
Mr. and Mrs. J. Thomas
Bob and Elaine Osorio
Janet Glaubke
Bob and Kathy Acquistapace
IN SUPPORT OF THE PROVIDENZA FUND:
Convention Bowl-A-Thon (Julie Klem)
Convention Bowl-A-Thon (Juanita Baca)
Convention Bowl-A-Thon (Mary Aumack)
Convention Bowl-A-Thon (Margaret Simmons)

*Named after the co-founder of the I.C.F., the Sir Luigi and Lady Augusta Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund provides I.C.F. members a lasting way to memorialize and/or extend greetings to friends, relatives, and loved ones. Members' donations provide scholarships to seminarians studying for the priesthood in dioceses where the Italian Catholic Federation is located. A monthly Mass is offered for the intention of those listed.



11th Annual Blood Drive: Giving Life

By the Live to Give Committee

The Live to Give Committee would like to extend their deepest appreciation and gratitude to all who donated or attempted to donate blood at the 11th Annual Convention Blood Drive in Las Vegas. Because of your selfless act of donating blood, we ended up with a total of 22 units of blood, which saves the life of 66 PEOPLE! We did not make our 25-unit goal, but that means we will have to work harder next year.



Donors received a goodie bag and raffle tickets for an array of fabulous prizes donated by the Live to Give Committee. The Live to Give Committee would also like to recognize the Vitalant staff, led by Gannon Baca, Donor Recruitment Representative. The phlebotomists were exceptional, hard-working, and incredibly kind.

If you missed the blood drive and still want to donate blood, contact your local blood bank. If you care to donate in honor of a loved one or to celebrate a friend's milestone, you can get a card from the ICF office, and a letter of acknowledgment will be sent to the honoree. Your donation will also be recognized in the Bollettino, just the same as all the other donations. What better way to celebrate life than to give life? To find out if you qualify to donate, you can contact your local blood bank or contact the Live to Give Committee.

Planning blood drives is a great way for your branch to get involved with the Live to Give Committee, as well as to replenish an ever-diminishing blood supply. Ninety-five percent of people will need a blood transfusion at some time in their lives, yet only five percent of people (four percent in the Bay Area) donate blood. Wouldn't it be terrible to

be bleeding out from a car accident only to find that the hospital you urgently got admitted to ran out of blood? Sadly, this happens, but it does not have to if we all do our part and plan a drive or give blood. The Live to Give Committee and your local blood bank are happy to help you.

Blood donors, thank you for your contributions to this very important program and for donating blood and giving the gift of life. God bless each of you.

Joseph Aguilar
Dana Brewer
James Canger
Tom Cook
Jo-Ann Donivan
Cathleen Lencioni
Patty Litts
Lou Mages
Nanette Metz
Judy Miller
Jennifer Nisich
Robert Pachinger
Debbie Piro
Terrie Rhodes
Teri Roller
Carmello Sabatella
Tad Shaw
Richard Shimshock
Leanne Simone
Francesca Taylor
Allen Watts
Crystal Watts
Leonard Zasoski

If we inadvertently missed a name our sincere apologies. Please email LLevine430@aol.com and let us know.

For questions about donating blood or planning a blood drive, please contact Laurice at 360-860-2023 or LLevine430@aol.com.

Chairman, Live to Give Committee
Ken Marshall,
Members, Live to Give Committee
Pat Mages, Lisa Crudo & Laurice Levine

Membership Committee Greetings

Perry Shurko

Membership Chairperson

Hello and Happy Advent Season to you all. Well, we made it to the end of the year and what a year it has been. We began 2022 still in the throes of the Covid pandemic, but there was a little light at the end of the tunnel. March came around and restrictions began to be lifted and many branches started to meet again in person and were holding fundraisers. We were at the lowest point in membership numbers then.



However, as more and more branches opened up an amazing thing started to happen. Membership numbers began to go back up. People were joining the ICF again or even reinstating their membership, and with each successive month the numbers slowly crept up. Hallelujah!!

So, here we are in December holding steady, but we're not out the woods yet. We have a lot of work to do still. You see, there are some branches still struggling and looking to close. Why?

Because we're not seeing new leadership. Nobody wants to step in and take an office. We need new blood in our federation. We need active members, and we need to lean on our older members for guidance and wisdom.

So, as the new year approaches, let's keep an eye out for those in your parish who seem like a good potential leader and see if they might be interested in joining. Look for those within your branches who show signs of leadership. We don't want to start going backwards on our membership numbers. We've all worked hard to get where we are.

Of course, there's the other area where we can grow and that's expanding our federation by looking for new possibilities within our districts or even old defunct districts such as Las Vegas. New branches bring in excitement and a renewal of ideas.

Let's all keep up the good job that we're doing in 2023. We are almost at the century mark, and I can't wait to see what exciting new adventures await us.

I would like to wish you all the Merriest Christmas and a very Joyful, Happy, and Prosperous New Year!

Perry Shurko, Membership Chair.

Convention Awards Nominations

Please start thinking about who you'd like to nominate for one of our 2023 convention awards:

- Pope St. John XXIII Award
- St. Teresa of Calcutta Award
- Grand President's Award
- Young Adult Leadership Award
- Family of the Year Award

The submission deadline date may move up by one month. This is to allow recipients more time to plan their convention travels. Please plan ahead to submit your application earlier. A due date announcement will be made in the next *Bollettino* and on the ICF Facebook page.

In Loving Memory (Report as of November 10, 2022)

Linda J Eserini	Branch 005	Antony J Fico	Branch 121
Mario Geraci	Branch 005	Abigail Aguilera	Branch 169
Angie Souza	Branch 005	Jack Mateer	Branch 179
Anna M Talia	Branch 005	Nancy J Azevedo	Branch 198
Holly Raineri	Branch 010	Lynn M Stornetta-Green	Branch 198
Elma Nursement	Branch 014	Edward J Miranda	Branch 332
Carmela M Cardinale	Branch 036	Joe Santello	Branch 358
Francesca S Nuovo	Branch 036	Edna M Ulasewicz	Branch 374
Tracy Olsen	Branch 036	Miriam A Avilla	Branch 390
Elizabeth J Pittman	Branch 036	Paula Re	Branch 390
Ann Troia	Branch 036	Susan Di Piazza	Branch 392
Roger D Wells	Branch 036	Donato Parente	Branch 392
Ronald Roccucci	Branch 073		



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Book Review: Children's Books 2022

Vince Piro, Past Grand President

Below are a list and description of children's books with Italian and Italian-American topics that can be a wonderful way to share our heritage with children and grandchildren. They make special Christmas gifts that honor and celebrate heritage. Below are publishers' descriptions of each book.

Lingo Dingo and the Italian Chef

by Mark Pallis (Author), James Cottell (Illustrator)

Following on from the success of the wildly popular *The Fabulous Lost and Found* and *The Little Italian Mouse*, bestselling author, and writer on the Emmy Winning Tales of Peter Rabbit, Mark Pallis returns to make learning Italian for kids and children even more fun!

"Lingo Dingo loves to help. Anyone. Anytime. Anyhow...." In this heartwarming story, Lingo travels to the stars to help a Italian chef. There's just one problem. The chef only speaks Italian.... What could go wrong!?!

This heartwarming English Italian kids' book:

- Blends an English language story with over 50 Italian words and phrases so that children learn Italian without realizing;
- Builds a child's confidence in engaging with a new language;
- Cements the foundation of a lifelong love of the Italian language.

Luke and the Little Seed

By Giuliano Ferri

Luke gets so many presents for his birthday that when his grandfather gives him a bag of seeds, he is rather disappointed. But his grandfather tells him that if he plants and cares for these little seeds, they could become the best present of all. Luke wants to believe him, but it's hard when so little happens day after day. Will Luke have the patience to nurture the seeds into something truly special? Here is a lovely tale told by renowned picture book artist Giuliano Ferri, in which the power of love and persistence pay off.

Giuliano Ferri is an artist, an animator, and an award-winning illustrator of many children's books, including *The Animals' Christmas*, *Ant and Grasshopper*, *The Apple King*, *Best Friends*, and *Nino's Magical Night*. He is also

the author and illustrator of *Little Tad Grows Up*; *Mummy, Mummy, Where Are You?* and *Night, Night, Sleep Tight!*

Pages of Music

by Tony Johnston (Author), Tomie dePaola (Illustrator)

First published in 1988, this gentle picture book set in Sardinia features refreshed illustrations by the beloved and award-winning Tomie dePaola and tells of the giving and sharing of music on a very special Christmas morning.

Long ago, a painter and her son, Paolo, visited the poor but beautiful island of Sardinia and a shepherd shared with them his bread called foglia de musica, pages of music. When the mother offered to pay, the shepherd took his musical pipe and filled the air with music so sweet that Paolo danced and sang with joy.

Many years later, Paolo, now a gifted composer, returns to the island with his entire orchestra on Christmas morning to share with the shepherds his own "pages of music"—a song of a night long ago, a blazing star, and a child born in a manger.

The Bears' Famous Invasion of Sicily

by Dino Buzzati

Dino Buzzati's classic tale chronicles the terrible winter that sent the starving bears down into the valley in search of food, as well as their struggles with an army of wild boars, a wily professor who may or may not be a magician, snarling Marmoset the Cat, and, worse still, treachery within their own ranks. Overall all of this, the bears triumph with bravery, ingenuity, humility, and high spirits.

Dino Buzzati (1906-1972) was a painter, playwright, poet, novelist, short story writer, opera librettist, mountaineer, and science fiction writer, and from the age of twenty-two until his death worked as a journalist with the Italian newspaper *Corriere della Sera*. In writing his books, he drew on folk tales, but he believed that fantasy should be written with all the detail of a newspaper account. Buzzati's most famous book for adults, *The Tartar Steppe*, shares with *The Bears' Famous Invasion of Sicily* a concern with the difficulty of keeping up one's courage in a confusing and often threatening world.

Ancient Rome: Infographics

by Nicolas Guillerat (Author), John Scheid (Author)

A revealing history of ancient Rome, told through visually stunning, state-of-the-art infographics.

Ancient Rome: Infographics tells the story of a great empire through graphic design. This book offers readers a new way to conceptualize ancient Rome from the birth of the empire to the Punic Wars, and from the Roman political system to the role of women, slaves, and public entertainment. Cleverly designed infographics bring alive the complex history and structure of this ancient empire for the general reader while still satisfying demands for the rigorous approach of a historian.

Drawing on the best international sources, this volume charts ancient Rome's social, political, and cultural histories with breathtaking data visualizations. The result is an extraordinary new approach to Rome's history, and is sure to appeal to those looking for an overview of the period and to history buffs alike. Illustrated in color throughout.

Spit Three Times

by Davide Reviati (Author), Jamie Richards (Translator)

In a forsaken corner of the Italian countryside, Guido and his friends Moreno and Katango spin out their days in languor and boredom intermixed with desire and, occasionally, violence. Nearby live the Stančić, a family of Romani who escaped the communist regime of Marshal Tito and settled here

just after World War II. Guido's coming-of-age is changed by the evolving relationship that the rural town has with this group of outsiders, these "gypsies." The author is unsparing in his depiction of the townspeople's cruelty. And yet, there are also many instances of solidarity between Guido's community and the Stančić. Reviati's first book in English, *Spit Three Times*, is an extraordinary story of young men, disillusioned and trying to find their way, caught in the breach between post-war exuberance and the stagnation of the early twenty-first century.

Winner of the Carlo Boscarato Prize 2016

Winner of the Lo Straniero Prize 2016

Winner of the Attilio Micheluzzi Prize for Best Writing 2017

Sélection Officielle Angoulême 2018

For more books, children and adult, I cannot recommend I AM Books enough. It is "an independent bookstore . . . in the heart of Boston's historic North End neighborhood and serving as a cultural hub for everyone interested in diving into the rich world of Italian and Italian American literature, history, research, art and more." They can be found online at <https://iambooksboston.com>. You can search for all books by topic and search for children's books by age. They provide a valuable service to those interested in Italian American culture and other topics and cultures as well.



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SERVICE BEYOND EXPECTATION

Branch Reports

SAN FRANCISCO

San Francisco

Br. 1, Maria S.S. Immacolata

Dear Members:

Judy and Joe Matranga would like to invite you to attend a Complimentary Christmas Luncheon on December 7th at their home located at 167 Castenada Avenue in San Francisco. You are most welcome to bring a guest if you need transportation.

An invitation was sent to all Branch Members from Judy and Joe with the details.

Merry Christmas to all Branch 1 Members and their Families

Cordiali Saluti
Diana Cresci

San Francisco St. Elizabeth, Br. 258

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

Our Christmas Luncheon will be held on December 16th at the Basque Cultural Center. For reservations, contact Mary Perata at 415-239-5936. The price is \$45.00, and the menu is Roasted Chicken, Salmon or Steak. Salad and Dessert are included.

Please remember our ill and deceased members in your prayers.

For our members celebrating a birthday in December - Many more years of Much Happiness and Good Health.

Thanks to all of our members for their help this year. It is greatly appreciated. Tante Grazie.

Hope the New Year will be good to all of us and give us Good Health.

Ciao,
Eva Perata, President

SAN MATEO District

Burlingame

Br. 173, Our Lady of Angels

We have had a good year and many more events to come in the following year. We have been lucky no major fires in our area nor flooding. (We could have used more rain but are lucky and grateful to live where we do).

There is a lot to be thankful for and

we are sending positive wishes to all our members in our Branch and throughout the Federation who are on our list for prayers: Mary Bodisco, Anita Cecena, Melanie Yeager and the Watterson Family, Kathy Trevizo and Jackie Barnes from Branch 19.

Thanks to all of the workers who organized the San Mateo District Chaplain's lunch which was combined with Bishop's Day and thanks to all who attended as we heard a lot of compliments.

We will hold our potluck Christmas Party on December 8, 2022, and today we will be treated to a Thanksgiving Feast for our November meeting prepared by Bob & Bea Tomasello.

