



BOLLETTINO

ICF Celebrating Faith, Family and Heritage



2024-2025 Central Council Officers



Grand President's Monthly Message 2024 Opening Convention Speech

Denise Antonowicz

Wow, what an incredible energy in this room! I can feel the excitement, the anticipation, the sense of possibility that fills every corner of this hall. We are not just a crowd of individuals – we are a movement, united in our belief in the Italian Catholic Federation.



We are the dreamers, the doers, the ones who know that the ICF surviving requires our

Continued on Page 5

Host's Message Thank you for a Great Convention

Barbara Firpo, San Mateo District President

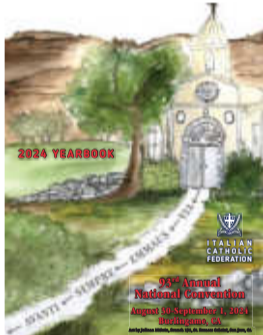
As President of the San Mateo District I would like to thank the convention committee for their outstanding planning. I also want to thank the San Mateo District members for the time they spent on planning, decorating, cooking, baking and bartending for the Thursday night dinner at Our Lady of Angels, Burlingame! The Roaring 20's theme was roaring!! The silent auction and raffle were a huge success thanks to all of their participation. Thank you to Vic Arnau, President of Branch 1, for also attending regular planning meetings and keeping Branch 1 alive for this once in a lifetime occasion!! Sempre Avanti!



Father Bandini and Sir Luigi Providenza would be proud that we continue to live their vision after 100 years. Thank you too, to Father Chris Bennett for your, spiritual direction and preparation for the Memorial Mass and Sunday Mass. It was truly inspirational.

Continued on Page 5

Congratulations to our newly installed Central Council Officers. BACK ROW: Theresa Shaw (Grand Trustee), Leonard Rossi (Grand Trustee), Rosemary Cook (Grand Trustee), Robert Basuino (Grand Sentinel), Lisa Crudo, and Leonard Zasoski (Grand Parliamentarian). FRONT ROW: Deborah Rodondi (Grand Secretary), Franklyn Lopes, Jr. (Grand 1st Vice President), Father Chris Bennett (Spiritual Director), Denise Antonowicz (Grand President), Lauren Kilcullen (Grand 2nd Vice President).



Convention Director's Message Oct. 2024 Lauren Kilcullen, Convention Director's Chairperson

I hope everyone has recovered from the Convention and returned home energized and full of innovative ideas for your branches and districts.

The Convention Director's Committee thanks everyone who attended and participated in the workshops, general sessions, Masses and banquets. We had the most delegates and non-delegates at this convention since the pandemic.

The Heritage Room was a highlight of the Convention and we're thinking of having a smaller version at future conventions.

I thank the members of the committee and Central Council for their assistance throughout the weekend. I couldn't have gotten through the weekend without the cooperation of everyone. I also thank many people who provided their time, ef-



fort and experience to helping throughout the weekend. Whether it was separating raffle tickets or putting up the heritage display and backdrop, they were always ready to help when I needed an extra hand.

Members' generosity to the blanket and sock drive was overwhelming. Two cargo van loads of blankets and socks were delivered to the Missionaries of Charity and a load of blankets were delivered to St. Vincent de Paul Society.

On to 2025! Our next Convention will be held at the Wyndham Visalia from August 29 – 31, 2025. The room rate is \$109.00 plus tax per night. Please start budgeting for your delegates to attend. The Convention Director's Committee is starting to plan the convention and we'll be taking a road trip to do a site visit in October. Keep an eye on the *Bollettino* and ICF Facebook page for updates.

Thank you,
Lauren Kilcullen
Convention Director's Chairperson

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 10/01/24: 3,929

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 November issue is October 10, 2024

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:

I hope this message finds you well. I wanted to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude for your presence at our recent convention. It was truly a remarkable event, made even more special by the celebration of our 100th Anniversary. Seeing so many dedicated individuals come together to mark this milestone was incredibly inspiring.

The convention was a great success, and your participation played a significant role in that. Your enthusiasm and engagement added immense value to our discussions and activities. It was wonderful to see familiar faces, and meet new ones, all united by a shared commitment to our cause.

On the occasion of our 100th anniversary, I would like to share with you this blessing:



Father Christopher Bennett
ICF Spiritual Director

ICF Blessing

Faithful members of the Italian Catholic Federation, we pray these blessings upon you, now, and for the next 100 years:

May the blessings of FAITH be upon you: from your earliest days in 1924 at Immaculate Conception Parish, San Francisco, you set ablaze the spark of faith in the hearts and lives of generations of members who treasured their Catholic faith; and now that spark has become a tremendous fire, drawing in and warming and sustaining new generations of members because of your devotion.

May the blessings of FAITH be upon you.

May the blessings of FAMILY be upon you: that ICF spirit of family which brings people together to create and share gifts of love for one another and for brothers and sisters in need; that special spirit of family which unites all your members of whatever national heritage; and that spirit of family which welcomes all through your spirit of fellowship, inclusion and belonging.

May the blessings of FAMILY be upon you.

May the blessings of HERITAGE be with you: blessings which ignite your deep appreciation for the treasured values and history of Italian-Americans, while you continually welcome and honor the colorful tapestry of all the heritages of your many members; your Italian heart extends its loving arms to embrace everyone.

May the blessings of HERITAGE be with you,

May the blessings of SERVICE be with you: you are a mighty and vital force in your parishes and dioceses, raising up and strengthening your Catholic vision to break barriers, to go to the margins, to seek and serve those who need you; you assist, elevate, enrich and invigorate the lives of countless men, women, and children, especially students and those with special needs by your selfless service.

May the blessings of SERVICE be with you:

May the blessings of the Spirit be with you: Noi Vogliam Dio: for 100 years you have chosen God to be Father and King, for 100 years you have kept the name of Christ in your heart; for 100 years you have risen up in the Holy Spirit to uphold the faith. May the blessings of Faith, Family, Heritage, and Service guide you throughout the next 100 years: Sempre Avanti! Sempre Avanti! Amen!

I promise to remember you in my prayers, even as I would be grateful for a place in yours. May God bless you and those that you love.

Fr. Chris

Thursday at the Convention



CONVENTION ACTIVITIES

THURSDAY

San Mateo District offered a festive start to the Convention hosting a 1920s themed social and dinner dance at Our Lady of Angels in Burlingame.

FRIDAY

Friday at the convention was full of activities. The day began with a BLOOD DRIVE run by the Live to Give Committee with Laurice Levine, Kenneth Marshall, Pat & Lou Mages. The event was a big success with 20 units of blood, including 2 double red and 5 plasma, donated helping 60 lives.

THE HERITAGE ROOM was a new edition to the convention. The room, showcasing a century of ICF, was open throughout the convention as a place to share and remember. Some of the artifacts can be seen in photos on convention pages.

BINGO was an energetic success. BINGO caller, Tina Tallman, President of the Blessed Sacrament District, kept the games going. The Ways & Means Committee got everyone into the competitive and collaborative spirit. It was a fun way to engage and rekindle friendships. Over 50 people enjoyed the spirited competition.

NEW DELEGATE ORIENTATION: Grand President Denise Antonowicz and Grand 1st VP Franklin Lopes, Jr. provided members new to the delegate process some insight into expectations. Delegates were also able to raise their concerns and offer ideas for improvement. The room was full of many new delegates offering helpful ideas and sharing problem solving techniques.

ICF MARKETPLACE, curated by Deborah Rodondi, San Mateo District and Br. 19, was full of fun and thoughtful Italian and ICF related gifts as well as much more. From t-shirts and cozy sweatshirts to Christmas decorations and jewelry and the fine art by Joe DiGrado (Orange District President), there

was much to see and purchase. Workers: Deborah Rodondi, Kathy Trevizo, Donna and Jackie Barnes, Cheryl and Donald Simon, Brenda Wemiz and Linda Benedetti

MEET THE CANDIDATES: Allowed delegates to meet the eight ICF members running for the five open Central Council spots.

OPENING CEREMONIES DINNER DANCE in Burlingame, California

CALL TO ORDER: The dinner was called to order by the Convention Director, Lauren Kilcullen - Grand 2nd Vice President, in her first of many successful events throughout the weekend.

