

Central Council Meeting Minutes
Saturday June 13, 2015
Castro Valley, CA

DRAFT

The meeting was called to order at 1:00pm by Grand President Bob Basuino.

Opening Prayer: led by Msgr. Cardelli

Salute to Flag/ICF Pledge: GP Bob Basuino

Roll Call of Officers and CC Member: ALL PRESENT

CC Life Members Emeritus and Members Emeritus present: Bob Acquistapace, Carmen Kilcullen, Jerry Delfino

Introductions: GP Bob Basuino welcomed guests from visiting branches.

CC Meeting Minutes: Minutes for February 14, 2015 approved as presented.

- Jim Friebel asked about the minutes in the Bollettino being in there before they are approved. Deborah Rodondi explained that to wait until they have been approved would get the information to the members months after the fact and would lose their informative value. Steve Fuentes suggested calling it CC news. Also was suggested to note that they are a condensed version of the pending minutes. Corrections if any will be in following issue.

Communications

- Thank you from the Most Reverend Salvatore Cordileone for our generous donation at the San Francisco Bishops Day.
- Acknowledgment from the ICF office for donations to the Providenza Fund to Msgr. Milani in celebration of his 90th birthday and 65th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood; to Father George Aranha in memory of his mom; to Dave Rose and family in memory of Virginia Rose.
- Thank you from Andy and Sid Pappani for prayers on the loss of his sister.
- Thank you from Theresa Dianda for get well wishes.
- Thank you from Marco Galeazzi for donation and prayers on his knee surgery.

Reports

Spiritual Director- Monsignor Daniel Cardelli

- Congratulate CC and ICF for loyalty and love of the organization. Recently had the dinner for the seminarians. The crowd was nice, food excellent and band very good. Good to see the ICF members being aware of the seminarians and supporting them not just financially but spiritually also. Encourages us on the progress we are making.

Grand President – Bob Basuino

ATTENDED:

- February 14 CC meeting in San Jose
- Installations: February 15 Orange, February 28 Central Coast; February 21 Andy Pappani attended Tucson; February 22 Leonard Zasoski attended Fresno
- Bishop's Days: March 1 East Bay/Contra Costa; March 7 Orange; March 28 Stockton; April 12 San Francisco
- Executive meetings: March 13, April 10 and May 8
- March 19 St. Joseph's Table in Redlands and evening honoring Bradley James
- April 26 90th anniversary of Branches 4 & 5 in San Jose
- June 6 Seminarian Night in Los Gatos
- June 13 Today's CC meeting

TO ATTEND:

- June 14 Msgr. Milani's 90th Birthday and 65th anniversary of his ordination

Grand Treasurer –Roselynn Jarrett

- Roselynn Jarrett met with UBS last week. UBS had good things to say about portfolio. Economy moving faster than originally projected.
- Shirley Silva trust there is 87k in money funds due to 2 CD's being pulled so those monies will be reinvested into CDs to mature in 2018 and 2020 years.
- Budget from Jan to May reviewed.
 - Due to concern regarding paying sales taxes on calendars suggested by Deborah Rodondi to call it a CC Dailey Raffle with the calendar being the ticket. Line item now reads daily raffle.
 - Novelty line may change to "Late Night Catechism" if the project is approved.
 - Computer services will be less since Gary Bartlett renegotiated down his fee.
 - Roselynn Jarrett will check with the office to see if there is any equipment that is not used or used very little.
- Last meeting Carmen Kilcullen asked about taking more out in the annual distribution from the Hospitalization Fund. Nina Malone to cover finding in her report.
- Taxes extension filed will be ready for Aug 15 filing.
- Providenza is struggling funding depends on seminarian night and minimal donations. Most branches would give to their own branch seminary burse as they know their money will go directly to their own Diocese. Mike Rossi stated some Providenza comes from dues. Can we reapportion it? Roselynn Jarrett said we recently did readjust the fees in the last 12 months. Can discuss further in October if we want to make any changes...possible dues increase.
- Mike Cannady –per capita is down have we contacted the branches who have not paid? Yes, we have. This is a trend that is the same year after year at this time of the financial year.