We wish a blessed Christmas Season to all!
God Bless, Roz Emery

Millbrae

Br. 403, St. Dunstan

Buon Natale e felice anno nuovo a tutti! And, we hope you all had an enjoyable Thanksgiving.

There were seventeen of our members and friends who attended the "Chaplain's Afternoon" at the Basque Cultural Center on November 6th, and we all had a wonderful time. A big "thank you" to our hosts, Branch 173, Burlingame and their President, Dorene Campanile, for their work in putting this successful event together.

Our next gathering is our branch Christmas party/meeting to be held Tuesday, December 6th at the Parish Hall. Social is at 5 p.m. with a catered dinner at 5:30 p.m. If you have not sent a check for \$25 to Eunice yet, you will need to call her for a last-minute reservation at (650) 455-7440. Dinner is chicken breast stuffed with mushroom & spinach, mashed potatoes, vegetables, salad, bread, dessert, & wine. The north parking lot gate WILL be open for disabled access.

It's time to renew you ICF membership! Branch 403 dues are \$42. Please send your check, payable to "ICF BR. 403," to Eunice Danli, 4 Spring Valley Lane, Millbrae, CA 94030. You can also bring your dues in cash or check to the Christmas dinner meeting.

We only have 3 calendars remaining to sell. This year features wonderful recipes from ICF members. You are also entered into the "Daily Raffle" with your \$25 purchase. I will have these calendars with me at the December meeting.

Finally, don't forget to bring a few extra dollars to the Christmas party for our "Struggling Family" donation fund.

Ciao!
Adonna Amoroso, Corresponding Secretary



Br. 332, Members of Br. 332 Novato enjoying Italian Night festivities.

MARIN

Larkspur

Br. 161, St. James

A big THANK YOU to Imma Sotile. All year long she has kept herself busy making beautiful blankets, knitted scarfs, caps and baby clothing for our branch. These articles were donated to Homeward Bound, St. Patrick Church, Mark of Fairfax to be distributed to the homeless, the Gubi Project and other homeless shelters.

Our deepest condolences to the family of Gloria Ghirarduzzi who recently passed away. We send our thoughts and prayers to her family. She was a member of our branch for over 50 years.

December Happy Birthday wishes to Tina Bissiri, Darcy Fitzsimmons, Sylvia Mazza, and Anne Mc Donough

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

We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year filled with health, love and happiness.

Buon Natale a tutti!
Ciao,
Anna Biggio
Recording Secretary

Novato

Br. 332, Our Lady of Loretto

Our November celebration featured a wonderful polenta and stew dinner, and was highlighted by Frank Bruno, from the Isola Delle Femmine Foundation, who invited us to a private viewing of a new documentary entitled Potentially Dangerous, When It Was a Crime to Be Italian. The film chronicles the story of Italian internment during World War II and will be aired in 2023 on PBS. We are so

very grateful to Frank for the special invitation.

It was also our Branch's pleasure to designate the St. Vincent de Paul Conference of our parish as the beneficiary of our Thanksgiving Sharing Drive. The Branch donated \$500 to the group and held a food drive to stock the pantry. The overwhelming generosity of our membership filled half of the hall's stage area with canned goods, boxes of cereal, pastas, and sauces.

As for all of us, December is a very busy month for our Branch, culminating in the Christmas Dinner and Gourmet Basket Raffle, our major fundraiser for the year. The baskets, prepared by a dedicated group of volunteers, include gourmet food items, gift cards, seasonal decor, and many other surprises. The Branch Officers gratefully acknowledge the generosity of the members in providing the much-appreciated items that complete the baskets.

Our Branch wishes you all a Merry Christmas, Buon Natale a Tutti!



Br. 332, Jean and Larry showing their Sicilian pride at Italian Night.

Deadline for January *Bollettino* is December 10th.
Send articles & photos:
editor@icf.org

LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE

District Council

Happy Advent to you all. I'm pretty sure that you are all busy at this time. Everyone's shopping and baking and decorating for Christmas. But let's not forget that during this time we need to focus on the true spirit and meaning of Christmas.

Last month the district officers met at St Peter's Italian Catholic Church for our Fall quarterly meeting. We held elections and everyone is staying in place once again. Congratulations to all of our officers. You do an amazing job. After the meeting, some of us attended an Italian opera hosted by branch 67 member Francesca Taylor. That was my first opera, and it was beautiful. Kudos to the singers, dancers, and orchestra.

On November 13 we gathered at St Francis Xavier in Burbank for the Mother Cabrini Pilgrimage to honor her 76th year of her canonization. I want to thank the Cabrini committee members - Carmelo Sabatella, Andrea Linn, Lou Mages, and Fr Sebastian for a beautiful day. Maybe we can get that branch to reopen? Let's hope so.

The district is getting together on December 4 at Holy Family in South Pasadena for our district Christmas party. Branches are being asked to donate gift cards for the children with Cooley's Anemia. It's going to be a casual gathering with Christmas music, desserts, bocce and fellowship. Please invite all of your branch members and family. This is a BYOB party. Coffee and punch will be provided along with cheese and crackers. Be sure to bring cookies and desserts to share. The party will be from 2 to 5 p.m.

2023 Installation plans are still being settled. We will notify everyone on all of the details as soon as they get finalized.

On behalf of all of the officers of the Los Angeles Archdiocese District, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. Perry Shurko, district president.

Los Angeles Br. 67, National Branch, St. Peter

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

On October 30th ICF National Branch 67 Members Carmelo, Pat, Lou, Theresa, Perry and Francesca joined members of several Italian Societies including other ICF LAA District Branches for the Opera L'Italia's Production of an afternoon of "Pranzo and Opera" entitled "L'Inganno Felice (The Fortunate Deception)"

by Gioachino Rossini in Casa Italiana to help support St. Peter's Italian Church in downtown Los Angeles. Congratulations to Francesca and her Opera Italia's staff and artists for bringing this successful production to Casa Italiana. Looking forward to future Opera Italia productions, please spread the word "ICF National Branch 67 is a virtual branch that reaches out to members and nonmembers who do not have an ICF in their area and would like to be a part of the ICF Family. We also would like to have your input as we continue to develop this branch online."

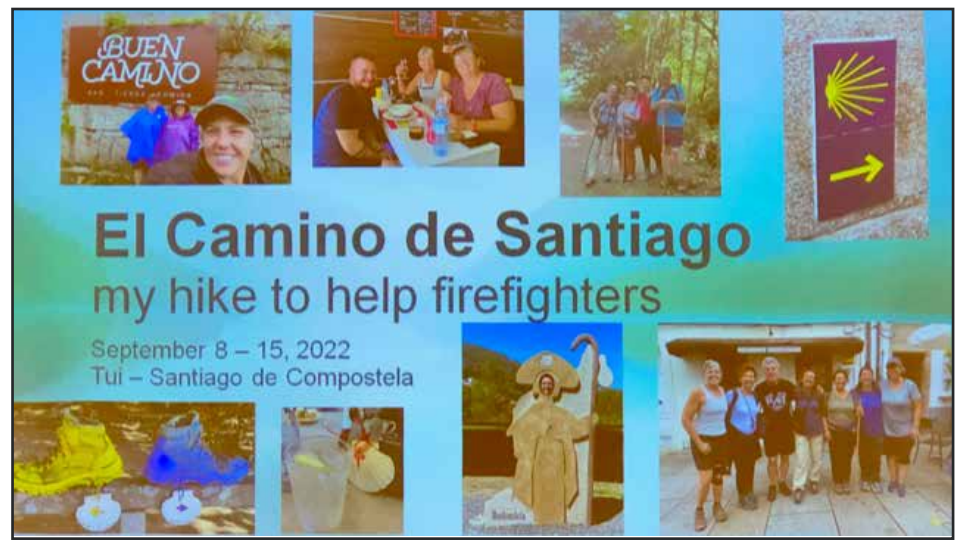
Visit ICF.org and select ICF National Branch 67 for more information. You are welcome to join us at ICFNationalBranch67.org and complete the application process.

Covid 19 is a challenge and opportunity to understand what is important in each of our lives. ICF may be just the place for you as we are multi culture-based focusing on Faith, Family, Fellowship and Food. Please keep our sick members in your prayers that they may reach a speedy recovery.

And to our former Branch members who recently have gone to their eternal reward; May they rest in peace. *Keep safe and stay healthy, Carmelo Sabatella, AIA, President ICF National Branch 67 C 626 372-7812 E Cas1810@aol.com*



Br. 67 cannolis



South Pasadena Br. 108, Holy Family

ICF wishes all members, families and friends a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2023!

On Sunday October 9th, ICF members held their monthly General Meeting in HFC Connolly Hall. Following ICF Branch business, member Elizabeth D. reported on her recent 101 mile El Camino de Santiago religious pilgrimage in Santiago de Compostela, Spain.

Additional speakers will be forthcoming at future meetings to share their domestic and international experience in the upcoming monthly meetings.

Congratulations are extended to Michael McCully and Rosemary Whitney two Branch members who made their wedding vows in Holy Family Church on October 8th!

SAVE THE DATE

Help Make a Difference This Christmas!

ICF is hosting a Wine-of-the-Month fundraiser to support Holy Family's Adopt-A-Family Program & other ICF Charities! Two winners will each receive a mixed case of red and white wines (12 bottles)- valued at over \$150, delivered to their door, for only \$10 a chance or \$25 for three! Enter

ing is easy! Simply visit our website and look for "ICF Christmas Fund-raiser," or call 626.379.0629.

The winner of the contest will be announced on LIVE Zoom to be held on December 19th at 7:00 pm. Details will be emailed closer to the date. You can still donate! Any amount will help us support others. Never has there been more of a need to offer support to all of God's families than now. God bless you and your families during this Christmas Season.

Members will celebrate November and December birthdays and anniversaries at the General Meeting to be held on December 11th followed by the ICF Branch 108 Christmas Party in HFC Connolly Hall at 2:00 p.m.

Please continue to pray for the speedy Resolution of the present crisis and to keep our sick members in your prayers for a speedy recovery; and to our former members, family members and friends of ICF who recently have gone to their eternal reward. May they rest in peace.

Keep safe and stay healthy, Carmelo Sabatella, AIA, Past President ICF Branch 108 C 626 372-7812 E cas1810@aol.com



Montebello

Br. 111, St. Benedict

Ciao a Tutti. Hello everyone. It was nice seeing many of you at our November 17th general meeting and Thanksgiving dinner at the St. Augustine House in Montebello. We hope you all had a memorable Thanksgiving.

We would like to congratulate all the members who celebrate their birthdays in the month of December: Ezio Veneziano, Sal Franco, Domenica Orofino, David Tarazon, and Linda Erickson. Happy Birthday to everyone!! Buon Compleanno a tutti!!

We would like to congratulate all the 2023 ICF 111 Officers who got nominated & elected at our October general meeting. The 2023 ICF Officer's Installation will be held at Holy Angels Catholic Church, in Arcadia, on Saturday, January 21, 2023. Mark your calendars, more details will follow.

Our Christmas Dinner will be held on Saturday, December 17, 2022, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Salvatore Italian Restaurant in Montebello. A flyer will be coming

Plan to join us and invite your family and friends for some great socializing and holiday cheer. For more information or to make reservations please call Frank at (323) 888-2074.

We are sad to report that 2 of our dear ICF members recently passed away, Cettina Mauro, age 80, passed away on Monday, October 31, 2022. Phil Pace, age 87, passed away on Friday, November 4, 2022. Let's keep Cettina and Phil and their families in our thoughts and prayers. May they Rest in Peace. Please pray our sick members and those in need; keep them also in our thoughts and prayers. Finally, we would like to wish all of you and your families a Blessed Christmas!

A Presto!
Frank Salomone
Branch 111 President



Br. 115, San Pedro Branch 1st Vice President Anna Di Leva celebrating her birthday along her husband, branch President Neal Di Leva and with Neal's sister Carmela and brother-in-law Carl D'Ambr.

San Pedro

Br. 115, St. John Joseph of the Cross

Buon Natale to all our members and their families.

Our Christmas party will be held on Dec 10th at 6 p.m. in parish auditorium. Reservations are needed by Dec 3rd. Members are free \$15.00 per non-member attending with guest. Children of members under age of 12 are free. Call Anita Trujillo 310 8327186 to reserve.

Officers who were voted in during our October meeting are Neal DiLeva President, Anna DiLeva 1st VP, 2nd Frank Cologna, Recording Secretary Nancy Ventimiglia, Financial Secretary Pauline Iacono, Orator Bob Hohman, Sentinel Isadore Cologna, Trustees Frank Amalfitano, Letizia Chaparro, Carmela Funicello and Giovanna Gioiello. Congratulations to all. Thank you to Nocolina Mattera outgoing Orator for a job well done for many years!

2023 calendars are available for sale at \$25 each. This is a fundraiser for our branch. You will receive a beautiful calendar plus a chance to win cash daily. Call Neal DiLeva to purchase 310 433-1044

Dues of \$40.00 are now payable. Dues can be mailed to Pauline Iacono 1072 W. 8th street San Pedro 90731.



Br. 179, The Lima Family.

Dues can also be paid at our monthly general meeting Jan 19th held in parish center at 7:30 p.m. Hope to see you there! Let's spread the word about the wonderful work that our ICF branch does. Please help us keep the future alive for the next generation.

Pray for our sick members and those in need at this holiday time.
Anita Trujillo Treasurer

Glendora

Br. 179, St. Dorothy

Congratulations to members Greg Lima and his new bride, Elaine (nee Alva)! May your life together be like good wine, aging to perfection!