MISTRESS/MASTER OF CEREMONIES: Due to illness, Bob Basuino, replaced Mistress of Ceremonies, Nancy Botta Carlos from Br. 14, Crockett. Quick on his feet, the transition was seamless as Basuino kept the evening flowing.

HOST: San Mateo District President, Barbara Firpo welcomed everyone to Burlingame/San Francisco area. She thanked all the local branches who helped make the Thursday celebration a rousing success and looked forward to a successful conventon.

OPENING PRAYER: Father Chris-Bennett, Spiritual Director

PRESENTATION OF COLORS by the American Legion Riders Squadron Department of California.

Grand President Denise Antonowicz gave a rousing and motivating speech (see page 1) looking to the next 100 years at the Italian Catholic Federation. She welcomed 126 delegates, 23 Central Council members, 7 clergy, and over 50 guests and staff to the ICF 93rd Annual National Convention. This is the largest groups since pre-Covid times.

NATIONAL ANTHEM sung by Karen Rossi, Br. 343—Casto Valley

INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE: ICF Spiritual Director, Father Chris Bennett shared an uplifting message as he described his own brush with mortality and his return to the earthly plain to continue to serve. Emphasizing that “the power of God brought us to where we are today.” He encouraged all to “think about how you have met Christ in your life and your time with ICF. This ministry was given to us by Jesus...walk with Jesus for another 100 years.”

The ROLL CALL OF DISTRICTS brought representatives from each district to the front where each district received a canvas of 3 disciples meeting Jesus. The image of three disciples meeting Jesus is rich with symbolic meaning. It often represents themes of divine revelation, faith, forgiveness, and the mission of Jesus' followers in the recognition of his presence in everyday life.

Everyone joined together is singing: Companions on the Journey, Carey Landry led by Fr. Chris & Allen Watts

NOI VOGLIAM DIO—Nina Malone, Life Member Emeritus, Br. 438—Roseville

CLOSING PRAYER: “I’ve been with you always through times of joy and times of sadness..” Fr. Chris led us on a meditation.

DANCING began in earnest with many members taking to the dance floor. Psalm 149: Let them praise His name with dancing; Let them sing praises to Him with timbrel and lyre.

Convention Info and Pictures continued on page 22

Family Recipe -State Fair Cream Puffs

Deborah Rodondi

State Fair Cream Puffs

- 1 cup water
1/2 cup butter
1/4 tsp. salt
1 cup all-purpose flour
4 large eggs, room temperature
2 Tablespoons 2% milk

All year long, we have been celebrating the ICF’s 100th Anniversary. Candies making an entrance in the 1920s: Oh Henry, Abba Zabba, Baby Ruth, Haribo Gold Bears, Reese’s Peanut Butter Cups and Dubble Bubble Bubble Gum to name a few. How about “the original hamburger with cheese” (my favorite food) appearing on a menu in 1924 in Pasadena. With the invention of “ice boxes” came the creation of ice box cakes and cookies. I know you remember some of the crazy salads and Jello molds your families used to make, a popular addition to our menus in the 1920s.

Today, I want to share with you a recipe that has been served by the Wisconsin Bakers’ Association at their State Fair since 1924. These are fun to make and can be used in a variety of ways.

1 large egg yolk, lightly beaten
2 cups heavy whipping cream
1/4 cup confectioners’ sugar
1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
Additional confectioners’ sugar
Preheat oven to 400 degrees. In a large saucepan, bring the water, butter and salt to a boil over medium heat. Add flour all at once; stir until a smooth ball forms. Remove from heat; let stand 5 minutes. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Continue beating until mixture is smooth and shiny, breaks from spoon when raised.
Drop by 1/4 capfuls 3 inches apart onto a greased baking sheet. Combine milk and egg yolk, brush over puffs.
Bake until golden brown, 30-35 minutes.
Remove to wire racks. Immediately cut a slit in each for steam to escape; let cool.

Host Message--Continued from p. 1
Barbara Firpo, San Mateo Host

Thank you to all of the branches and delegates that attended the workshops and events throughout the weekend. As we go back to our branches and share all of this information it will renew the spirit of the Federation.



Sempre Avanti!!
Barbara Firpo
San Mateo District President

In Loving Memory

(Report as of September 8, 2024)

- Fiore Marcheschi Branch 010
Jacqueline R Lynch Branch 036
Jo Anne Howell Branch 218
Dolores J McCartney Branch 227
Johanna C Van Blaricom Branch 291
Mary A Robbiano Branch 351

Live to Give Blood Drive Donations

(Received as of September 1, 2024)

William A.M. Veloso
In Memory of Ruth L. Marcelo

GP Message--Continued

Denise Antonowicz continued from p. 1

action, our voices, our unwavering commitment.

Look around you. These are not faces of hopelessness or despair. These are the faces of change. The faces of a future where the ICF continues to build back membership and then expands to other places. We are the architects of that future. We are here to shape the course of the Italian Catholic Federation, to ensure that our values and our principles, are the bedrock upon which progress is built.

This convention is more than a gathering – it is a declaration. A declaration that we will not be silenced, we will not be deterred. We are the ICF, and we are rising. Our voices will be heard, our power will be felt, because in this moment, we are unstoppable.

Could our founders, Sir Luigi and Fr. Bandini ever imagined 100 years ago that the seeds they planted would flourish into the vibrant community that stands before me now? That their dream of preserving Italian heritage and strengthening our Catholic faith would endure through a century,

touching countless lives and shaping generations?

And yet, here we are. A testament to the power of community, of tradition, and of the unbreakable bonds of faith, family and fellowship that connect us all.

Next, I want to thank Juliana Midwin who created the beautiful artwork that you see behind us. Thank you, Lauren Kilcullen and the Convention Director’s Committee. They worked hard to make this weekend possible. And finally, thank you to the San Mateo District, not only for their thoughtful gift but for our Thursday night 20’s themed dinner. It was so much fun!

So, as we celebrate this milestone, let us honor those who came before us, let us embrace the present with joy and gratitude, and let us look to the future with hope and excitement. For the Italian Catholic Federation is not just a part of our history – it is the cornerstone of our legacy, and the foundation upon which we will build the next 100 years.

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR WINNERS

Table with 5 columns: DAY, NAME, BR, CITY, WINS. Lists winners for each day of the month, including names like St. Anthony's Church, Valerie Hashim, Mary Fry, etc.

SEE THESE FIRST ON OUR WEB SITE: ICF.ORG

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2024 APOSTOLATE/CHARITY COMMITTEE – CONVENTION REPORT
Total Number of Branches – 89 Total Reports Submitted – 59
Of the 59 Branches Submitting an Annual Report:
• 57 Branches submitted an Apostolate Charity report in 2023
• 41 Branches have an Apostolate Chairperson
• 31 Branches give an Apostolate Report at each meeting
• 25 Branches have an active Chaplain
• 7 Branches attend Mass together Monthly
• 14 Branches attend Mass together Quarterly
• 6 Branches attend Mass together Semi-Annually
• 17 Branches attend Mass together Annually
• 49 Branches recite the rosary or pray for special intentions at each meeting
• 58 Branches offer Masses for deceased members
• 49 Branches donate to the Providenza Fund
Participation in Branch or District Sponsored Events:
• Retreats 3 Branches Pilgrimages 5 Branches
• Day/Night of Recollection 17 Branches Bishop’s Days 47 Branches
Participation in Parish Life:
• 114 Mass Greeters 153 Lectors 254 Eucharistic Ministers
• 83 Ushers 72 Choir Members 74 CCD Teachers
Total Dollars Donated = \$371,151
The Districts and Areas listed below had 100% participation in the Apostolate/Charity program: Blessed Sacrament – Central Coast - Contra Costa – East Bay - San Bernardino — Reno
Branches with highest monetary donations for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024:
1-50 Members 51-100 Members
1 – Br. 362 Downey 1 – Br. 179 Glendora
2 – Br. 445 San Jose 2 – Br. 111 Montebello
3 – Br. 354 Paso Robles 3 – Br. 108 South Pasadena
4 – Br. 374 La Canada Flintridge 4 – Br. 209 Sebastopol
100 - 174 Members 175 or More Members
1 – Br. 291 Arroyo Grande 1 – Br. 36 Monterey
2 – Br. 10 Alameda 2 – Br. 52 Healdsburg
3 – Br. 14 Crockett 3 – Br. 39 Merced
4 – Br. 391 San Jose 4 – Br. 390 Tracy
Thank you to our Apostolate/Charity Chairpersons and members for your hard work and dedication!