Deputy Chairperson –Leonard Zasoski

- November and March had conference calls with District Deputies. Sent all paperwork pertaining to deputies to them to review. Tasked to review what needs to be changed on these packets.
- Discussed: need for forms online; deputy term limits; mentoring of a new deputy.
- Traveling can be an issue in some areas...looking at ways to cut back on how many meetings to attend.
- Deputy appointments: another meeting in next 2-3 weeks. District Deputies compiling current list of deputies, how far they travel, to what branch, how long a deputy to that branch, what branches are without a deputy.

Committee Reports

Apostolate/Charity –Franklyn Lopes

- Asking CC members to go out and have their branches meet with pastors and discuss with them what we do for the parishes.
- Please remind the branches in your district to print out, fill and mail in the apostolate reports.
- Committee met and selected three charities as possible national charities for the coming year. They were St. Jude Children's Hospital, Cancer Research and Colley Anemia at Children's Hospital Oakland. The committee nominated Cooley's Anemia as this coming years National Charity. PASSED
- Dante Galeazzi questioned the tracking of monies given to the seminarians through the Providenza Fund and the branches and districts at their Bishop's Day events. Are reports being

sent in and who is compiling the information and who has access to it? Right now there is no mandatory report for districts or branches to send in. On the Apostolate form the branches fill in their donations we could tally that up but not all branches send an apostolate report in. It was felt that the true numbers of what we donate over the years could be good information to utilize in getting members interested in supporting the fund.

Awards-Jim Friebel

- Met today. At the deadline did not have applicants for all awards. The committee worked with branches and was able to come up with additional applicants.
- It was brought up to give youth under 18 yrs. of age some form of recognition. The consensus was that this should be done from the branch and district level.
- Fill out ballots now and Bob Acquistapace and Carmen Kilcullen will collect and tally.

By-Laws and Rituals – David Botta

- Proposals are in our packets-CC can review at their leisure.
- They received a proposal from the branch in Manteca. David Botta called the branch president to let them know that the proposal was regarding CC statutes and that can only be changed through CC.
- Due to the cutting down of CC David Botta and Carmen Kilcullen reviewed the committees and number of members in it. They brought a proposal forward changing some of the counts and rearranging some of the committees. Much discussion followed. Some of the discussion: not to decrease numbers on some of the committees; Awards on it's own as a committee; no more than 50% emeritus on a committee; future chairs should have experience in committee; past chair should be in committee to mentor new chair. Steve Fuentes stated that in this discussion we are adding another here another there so we are going back to where we were in the beginning. Leave it alone for this year. Steve Fuentes moved to table this seconded by Lisa Crudo. PASSED. Vince Piro feels we should bring back at September convention meeting. Steve Fuentes stated that the Grand President has already worked on the committee assignments prior to the September meeting. It has been tabled further discussion over.

Bob Basuino announced convention award winners:

- Pope St. John XXIII Bradley James
- Grand President Louise and Russ Vento
- Family of the Year Zanini Family
- Mother Teresa Fr. Dave Heney
- Young Adult Melissa Rodriguez

Convention Directors –Steven Fuentes

- Rate went down for convention...if you made reservations already they will adjust as long as you made reservation under the ICF code.
- Mike Rossi asked does the ICF get stuck with rooms not reserved. We have an attrition rate built into all of our contract, last two years it was waved. David Botta says that he only knows of us getting stuck with paying for rooms once.
- No Sunday night dinner there will be social on Sunday night for the raffle.
- Was going to announce workshops but due to changes will go back and redesign schedule.
- We are booked to 2019 so we will not be voting today for a 2020 convention site. With all the changes we are going through it is best to not vote on 2020 at this time. Leonard Zasoski stated we need to make an announcement at convention that we are not voting for 2020 site and why.

- Denise Antonowicz asked if at Friday night meet and greet the candidates could we give out things. NO Steve Fuentes says flyers only...it has gotten out of hand. This hotel is union and a stickler for this kind of thing.
- Lauren Kilcullen recommends doing reservations on line versus calling.