God's blessings,
Patricia Auriemmo
Trustee

Arcadia

Br. 218, Holy Angels

We have two upcoming events in December – our Christmas party December 10 and our New Year's Eve Party December 31. The Christmas party will be catered by Domenico's this year, 3 entrees, spaghetti with meat sauce, fettuccine alfredo, chicken marsala, and a green salad and rolls. The menu also includes appetizers, drinks and dessert. Adults - \$30.00, children under 15 - \$15.00. Santa will be making an appearance and there will be music for dancing. Please RSVP to myself at 626 359-4251 or 626 533-0505 no later than December 6. Guests are welcome. Our New Year's Eve party, chaired by Scott Carrano, is a new theme this year – The Roaring Twenties. Costumes are encouraged, but not required. Members price - \$50.00, guests - \$60.00,

children from 13 to 18 - \$15.00, children younger, free. We will have a live band, the menu as of this writing has not been decided. There will be more details in the next few weeks.

A huge thank you to Linda Scerdelheyl for chairing the Christmas Boutique and to all that helped.

To everyone have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.

Lolly M.

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>



Br. 237, Russ family table sponsors enjoying the Columbus Day Celebration.



Br. 237, Justice and Jordan Roa having a ball at the annual Columbus Day dinner.

Gardena Br. 237, St. Anthony of Padua

Branch 237 hosted our annual Columbus Day Dinner-Dance with a "take me out to the ball game theme" this year. It was a great success because of the loyal parishioners of St Anthony of Padua and our faithful table sponsors!!!!

This event is our main fundraiser for our charity donations. Speaking of charity and spiritual works our small but mighty branch was the recipient of the second-place award at convention!!!

Thanks to Rose Moore our special events coordinator for many hours of her time to ensure another successful celebration.

Next is our Christmas mass and party Dec. 18th, Santa and his helpers will serve lunch and games for young and old.

Merry Christmas to all.

*Cordially,
Micheal Bohannon Roa*

"For a Child is born toys, a Son is given us; upon His shoulder Dominion rests. They name Him Wonder Counselor, God-Hero, Father Forever, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:5

Downey Br. 362, St. Raymond

It's the most wonderful time of the year! Yes, it is! Welcome to December and welcome to the season of Advent. It's preparation time, all of the hustle and bustle for the arrival of the Christ Child.

Last month our branch held a bake sale, and we did an exceptional job. We brought in over \$1,100. Joey Cavasos won \$50 in our attendance drawing and Cookie won the 50/50. Congratulations to you both. We also honored and saluted our own Bob Buckley for his service in the Air Force. A Bingo luncheon was held on November 6. Thank you all for coming out and supporting us.

This month our branch Christmas party will be held at Frantone's in Downey. This will be something new for us and the menu looks amazing, I can't wait. I know that a grand time will be had by all.

2023 Officer Installation plans are in the works. Details will come out soon on a date and place.

I hope you all have the Merriest of Christmas' this year. It was a rough couple of years, but we're back on track and I can't wait for 2023. Merry Christmas. Perry Shurko, branch president.

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

The branch held its election at the October General Meeting and elected officers and directors for 2023- 24 as follows: Phyllis Harb, President; Raul Acevedo, First Vice President; Lila Nastro, Second Vice President; Mark Mannarelli, Treasurer; Jo Barbera, Recording Secretary; Diane Restivo, Corresponding Secretary; Al Restivo,



Members of branch 374 enjoyed lunch and opera at Casa Italiana. Seated left to right: Phyllis Harb, Janice Volpe, Paula Clinnin and Raeann Mertz. Standing left to right: Robert Barber and Jo Barbera.

Orator; Robert DePietro, Financial Secretary; and Fiorina Murphy, Sentinel. Trustees (Directors) elected are Joel Wynton, Robert Barbera, Gloria McGaughey, and Maria deSalguero. The board and officers will officially begin their terms of office on January 1, 2023.

The annual Installation of Officers and Directors of the ICF Los Angeles District details will come soon.

Members of our branch are also encouraged to attend to witness the installation of our officers and directors and those of other branches in the district. It is a great annual event and lots of fun to be with so many of our brother and sisters from our district. So, plan to attend at Holy Angels in Arcadia in January. Date to be determined.

Several members attended the wonderful luncheon and Opera "L'Inganno Felice" fundraiser at Casa Italiana for St. Peter's Church. It is important to support our L.A. National Italian Church.

We will be returning to the St. John XXIII Room in the Parish Center on Tuesday, December 20th for our annual Christmas Party. Members will receive invitations to the event by mail.

*Wishing you a season that merry and bright with the light of God's love.
Diane Restivo*

Thousand Oaks Br. 380, St. Paschal Baylon

Branch 380 enjoyed a wonderful November general meeting giving thanks for our blessings. We shared holiday appetizers and wine.

We will have a Christmas celebration with details to follow. We are collecting donations for the Thalassemia Kids at Children's Hospital of gift cards from Amazon, Target, iTunes or cash. Please contact Pat Mages at 805-428-4623 to donate.

Blessings to all our members.

*Deadline for January
Bollettino is December 10th.
Send articles & photos:
editor@icf.org*



Br. 380 Halloween



Br 443 members at Bocce Tournament and BBQ Picnic



Maryann Kenyon at ICF Br 443 Simi Valley Bocce Tournament and BBQ Picnic

Simi Valley Br. 443, St. Rose

Branch 443 began its new year with its annual Bocce Picnic in September. Teams were formed for competitive games. There was plenty of food. Everyone had a great time re-connecting after a summer hiatus.

The next meeting was held on Sunday, October 30, at St Rose of Lima Church Hall. President Ritamarie Downey talked about long time member Maryann Kenyon who passed away October 5. Maryann was dedicated to our branch's mission, always with a smile. She enjoyed sharing her family history with everyone. When she visited, she always had a gift in hand for the hostess.

The meeting continued with discussion about the Music Choral appreciation dinner Branch 443 is having for St. Rose's Choir on Saturday, November 19 and the Annual Christmas Party on Sunday December 11. The Branch is also organizing a retirement/birthday celebration for Norm Ouellette who has been head of St. Rose's maintenance for decades. Other ministries of St. Rose will be helping with this event.

Barbara Tweedy, Vice President, provided the program which included information on how Halloween is celebrated in different parts of Italy. Activities included a Halloween word search and translating Italian Halloween words into English.

In recognition of All Saints Day, members presented various Saints including

St Marianne Cope who worked in the Molokai Leper Colony and St Theresa

of Calcutta. Enza Pro spoke about St. Maria Goretti and shared a relic she has of hers.

*Peace and Blessings,
Josephine M. Perini*

Rancho Palos Verdes Br. 444, St. John Fisher

Greetings to everyone after a long hot summer. Every third Friday Evening of each month we will be meeting in the Auditorium at 7:00 PM. Our President, Hany Francis and wife Carol Piccirillo, along with Marianne Canetti had a small fund raiser that evening to raise money for our Charities. They provided delicious appetizers, sausages, a variety of cheese's, macaroni balls, dessert and drinks. Bruno Vieri, our Treasurer, gave his report and we are still in the black. Our Raffle was prepared by Cristina Baldemor who manages to surprise us with unique gifts each meeting.



Br. 444 Carol Piccirillo Board Member enjoying a Trip to the Italian Museum in Downtown Los Angeles



Br. 444 St John Fisher Church with Members --Top Row: President Hany Francis, Marian Canetti, Carol Piccirillo, Bruno Vieri. Seated: Don Wayne, Betty Vieri, Cristina Baldemor, Tonia Amafitano and Mary Alley



Br.444 Cristina Baldemor & Marianne Canetti waiting to go into the Museum.

Marianne Cannetti, our Delegate to the National Convention briefed us about the detailed day to day events that occurred daily in Las Vegas. She was so impressed with the organization of each day for all the members who attended, from planned meals, special lectures, the voting of new delegates, religious ceremonies and the common seed of good will among all. We wish all the ICF Scholarship Winners and our own Scholarship Winner, Spencer Mac Leary a wonderful journey of learning. We welcomed our newest member, Mary Alley, who joined us that evening. She fit in right away. We send prayers out to our members who cannot attend, due to illness or unforeseen circumstances. Another welcome is to our new member of the Pastoral Staff, Msgr. Chaffman, who will be serving our Parish along with our Pastor Msg. Sork and Fr. Kalu. We will see everyone on November 18th, Friday at 7:00 pm in the Auditorium.

Ciao,

Patty Longo Hansen.

SAN BERNARDINO District

Redlands Br. 217, Sacred Heart

The members of Branch #217 baked biscotti and cannoli to sell along with bags of coffee. We baked 100 cannoli which soon sold out! Our members enjoyed making the desserts almost as much as selling them! What a wonderfully delicious treat! We plan to do this again in 2023, as it was quite a hit with the parishioners. We shared lunch with Bishop Rojas at Napoli Italian Restaurant on October 19, 2022. The event was very well attended, and Bishop Rojas enjoyed not only the good company, but the wonderful food.

*Christmas, my child, is love in action.
Every time we love, every time we give,
it's Christmas.*

Dale Evans Rogers

Merry Christmas

Upland Br. 446, St. Anthony's

Our November meeting was a large gathering of members and guests eager to hear our District Chaplin, Fr. Jerry Ochetti speak to all of us. His topic was "The Joy that Gratefulness Brings". He gave a very insightful talk on his life journey to the priesthood. He spoke about how his Italian Heritage inspired his life as well as the guidance he received from his family and friends. During our meeting, we were happy to welcome four new members: George Simko, Nan Judge, Jim Impastato and Joe Sciorino. Our President, Tony Santorufo, installed our new members with the assistance of San Bernardino District President John Guerin. We were especially pleased that so many parishioners joined our meeting as guests with the promise of their membership in January. Our branch is making plans to host the San Bernardino Officers Installation, Mass and luncheon on Saturday, January 7. A committee was formed to decide on procedures, catering, decorations, and entertainment. Mark Stratman, Tony Santorufo, Betty Cavanaugh, Nan Judge and Danny Centurioni are working on the event. We especially appreciate the guidance from Claremont Branch President Andrea Linn with the structure of the installation. We are all looking forward to our annual Christmas dinner on December 4 at Giuseppe's Italian Restaurant in Upland. From Branch 446, we wish Buon Natale a tutti!



Br. 446, Refreshment table with drinks, sandwiches, snacks and dessert for all members & guests



Installation of new members to Branch 446.

Zugnoni; Trustees, Fran LaTorre, James McGee and Maria Raphael; Sentinel, Carolyn Cardinelli. Our Mentor, Karen Rossi, has asked that if the Branches are having any problems to contact her to work things out.

Bishop's Day was very nice.

This meeting ended on a positive note thanks to Fran. It was Lisa's Birthday, so we celebrated with a special Chocolate Cake!

Since this is that wonderful time of the year, it is time to say have a Blessed and Happy Christmas and New Year to All!

Pat Grasso.
District Sec.

Alameda Br. 10, Nostra Signora Delle Grazie

Our annual Polenta Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, January 28 in Monsignor O'Brien Hall, High Street at Van Buren Street, Alameda. Social hour will start at 6:00 p.m., and dinner cooked by the great Ben Ratto will be served at 7:00 p.m. Details regarding the full menu, price and reservations will follow in the January *Bollettino*.

Our treasurer, Karen Harrington, reported at our November meeting that our membership holds strong at 118. Everyone paid their 2022 dues. Thanks to all. Thanks also to Karen for keeping us in business.

We are saddened to report that Holly Raineri, a longtime ICF member, died on October 28. Holly became a member in 1976 and joined Branch 10 upon the closing of Branch 223, her

previous branch. Holly and her twin sister Carol were aptly named—they were born on Christmas Day 1927.

At the time this article was submitted we were preparing for a unique event, the combined Branch 10 Ravioli Dinner and East Bay District Christmas Party, which was scheduled for Saturday evening, December 3. We expected 80 or so attendees, plus a visit by Santa Claus.

John Zugnoni
Branch 10 publicity

Fremont Br. 215, St. Francis of Assisi

Happy December and Merry Christmas!! I hope this month finds you all healthy and happy. God bless you all as we look forward to God's gift of his Son, Jesus Christ, to the world on Christmas!

Saturday, December 3rd is the Branch 10 Ravioli Dinner/East Bay District Christmas Party at 6:00 p.m. at the St. Philip Neri Hall. Please call President Fran at (510) 887-1509 if you would like more information/make a reservation.

We will be having our Christmas party on Tuesday, December 13th at Giorgio's in Milpitas. Please call President Fran at (510) 887-1509 if you would like more information/make a reservation.

Installation will be on Sunday, January 15, 2022, at 3:00 p.m. at the Fratellanza Club. Please call President Fran at (510) 887-1509 if you would like more information/make a reservation.

East Bay District Dave Rose Memorial Crab Feed is tentative at St. Philip Neri Hall on Saturday, February 25, 2023...

And please check out our Branch 215 webpage at:

<https://sites.google.com/view/italian-catholic-fed-branch215/home>

*Have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year!
Dio ti benedica,
James Francis McGee
Vice President*

Livermore Br. 285, St. Filomena

Buon Natale to all of our members and their families. We are delighted to welcome new members, Pauline Montano and Roger Martinelli.

Our recent Bingo Bash was a great success thanks to the oversight of Carolyn Cardinalli, leadership of Carlotta Schauer, and unfailing support of Patty Brick. And thanks to Phyl Buonsante for hosting our November luncheon board meeting. It was very delicious, well attended and highly productive!

If you haven't attended a meeting in a while, consider adding us to your list of New Year Resolutions! You'll be glad you did!!

The ICF Daily Raffle Calendar for 2023 is now available. The calendar makes a nice Christmas gift! There are 365 chances to win between \$30 to \$100. The cost is \$25, and the Branch keeps \$5 for each one sold. We love the original theme of "Feast with The Saints." Please contact Elaine Meier.

Please pray for those who have passed: Michael Yocham, Joe Buonsante, Tony Cimarusti, Ed Rocca, Doug Bosma, Dick Wirtenson and Susan Patkowski, as well as their families. Also please pray for our ill members, Milt Elm and Pat Brick, and their families.