September 11, 2024

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

Thank you so much for your donation of \$65,400 presented at the 93rd Annual ICF Convention. We are so glad Dr. Coates was able to attend once again and that Laurice and her family could join once again after missing last year. We appreciate the opportunity to speak on Sunday to thank our ICF friends for their hard work and incredible generosity. A special thanks from Ben who had a great experience talking about blood.

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, ICF is instrumental to our thalassemia program at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. The difference you make in patients' lives is invaluable and we are grateful for your supporting our endeavors to improve patient's quality of life both locally and through our research, globally.

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 again 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

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

Laurice Levine

Laurice Levine, MA, CCLS
Thalassemia Outreach
Program Consultant
P: 360-860-2023

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.



Cooley's Anemia Donations

(Received as of September 1, 2024)

Branch 52	
Branch 285	
Branch 444	
Pat and Louie Cordich	In Memory of Viola Carr
Pat and Louie Cordich	In Memory of Josephine Jimenez

Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations*

Received as of September 1, 2024:

IN MEMORY OF:

Nettie Descalso-Del Nero
Joanna Van Blaricom
Dolores McCartney
Alvin Wilson
Nettie Descalso-Del Nero

DONATED BY:

Charlyne Pacini
Franklyn Lopes, Jr.
Franklyn Lopes, Jr.
Thomas and Lisa
Sarnicola and Family

GET WELL WISHES:

Jim Friebe

Franklyn Lopes, Jr.

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY:

Mary Perata

Jo-Ann and John Donovan

HAPPY BIRTHDAY:

Joan Delfino

Denise Antonowicz

IN SUPPORT OF THE PROVIDENZA FUND:

A donation was made to the Providenza Fund by Loraine Medeiros Ross - Merced.

A donation was made to the Providenza Fund by JoAnn Maggiora-Donivan of Maggiora Jewelry from the proceeds of a sale of the I.C.F. necklace offered by the store.

*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.

Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund Convention Donations*

Received as of September 1, 2024:

Branch 36
Branch 446
Grand Total: \$1,200.00



Gifts of Love Donations

(Report as of September 1, 2024)

Branch 285	Officers/Members of Br. 218
Marc, Kelly and Madeleine Teglia	In Memory of Debbie Kolodji
In Memory of Donna Cerri Faria	Officers/Members of Br. 28
Carla Del Carlo	In Memory of Viola Carr
In Memory of Fiore Marcheschi	Officers/Members of Br. 28
Officers/Members of Br. 250	In Memory of Josephine Jimenez
In Memory of Wesley Johnson	Eva Stern
Officers/Members of Br. 291	Speedy Recovery Wishes for
In Memory of Joanna Van Blaricom	Germaine Antonowicz

Heritage — Convention

Louise Vento, Committee Member

Summer is almost over, and fall has begun. Halloween is just around the corner. In September we celebrated 100 years of the Italian Catholic Federation at the 93rd annual convention in Burlingame, California.



The convention was very successful and informative. This year we had a Heritage room displaying memorabilia of the past 100 years, from 1924 to present day. The Heritage workshop was given by Bob Acquistapace and Carmen Kilcullen on the lives of Sir Luigi Providenza and Rev. Albert Bandini and how they formed the ICF to bring the Italian immigrant back to the Catholic Church.

As Heritage chairperson for the Santa Clara Valley District and my Branch

391 — St. Martin of Tours, I volunteered to be a docent for two days in the Heritage room. I enjoyed speaking with so many members and learning what they do in their branches to promote heritage. This year we only received 29 heritage reports. I am hoping that the branches who attended the convention and the Heritage Workshop were inspired and will send in their heritage report next year.

On Sunday, awards and donations to our Charities were given out. The highlight was when Ben (eight Years old) gave his slide presentation on blood. The convention ended with a beautiful mass at 3:00 p.m. I would like to thank the Heritage committee and Grand President Denise Antonowicz for the award given to my late husband Russ and I for our dedication to the Heritage program.

Grazie Mille, Sempre Avanti

Welcome New Members

(Report as of September 8, 2024)

Branch 026	Christina E Andrade	Gerry Boyes
	Diane Collins	Nickolas J Corini
	Rosemarie Ferrari Bryan	Anita Frusetta
	Janice L Rodriguez	Chi-Cha Russo
	Donna Silvia	Pat Slatten
	Carol A Travlos	
Branch 028	Mike L Codiga	Anthony Della Sala
Branch 036	James V Culcasi	Marilyn Gollihar
	Antonio Della Sala	Greta Annabelle Leonard
	Michael Gollihar	
Branch 052	Rev Alan Acevedo	
Branch 082	Nina Barnes	Jessica L Calloni
	Gabriella Herrera	Elizabeth A Holladay
Branch 111	Phyllis Vieni	
Branch 130	Gianna A Archini	Sean M Archini
	Jacob J Corradetti	Michael T Corradetti
	Sandra A Corradetti	George Schoenstein
Branch 179	Chuck La Piana	Kathy La Piana
Branch 291	Sheila Walter	

Gifts of Love Convention Donations

(Report as of September 1, 2024)

Branch 36	Branch 395
Branch 48	Branch 413
Branch 82	Branch 442
Branch 281	Branch 446
Branch 291	Monika Besancon
Branch 308	Maria and Frank Parisi
Branch 354	The Watts Family
Branch 368	Leonard and BG Zasoski, Jr.
Branch 374 - In Memory of Al Restivo	- In Memory of Leonard and Marian Zasoski, Sr.
Branch 380	Grand Total: \$5,425.00
Branch 390	
Branch 392	

Cooley's Anemia Convention Donations

(Report as of September 1, 2024)

Branch 10		Branch 390
Branch 14 - In Memory of David Botta		Branch 392
Branch 25		Branch 395
Branch 36		Branch 413
Branch 48		Branch 442
Branch 82		Branch 445
Branch 91		Branch 446
Branch 139		Monika Besancon
Branch 184		Maria Di Paolo - In Memory of
Branch 215		Fabiola Di Paolo
Branch 281		Jo-Ann Maggiora Donivan
Branch 291		Bill and Maria Greco
Branch 308		Annemarie McCarthy - In Memory
Branch 342		of Fabiola Di Paolo
Branch 354		Leonard and BG Zasoski, Jr. - In
Branch 362		Memory of Ed and Shirliann
Branch 368		Swertfager
Branch 374 - In Memory of Al Restivo		Grand Total: \$8,425.00
Branch 380		

Italian Catholic Federation's 2nd Annual SoCal Charity Golf Tournament



Location: Temecula Creek Inn
44501 Rainbow Canyon Rd,
Temecula 92592

October 26th
Saturday, 2024

Shotgun Starts at 8 AM
Registration Fee: \$200
After Deadline: \$210

Name of Golfer: _____
 Email: _____
 Name of Golfer: _____
 Email: _____
 Name of Golfer: _____
 Email: _____

Make checks payable to:
Italian Catholic Federation Golf Tournament
 8393 Capwell Dr. Suite 110, Oakland, CA 94621
 Make check \$200 per Golfer, write Golf in memo line

SIGN UP DEADLINE For more info, contact Perry Shurko
Friday, October 11th Cell: 562-804-0230
 Email: p_shurko@yahoo.com

GOLF Raffle 2024

Deadline to Enter – October 15, 2024

WHO WANTS TO WIN SOME \$\$\$?
 TAKE A CHANCE WITH
 THE ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION'S SECOND GOLF BALL RAFFLE.
 ...\$15 FOR 1 ♦ \$30 for 2 ♦ \$45 for 3 OR \$50 FOR 4...(BEST DEAL)
 ...CASH PAYOUTS INCLUDE PRIZES OF \$100, \$500, \$750, & \$1,000...
 THE DRAWING TAKES PLACE AFTER THE
 ICF SO CAL REGION GOLF TOURNAMENT ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26TH.
 CHECKS CAN BE MADE OUT TO ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION
 WITH THE MEMO - GOLF BALL RAFFLE.
 WE NEED YOUR NAME, E-MAIL, PHONE NUMBER & BRANCH NUMBER (IF APPLICABLE).
 ONLY 1,000 GOLF BALLS WILL BE SOLD.
 CONTACT THE I.C.F. OFFICE AT (510) 633-9058 OR
 PERRY SHURKO AT (562) 804-0230, P. SHURKO@YAHOO.COM

Send this Form with your check...made payable to Italian Catholic Federation...
 Memo Golf Ball Raffle... to: 8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110, Oakland, CA 94621

Name: _____ Branch Number: _____
 Phone Number: _____ E-mail: _____

I am purchasing _____ Golf Balls for the Raffle

Mother Cabrini Chapel & Library

Carmelo Sabatella

On September 7, 2024, Shana L. visited the Mother Cabrini Shrine in Burbank on her personal pilgrimage from her recent visit of the Mother Cabrini Shrine in Denver, Colorado.