Expansion – David Botta

- Thanked Anne Interrante for finding 3 parishes: July 18-19 scheduled to make pulpit announcements and sign up those interested in opening a branch at St. Lima in Simi Valley, Padre Serra in Carmarillo asked us to come back in future, St Maximillen Colby Westlake Village...interested but come back in future.
- Oakdale Marco Galeazzi has talked with new Pastor he came from an ICF branch.
- Half Moon Bay heard nothing further.
- St Christopher in San Jose, Father Chris apologizes for not getting back to them...health issues and dealing with parishioners, he is still interested and ready to get working on a branch.
- Parish in Walnut Creek has not called back yet.
- To talk to Fr. Ochetti about a branch in Upland.
- Mt Shasta closed with 9 members.
- Br. 186 Los Altos-29 members transferred 36 cancelled membership.
- Br. 181 Chicago-2 transferred 4 cancelled
- Oakland branch-26 transferred 62 cancelled
- Br. 67 LA voted to close but trying to keep it going so far no dues has come in.
- Ventura having membership drive this weekend has 19 members.
- Br. 236 North Highlands 18 members-to vote on future of branch.
- Br. 382 San Fernando struggling no one at convention last year and this year by end of year may be considering closing. 45 members
- Nina Malone was surprised when she read Mt Shasta closed. Do we have anything in place for notifying District president/ CC member in area/ District Deputy?
- Seminarian Mario Rizzo will be in Brentwood next year.
- David Botta showed banner Deborah Rodondi made by using old banners for the Salinas branch.
- Carmen Kilcullen mentioned possibly resurrecting the branch in Surprise.

Finance Committee - Roselyne Jarrett

- Hospitalizations checks still say Hegenberger Road. So she is having Patty Smith order new checks.
- We have contracts for everyone but Dave Rose. So we are working on that.
- Tax rules for California are hundreds of pages. Will dedicate time and concentrate on the taxes branches will be required to pay...there will also be a condensed hand out that will be given to Deborah Rodondi to go into the convention packet.
- Convention voucher for CC Discussed PASSED as presented.
- Teresa Helfand concerned about lodging for CC meetings being so costly. The problem is this is a busy business travel area...June is graduations and wedding so rates are higher. We can no longer secure a room rate with a hotel as we don't promise a hotel a large number of rooms for the year. Will review again in October Finance meeting.

Heritage-Jim Friebe

- Jim Friebe needs to leave dad going through open heart surgery right now, so his report pulled out of order.

- Not a lot of heritage reports turned in. Will give a 1st, 2nd and 3rd award and the rest will get honorable mention at convention, Denise Antonowicz to design.
- The Bollettino article Jim Friebel wrote on the monastery built in 1962 will be going in their archives.
- Set up for the Santa Rosalia parade, San Jose Giants Italian night August 15 \$5

Gifts of Love –Pat Mages

- Successful in trying to expand judging areas this past year. March was at Pat Mages house.
- Hope to have one more meeting before convention. Right now there are about 15 applications to look over. Still getting a lot of scholarships about 20 in this batch.
- Getting more applications from our ICF areas and more from other organizations.
- 67k currently in account.
- Jan to May 2015 \$9,336 income, expense \$1,950. Getting more applications from Disabled Vets.
- Lisa Crudo spoke on a family that was helped. The medical social worker with office next to Lisa's had a family with a severe case of bed bugs and they had to get rid of everything. Asked for \$500 for bed for children...Gifts of Love actually gave them \$1,000.

Hospitalization – Nina Malone

- Currently 409 members. From January to May 2015 dues received \$7,462.50, in claims \$4,315.00. Funds in UBS \$887,564.35, in BofA \$22,348.68. As of December 31, 2014 accumulated gains \$548,299.00
- Minutes from Feb 2009 said to not let fund go under 400k suggested a 3-4% annual distribution. The 4% CC came up with not a recommendation of the actuary. The actuary felt we should not go under 400k and must keep the fund solvent. Jane Dianda pointed out that the 4% was just dipping into the interest and not touching the principal.
- 2009 to date have disbursed from 3-4 percent...sometimes to general fund sometimes specific funds.
- Committee recommends for 2016 budget we transfer 5.07 % 45k to seminary fund, and 2nd, 3rd and 4th year scholarship...Roselynn Jarrett feels that we should not put in specific funds but to go into General Fund. Steve Fuentes clarify the intent is all or just the amount over the usual distribution going to the charities? The full amount to go to seminary and 2nd, 3rd and 4th scholarship. Bob Acquistapace asked would committee accept an amendment that 34K go to general and the difference to the two charities? Dante Galeazzi wants to amend to 26k to general fund and the difference to scholarship \$9,500 and seminary \$9,500. Many ideas discussed on how to divide the money. George Bacigalupi feels it should just go into general fund. Intent of committee was to keep the charities solvent.
- Roselynn Jarrett- we should vote today to put the full 5.07 % in general fund for the finance committee to review for the budget in October.
- Dante Galeazzi amendment 34k to general fund remainder divided between 2nd, 3rd and 4th year scholarship and Providenza Fund seconded by Marco Galeazzi. DEFEATED
- Nina Malone amended on behalf of the committee to increase distribution from Hospitalization for 2016 to 5.07% 45k with no specifications as to specific distributions until finance meets in October. Leonard Zasoski seconded. PASSED
- Claim form out of date unable to get to this year. Should be considered next year.
- Msgr. Cardelli commented want to wake up a crowd talk about money.