We celebrated our annual Mass of Remembrance in the Chapel at St. Elizabeth Seton in Pleasanton on November 18, followed by a fabulous Thanksgiving Dinner at Vic's Restaurant.

Our Christmas Dinner will be enjoyed on Wednesday, December 7, 6pm, at Pastas in Pleasanton.

*A most Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year to you all!
Anne Suter*

[See next page for branch photos.]

**Deadline for January
Bollettino is
December 10th.
Send articles & photos:
editor@icf.org**



Br. 446, District Chaplin Fr. Jerry Ochetti speaks about his Italian Heritage

EAST BAY District Council

This has been a busy month of changing and rearranging dates for activities. Our Polenta Feed has been cancelled, so we will put all our effort into the Crab Feed on February 25th, same cook, same treats. As mentioned last month we will have our Christmas party with Br. #10 in Alameda. Hopefully you have all been contacted regarding arrangements.

This month we did hold our election. Here is our current set of Officers:

Pres. JoAnn Donivan; 1st Vice Pres. Mike Mirraglia; 2nd Vice Pres. Melody Klever; Rec. Sec, Pat Grasso; Fin. Sec. Dave Medej; Orator, Jeanette



Merry Christmas and Holiday blessings to our ICF family. Branch 82 from St. Anne's in Lodi, Ca gathers together this bright Christmas season to pray for all ICF members and their families. We pray the love of Jesus Christ, through his Most Holy Birth, brings joy to your hearts, and the love of Mary, through her selfless gift to us, leads you to love others just as selflessly. May your new year be filled with new experiences that bring you closer to our Lord and Savior.
Love and happiness to all,
Branch 82, St. Anne's Catholic Church.

Buon Natale & Felice Capo D'Anno

Franklyn Lopes, Jr.
Grand 2nd Vice President
Branch 21, Santa Cruz
Branch 227, Aptos

Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo
from
Branch 395.
Presentation
of the BVM
Stockton



Dear Brothers and Sisters
of the ICF:
Our wish for a very
Merry Christmas and a
Happy, Healthy New Year.
The Marsalli Family



Merry Christmas 2022
From the Jarrett's,
Jim, Patty and Family



Buon Natale

The Stockton District would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. May our Lord keep us healthy and safe during this holiday season, bring comfort and joy to each and everyone of us.

Branch 82
St. Anne's
Lodi, CA

Branch 395
Presentation
Stockton, CA

Branch 390
St. Bernard's
Tracy, CA



Branch 413
St. Patrick's
Angels Camp, CA

Branch 48
St. Stanislaus
Modesto, CA

Branch 139
St. Anthony's
Manteca, CA

**MERRY CHRISTMAS and
HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

from the Officers and Members
Branch 391, St. Martin of Tours
San Jose, CA



I Membri della Sezione 210 della Federazione Cattolica Italiana inviano Auguri per un Benedetto Natale e un Felice, Sano e Prospero Anno Nuovo.

The Members of the Italian Catholic Federation Branch 210 send Best wishes for a Blessed Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.



Buon Natale a Tutti

from

Saint Anthony Branch 446
Upland, California



ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION
Santa Rosalia Branch 36/Monterey



The Officers and Members
of Santa Rosalia Branch #36
in Monterey
Wish Everyone a Very Merry
Christmas and
a Happy New Year.
Buon Natale e Felice Anno
Nuovo a Tutti!



Wishing all our ICF friends
and family many
Christmas Blessings
And all the best in the New Year
The Officers and Members of
Branch #343
Our Lady of Grace,
Castro Valley

A silent night,
a star above,
a blessed gift
of hope and love.

Sending a
very blessed
Christmas wish
to you.



Italian Catholic Federation • Branch 28, Gilroy, CA



*Buon Natale e
Buon Capo D'Anno!*



Lauren Kilcullen,
Grand Secretary





**BUON NATALE e
FELICE CAPO D'ANNO!**
FROM
I.C.F. BRANCH 435,
SANTA CATERINA
D'ALESSANDRIA
IN MORGAN HILL, CA

*The Contra Costa District sends warmest wishes for
faith, hope and peace this Christmas season.*



Buon Natale



*The Beauty of the
Christmas season can
remind us of all
the beauty in life that we
take for granted.
Our family, our friends
and our faith.
Wishing all my wonderful ICF
family and friends a very Blessed
and
Merry Christmas
Much love to you all,
Lisa Crudo and family*

Branch 218 would like
to wish everyone a
*Merry Christmas and
a Happy New Year*



**We wish
everyone a
Blessed and
Merry
Christmas!**

**Branch 442 Pleasant Hill
Christ The King Church**



MAGGIORA JEWELRY

Your source for ICF jewelry!
20% of Sales are donated to ICF



**BUON NATALE!
E FELICE CAPO D'ANNO!!**



415 362-4412
jjdon@pacbell.net

Jo-Ann M. Donovan

833 Market St. Suite 521
San Francisco, Ca. 94103



LUKE 11:13

**IF YE THEN, BEING EVIL, KNOW HOW TO GIVE GOOD GIFTS UNTO YOUR
CHILDREN: HOW MUCH MORE SHALL YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER GIVE THE
HOLY SPIRIT TO THEM THAT ASK HIM? KJV**



We wish you every happiness for a
Holy Christmas and for the New Year.
Buon Natale e Capo D'Anno
From the Officers and Members
of Branch 7, Sacro Cuore

Blessings To All

From the members and Officers of Branch #32

Fresno



May Peace, Love & Joy be yours this Holiday Season.

*Possa la tua famiglia essere benedetta in
questo periodo natalizio
e per tutto il nuovo anno.*

*Buon Natale!
Denise, Marie, Germaine & Michelle
Antonowicz*

*The Officers and members of the
East Bay District wish all of
our ICF family and friends a
very Blessed Christmas, and a
happy, healthy and prosperous
New Year.*

***Christmas Blessings to all our
I.C.F. Brothers and Sisters.***

Bob and Kathy Acquistapace



★
And,
He will be
called Wonderful
Counselor, Mighty God
Everlasting Father, Prince
of Peace. —Isaiah 9:6
Christmas Blessings + Br.#13 Martinez



Branch 185,
Sacred Heart,
in Fresno
Sends Wishes for
a
Merry Christmas
and
a Happy New
Year!



Ciao a tutti!
Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo!
Dalla famiglia ICF - Chiesa St. Dorothy
Branch 179
Glendora, CA

BUON NATALE E FELICE ANNO NUOVO
A TUTTI!
BRANCH #229, ST. ROSE OF LIMA
CHULA VISTA, CA



Merry Christmas
and
Best Wishes!
From
The Fuentes Family




The members of Branch 342 in
Auburn would like to wish their
fellow ICF members
a blessed Christmas and
a very prosperous New Year.

Buon Natale e Auguri per un
Felice 2023
Branch 332, Novato




The Officers and
Members of
St. Elizabeth,
Branch 258,
San Francisco
wish all of our
Members and
their Families
a very Blessed Christmas and a
Happy and Healthy New Year.



*Buon Natale
e Felice Anno Nuovo
From the Members
of Branch 14, Crockett*

Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo

From the Officers and
Members of
Branch 173—Burlingame






Wishing everyone the gift of faith,
and the peace of His love
at Christmas and always.



From the Officers and Members of
St. Frances Cabrini
Branch #191
San Jose

Wishing Peace and
Blessings for All at
Christmas and
the New Year

St. Michael, Br. 209
Sebastopol




*Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year
from the Officers and Members of the
Santa Clara Valley District*

Br. 5	St. Clare	Santa Clara
Br. 28	St. Mary	Gilroy
Br. 47	St. Joseph	Mountain View
Br. 184	St. Mary	Los Gatos
Br. 191	St. Frances Cabrini	San Jose
Br. 368	Santa Teresa	San Jose
Br. 391	St. Martin	San Jose
Br. 408	Resurrection	Sunnyvale
Br. 435	St. Catherine	Morgan Hill
Br. 445	Transfiguration	San Jose





Br. 285, Three generations at Bingo!



Br. 285, Great fun!

Castro Valley Br. 343, Our Lady of Grace

Tis the season to be jolly and prepare for the coming of the Christ Child. As we run around in circles, let us take time to think about what the message of the season really all is about.

We tried our second indoor meeting and gathered the same number of participants and were able to have our election of officers. The following were nominated and elected: Pres, Leonard Rossi; Vice Pres. Margaret Speranza; Rec.Sec. Pat Grasso; Fin. Sec. Al Proletti; Treasurer, Lisa Cru- do; Orator, Maria Ruggeri; Sentinel, Dorothy Cassini; Trustees: Melinda Klever, Ed McGuirk and David Tad- dei. Installation will be Jan.15,2023 at the Fratallanso Club. This time we had Lisa's most delicious Minestrone Soup, Next meeting is 12/08/22, it will be a Christmas party and no meeting.

We are planning a Canoli Fund Raiser this year. Since they were well liked at our church's 76th Ann. we decided to give it a try. For \$20.00 we will give you 4 shells, a frozen bag of filling, a bag of tiny chocolate chips and a bag of powdered sugar. You as- semble and serve with your Christmas dinner.

Karen reported that we sold all of our calendars this year. Thank you to all who bought them.

And a Holy and Blessed Christmas to you and your family and a Happy New Year.

*Pat Grasso,
Branch Sec.*

CONTRA COSTA District Council

Happy Holidays to all from the Con- tra Costa District. We had a wonder- ful Bishop's Day celebration with the East Bay District with Bishop Michael Barber, S.J. and our seminar- ians. The liturgy was lovely, and the dinner following was quite festive. Many thanks to St. Catherine's in Martinez for hosting such a delightful evening!

Our District Christmas party will be held on December 6 at De Vino's Restaurant in Pleasant Hill at 5:45 pm. We will have a no host dinner followed by a raffle. Each branch will be emailed a flyer with all the details. Deadline to RSVP to your Branch president is December 2. Our Installa- tion of Officers will be held in



Some Members of Crockett #14, gathering together to get the hall ready for their Polenta Dinner. Great job everyone. Thank you for all your sup- port, much appreciated.

January. The Concord branch is hosting and working on the date and details which will be forthcoming.

Our last District meeting and elections were held on November 15. The list of officers will be posted next month.

*Buon Natale e un Felice Anno Nuovo!
Diana Letizia Mackinson,
First Vice President
Contra Costa District*

Martinez Br. 13, San Martino

As we journey through December, we spend much time preparing for Christ- mas day: shopping and wrapping presents, writing and sending cards, and decorating our homes and trees. It can be a challenge to stay peaceful, to remember that we are readying our hearts and minds for the celebration of our Lord's birth during Advent.

The bustle and hustle of the world seems constant and can bring us a sense of being unsettled and pro- ducing anxiety. Let Mary help set the calming tone by celebrating the Solemnity of the Immaculate Concep- tion on December 8. Let our weekly- themed prayers of hope, love, joy, and peace soothe us; and let His grace flow through our very beings with Christmas peace.

Branch #13 members wish all Federa- tion members a blessed Christmas as we and the angels sing songs of His birth and herald in the New Year!

Hark!

Ciao for now, Mary Cook

Crockett Br. 14, San Carlo

Christmas Greetings, Everyone.

Our Polenta Dinner was both fun and profitable. Not only was the food great, as usual, but the lively, festive



Thanks members who helped with the delicious Thanksgiving Dinner at Crockett #14.

See highlights from
Contra Costa & East Bay
Districts Bishop's Day
on pages 1 and 4.

gathering of friends, after such a long hiatus, was uplifting.

Congratulations to our 2023 officers: President, Donna Hoffmann; 1st Vice President, Nancy Carlos; 2nd Vice President, Dee Carone; Recording Secretary, Kathleen Thomas; Treas- urer, Carl Heller; Financial Secretary, Roni Jimenez; Orator, Sylvia Smith; Trustees Clo Haisley, Vonda Egan- Lesti, and Racquel Gutierrez; Senti- nel, Derek Petersen, and Chaplain, Fr. Leo Asuncion. All such good worker bees! Officers send thanks to all mem- bers for your continued support.

Please remember very special prayers for strength and courage for Jon and Linda Wolthuis and their family. Also, we send healing prayers for Wanda Abbondonza, Ron Costa, Rita DeTo- masi, Helen Peterson and Bill Valli, and sympathies to the Duckworth Family and to Elma Nursement's fam- ily. Elma was a longtime member who was always high-spirited and fun.

Yes, 'tis the season to be jolly, and our branch is ready to celebrate at our Christmas Appetizer Social on De- cember 13th, at 5:30. There is neither a mass nor meeting, but children's activities and an open bar promise to start the festivities while awaiting a visit from Santa. Seeing member's children and grandchildren at our Christmas party is the best!

And after Santa, quickly begins a new year. Hope to see you at our January 10th meeting, where we greet 2023 with our annual soup, salad, and garlic bread dinner, followed by Panetone and eggnog.

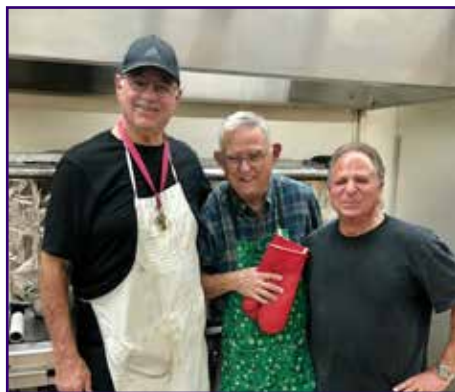
May your Christmas be bright and beautiful, and May 2023 bring peace and good health, and blessings that make your heart sing!

Diane Bottini Thomas

[See more photos on next page.]



Who is this mask onion slicer?? Oh My, It is Jimmy Thomas, head cook, from Crockett #14, getting ready for the Polenta Dinner. Thank you for your dedication.



Dennis Hoffmann, Jimmy Thomas and Al DiPrima our Turkey cookers at Crockett #14. Thanks for a great dinner.

Pittsburg Br. 72, San Domenico

Dear Members,

Hope all of you are well and happy.