Come visit the Chapel and Library and Mother Cabrini Chapel Store. For more information on the Chapel and Library please visit icf.org/mother-Cabrini-shrine

SAVE THE DATES

- Mother Cabrini Annual Mass, Pilgrimage and Luncheon on November 10, 2024 from 11:30 am (Church Mass) followed by Pilgrimage, Benediction (Chapel) and Luncheon (Holy Rosary Hall).

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



Mother Cabrini Chapel Committee President Carmelo Sabatella at the Mother Cabrini Chapel in Burbank with visitor Shana L. on her personal pilgrimage from her recent visit to the Mother Cabrini Shrine in Denver, Colorado to pray at Mother Cabrini's personal Chapel in Burbank, California.

Scholarship Donations

(Received as of September 1, 2024)

Scholarship Donations - 1st Year

James Lee In Honor of the Birthday of Joan Delfino
 Elaine Osorio

Scholarship Donations - 2nd - 4th Year

Vicky Marlar In Memory of Vilma Rom

Scholarship Conventions Donations

(Received as of September 1, 2024)

Scholarship Convention Donations - 1st Year

The Antonowicz Family
Grand Total: \$100.00



Interested in learning more about the ICF's National Charity, Cooley's Anemia (Thalassemia)?
 If so, Laurice Levine, ICF Liaison for Children's Hospital Los Angeles, would be honored to come and speak at one of your branch meetings or any special event (at no cost to your branch).

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

It does not matter how small or how large your branch is, the goal is to educate everyone on Cooley's Anemia and the great work the ICF does for this cause.

Book Review--Built with Faith: Italian American Imagination and Catholic Material Culture in New York City

Vince Piro

Built with Faith: Italian American Imagination and Catholic Material Culture in New York City

By Joseph Sciorra
 University of Tennessee Press, 2018

Recently, a book came across my desk that I thought might be of interest to those interested in Italian-American cultural studies, particularly folk art, and Catholicism.



Italian-American Catholic folk art in the form of statues, altars, shrines... has been a part of New York for over a century. These religious artifacts are often displayed in front yards, front stoops, and sidewalks, "outside of but in relationship to the consecrated halls of local parishes and are sites of worship in conventionally secular locations. Such ethnic building traditions and urban ethnic landscapes have long been neglected by all but a few scholars."

Sciorra starts his book by explaining that Catholic religious statues and artwork that often decorate Italian-American front yards of private homes in New York are often seen in a negative light. He explains that "Passing references to yard shrines in newspaper articles addressing social issues like political conservatism, the mafia, drugs, and racially motivated violence position Catholic practices and expressive culture as hypocritical and superficial." Others see such religious displays as "déclassé taste and spiritual banality...The cultural given is that these practices are audacious displays of bad taste, low-class Catholic kitsch on public view. Writing about the Catholic critique of kitsch."

Against these misunderstood descriptions, Sciorra sees these Italian-American and Roman Catholic displays in a more positive light. He writes, "Religious images, in the form of printed visuals and three-dimensional statuary artistically displayed and embellished through assemblage and craftsmanship, are expressions of individual belief and artistry. They are a distillation of religious tenets, familial commitments and responsibilities, and ethnic associations communicated through form, placement, and ritual behavior. These religiously inspired creations, although crafted or sponsored by an individual (often with the aid of family members, paesani, and close friends) are geared outward toward a community of believers beyond the self and one's immediate family."

As Sciorra notes, this public display of religious artwork has its tradition in Italy and was brought to the United States by immigrants. "Italian New Yorkers have adapted the centuries-old Italian tradition of constructing freestanding wayside shrines along rural roads and niches set into the exterior walls of urban buildings." And often, "Often, these vernacular structures were dissonant sites for representatives of institutional power like the police, the clergy, and landlords who all too often did not agree



BUILT WITH FAITH
 Italian American Imagination and Catholic Material Culture in New York City
 Joseph Sciorra



with their religious practices and/or use of city space." In a sense then, it appears these statues were devotional while also speaking against urban centers of power.

In this academic yet accessible book, the author explores this Italian-American, Catholic folk art in-depth by offering an ethnographic study of the religious material culture of New York City's Italian American Catholics.

Chapters include investigations of *Private Devotions in Public Places: The Sacred Spaces of Yard Shrines and Sidewalk Altars, Places and Fragile Landscapes: Nostalgia and Utopia in Nativity Presepi, Festive Intensification and Place Consciousness in Christmas House Displays, The Our Lady of Mount Carmel Grotto in Rosebank, Staten Island, Processions as Global Mapping in Williamsburg, Brooklyn.*

Sciorra spent thirty-five years researching these community art forms and interviewing Italian immigrant and U.S.-born Catholics. By documenting the folklife of this group, Sciorra reveals how Italian Americans in the city use expressive culture and religious practices to transform everyday urban space into unique, communal sites of ethnically infused religiosity. The folk aesthetics practiced by individuals within their communities are integral to understanding how art is conceptualized, implemented, and esteemed outside of museum and gallery walls.

Joseph Sciorra is the director of Academic and Cultural Programs at the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, Queens College. He is the editor of *Italian Folk: Vernacular Culture in Italian-American Lives* and co-editor of *Embroidered Stories: Interpreting Women's Domestic Needlework from the Italian Diaspora*. Sciorra received his Ph.D. from the Department of Folklore and Folklife at the University of Pennsylvania. As a folklorist, he has published on religious practices, material culture, and popular music, among other topics. He was the editor (2009-2016) of the social science and cultural studies journal *Italian American Review*. He has conceptualized and curated several exhibitions, including "Evviva La Madonna Nera!: Italian-American Devotion to the Black Madonna."

Vince



Sponsorship Opportunities

Even if you can't attend the tournament or banquet, you can show your support of the ICF with one of our Sponsorship Opportunities

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October 26th
Saturday, 2024

For more info, contact Perry Shurko.
 Cell: 562-804-0230
 Email: p_shurko@yahoo.com



Not a Golfer? We have the Perfect Opportunity for You!

Italian Buffet: \$50 per person

Name: _____
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 Phone Number: _____

Make check \$50 per person. Write Banquet in memo line
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Italian Catholic Federation Golf Tournament
 8393 Capwell Dr. Suite 110, Oakland, CA 94621

October 26th
Saturday, 2024

For more info, contact Perry Shurko.
 Cell: 562-804-0230
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SANTA CLARA VALLEY DISTRICT



ICF #47 SCVD Mass and BBQ Aug 2024



ICF #47 SCVD Mass and BBQ Aug 2024



ICF #47 SCVD Mass and BBQ, Craig the Grill Master, Aug 2024.



Br. 445 August Birthday Celebrations for Joe Adragna & Phil Lang with Gina Farro



Br.445 Convention Roaring 20's Night: Richard & Donna Pfaff, Jan Stumhoffer



Br.445 Darlene & Gary Pedone lead Buffet Line



Br. 445 Blankets & Socks Donation Assembly Crew: Jim & Janie Falcone, Cindy Fuentes-Sevilla, Kathy & Andy LaScola, Larry & Gina Farro



Br. 368, Rib Dinner



Br. 368, Rib Dinner auction baskets by Patti & Carleen Beers



Br. 368, Ice Cream Social

SANTA CLARA VALLEY DISTRICT (continued)



Julie Midwin and Jim Jones Br. 191



Debbie Piro and Jim Jones Br. 191



Br. 191, August Baby shower for the Baby layette!