Live to Give- Jane Dianda

- Focus is on convention blood drive.
- Use the Give the Gift of Life cards.

Membership – Nina Malone

- #1 A core value of our strategic plan is to increase our membership and improve retention of current members. Membership Committee has been working to develop a mentor program “Amici di Cuore”. But before that can be successfully accomplished, there needs to be a Branch Membership Chairperson in place; someone willing to take on the responsibility of assigning a buddy or mentor to our newest members as they become part of the ICF family.
- A letter was first drafted and made available in December for all Branch Presidents, explaining the vision of a buddy system, with a request to provide their Membership Chairperson’s contact information; to be used in further developing this program. The response as of February was only 6 branches. Followed up with another letter in March; this time addressed to District Presidents and Branch Presidents in smaller areas. Committee made phone calls and sent emails to get as much information as possible. As of today, 45 branches (35%) have responded with an appointment of a Membership Chairperson.
- When the second letter went out, the District Presidents also received a brief questionnaire that could help us assess the strengths and weaknesses of each area and where we might be most needed. Each committee member was assigned to contact various districts and areas in the months of April or May to discuss this questionnaire. Out of 22 districts and areas, 9 responded (41%). Reviewed the results of the survey.
- Bob Acquistapace maybe lack of response may be because we ask them for so many reports...maybe branches are trying to tell CC that the reason they do not send in the questionnaires is that there are more important things to work on. The branches are doing the best they can and some may feel they are being reprimanded for not doing something. Nina Malone never the intent to reprimand a branch but sometimes this is the only way to communicate and help.
- Anne Interrante-family memberships...questioned branches that had a large number of family memberships and will put together information for a future Bollettino article. Some ideas: childcare, youth installation of officers, youth officer program, youth award at Branch or District level.

Public Relations –Vince Piro

Bollettino:

- On time last several months
- Recipe and cooking column added
- 120 signed up for getting Bollettino electronically. Richard Interrante working to see if simple solution to make change for this.
- Pros/cons on every other month for Bollettino. Lauren Kilcullen reported on findings. Currently loss of \$22,288.00 with 11 issues. Six issues with same per capita of \$6-profit of \$12,531.55. Six issues with per capita at \$4-loss of \$5,575.45. Increase per capita to \$8-loss of \$4,187.00. Before any recommendation regarding above would like to poll members at convention.
- David Botta if the Bollettino preforms as it has in the past 3 months by arriving the beginning of the month we can forget decreasing the number of issues. Bob Acquistapace agrees.
- Vince Piro CC has not increased per capita although the cost of printing and mailing has gone up.

- If we do not change the dues and we adjust the per capita charge the CC decides. If we raise dues it goes to the delegates. Bob Acquistapace consider looking at it this way...could it be done adding \$1 this year and \$1 next year to per capita.
- Some pictures in Bollettino are in color others in B&W. How does a branch get it in color. Michelle Feldman informed us color is on back page...sometimes the center page is color that the printer throws in as a bonus...Michelle Feldman does not know about it in advance.
- Leonard Rossi-we have to come up with money one-way or the other. Need to look at a dues increase.
- Carmen Kilcullen can we get a printer cheaper? A RFP was sent out twice last year and they got only a few proposals. Michelle Feldman stated if we switched format completely we might be able to lower the cost.

Regular updates by Rich Interrante on the website.