A few of our members attended the Bishop's day Mass and dinner for the Oakland Diocese. Our Contra Costa District and the East Bay district is part of the Oakland Diocese. The festivities were enjoyed by all. We thank branch 13 Martinez for hosting. It was Pittsburg's turn to present the spiritual offerings. Jim Jarrett made the presentation. There were also monetary donations given to the Bishop from our Districts and the Central Council. It was a lovely evening. Thank you to Josie Leontini for making a donation toward this event.

Please plan to attend the District Christmas party. It will be held December 6 at De Vito's restaurant in Pleasant Hill. The no host dinner starts at 5:45 pm and a raffle will follow. There are four dinner choices. Unless done, Call Patty at 925. 957. 6457 to RSVP.

We do not have our next meeting date selected yet. Once confirmed, all will be notified. You will also be given the date and details for the Installation of officers coming up in January. The Concord branch will host.

Congratulations to Roselynn and Aaron McNeal. They recently celebrated their church wedding in New Mexico.

*Wishing all a Merry Christmas and as we say in Pittsburg, Sempre Avanti.
Your President and friend,
Patty*

Concord Br. 214, Todos Santos

Well, the holidays are upon us. How fast this year is going by.

We truly enjoyed the Bishops Day Celebration on Saturday, October 22nd. There was a mass with an amazing choir. We enjoyed a delicious dinner buffet. We had 10 members from our branch who attended and really enjoyed the celebration at St. Catherine of Siena Church.

We have many things planned in the upcoming months.

We are going to DaVinos for the annual district Christmas party where there will be good food and many raffle prizes. We hope many branches attend. This is to be held on December 6th.

With the help of JoAnn Lee and TerriAnn, we have six new members joining our branch and hope to get more.

On December 5th, Jim Villa will celebrate a BIG birthday this year. We wish him many more years of health and happiness.

Our branch is having our annual Thanksgiving dinner at our meeting on November 17th. Roberta, our president makes a delicious turkey, and the members bring all the sides and desserts. We have a toys for tots drive and the Marines will come and pick up our donations. We will also have a vendor selling Christmas items. This is a fun night.

We also are planning our Christmas brunch which will be held at La Veranda on December 4th. Many fun functions to look forward to.

We stop and reflect and pray for our sick friends and family who are not doing well. We pray for their recovery to good health.

We wish you a happy holiday season filled with love and health.

*Con Amore,
Norene DeLuca*

Danville Br. 352, San Isidore

Our November dinner meeting was packed! If you want our members & guests to turn out in large numbers, offer a traditional menu of spaghetti & meatballs, including insalata mista & garlic bread – with pumpkin pie for dessert. The ultimate comfort food! It was a great way to usher in the Thanksgiving holiday. We also elected our 2023 Branch officers – and look forward to the new ideas to come! Congratulations, all!

Break out the Good Cheer! Our Branch's annual Christmas Potluck is set for Monday, December 12th at 6pm. We are looking forward to

sharing those amazing favorite family recipes – it's always one of our best gatherings of the year and no one leaves hungry! No meeting that night – just holiday fun & camaraderie ... and maybe a little entertainment, too!

Save the Date: Our January Crab Feed is set for Monday, January 23rd. You won't want to miss it – it's a sell-out every year. Watch your email for additional detail – and reserve early!

As 2022 winds to an end, we look forward to spending the Christmas season with family & friends. Continue to keep our members in your prayers, as we wish one and all the gifts of peace, good health & happiness in the coming year.

*Buon Natale,
Branch 352*

Brentwood Br. 432, Immaculate Heart of Mary

The Italian Catholic Federation, Branch 492, participated in the annual Marian Conference, held at Immaculate Heart of Mary in Brentwood, California, on October 15, 2022. One of the main features at the conference

was our "International Rosary", where different cultures within our parish represented the community in praying a decade of the rosary in their own languages. This year the Italian language was spoken by our own member, Ms. Laura Pierce, (seen in the picture at the ambo). Other languages prayed were Vietnamese, English, Spanish, and Tagalog. Apostolic participation in Action!

At our October Dinner Meeting, on the 24th of October, ICF invited the teens and staff from our Youth Group to join us for dinner. At that dinner, the ICF members presented Julie Figureroa (Director of Youth Ministry) with a \$1,000 check. ICF wanted to recognize all the teens in the Youth Group, for their help and support during our Annual ICF Car Show. The teens were very helpful and volunteered in serving dinner as well as helping with the clean-up. With the ICF members help AND the teens' help, our Car Show was a big success! We'd like to recognize JULIE FIGUREROA, for the amazing job she does with the IHM Youth Ministry!



Br. 432, event

Pleasant Hill Br. 442, Christ the King

The holidays are upon us. Such a bustling and busy time of year! I hope you had a lovely Thanksgiving with your family and friends and now are preparing for Christmas in this season of Advent.

The quarterly Mass on October 30 was held with a small core group of Branch 442 members attending. Those present enjoyed their time together at Mass and then at the brunch following.

There was plenty of rich discussion at the November officers' meeting in preparation for the December meeting. The last general members' meeting of the year will be held in the Parish Hall on December 11 at 1pm. The menu for that event will be "antipasti pesanti" e dolci. Our branch, like last Christmas, is hoping to "adopt" the Bay Area Crisis Nursery for Christmas giving. Please be looking for more details in the upcoming email for making donations to this worthy organization.

President Diana Mackinson gave a report on the Anniversary Dinner held in September. Because of so many members' involvement and generosity, the net profit was appreciatively amazing! Thank you to all of you who supported this event. The dinner was delicious from start to finish with a touch of limoncello at the end, and the many amazing raffle prizes that were presented.

*Allora, per ora, Buon Natale a tutti e Felice Capo d'anno! State attenti della Befana!!
Ci vediamo quando siamo piu' vecchi,
Teri Martinucci Hurlbut*

BLESSED SACRAMENT District

Sacramento Br. 45, St. Mary

Members and guests had a great time at our last Polenta and Chicken dinner of the year on November 6th. We celebrated our Eighth Grade and College Scholarship winners. As pictured in this issue, Maddie Lucas, Kyla Newman, Matthew Ielati (8th Graders), and Rebecca Ielati (2nd Year College) were recognized. Holden Luhrs (8th Grader) and Siena Mazza (4th Year College) were unable to join us. We wish all our winners much success!! Also pictured and recognized were our scholarship donors, Lee Bennett and Don Pasquini. We are so thankful for their continued generosity to St. Mary's School 8th graders.

We will be having a Christmas dinner

at Vince's Restaurant but as of this writing, plans are not finalized. Look for more info in the Church bulletin or by email. In December, our Board will be meeting to complete our calendar for 2023 and announcement of our dinners will be sent out in January.

Buon Compleanno to those members with birthdays in December: Bill Boruff, Dollie Isola, B.B. Wright, Robin Graziani Mazza, Siena Mazza.

*Have a blessed day!
Happy and Blessed Holidays to You All
Ciao, Janine*

Auburn Br. 342, St. Joseph

After a very long break due to the pandemic, we are very excited that we will be having our annual Polenta dinner is person! This very popular event will take place on Sunday, January 15th at St. Teresa Hall in Auburn. Dinner tickets are \$30 per person (\$10 for children under 10) and we will be serving polenta, chicken, salad, rolls and dessert. No host cocktails will begin at 5:30 p.m. and dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. Dancing will follow dinner. We have some fantastic raffle prizes and silent auction items. Tickets can be purchased from Bridget (530-906-0634) or MaryAnn (916-759-8466). We hope you will be able to join us for this very fun event.

The members of Branch 342 would like to wish their fellow ICF members a very Merry Christmas and a New Year filled with much happiness and health.

*Ciao!
Pam Andersen*

Roseville Br. 438, St. Clare of Assisi

October was a busy month for Branch 438. Our Branch meeting featured a yummy dessert buffet which satisfied the sweet tooth in all of us. We were honored to have Dr. Fitzwater, executive director and founder of the Joshua House, as our guest speaker for the evening. She explained the important work they do providing hospice services for the homeless in our area. Capping off the evening



Br. 45 Scholarship winners and donors pictured from left - Rebecca Ielati, Kyla Newman, Matthew Ielati, Don Pasquini, Maddie Lucas, and Lee Bennett

was the election of our 2023 Board. Congratulations to our new Board members! We appreciate all you do.

Our annual Harvest Bake Sale on October 22nd and 23rd was a great success. Because of the many bakers and volunteers, we collected over \$2,000.00 in donations! What a great way to raise money for our various charities. Thank you to Connie Terry and Joe Aguilar for chairing this event.

Branch 438 once again manned two precincts here at St. Clare for the Nov. 8th Elections.

Our many volunteers not only helped make this a successful fundraising event, but they also fulfilled an important civic duty.

You won't want to miss our November Branch meeting on Nov. 18th. Our ICF family will be sitting down for a traditional Thanksgiving feast, complete with turkey and all the fixings. Let's come together to thank the Lord for all our blessings.

The beautiful Holiday season is right around the corner. We wish everyone a blessed and joyful Christmas filled with love and peace!

*Buon Natale!
Anne Finn*

SANTA ROSA District Council

Hic sum... already in November and our next District Council Meeting will be at Cloverdale #75 on 12-4 at 1:30 p.m. Hot and cold appetizers and cake for dessert.

Come one, come all. Always content to see our members AND do not forget our Installation Ceremony on February 4th, 2023 in Petaluma at St. James Hall at 1:00 p.m. All members are welcome, and you will be given the opportunity to confirm your presence. It is then that I will pass the pen to Lauren Kilcullen as your new Recording-Secretary. In the meantime, I will e-mail our next District Council Minutes taken at Cloverdale to all serving presidents. Happy Thanksgiving!!

*Regards and cum amicis bonis
Marilyn Sylvestri
Recording-Secretary*

Sonoma Br. 103, St. Sebastian

Our membership drive continues to show results! Welcome to our new members: Carol Whitson and Barbara Nobles. Let's continue to spread the word about our wonderful organization and see if we can continue driving our branch numbers up. Anyone from the Sonoma or Napa Valleys are welcome to join our branch.

2023 dues are coming soon, please renew your membership as we want everyone to continue as members of our wonderful branch. We have wonderful events planned for 2023. We will have a February Valentine's Dinner and a September Harvest Dinner plus quarterly ICF masses. Watch for more details to come on the dinners and quarterly mass dates and times.

We have open officer positions available for 2023...President and Trustees, if you are interested in any of these positions, please come to our next branch meeting.

We continue to pray for our sick members and their families, our wish is everyone will be back to good health soon.

To those of our members celebrating a December birthday - Buon Compleanno!

Our next branch meeting will be held on Monday, December 12th at 7pm in the parish office (469 Third St. West). Hope to see some new faces.

*Buon Natale e felice anno nuovo!
Lisa Galli-Galetto*

Petaluma Br. 127, St. Vincent

Dear members,

Hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends.

We have decided to meet in December, our regular Monday night, December 12. We are going to have a potluck to celebrate the holiday season. If you have not been attending but would like to come for that please call Lucy and let us know. The more members the merrier the celebration.

At the beginning of the year, we have two very important events coming up. On January 14 we will be holding a crab feed (if the crabs cooperate.) We are also in charge of the installation of officers for our district. That will be held on February 4 in St. James Hall at 1 PM. All members are welcome to attend but again you need to let us know ahead of time if you are planning on being there.

*May the peace and joy of the Christmas season be with you and yours,
with prayers Dennice DiGirolamo*

Arcata

Br. 144, St. Mary

What a great turnout at our November meeting as we welcome THREE new members!

Todd Ellis, Deacon Jon and Lisa Pedicino! See picture ICFNovMtg.1

Thank you, Deputy Joe Bonino of Branch #145, for officiating.

Todd is grandson of Nelo and Lena Dalporto, who were charter members of our branch! He wants to continue the family heritage of being involved in the ICF.

Jon and Lisa have been St. Mary's members for 20 years and have been impressed by the activity of our branch. All three of their children have been recipients of ICF scholarships. Both are professors at College of the Redwoods.

We ask all to keep Linda Spallino, chapter president, in your thoughts and prayers as she begins 30 days of chemo and radiation treatments in San Francisco beginning November 7.

We also pray that Elena David, past treasurer and charter member, can be transferred to a skilled nursing facility closer to home. She is currently at Windsor Home Care in Petaluma.

The 2023 ICF calendars are beautiful and greatly desired and selling out fast!

Submitted by Anne Carlisle Eanni, Secretary.

Eureka

Br. 145, St. Ambrose

At our October meeting the membership decided to have our Christmas party at the

meeting on Tuesday December 13th starting at 5:30 p.m. It will be open to parishioners interested in joining the ICF as well as our regular members.

The food will be a hors 'oeuvres potluck prepared by our members. Hopefully we will be able to get a few interested attendees to sign on the application's dotted line with this effort.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

Santa Rosa

Br. 198, St. Eugene

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Our Branch has experienced a real loss with the passing of Nancy Azevedo on October 9th. A member of our Branch for almost 25 years, she was a really great and caring Financial Secretary. May she, and all our deceased brothers and sisters, Rest in Peace!



Br. 144, November meeting

The November election gave us these officers for 2023:

- President: Doreen O'Rourke
- Vice President: Michael Milano
- Financial Secretary: Linda Sherman
- Recording Secretary: Gail Bongiazevedo
- Treasurer: Robert Acquistapace
- Trustees: Marc Bisio, Steve Azevedo
- & Butch Bondi
- Orator: Lynette Lucia
- Sentinel: Bill Pisenti

You should thank these officers for their willingness to lead in 2023.

With Thanksgiving behind us, we should all look forward to a Happy and Holy Christmas. May you and your family experience the true joy of this special season and may your New Year bring you good health and happiness.

*Buon Natale a Tutti,
Gail Bongiazevedo*

P.S. Remember, pay your dues early for 2023!