Br. 435, Guilia Gallego ICF Memorial Mass ICF Convention 2024



Br. 408, Dante Galeazzi & Patricia Look ICF Convention



Br. 435



Andrew Pappani and Dante Galeazzi



Br. 408, Clergy at Closing Mass 2024

Deadline for November Issue of the Bollettino is October 10. Send your articles & photos: editor@icf.org



Branch 28



Branch 28

OAKLAND

EAST BAY District Council

Every branch of the EBD sent delegates to the Convention this year. Non-delegate members took advantage of the vicinity of the Convention to join the enriching weekend.

Congratulations to Lisa Crudo (Branch 343) for winning re-election to Central Council. Leonard Rossi, (Branch 343), remains on Central Council. Prayers and best wishes to you both for a productive year.

EBD Chaplin, Father Mario Rizzo presented a spirituality workshop on Sunday of the Convention. EBD appreciates the generous time given by all clergy present during the weekend.

EBD received two 100% participation awards for our work: One for supporting 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th year scholarships, and one for responding to all requests and required activities by the ICF.

The contributions of our generous members to the Socks/Blankets campaign were outstanding. Over two carloads of donations from the EBD were added to the contributions of the ICF.

Sempre Avanti- September 7th, Bishop's Day was held at St. Rose of Lima Parish, Crockett, hosted by Branch 14. Donations to the to the Seminary Burse and Spiritual Bouquets are presented.

We mourn the passing of Chuck Meier. Please remember him and his wife, Elaine, in your prayers. (Longtime Branch 285 members.)

*Sincerely,
Roberta Madej*

Alameda

Br. 10, Nostra Signora Delle Grazie

A few days remain (until Tuesday, October 8 at 9:00 a.m.) for making reservations for our annual Ravioli Dinner scheduled for Saturday, October 12. Contact John Zugnoni, 510-326-3474 or john@zugnoni.net. Prices are \$35.00 for adults and \$12.00 for youngsters 12 and under. The festivities begin with social hour at 6:00 p.m., and dinner will be served at 7:00. The evening includes a hosted bar and raffle. The location is Monsignor O'Brien Hall, High Street at Van Buren Street, Alameda (main island).

Our next social event will be the combined East Bay District-Branch 10 Christmas Party on Saturday, December 7. We will be visited by Santa Claus, and gifts will be distributed to the children in attendance. More information to follow in the November *Bollettino*.

We are saddened to inform every one of

the passing of member Fiore Marcheschi, who died at the age of 88 in his home in Alameda on August 1. Fiore belonged to the ICF for 60 years. He is survived by his wife Agnes, a member for 72 years, three adult children, all of whom belong to Branch 10, and two grandchildren. Agnes and son Michael chair our Saint Joseph's Day Table, and Michael ensures that we donate proceeds from the event to the Missionaries of Charity in Pacifica, this year recipients of the ICF Saint Teresa of Calcutta Award. Twenty-five members of Branch 10 joined in the Prayer of Farewell at the Rosary at Saint Joseph Basilica in Alameda on August 12.

Three of our officers and one non-officer member attended the Burlingame convention. We received an apostolate charity award for second place in our membership category. Thanks to JoAnn Dorn, our treasurer, for compiling all the information.

Congratulations to recent Branch 10 winners of \$30.00 calendar awards, Linda Teplitz and Jane Hageman.

*John Zugnoni
Branch 10 publicity*

Oakland

Br. 91, St. Lawrence O'Toole/Divine Mercy

As we move into the Fall, we acknowledge some of our recent past events, joyful and sad.

This Summer, we lost one of our long-time members, Betty Tully. She has now gone on to join her husband, daughter and brother in Heaven. The family held a Rosary and Funeral Mass, attended by many from Br. 91. She was an active member for many years and served on our board for the branch. Betty and her Irish Soda Bread will be missed!

Br. 91 was represented at The Annual Convention, and we were able to present one of the raffle prizes to Judy Wellbeloved from Br. 285, who was thrilled.

The other winner is Donna Dianda Santich who will receive hers soon!

By the way, we have now made a variation of that necklace for sale and delivered it to Andy Pappani during Convention. (A percentage of the sale goes back to ICF!) Contact Jo-Ann Donovan at jjdon@pacbell.net

Finally, Br.91 along with Br.215, donated many socks & blankets at Convention. Our Jeep was filled, and a luggage carrier was used to get it all into the hotel.

Moving forward, we now have 2025 Calendars for sale!

Lisa Crudo and committee have done a wonderful job, and we look forward to selling out!! We even sell them to nonmembers—gifts & raffles.

*Sempre Avanti
Jo-Ann Maggiora Donovan, President*

Fremont Br. 215, St. Francis of Assisi

The 2024 ICF National Convention was a joy to attend! President Fran LaTorre and member Rebecca Engineer represented Branch 215 at all functions throughout the Labor Day weekend.

The highlight of the Convention was to witness the Missionary Sisters of Charity be awarded the 2024 Mother Teresa Award! This order of nuns was founded by Mother Teresa! This group of MSC sisters have been based in the Mission District of San Francisco at the Convent of the Immaculate Conception since 1983. Immaculate Conception Church was the parish where the very first branch of the ICF was formed. This made our 100th Anniversary Celebration extra special. Two truckloads of blankets and socks were given to these special sisters. They will use our donations to serve homeless Mothers and their children as well as men dying of AIDS/HIV.

Our Cash Raffle held in June grossed nearly \$1900.00 dollars. We are awaiting the final profit made at our 8/6/2024 Strizzi's Fundraiser. \$175.00 in donations were received even before the 8/6/2024 event.

President Fran, Nadine Mattier, Rick and Cathy Laden all volunteered their services at Corpus Christi Church's Flea Market held on 8/24/2024-8/25/2024. The final profit made appeared to be a little over \$5,000.00. ICF Branch 215 has volunteered its services to the Flea Market for the past 8 years.

In August, Corpus Christi Parishioners learned that our Pastor, Father Luis Lopez, has become the Parish Administrator both Corpus Christi in Fremont and Our Lady of the Rosary in Union City. His start date was 9/1/2024.

Br. 215 along with the Ladies Guild of Our Lady of the Rosary will man the Cake Booth at OLR's Parish Festival on 10/5/2024-10/6/2024. Buy your tickets and we will spin the wheel. Lots of delicious cakes to win!

Congratulations to all members celebrating birthdays, anniversaries and other special events during October!! Remember, our next branch meeting will be on Tuesday 10/8/2024, 6:30 p.m., Seton Room, Basement of Corpus Christi Parish Hall.

*Sincerely,
Fran LaTorre*



Livermore Br. 285, St. Filomena

We are looking forward to the cooler days of autumn here in the Tri-Valley, and to all the planned fun events coming up.

We ended the summer with the ICF National Convention held in the San Francisco Airport Marriott and it was a huge success. Our branch president, Carlotta Schauer and husband, Dale,

attended as our delegates, along with Judy Wellbeloved and her husband, David. Judy is a past president and she and her husband still participate in events when they can since retiring to the "far" north. Our Sentinel, Toni Manzetti, was the lucky winner of the \$1500 prize. Congratulations!

Because our Polenta Dinner was such a success this year, it enabled us to make additional donations to Cooley's Anemia, Gifts of Love, Second and Third Year Scholarships, as well as add to our First Year Scholarships. We are definitely planning another polenta dinner!

Last month we joined with the Golden Friends for a very fun Bingo/Luncheon, and we were able make a donation to St. Michael's School Tuition Assistance. Along with another Polenta Dinner, we are planning exciting guests and events for our monthly Social Meetings. This month's meeting on September 15 at 1:30 will be at St. Elizabeth Seton's and we will enjoy stories presented by local contributors to Donna McMillan's book, "Cruising Down Memory Lane, Stories of Pleasanton in the 1950s." The presenters and contributors include our own Carolyn Cardinalli who grew up in Pleasanton and has many interesting memories to share. Next month, at our October meeting, we plan on hosting Pia Murphy, who will be sharing stories of her heritage. In November, we will be attending our Mass of Remembrance followed by a delicious Thanksgiving Dinner hosted by a local restaurant. December will bring our annual Christmas Dinner. Boll

We welcomed seven new members but sadly lost one of our dearest members last month, Chuck Meier. He was always ready to assist at ICF activities, and whenever anyone needed help. He was known for his kind heart, sense of humor, and generosity. We will all miss him very much. A Celebration of his Life is planned for September.