Scholarship – Deborah Rodondi

- April 20th judged 1st year scholarships.
- Received 369 applications for 1st year scholarships.
- In response to task set before us by CC at the February meeting to research what the feasibility of only students with family in ICF getting a scholarship. The committee feels that we should leave the program the way it is. In reviewing the 184 1st year scholarships we gave out this year -82 of them had family members in the ICF. 3 students that had family in the ICF did not get a scholarship; unfortunately the minimum GPA is 3.2-these three students had a 2.9 GPA. When reviewing applications students with members have an edge over other applications, but they must meet the requirements. Thanks to the donations in memory of individuals we were able to be sure that all qualified students with family were able to get a scholarship. The committee feels that if we change the rules that only students with family get the scholarships a lot of branches will stop giving scholarships, or will give only when they have family eligible. We feel it will be the decline of the program.
- Teresa Helfand asked about scholarships for grammar school going into High School. To bring under the ICF umbrella we are asking too much of our branches and it would be difficult for us to control and monitor. Best if handled at the branch level. In my District 8 of the 10 branches give scholarships to grammar school students with the help of the school principal.
- To judge 2nd, 3rd and 4th scholarship August 20

Task Force –Leonard Zasoski

Procedure Guidelines

- Mike Rossi-Guidelines to be sent to all chairs by June 19th to be returned to Mike Rossi by July 17, by August 21 will be ready to go. Will be on master file in the office and the website. GP will be able to send a copy as new chairs are appointed.

Strategic Plan:

- Leonard Zasoski's company has donated the printing of all the papers /handouts.
- 4 Districts have had the workshop, 3 workshops scheduled in the next three months. Goal is to be done by the end of the year. We do have a follow up form.
- We are getting to the point of doing an annual review. \$7200 to \$8000 for Denner to come up for a 2-day session. The committee feels they can do this themselves at this time.
- Vince Piro gets worksheet/evaluations back from the attendees. Will compile and send to the District/branches. Very positive input from the attendees. Even a critic of the Strategic Plan found positive aspects.

Ways and Means –Lisa Crudo

- 19 went on cruise to Alaska in May. Made \$2,200.
- Night for the Seminarians: thanks to the CC who donated and worked the event. Thank to the chairs Franklyn Lopes and Denise Antonowicz. Seminarian Night made \$6694.00 profit.
- July 24 is golf tournament
- The Daily Raffle (use to be calendars) 365 chances to win for \$25; 2016 will be famous and infamous Italians. Remember to send in your names and dates to be added to the calendar.
- Late Night Catechism. Oct 25 matinee...open to the public, advertise, sell sponsorships. Deposit is non refundable but we can pick an alternate date. Leonard Rossi- Holy Names is a wonderful institution, wonderful theatre.
- Bob Basuino announced closed ballot vote for putting on Late Night Catechism event PASSED. Roselynn Jarrett looked up ticket sales tax-it is not taxed but concession and bar are taxed.
- Dante Galeazzi asked about novelties what do we have...we will sell leftovers at Las Vegas. We need to market the nametags. Pat Mages on the charms we need to keep track of the reorder information.

Workshop-Dante Galeazzi

- Has been working with the Strategic Plan on the workshop.

No Unfinished Business

New Business

- Standing ovation to thank George Bacigalupi for all he has done.

No Action on Communications

Good of the Order

- Teresa Helfand stated that Father Fanelli is retiring. Vince Picciola says hello to all.
- Carmen and Larry Kilcullen on July 16 celebrating 55th anniversary.
- Bob Acquistapace October meeting will have more info Br.198 St Eugene's Jan 9, 2016 50th Anniversary at the Villa in Santa Rosa
- Bob Basuino Br.191 50th get your reservations in.
- Dante Galeazzi had been asked by his District could we do the report of addresses landscaped and not portrait style?
- June 6 one seminarian ordained from the Stockton District. He specifically thanked the ICF for our support of them.
- Andy Pappani thank Bob Basuino as GP and his leadership for the last 2 years. Also thank you to those that came to the service and sent condolences on the loss of his sister.
- Next Monday Msgr. Cardelli celebrates 58th anniversary

Closing Prayer: led by Msgr. Cardelli

The meeting adjourned at 5:30pm by Grand President Bob Basuino

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Rodondi

Grand Secretary

- Next Meeting: September 6, 2015 Las Vegas