FRESNO

District

Madera

Br. 27, Santissimo Crocifisso

Greetings to all members,

Our last regular meeting of the year was held on November 8th. We enjoyed a delicious chicken dinner with salad, potato casserole, rolls and pumpkin pie for dessert. Thank you to Jennifer and Marcia Valorosi for furnishing the dinner.

A typically spirited "Italian" discussion was held to determine final arrangements for our annual Christmas party. It will be held at Gabriela's restaurant on December 11th. Please

watch your mail for invitations and reservation materials. This will be a fun time with a delicious lunch.

Elections for 2023 officers were held. Thank you to all for participating in this process.

*Wishing all a Happy Thanksgiving,
Mary Keitz*

Fresno

Br. 32, St. Alphonsus

Hello from Branch #32. We just had the meeting for November. We are looking forward to our membership drive in December. We will provide free cookies at the 4:15 mass on Saturday and donuts at our 7:30 and 9:30 mass, Sunday morning. We hope to see more members at our meetings. We are looking forward to starting a wonderful New Year and trying to recruit more members. I think next year should be better. Covid has really taken a toll on our branch because we weren't able to meet. God, we thank you for your goodness, your grace, and your mercy. We continue to pray for our members, especially those who are sick and in need.

*Ciao,
Monica Fischer*

Sanger

Br. 70, Sant' Antonio

Greetings from Branch 70 in Sanger! We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Things have been fairly quiet in the Sanger area. We had our first meeting in three months on Oct 29 due to the illness of Josie Lopez, mother of our president, Kay Lopez. Thank the Lord, she has recovered and is doing fine.

Now that things are getting back on track, we are planning a bake sale but have not finalized a date due to the holiday season coming up.

We do have some birthday wishes for our vice President, Bob Merlo. Happy 81st birthday! Also, Ralph and Rosemary Wymenga are on vacation in Argentina. We pray for a wonderful trip and safe travels home.

As I am writing this, rain is falling, and I am thanking God for answered prayers.

God Bless you all this Christmas season.

Orsolina Casella



Melissa Squeo-Rodriguez, Caroline Sem-check, Guest, Linda Stockwell, Dolores Guaglianone, and Flora DePasquale.

Clovis

Br. 250, Our Lady of Perpetual Help

November birthday greetings to Sylvia Dalton, Cynthia Newton, John Rainaldi, Ron Travis, and Rich Zanarini!

Our 50th Branch anniversary was very successful. Many thanks to Rich and Mary Zanarini for their work in planning and coordinating the event. The large crowd enjoyed the food, music, and fellowship. And a big "well done" to Melissa Squeo as the Master-of- Ceremony. Charter members LeRoy and Dolores Guaglianone, Verona DeLuca, and Angelo and LeAnne Lavagnino were recognized.

Saint of the Month: Albert the Great (1200-1280): considered one of the church's great intellects: today is considered among the first and greatest natural scientists, particularly gifted in mathematics, physics, and chemistry; canonized by Pope Pius XI in 1931.

This month's general meeting featured several different varieties of home-made soups-all were delicious!

Philosopher Angelino says "Chi DaVecchio S'Innamora, E Pazzo E Va In Malora". "He Who Falls in Love In Old Age, Is Crazy And Will Be Ruined".

We are pleased to announce four new members have joined our Branch: Sharon Arnold, Carol Rice, Melissa Squeo Rodriguez, and Vincent Rodriguez.

Reminder: Our Christmas party will be December 6 in the small room of Notre Dame Hall.

Here's a thought appropriate for November:

"Thank you, Lord, for all those whose courage paved the way to our freedom. May their memory always motivate us to a fresh appreciation of country and liberty and honor" (Anon)

*Ciao,
Fratello Angelo
[Next page for more pictures.]*



Br. 250, Master of Ceremonies, Melissa Squeo-Rodriguez.

Madeline Conatser & Sherry Attolico.



Br. 250, Shirley Mitchell, Alice Reyes, Guest, Jeannette Couch.



Br. 250, Wes Johnson, Guest, and Doug Duke.



Br. 250, Isabel Ronzano and Chair Couple, Mary and Rich Zanarini.

Fresno

Br. 308, St. Anthony

Hello members.

Merry Christmas!

At our November meeting we enjoyed delicious turkey, gravy cooked by Bernie and Susan. Club members supplied all the trimmings.

Our DiCicco's fund raiser was a success. Big THANK YOU to Debbi Jorgensen for her hard work in putting this event together. As always, a big THANK YOU to Bernie, Larry, Russ, Tim, Nicholas for making and selling our sausage sandwiches. Our October sausage sale was supplemented with handmade decorative pumpkins made and donated by Flora Depasquale.

Jo Soligian will donate succulents to be sold at our next Sandwich sale.

The Nick and Angie Diliddo Scholarship has been established to benefit club members' children and grandchildren that are graduating in 2023. The application is simple: submit a short bio to the club, preferably written by the child. Frank Diliddo will present checks during one of our Spring meetings. Recipients and their parents are required to attend.

Antoinette Pecora's friend Jeanne Stark donated a beautiful handmade kitchen themed quilt to the club. It will be the featured item in a gift basket to be raffled at the February meeting. Tickets will be available at our next sausage sandwich sale and January meeting.

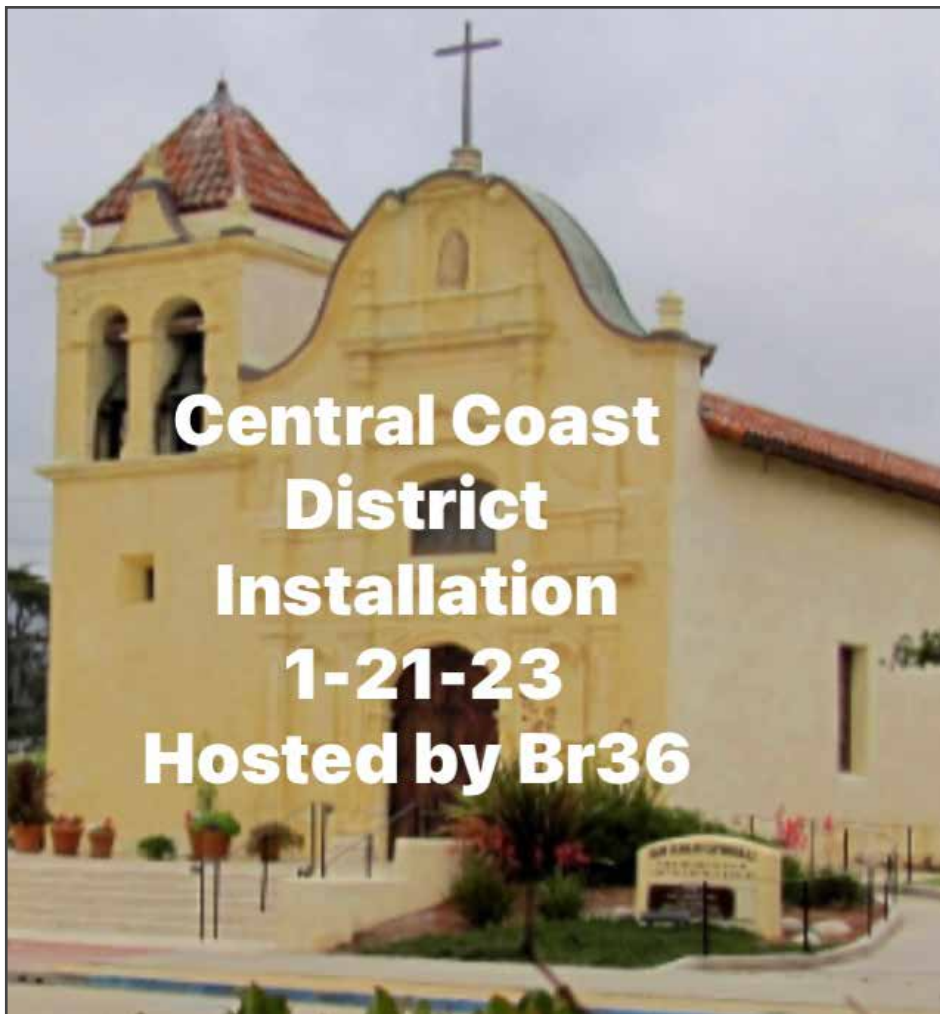
Our Christmas Dinner will be at Pardini's on December 14th 6 p.m. Bring an unwrapped toy to be donated to Valley Children's Hospital.

Our club continues because of the hard work and dedication of the members.

Merry Christmas!

Jay Newsome

President



Branch 36 Dinner



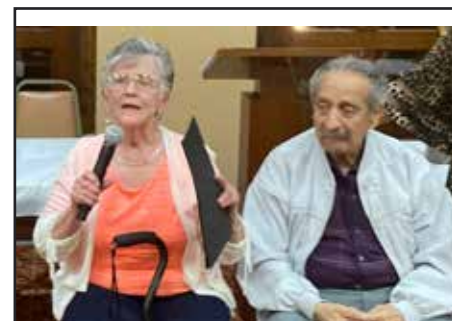
Br. 36, Ruth Flynn and Friends



Br. 36, Antonia Ruccello and Turie Cavaliere



Br. 36, Linda Radley - Annie Ferrante - Josephine Favazza



Br. 36, Joann and Jim Riso

CENTRAL COAST District

Santa Cruz

Br. 21, N.S. Del Soccorso

Buon Natale, Feliz Navidad!! 'Tis the season of eggnog and brandied fruit cake, of Christmas trees and outdoor lights, chilly nights and cozy fires; it's a time of fellowship and happy gatherings. This year, to celebrate Christmas, we will join the Marconi Club at the Moose Hall on Saturday, December 17th, for a Prime Rib dinner. All Branch 21 members are invited so make your reservations early with Roseann Costabile. The Prime Rib dinner will cost \$40 and if you prefer grilled chicken, then it will cost \$35.

We need to apologize for the several Branch 21 events that were scheduled and whose dates were either changed or canceled altogether. There were circumstances beyond our control that facilitated the changes. We try very hard to keep our events going and viable, and we hope you were not inconvenienced. Next year, we hopefully will have more events that y'all can attend. So, stay tuned.

Finally, though we might have thought Covid was going to lay dormant forever, it didn't. People are contracting the virus again. So please wear masks, wash your hands frequently, and avoid crowded in-door spaces. Also, as is usual, there will not be a General Meeting in December.

Happy Christmas and remember, Jesus is the reason for the Season. May the Good Lord continue to bless us.

Patty Morelli
Trustee- Branch 21



Br. 36, Carmela Mary Cardinale
1938 - 2022

Monterey Br. 36, Santa Rosalia

Wishing you a Merry Christmas blessing to all our members and their families. May your holidays be Merry and Bright, and may the New Year give you joy, love, health, and happiness.

"The beauty of Christmas is not in the presents but in His presence" Matthew 1:23

October 27, 2022, we had our Fall dinner/meeting

Thank you, Sandie Russo, for making our Hall so festive with our autumn theme. Thank you, Eddie, George Leonard and kitchen crew, for preparing a delicious dinner. (Wedge salad, roasted pork loin, mashed potatoes, gravy, green bean, and assorted pies for dessert)

Thank you for Denise Antonowicz, 1st Grand Vice President, Franklyn Lopes, 2nd Grand Vice President, Bob Basuino, Grand Trustee, Julie Richards, Central Coast District President for attending our dinner/ meeting.

Elaine Valentine, President honored Joann Riso for all her hard work and dedication she gave Branch 36. Joann was very surprised, and she was happy that all her family present. Joann was given a bouquet of roses and a certificate of appreciation and dedication of 16 years. Thank you, Joann Riso.

Election was held during our business meeting.

Congratulations to our 2023 Officers
President: Elaine Valentine
1st Vice Pres: Eddie Leonard
2nd Vice Pres: Antonia Ruccello
Rec Sec: Florence Cavaliere
Cors Sec: Annamaria Stanton
Fin Sec: George Leonard
Treasurer: Catherine Elder
Orator: Jane Gasperson
Trustee: Turie Cavaliere
Trustee: Vincent Malfitano
Sentential: Sandie Russo
Past President: Joe LoManto (not an elected position).

We are saddened to report that Carmela Cardinale recently passed away. Our condolences to her husband, Gasper, and her family. May she Rest in Peace.

January 21, 2023. Central Coast District installation of 2023 Officers, hosted by Branch 36, Monterey Santa Rosalia. Mass 11:00 AM at San Carlos Cathedral, followed by a luncheon.

February 24, 2023 – 1st Lenten Dinner at San Carlos Hall, dine-in and take outs.

Christmas Magic is silent; you don't hear it. You feel it, You know it, You believe it.

*Happy New Year,
Elaine Valentine
President Br 36*

[See previous page for pictures]

Castroville Br. 51, Santa Caterina de Siena

As we start the holiday season, we would like to wish Buon Compleanno to our December members, Larry Barlow and Zachary Barlow, Nonno and Nipote respectively. We celebrated our I.C.F. family and all that we are thankful for during a breakfast meeting on Saturday, Nov. 19, at a local restaurant where we discussed our successful Bishop's Day event, ideas for future events, and voting on the 2023 Board. 2023 looks to be a great year for Branch 51!

*Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo,
Stefani Cortopassi*

Aptos Br. 227, St. Joseph's

Many thanks to Sharleen Hedgpath and her crew for a great Thanksgiving dinner at our November meeting. Sharleen always steps up to the plate and does such a good job on food preparation and presentation. We are so grateful.

Our December 10 meeting will be a Christmas Party with the food supplied by the branch. Santa Claus will be there for the little ones.

Please pray for our member Rosa Radicchi as she recovers from surgery to treat injuries she sustained in a fall at her home. It will be a long haul for her. We have enjoyed Rosa's attendance at our meetings. She is always friendly and upbeat.

Remember to pick up your poinsettias as Stewart's Floral the week of December 12.

You can get your calendars at Stewart's Floral or at the December branch meeting. Of the \$25 cost, \$5 stays with our branch, so your purchase will help us and provide you with a good way of keeping track of your appointments in 2023.