We would love to have you join us at any of our meetings or events; please contact Virginia at 925 455 6084 or virginia1153@comcast.net for information.

FRESNO DISTRICT



Fresno District at the National Convention



Sherry Attolico, Branch 250, Clovis Rest in peace.



Branch 39 Convention Delegates and Vince Piro; left to right: Ruth Redondo. Robyn Piro, Terrie Rhodes, Vince Piro and Maryellen Mazzei.



2024 Convention Raffle Winners

Congratulations to the following members who won a Prize in the Convention Raffle.

1ST PRIZE, \$2,500 + \$250 SELLER'S PRIZE
Carol Gerhardt, Br. 52, Healdsburg, CA

2ND PRIZE, \$1,500
Jocelyn Banaag, Salinas CA

\$150 Sellers's Prize
Carmelita San Juan, Br. 25, Salinas, CA

3RD PRIZE, \$1,500 + \$100 SELLER'S PRIZE
Donna M. Veneziano, Br. 442, Pleasant Hill, CA

4TH PRIZE, \$1,000 + \$100 SELLER'S PRIZE
David and Michele Trichter, Br. 179, Glendora, CA

5TH PRIZE, \$1,000
Antonette Manzetti, Br. 285, Pleasanton, CA

\$100 SELLER'S PRIZE
Patty Brick, Br. 285, Pleasanton, CA

6TH PRIZE, \$500 + \$100 SELLER'S PRIZE
Cecelia McGhee, Br. 48, Modesto, CA

7TH PRIZE, \$500 + \$100 SELLER'S PRIZE
Elva Valli, Br. 14, Crockett, CA

October 2024

Dear Branch President,

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

2 1/2" x 2 1/2" (one column square)	\$25
2 1/2" x 5" (vertical or horizontal)	\$35
4" height x 5" width (horizontal)	\$50
6 1/2" height x 5" width (vertical, quarter page)	\$70

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

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

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

The deadline is November 10th.

Thank you. -ICF Office



CONTRA COSTA District Council

All seven of our branches were represented at the recent convention. The festivities were held at the Marriott Waterfront hotel in Burlingame over Labor Day weekend. Delegates and guests enjoyed Masses, workshops, dinners and more. We thank the convention director's committee for an inspirational and informative convention. Congratulations to Rosemary Cook from Branch 13 Martinez for being reelected to the Central Council and installed as a trustee.

On September 7, Contra Costa and East Bay Districts gathered for Bishops Day. Mass was celebrated at St. Rose of Lima parish in Crockett. Dinner and program followed. Monetary and spiritual donations were presented to Bishop Barber. We thank second vice President, Franklyn Lopes Jr. for representing the Central Council. And Chris Valentini, Central Council Emeritus for being the master of ceremonies. And a great big thank you to branch 14 Crockett for hosting. Our District Mass will be held at 9 a.m. October 6 at the Immaculate heart of Mary parish in Brentwood. Breakfast will follow. Our next meeting will be held November 14 at 7 p.m. at Christ the King parish meeting room A and B in Pleasant Hill. Our 2025 officer election will take place.

That's all for this time. Fraternally, Patty Jarrett Past President/District Mentor

Martinez Br. 13, San Martino

The 100th anniversary convention held on the windy coast of Burlingame was welcomed respite to our hot summer as we watched aircraft going and coming every few seconds. Branch #13 celebrated Rosemary Cook's successful re-election campaign, acknowledgment for member retention, scholarship donation, contribution to the blood drive, and reconnecting with old and older friends. Memories of David Botta swirled about as the theme was his favorite battle cry. It was all-around success with thanks to organizers.

At Bishop's Day, Branch #13 was represented by officers Tom, Mary, and Chaplain Deacon Albert Dizon who also served Bishop Barber on the altar. How will you serve the branch? Elections will be held on Indigenous People's Day, October 14. Calendars are now available for purchase \$30 each with 365 chances to win. Claim yours. October recognizes feasts of some of my favorite saints: Francis of Assisi, Teresa of Avila, Ignatius, and Anne; and, also it's the month dedicated to Breast Cancer Awareness. We've all known someone who has survived and who has died. I know both within my immediate family. My mother and one sister were survivors; another sister suc-

cumbed. Let's keep praying for a cure for all cancers.

Remember, "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him."-John 3:17. Let's keep positive attitudes; and, as you prepare your upcoming ballot, vote your conscience, not party, please. Ask yourself, "What would Jesus do?" Which candidate most represents your values?

Sempre Avanti! Mary Cook

Crockett Br. 14, San Carlo

Ciao Amici!

September was a busy month for our branch. We were privileged to host this year's Bishop's Day for the Contra Costa and East Bay Districts. The Most Reverend Michael C. Barber honored us with his presence, as did many other Diocese and District dignitaries. ICF Spiritual Director, Reverend Christopher Bennett inspired us with his remarks, while Master of Ceremonies Chris Valentini entertained us throughout the evening. We thank Roni and her team for organizing this event, and a special thank you to all the branches and officers who came together to celebrate the Mass and this wonderful occasion.

Pat Botta, Dee Carone, and Sylvia Smith represented us well at this year's convention, and provided motivating reports from the event. Thank you, ladies!

Our September dinner was an annual favorite. Johnny V. made his world-famous BBQ. It was so good, that he received a standing ovation. Many thanks Mr. Valentini!

Tickets are now on sale for this year's Polenta Dinner. The October 19th dinner is \$25.00. Contact Donna for tickets (510) 367-5669.

We wish a speedy recovery for Pat Botta, Donna Hoffmann, Debbie Keys, and John Lira. We send our deepest sympathy to Carol Lawson and Chris & Liz Valentini for the loss of their loved ones. We are thinking of you.

Finally, we are grateful to Louise for hosting our Annual Picnic. Louise is a most gracious and marvelous hostess!

We are truly fortunate to be able to gather together and celebrate so many special days with our ICF friends!

Blessings, ~Helen



Concord Br. 214, Todos Santos

We have had a busy few months during summer. First, I hope you all braved the extreme hot weather we had and stayed healthy. Hopefully we will be cooling off and be able to go out more often.

The ICF Convention was a huge success. It was very informative. It was held in Burlingame at the Marriott Hotel. It was held over Labor Day weekend. Attended from our branch was Roberta Healy, Ed and Allison McGuirk, and Sue Giorgetti. The four obtained many new ideas for activities for the coming year 2025. They had banquet dinners enjoyed by all. The past presidents were honored. It was a great event.

The Bishop's dinner honoring Bishop Michael Barber was held in Crockett and hosted by Branch #14. They did an excellent job. We had 10 of our branch members who attended.

We had our annual branch members only barbecue at the home of Roberta Healy. We had 40 members. We had delicious food, and a few prizes. Unfortunately, Irene Moore had an accident and spent many days in the hospital and is home now recovering. We all pray for a speedy recovery.

We are looking forward to our Pasta/Bingo this Saturday September 14th. We will have 85 excited guests hoping to receive cash payouts for bingo games and delicious food and many raffle prizes and a door prize.

Please stay healthy and enjoy the cooler weather. The holidays are approaching soon!!

Ciao, Norene Deluca

Danville Br. 352, St. Isidore

Hope you all are having a wonderful summer. Sunday, August 18 branch 352 had a fun day at Sycamore Park in Danville playing bocce. Forty people came out to play in bocce tournament from 9 a.m. to 2. The teams were made up of four people some were novices some were experienced.

We started with donuts and coffee then everyone brought their own picnic lunch, many shared goodies. Everyone said they would love to do it again. We decided this was the new first annual and looking forward to next year. Thank you to Bob Marx, Margie Favro, Fred Sanchez, Sis Baatz and Art and Sally Panella.

Our delegates to the national convention enjoyed the experience and will bring back information they learned to the branch. We did learn for sure that we are so lucky to have Russ doing our cooking.

Our monthly dinner meeting is September 16 and our annual fundraiser auction and dinner with a DJ for dancing is Saturday, October 19.

Ciao and Bona Fortuna Tutti, Sally Panella

Pleasant Hill Br. 442, Christ the King

September activities were plentiful for Branch 442, Christ the King, Pleasant Hill.

An enthusiastic contingent from our branch attended the convention over the Labor Day weekend (see photo in this issue) and brought back, to share with the full branch membership, learnings and stories.

Our always anticipated annual Anniversary Dinner was held on September 21st and the house was full! The membership cooked a delicious meal of pasta, sausage, salad and desserts. There was a full array of raffle prizes and lots of nostalgia shared by those lucky enough to have cherished memories of our Italian 'famiglia'.

We ended a busy month supporting the annual parish festival. The ICF Salami Toss booth is always one of the most popular. Lots of encouragement from the members who staffed the booth led to the 'potato-tossers' leaving with either salamis or pride in their effort or both!

October, we begin, in earnest, to plan for our full range of events for the new year including election of officers.

Saluti a tutti e Dio vi benedica! Diane Delucchi Christ the King, Branch 442, Pleasant Hill

BLESSED SACRAMENT

Auburn Br. 342, St. Joseph

A big thank you to everyone who joined us at our annual picnic! It was so much fun seeing everyone enjoy the great food, play games and visit with each other. We are so grateful to the Knights of Columbus for grilling our burgers and hot dogs! Thanks for joining us and cooking lunch! I will have pictures next month.

Save the date! On Saturday, November 2nd we will be having a Bunco Fundraiser at St. Joseph's Hall in Auburn. Doors will open at 11 a.m. We will be serving lunch catered by Real Foods Catering and then the games will begin! Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased by calling Adriana Jensen at (530) 823-8523 or Pam Andersen at (530) 913-2041. We only have a limited number of tickets, and no tickets will be sold at the door. We hope you will be able to join us!

Ciao! Pam Andersen

CONTRA COSTA DISTRICT



Crockett #14 members enjoying their annual BBQ get together at Louise DeTomas's house. Thank you Louise for a fabulous time.



Members from Crockett #14 enjoying a trip to the casino. Happy faces, some winners and losers but always a great trip.



Thank you Dee Carone, Pat Botta and Sylvia Smith for being Crockett #14 delegates at convention. You ladies did a super job...



Donna H., Nancy C., and Pat B. Went to Colorado to visit long time member and friend of Crockett #14, Rita DeTomas. Great memories were made.



ICF convention, Art Panella, award for most new members Branch 352



Branch 432, Louisa Marassutti



Branch 352, Sis Baatz, Art Panella, Fred Sanchez and Margie Favro, Dick and Susie Reynolds, Sally Panella, Bob and Joan Marx



Br. 352, Winners of the bocce tournament, Dick Reynolds, Heba Rayan, Steve and Sandy Stamates, Joan Billeci

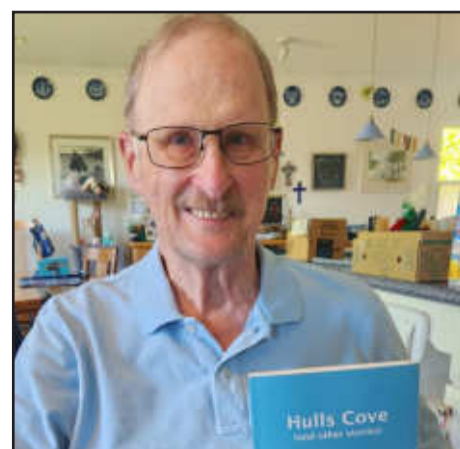
CONTRA COSTA DISTRICT (continued)



#442 Convention Diana Mackinson, Ann Consul, Rose McNeal, Joan Cummings, Eileen McGauran, Juliette Cote and Patty Jarrett



Friends: Joseph Flores of Br. 213 and Tom Cook, President of Br. 13, meet about every 6 weeks to remain in touch.



Br. 13 also celebrated member Bob Poirier on the release of his newest book, "Hulls Cove and Other Stories" now available on Amazon.



"Meet the Candidates" when delegates chat with those running for Central Council and collect campaign paraphernalia like the notebooks Rosemary Cook offered to Sally Panella (left) from Danville and Nanette Metz (center).



Ken Marshall, Br. 342 captured this picture of East Bay District Chaplain Fr. Mario Rizzo and Br. 13 Delegate, Mary Cook



Tom Cook of Martinez, Bishop Michael Barber, Franklyn Lopes, Jr., Grand First VP, Fr. Larry Young, Contra Costa District Chaplain, Deacon Alberto Dizon, Chaplain of Br. 13, Fr. Leo Asuncion, Parochial Administrator of Host Parish, and Deacon John Kortuem from Brentwood.



Fr. Leo Asuncion and Franklyn Lopes, Jr.



Bishop Michael Barber processing into St. Rose of Lima church in Crockett.



Contra Costa and East Bay District's Bishop's Day: On the altar of St. Rose of Lima church in Crockett, Bishop Michael Barber of the Oakland Diocese concelebrated the Mass with Fr. Leo Asuncion, Fr. Chris Bennett, Fr. Larry Young, Fr. Matthew Murray, Deacon Albert Dizon, and others.

CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT



Central Coast District members attending National Convention



David and Keely Sanchez, from Br. 291 in Arroyo Grande, had a great time at the ICF National Convention in Burlingame! They enjoyed the workshops and visiting with members from the Central Coast District and beyond! Sempre Avanti!



Br. 291 is mourning the loss of a very dear and longtime member, Joanna Van Blaricom. Joanna was very proud of her Italian heritage and loved to stay involved in all our Branch activities, especially our Lenten Fish Frys each year. She will be greatly missed. Rest In Peace, Joanna.



Br. 214



Br. 214, members barbecue. Roberta Healy and Sandra Cordoni.



Elaine Valentine President Branch 36



Nino and Millie Campagna Branch 36



Branch 214 at ICF Convention



Ed and Bella Leonard 67th Wedding Anniversary Branch 36



John and Josephine Favazza Branch 36

CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT (continued)



Newly elected CC member Vincent Malfitano and lovely Roselyn



Br. 36, Jerry and Joan Delfino with Elaine Valentine.



Br. 36, Eddie e Bella Leonard a previous Family year winne



Br. 36, Doug e Debbie Omar



Br. 36 President Elaine Valentine with branch members

SAN BERNARDINO DISTRICT



Br. 446, Frank Smiderle showing photo of ancestral home.



Br. 446 Rosanna Montato Hartman making a Heritage presentation, assisted by Pres. Tony Santorufo



Br. 446, Family Movie Night



Br. 446, Family Movie Night

EAST BAY DISTRICT



East Bay District members at Convention



East Bay District - members at the Convention at Convention Saturday Night Banquet.



Br. 91, Silver and gold cross necklace



East Bay and Contra Costa Bishop's Day.



East Bay and Contra Costa Bishop's Day.



East Bay and Contra Costa Bishop's Day.



East Bay and Contra Costa Bishop's Day.



Br. 285 Convention Delegates Carlotta and Dale Schauer and Judy and David Wellbeloved



Br. 91, John Donovan with Convention Donations



Br. 215

Friday at the Convention



Friday at the Convention



COSI' FAN TUTTE

Opera Italia

Mozart's Masterpiece -- set in NAPOLI

Tickets \$56
Senior Student Youth pricing available

Complimentary glass of wine & hors d'oeuvres with each ticket

Saturday, Oct 19, 2024
Casa Italiana, DTLA
2:00pm

Sunday, Oct 20, 2024
Dalmatian American Club, San Pedro
2:30pm

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SCAN ME

Abraham Cervantes, Elio Scialoja, Ellen Moody, Eleanora, Sarah Walsh, Joshua Valdes

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Each Adult Ticket includes complimentary glass of wine
Delicious Neapolitan appetizers served for all

General Admission \$54	Senior (60+) \$48	Student (with ID) \$36	Youth (18 and under) \$27
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Student x \$36 =	\$ _____
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_____ Oct 19 (Casa Italiana, Downtown LA)
_____ Oct 20 (Dalmatian-American Club, San Pedro)