It's that time of year again--dues notices are going out this month.

Installation of officers will take place in Monterey on January 21

May Jesus continue to bless all ICF members with good health, happiness and success as we mark an end to 2022. Merry Christmas to all!

Deanna Musler, Secretary

Arroyo Grande Br. 291, St. Patrick

We held Branch elections at our October General Meeting. Congratulations to Br. 291's 2023 Officers: President Pete Gallagher; 1st V.P. Theresa Aston; 2nd V.P. Joanna Van Blaricom; Secretary Keely Sanchez; Financial Secretary Laura Vopatek; Treasurer

Joe Franco; Orator Katheen Sullivan; Trustee Margie Carducci; Trustee David Sanchez; Trustee Throck Scudder; Sentinel Ellen Bavaro.

We are looking forward to our annual Christmas Party Luncheon at the Madonna Inn on Sunday, Dec. 4th. It's always a fun and festive event with delicious food, fun entertainment and lots of raffle prizes! Stay tuned for photos in the January *Bollettino*!

Please continue to pray for our members who are experiencing illness, pain or heartache at this time, including Crystina Giuffrida, Don and Sylvia Nasholm, Nick Sausa and Doris Wais.

*Wishing you and your family a very
Blessed and Merry Christmas
Keely Sanchez
Recording Secretary*

Paso Robles Br. 354, Saint Rose of Lima

Christmas is right around the corner and our members are looking forward to celebrating together at our annual Madonna Inn Christmas Luncheon, Saturday, December 3rd. We return each year to enjoy great food (especially desserts—Pink Champagne, Toffee Crunch, Black Forest, or German Chocolate cakes—yum), drinks, drawings, and lots of laughter in a Christmas wonderland setting.

Welcome to new members Rosanna and Michael Pepo, and Linda Strohn. They were already hard at work on November's Grand Pasta Feed. What a beginning—preparing raw garlic

and onions, lot of them, to make meatballs, also lots of them. Thank you for helping to make this fundraiser a smashing success. Proceeds went to provide an updated fire suppression system for our Parish kitchen.

Reminders: (1) For new or returning Branch officers, officer duty statements are available from David Zani. (2) 2023 calendars are available at \$25 each with daily raffle winners. (3) Installation of officers will take place in Monterey on January 21, 2023.

The members of Branch 354 wish you and your loved ones a Christmas season filled with peace and love. God fulfilled his promises to His Chosen People by sending His own Son to be born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem so that we could find peace with Him and with each other and share in His divine life. What a gift!

*Yvonne Maddalena
Recording Secretary*

**Deadline for January
Issue of *Bollettino*
is December 10th.
Send articles & photos:
editor@icf.org
Include your
branch number.**



Br. 354, Irma Zanini, Joan Rider, and new members Linda Strohn, Rosanna and Michael Pepo preparing garlic and onions for their Grand Pasta Feed for Branch 354

SANTA CLARA VALLEY

District

The Santa Clara Valley district November meeting was held at Santa Teresa parish and hosted by Branch 28, Gilroy. All of the officers were present except Janet Glaubke who enjoyed a cruise to Hawaii. We look forward to seeing all her fun pictures.

November was the last business meeting chaired by District President Bob Basuino who is stepping down after six years. The district thanks Bob for the many years that he led the district, and for keeping us together during covid.

In November we elected 2023 district officers: President Mike Rossi, First VP Debbie Piro, Second VP Ric Shimshock, Secretary Diana Berry, Treasurer Steve Lencioni, Orator Noreen Gillio, Trustees Tina Souza-Dutra, Giulia Gallego, Janet Glaubke, and Sentinel Eva Stern. Rounding out the leadership team is District Mentor John Gillio and Diocesan Chaplain Father George Aranha. Thanks to all for stepping up to serve our district. And thanks to our Nominating Committee chairperson Germaine Antonowicz for gathering this great officer team.

The Santa Clara District installation of officers will take place on Saturday, January 7th, 11:00am mass at St. Frances Cabrini, followed by a pasta lunch at \$35 pp, hosted by Branch 191. Each branch sends reservations and one check to Steve Lencioni by December 30th.

We look forward to the district Christmas party and mass on December 13th, hosted by Branch 184. The Santa Clara Valley District wishes all ICF members and their families a blessed Advent season, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2023!

Michael Rossi



Br. 28 - Don Vanni, Dave Vanni, and Valerie Vanni, taking a time out from cooking at the Br. 28 October dinner meeting.

Gilroy Br. 28, Santa Maria Ausiliatrice

On October 16th Branch 28 held its quarterly Mass at St. Mary Church in Gilroy. Branch President Diana Berry at the 11 a.m. Mass spoke to congregants of Branch 28's fraternity, charitable fundraising, and charitable giving. A display table outside the morning masses showed flyers commemorating our ninety years and mission statement of: promoting the Catholic faith and its values; our encouragement of apostolic and charitable works; and celebration of our Italian heritage and all the heritages of our communities.

At our October 17th dinner meeting the Vanni family prepared their signature meal of pork loin and pasta with homemade pesto. A continuance of their many years of family support to this Italian Catholic Federation. Thank you, Dave, Don, Valerie, and family.

On October 29th Branch 28 held its "A Taste of Italy" polenta dinner fundraiser. A very successful fundraiser, which included dinner, member supplied raffle prizes and the excitement of the winners of the raffle drawings.



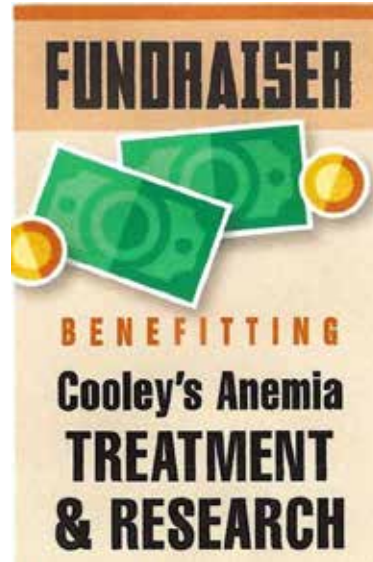
Br.28 - 1st Vice President, Kim Filice and President Diana Berry standing behind the display table of 90th Anniversary commemorative flyers and informational flyers at the October 16th Branch 28 quarterly Mass.



Br. 28 - Manning the polenta stirring paddles at the "Taste of Italy" polenta fundraising dinner, left to right: Past President, Gennaro Filice; Past Grand President, Andy Pappani; Member, Arnold Togliatti; and Member, Doug Buessing.

As we move into the Holiday season, and of this writing we have scheduled a fundraising bake sale for November 20th and our Thanksgiving dinner meeting for the 21st. Our branch Christmas party is scheduled for December 12th at the Old City Hall Restaurant in Gilroy.

Our Branch 28 fundraising efforts for Cooley's anemia research and



The Br. 28 Cooley's fundraiser for treatment and research will run through January, 2023. For donation information contact Kim Filice at kimfilice@charter.net or Patricia Cordich at pcordich@pacificoak.com.

treatment will continue through January 2023.

We have been in communication with Laurice Levine and are hopeful that this outstanding spokesperson for, and patient of, Cooley's anemia will be available to speak at our January dinner meeting. Have a wonderful and blessed Holiday Season.

*Peace and God Bless,
Kim M. Filice*

St. Mary Br. 184, Los Gatos

Our branch had its first meeting at St. Mary's since 2020. Our group met in various restaurants around Los Gatos, but it was time to get back to "normal". Thanks to Fr. Greg, our Chaplain, for attending our meeting. We held elections and I am so happy to say we have a new President. I loved being the president for the many years that I held that office but it's time for new ideas and a fresh outlook and we are so fortunate to have Deanna Meyer. Deanna and her family have been part of the quiet backbone that helped our branch survive. She already has started throwing out ideas for fundraisers and hopefully we can re-connect with the school and have a symbiotic relationship with them.

Installation of Officers will be at St. Frances Cabrini on Jan 7th. 11:00 am Mass then Luncheon in the Hall. \$20 per person call Donna Pfaff for more information.

Our Branch Christmas party will be a no-host lunch at The Palms in Los Gatos on Sunday 12/11/22. Meet at noon and bring a \$15 gift to exchange (no soap - LOL). Call me if you're interested in attending.

Finally, I just want to thank you all for your continued support. Without all of you pulling together we couldn't have survived. I thank God for giving me the opportunity to work with such an outstanding, big-hearted, loving group of people. Not every President has been as fortunate as I've been, over the last 10+ years. I know that Deanna will be able to count on all of you and I'll be there also.

Possa Dio continuare a benedire voi e le vostre famiglie. Che tutti voi possiate trascorrere un Natale benedetto e un sereno anno nuovo. (May God continue to bless you and your families. May you all have a Blessed Christmas and Peaceful New Year.)

Denise Antonowicz



San Jose

Br. 191, Saint Francis Cabrini

Our year is almost over, as 2023 is fast approaching. As we wind down our calendar, we continue to have upcoming events for our Branch.

Thank - you Jim Jones for the use of Custom Pad and Partition Inc. for our October meeting and also (in advance) thank-you for our Nov 19th meeting as well. Our October meeting saw our election of officers, with the new addition of Jamie Portillo being elected as 2nd Vice President. Welcome aboard Jamie! Our Nov meeting will be the presentation of our service award, Thanksgiving refreshments, and some fun rounds of Turkey Bingo!

Our Layette Ministry (Sharon and Linda) will have the Diocese drive thru on Saturday Dec 4th, from 12 to 3 pm. You can drive to Isolation Products, 157 San Lazaro Ave., Sunnyvale, and drop off donations and NOT even get out of the car! Our new Mothers are very grateful for the generosity of the ICF.

Both of our branch fundraisers continue to be rolling along. Poinsettia sales are brisk, our first day of calendar sales sold 16 by Tillie and Tony Spagnolo, our calendar sales committee people.

Our Christmas Luncheon will be on Dec 17th, at Tomato Thyme, 1560 Hamilton Ave, San Jose, at 11am. Cost \$35 per person. It is always a great opportunity to get Together and celebrate these festive events. A flyer to follow with more info. Please plan to attend.

Jan 7th, 2023, will bring in the New Year, as Branch 191 will be hosting the Installation of Officers for the SCVD. Mass will be at 11am at SFC, with a luncheon to follow in Kelly Hall. What a ceremonious way to enter the New Year and support your New Officers. Cost \$35. Further information to follow. Please plan to attend to support and sustain our Branch.

Buona Festa del Ringraziamento.
Shirley Catania
sentinel

San Jose

Br 368, Santa Teresa de Avila

Our wonderful friend and ICF treasure, Barbara Ruffner went to heaven in October 2022. May Barbara rest in peace. At our November 9th members meeting, members were guests of our board who put together a wonderful Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings. We brought our appetites and had a great dinner. We saved our appetite again for our December Christmas member meeting with a catered dinner. Layettes were given as gifts



Br. 191, Marie's Words of Wisdom at age 99!!!



Br. 191, Panettone Anyone??

for Christmas delivery. Many members were responsible for the making of the Layettes. Thanks to all that helped. See photo of group. Also, at Christmas our chapter will give those without a home, socks, and a t-shirt. Election of officers was held at our November meeting and installation of new officers will be on January 7th at St. Frances Cabrini church. Please pray for those recovering from sickness: Paul Butler and others who you know with sickness. At our November meeting, Sharon Bouska and Carol Bennett gave a presentation about a group called, "Moms Demand Action. This group is a grassroots movement fighting for public safety measures that can protect people from gun violence in America. 110 Americans are killed daily from gun accidents and violence. If you are interested visit MOMSDEMANDACTION.ORG. If you would like to chair the Pasta and Polenta dinner fundraiser, date TBA, please, let the board know.

Have a wonderful Christmas and God Bless All,
Tom Myers



Br. 368, Bocce game



Br. 368, general meeting



Br.368 our board opening member meeting



Branch 368 Layette Team

San Jose

Br. 391, St. Martin of Tours

Sister Jane Garrison opened our November meeting with a prayer of thanksgiving, followed by President Mike Rossi, who thanked everyone for making our pasta and meatball dinner a wonderful treat.

Thank you to Marcie Rossi for serving as our new Phone Chairperson. We are still looking for a volunteer to serve as Membership Chairperson.

In her monthly heritage report, Louise Vento spoke of how the first Thanksgiving was a day of prayer for the Pilgrims, who had landed in America and had founded the Plymouth Colony.

In November, members helped celebrate St. Martin of Tours Feast Day and Fr Gener's 30th Anniversary at mass, followed by dinner in the gym-ICF provided the salad to this special event.

Mike announced that two additional upper-level scholarships were given out to winners, Marisa Lipari and Evan Clarke.

Steve Lencioni provided a list of our charitable donations that will be distributed during our Christmas celebration in December. As our incoming Branch 391 President for 2023, Steve spoke of future ICF fundraisers, dinner meetings that will return to the gym, and new opportunities where our members may actively serve in our community.

Reminders: St. Martin's Annual Giving Tree—Deadline is December 4, 2022; Branch 391 Christmas Gathering--Thursday, December 8, 2022, 5:00 dinner in the Gym; and Installation of Officers—January 7, 2023, at St. Frances Cabrini.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
Janis Patellaro



Br. 445 President Jim Falcone and game assistants Janie Falcone & Reyne Rafoth



Morgan Hill

Br. 435, Santa Catarina D'Alessandria

Our first Dinner Meeting since February 2020 was held at Palmerinos Restaurant here in Morgan Hill. Palmerinos is owned by member, Tommy Palmer. 42 members and a takeout enjoyed a delicious Lasagna entree, Salad and Cheesy bread.

The Annual Guglielmo Bar b Que and Lasagna dinner enabled our branch to, once again, donate to our charities.

The renewal of St Catherine Church is reaching completion. Our church is looking so beautiful. We will keep you posted as to our dedication date.

Soon it will be the end of the month, and our families will be together giving thanks to our Lord. A most heartfelt Thanksgiving to you and your family.

Respectfully submitted,
Sylvia Sorci

San Jose

Br. 445, Transfiguration

Thirty contestants and approximately sixty audience members gathered at Tabor Hall on Sunday afternoon November 6th. There were six teams of contestants (5 players per team) to compete against an opposing team. Three games were played with lightening rounds to qualify to win the Grand Prizes hidden behind Curtains 1,2 and 3. Some of the teams were quite creative with specially made t-shirts or choosing all one color for their shirts. Special Snack Bags were assembled for all participants ... contestants as well as audience members. Entry tickets to the event were numbered and winning numbers for audience prizes were drawn throughout the game. The Pfaff Family won their game and went on to win their lightening round with a great comeback score by daughter Dana! They chose Curtain #3! The other two curtains were not won during the game but raffled at the end.

Many thanks to Pres. Jim Falcone for his creative talents to put on this show with graphics, sound and lighting ... and many thanks as well to our ICF members who helped on sub-committees to make the show a success!

We hope to 'Feud' again next year!



Br. 445 Team 'Angelic 5'

Happy December Birthday wishes to Verence Palma, Andy La Scola, Jean Reiner, Jim Falcone and Richard Pfaff! Buon Compleanno!

Buon Natale a tutti voi!

Until next year stay safe and well!
;-) Jan Marianelli Stumhoffer

STOCKTON District

Steve Ridolfi, First Vice President, Karen Rosson District Mentor, Robert Pachinger President and Dante Galeazzi Life Member Central Council at the last Stockton District meeting of 2022.

Chef Tony Queirolo cutting Prime Rib for the Stockton District meeting Officers and Members....



Stockton District



Stockton District



Br. 445 had a fantastic turnout for its first ever 'Family Feud' Game Show Fundraiser



Br. 445 Team 'Pfaff Family' wins their Lightning Round



Br. 445 The Grand Prize winners of Curtain #3



Br. 445 Fall Fundraiser with ICF member Andy La Scola as MC

Modesto**Br. 48, St. Stanislaus**

Branch 48 will be Hosting the Stockton District Installation of Officers on January 8, 2023. Mass will be at 1:00 p.m. at the old St. Stanislaus Church, 709 "J" Street. Installation will be held in the church following mass. The luncheon will be held in the "J" Street Hall behind the church at approximately 2:30 pm. The cost is \$20.00, Children under 12 are \$10.00. The menu is Chicken Marsala, Ravioli, Green Salad, Rolls and Dessert.

Branch Presidents bring your regalia and a twenty-five-dollar raffle gift.

Reservations should be made no later than January 2, 2023. Make your check to Stockton District ICF with the number of persons attending to:

Ida Queirolo, 18424 Queirolo Rd., Lathrop, CA 95330 or call (209)982-5710.

We will have our Christmas Potluck and Meeting December 14, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. Bring your family and friends and join us for the evening.

Masses for our deceased members will be Saturday, January 14, 2023, at the 5:00 pm mass and Sunday February 5, 2023, at the 8:00 am mass at the Maze Blvd. Church.

Officers for 2023 are: Pres - John Zamora, 1st VP - Steve Candelario, 2nd VP - Louise Alberti, Rec. Secty. - Cecelia McGhee, Fin. Secty. - Ermelinda Zamora, Orator - Nancy Souza, Trustees - Tom Silvaggio, Rosalie Ruffino and Kathleen Ostorero, Sentinel - Rebecca Canelario.

Thanks to our outgoing officers for all their hard work and Congratulation to our incoming officers.

Christmas Blessings to all your families.

Cecelia McGhee

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

Buon Natale da Sant' Anna! Branch 82 wants to wish everyone a merry, bright, and blessed Christmas. Hark, our Savior is born to us. We feel incredible blessed this year with the gift of being able to welcome and entertain our Parish community after the past years of helping from a distance. From all of the Officers, a heartfelt thank you to those who have helped us be the outstretched hands of Christ that we are called to be. From monthly dinners to our larger Bocce event, including our new scholarships for the youth and special needs parishioners, and finally to our Annual Polenta dinner this month, our group has worked to bring back the feeling of a loving, inclusive community.

This December 3, starting at 6:30 p.m., Branch 82 will be hosting a Polenta dinner. With the polenta, there

will be chicken cacciatore and many other delicious sides. A live accordion player and a DJ will be there to serenade guests as they eat. Bring those dancing shoes! There will be games and activities for youngsters guests. Tickets are \$40 for adults, \$25 for children under 12, and free for those under 5, drinks can be purchased at our bar.

To buy tickets for this event, reach out to us through email icfstanne@gmail.com, our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064441102501>, or by contacting one of our officers. All ICF members and families are welcome! We look forward to seeing you all there.

May your Christmas be blessed, and your new year filled with the love of Jesus Christ.

*Corresponding Secretary,
Amanda Moberly*

Manteca**Br. 139, Nostra Signora del Buon Viaggio**

After accepting Tim Cabral's membership application and distributing membership applications to several guests, our Branch 139 moved ahead with plans for Spring activities.

Our free Prime Rib Holiday Dinner re-opened the activity program after the long pandemic shutdown.

The April Shrimp Feed planning is in full operation.

A motion by Tony Queirolo that all current Branch officers continue in office for 2023 was passed.

Central Council member Dante Galeazzi shared his family's reunion experience in Mexico at the 140th anniversary of the Galeazzi family's arrival in Mexico from Italy.

Our January meeting will see a return to the St. Anthony School cafeteria. We will "esperienti" with dinner as a pot-luck affair.

Our monthly meeting was adjourned with prayer and the singing of the Federation Anthem.



*Buon Natale a tutti,
Mariano*

Tracy**Br. 390, St. Bernard**

Thursday November 17th was turkey day for ICF members and their guests. We served a very hungry crew and again want to thank those who helped with our event.


It is with great sadness that we share the loss of Paula Re, who died at the age of 99. She founded our Branch 390 in Tracy back in 1986, and with her vibrant personality and hard work, made a huge impact on Central Coun-

ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION
St. Anne's Branch 82






Polenta Dinner & Dance

Saturday, December 3, 2022



A Joyful Christmas

6:30 p.m. No-host Bar
7:00 p.m. Chicken and Sausage Cacciatore and Polenta
Silent Auction, Raffle, Accordion by Bruno Cerri
Dancing with DJ Vincent Reyes
Activities for the children

St. Anne's Hall, Walnut & Church St., Lodi

\$40 for adults
\$25 for 12 & under
Free under 5

For tickets call Patty (209)329-9325
or Email icfstanne@gmail.com

In Memory of Paula Re

1923 to 2022

Founder and 1st President
Branch 390
St. Bernard's / Tracy, CA



Larry Marsalli & Paula Re
At the branch opening



Paula Re at her piano



Paula Re, Steve Trucco,
& Angie Long



Paula dancing as her
Husband Larry and friend
Betty Whittinghill watch.



Paula Re enjoying the
Accordion music with Chuck,
Marilyn, and Anthony Tuso

cil as well, starting our branch with a record of over 100 members. Those who have known her since the early ICF days comment that her dedication to our Italian heritage knew no limits...from her love of the music and the Italian way of life, her participation in the Italian school and their annual dinner-dance fundraisers and her

hard work and determination for 36 years, it's no wonder she is lovingly referred to as "The God-mother" of our Branch. She provided the accordion player every year at our December dinner meeting, so we have no doubt the accordions are playing Italian music for her in heaven. Our prayers go out to her loving family. May she rest in peace.

See the great photos in this month's issue from Steve

Ridolfi, who continues to post the life of our branch through pictures on our website. Check out the Heritage section - love to see more so just submit yours to Steve.

www.icfbranch390.org
*Stay healthy, happy and safe.
Ciao, Betty*

Stockton

Br. 395, Presentation of the BVM

It's election time in the USA and at our Branch. We are pleased to announce the 2023 Board and we thank them for their willingness to serve:

President — Josephine Weber
 1st VP — Mary Ann Piana Chapman
 2nd VP — Allen Sturtevant
 Recording Secretary — Diana Rojo
 Treasurer — Gena Sturtevant
 Orator — Karen Rosson
 Sentinel — Pat Bertilacchi
 Trustees — Bernice Nickols, William Lina, Mark Deiro

A big thank you to our incredible 2022 Board for their hard work and dedication all year long.

Work now begins on our annual Polenta dinner to be held on February 9th. Save the date.

On behalf of Branch 395, buon natale e felice anno nuovo a tutti Mary Ann



Br. 395.



Diana Rojo and Karen Rosson at our Branch 395 table at the Ministry Fair.



ICF Branch 390 of St. Bernard's Church of Tracy — October Dinner/Meeting
 Chicken Cacciotti and Polenta Dinner



Br. 229 Dinner Dance, getting ready to serve



Br. 229 Dinner Dance, Food Prep

SAN DIEGO

Chula Vista

Br. 229, St. Rose of Lima

ICF Branch 229, at St. Rose of Lima Parish in Chula Vista, held its 7th Annual "Festa Italiana" Dinner Dance on Saturday, Oct. 15. It was a big success!

The food was delicious, with anti-pasto, chicken parmigiana, pasta, veggies, and salad, topped off with an ice cream spumoni dessert. The local popular band Breez'n entertained with great music for the dancing, the Knights of Columbus assisted at the bar, and the youth helpers served the food. The door prize winner received a big ICF basket, and many guests enjoyed the various raffle prizes. This fundraiser was held to help pay for the construction of a new Parish Hall. This sold-out event celebrating Italian culture was enjoyed by all!

Esther Pierotti
 Corresponding Secretary



Br. 229 Dinner Dance, Members and Youth Helpers

Angels Camp

Br. 413, St. Patrick's

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all our ICF Family!!

Hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends, thanking God for both and for all His blessings.

Our branch members are getting ready to serve the parish our annual, free, and delicious pancake breakfast this month. Past members of our branch named this event, "Wendell's Giveaway" and that name is still used by the remaining members, with the exception of Wendell himself. We do have a bake sale at the event for those who have a sweet tooth or need to take a sweet gift to someone.

Our Columbus Dinner went well and all who attended had a good time. We hope that our Valentine Dinner will also do well in the coming year.

May God bless you all in the New Year! May His mercy be upon us all!

Ciao, Annette Pachinger
 Correspondence Secretary



Br. 229 Dinner Dance, Pres. Luigi and 1st Vice Pres. Antonio

Santee

Br. 449, Guardian Angels

Guardian Angels I.C.F. Branch 449 honored the feast day of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini with their second annual dinner to benefit Cooley's Anemia, high school scholarships and youth confirmation expenses. This event included an appetizer table, a full Italian dinner complete with an assortment of cheesecakes for dessert. Entertainment for the night was dancing with D.J. Eddie V. along with a guest appearance by radio personality "Shotgun Tom" Kelly. There were a variety of live and silent auction items available. Thank you to all who attended this wonderful evening.

*All the best,
Helene McGowan
Corresponding Secretary
Guardian Angels Italian Catholic Fed-
eration, Branch 449*



*Buon Natale e
Felice Capo D'Anno
Branch 154, St. Raymond
Richmond, CA*

*Unto Us
a Child is Born*



*Warm Wishes for a Blessed Christmas
and New Year!*

We are thinking of all of our ICF members and hoping you are doing well. Our prayers are with you until we can see each other again. We also remember our dear members who have passed away during the last 3 years. They remain in our thoughts and our hearts.

Officers and Members of Br. 50, San Francisco



*Merry Christmas and Wishing You a
Happy and Prosperous New Year!
The Pappani Family
Past Grand President Andy and
First Lady Siria (Sid) Pappani*



Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year from Branch 19, Colma!

*Best Wished for A Merry Christmas
and A Happy New Year!*

From the Officers and
Members of Branch 213,
St. Augustine,
So.San Francisco, CA





Sending Christmas Cheer!

Aaron and Roselynn
McNeal

JOY
LOVE
PEACE
BELIEVE
CHRISTMAS

Merry Christmas to
All of Our ICF
Family and Friends.
Past Grand President
Vince and First Lady
Robyn Piro



Merry Christmas and
a Happy New Year
to all of our families
and friends.
May the birth of
Christ fill your hearts
with love and may the
New Year bring you
good fortune
and good health
Members of Branch 39
Merced, California

*Buon Natale
e Felice Capo
D'Anno*

*Past Grand President
Bob Basuino*



San Mateo District
wishes everyone
a Blessed Christmas
and a Happy Healthy
New Year!

St. Francis Borgia, Br. 392 Chicago, IL
Happy 98th Anniversary to the
Italian Catholic Federation



Best Wishes
from
Central
Council
Member
Teresa
Helfand

May the spirit of Christmas bring you, *Peace*
The gladness of Christmas bring you, *Hope*
The warmth of Christmas grant you, *Love*



*Buon Natale e
Felice Capo D'Anno*

The Todos Santos Branch #214
Concord, Ca.

Which includes the surrounding parishes:
St. Agnes, St. Bonaventure,
St. Francis of Assisi and Queen of All Saints



Wishing you
Peace and Joy
this Christmas
Season!

From Branch #75, Cloverdale

Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo!
Wishing Everyone a Blessed Christmas
and a Peaceful New Year!
From I.C.F. Br.#144 in Arcata, CA



"Buon Natale!"
"Felice Capo D'Anno"



Tracy Branch 390 of St. Bernard's
Parish in Tracy, are hoping that you
have a fantastic holiday season with
family and friends. May this year
bring all of us together to celebrate
the birth of Jesus Christ knowing that
the savior has come to bring us
closer to God.

Buon Natale!
From Branch 403,
Millbrae



I miei migliori auguri
per un Natale pieno di
amore e pace, e Felice
Anno Nuovo.
(My very best wishes
for a Christmas filled
with love and peace
and a happy New Year).

Deborah Rodondi
Grand President