Thank you ~ Grazie Mille from Opera Italia

Friday at the Convention



Saturday at the Convention

In Loving Memory

Gusko Abbott	Norman Boggert	Josephine Colonna	Ruby Ferguson, Jr
Peter Aligro	Dan Robinson, Jr.	Kileen Conkin	Phyllis Engeman
Frank V. Agalio	Sam Bonanno	Peggy Conatinno	Andrew Fabbi
Gary Agallo	Anna Bonanno	Carl Conatinno	Dina Fabbi
Katherine V. Agallo	Daniel Britta	Carl Conatinno	Joe Fabbi
Doris Albano	Virginia Bonanno	Steve Conatinno	Mary Fabbi
Valardo Albano	Art Bonas	Cody Conaty	Henry E. Faldman
Ronan Alpi	Ann Bowdren	Edward Conetti	Francis Finazzo
Jojo Alpi	Matt Bowdren	Brian J. Crudo	Scott Fizza
Angelina Arico	Bill Bowdren	Frank S. Crudo, Jr., MD	Jaume La Torre Villant
Luigi Arico	Michelle Brown	Ronald E. Crudo	Andrew Fizzo
Joseph Andrew	Christina Brown	Stephen P. Crudo	Victoria Fizzo
Bill Anselmi	Francis Brown	Miguel Figueroa Cruz	Keith Fitzpatrick
Calvin Anselmi	Jolly Bugno	Carlini Fizzo	Guido Flacciano
Rosemary Anselmi	Maria Caglia	Luciano Flacciano	James Flacco
Sue Anselmi	Nichelle Butera	Mr. and Mrs. John B. Cocco	Frances Flacco Triglia
Doris Cirio Anselmi	Suzanne Caglia	Brother Matthew Cunningham	Betty Fontana
Joe Anselmi	Jay Calabrese	William Corvi	Jeffrey Fontana SPD
Peter Anselmi	Tony Calabrese	Tony Dangle	Vito Fontanelli
Chick Antonowicz	Dorothy J. Canacore	Ellen Maccario De Pogorno	Ashle "Lucky" Franceschini
Maria Antonowicz	Eric Canacore	Peter De Pogorno	Frances Franchino
Miguel Antonowicz	Robert S. Canacore	Michael De Poto	Vicente Franchino
Zofia Antonowicz	Carl Carico	Norma D'Amico	Madeline Franchino
Kathy Gigliotti Anna	Charles A. Caricco	Daniel DeLo	Gilbert Frazzetta
Carl Anzalone	Dwight J. Caricco	Edward DeLo	George Galardi
William Anzalone	Nancy L. Caricco	Mike DeLo	(Daniel Galardi)
James Anzalone	Assunta Ciprietti	Tom DeLo	Margaret Ann Galardi
Sue Anzalone	Frances Camilli	Helen DeLo	Lorraine Galardi
Tina Anzalone	Edwitta Carparelli	Mark DeLo	Angelo Galardi
Valardo Anzalone	Edwitta Carparelli	Mark DeLo	Lorraine Galardi
Mary Ann	Paul B. Carparelli	Chris De Augustine	Robert Galardi
Nora Ballard	John A. Carparelli	Guerrino De Luca	Luigi Galardi
Reverend Albert R. Bandin	Dwight A. Carparelli	Anna De Luca	Robert Galardi
Joe Bandin	Mike Carparelli	Sue De Luca	Luigi Galardi
Clarete Bandin	Mike Carparelli	John De Luca	Luigi Galardi
Fern Bandin	Oliver "Luisi" Carparelli	Walter De Luca	Luigi Galardi
Joe Bandin	Virginia Carparelli	Robert De Luca	Luigi Galardi
Reverend Jerome	Reverend Margaret Dante	Bertha De Luca	Luigi Galardi
Reverend Jerome	Carla Dante	Robert De Luca	Luigi Galardi
Lenza Bandini	Angela DeCicco	Albert De Luca	Luigi Galardi
Mario Bandini	Alfred DeCicco	Alfred De Luca	Luigi Galardi
John Baggio	Helen DeCicco	Alfred De Luca	Luigi Galardi
Frank Baggio	John DeCicco	Alfred De Luca	Luigi Galardi
Luigi Baggio	John DeCicco	Alfred De Luca	Luigi Galardi
Bernard Bayer	Helen DeCicco	Alfred De Luca	Luigi Galardi
Jeanette Beck	John DeCicco	Alfred De Luca	Luigi Galardi
Ronald Beltrami	John DeCicco	Alfred De Luca	Luigi Galardi
Joséphine Beltrami	John DeCicco	Alfred De Luca	Luigi Galardi
Reverend Bernard	John DeCicco	Alfred De Luca	Luigi Galardi
Ed Bertrami	John DeCicco	Alfred De Luca	Luigi Galardi
Vito Bertrami	John DeCicco	Alfred De Luca	Luigi Galardi
Fernando Bertazzini	John DeCicco	Alfred De Luca	Luigi Galardi
Georgia Binacchi	John DeCicco	Alfred De Luca	Luigi Galardi
Carl Biza	John DeCicco	Alfred De Luca	Luigi Galardi
Paulino Biza	John DeCicco	Alfred De Luca	Luigi Galardi
Bill Blackburn	John DeCicco	Alfred De Luca	Luigi Galardi
Dan Black	John DeCicco	Alfred De Luca	Luigi Galardi
Paul Black	John DeCicco	Alfred De Luca	Luigi Galardi
Michael Bolzano	John DeCicco	Alfred De Luca	Luigi Galardi
Eva Boggio	John DeCicco	Alfred De Luca	Luigi Galardi

Of Our ICF Members, Family & Friends

Emily Decker	Zoeana Mile	Zofia Romani	Gracia Spirito
Anthony DiSt	John Miller	Tommaso Romani	Frank "Jim" Spirito
Tom DiSt	Joan Miller	Leno Romani	Geremio Solari
Mark J. Jans	Ruben Mirano	Joan Romani	Pasquale Solari
Robert Jones	Willy Mirano	Joseph Romani	Ann Spirito
Robert Jones	Mary Mirano	Robert Romani	Donatella Steeno
Dorothy Jones	Edvina Mirano	Sylvia Romani	Janet Steeno
Gay Jones	George Mirano	Dr. Ronald Romani	Fa. James Steeno, OPA, CAP
Leslie Jones	George J. Mirano	George J. Romani	Maria Steeno
Luanna Jones	Ada Mirano	Luanna Romani	Barbara Steeno
Giuliana Kamech	Willa Mirano	Willa Romani	David Steeno
Agneta Kamech	Natasha Mirano	Lorraine Romani	Bruce Steeno
Adriana "Alice" Kramer	Erna Mirano	Rose Romani	Phyllis Steeno
Prer E. La Torre, Sr	Pete Mirano	Angela Di Pomicino	Tommy Steeno
Yvonne La Torre	Gracia Mirano	Rocío	Larry Tadda
Fran La Torre	Giuseppe Mirano	Giuseppe Tadda	Freda Tadda
Fran La Torre	New Mirano	John Tadda	Sue Tadda
John Lapagnicola	Suzanne Mirano	Edward Tadda	Steno Tadda
Angela Lamb	Janet Mirano	Joe Tadda	Al Tadda
Johanna Lambert	Pauline Mirano	Joe Tadda	Kathy Tadda
John Lambert	Ray Mirano	The Romagnolo Family	Liza Joan Tadda
Madeline Lambert	David Neri	Doris Rose	Angela Tadda
Rose Lambert	James Ochiana	Doris Rose	Jack Tadda
The Luzzi Family	Josephine Ochiana	Carol Rose	Joseph Tadda
Mary Jane Luzzati	Bob Ocho	Carol Rose	Lizette Tadda
Harry A. Pacini	Harry A. Pacini	Carol Rose	Frank Tadda
John Palombi	John Palombi	Carol Rose	Phyllis Tadda
John Palombi	John Palombi	Carol Rose	Phyllis Tadda
John Palombi	John Palombi	Carol Rose	Phyllis Tadda
John Palombi	John Palombi	Carol Rose	Phyllis Tadda
John Palombi	John Palombi	Carol Rose	Phyllis Tadda
John Palombi	John Palombi	Carol Rose	Phyllis Tadda
John Palombi	John Palombi	Carol Rose	Phyllis Tadda
John Palombi	John Palombi	Carol Rose	Phyllis Tadda
John Palombi	John Palombi	Carol Rose	Phyllis Tadda
John Palombi	John Palombi	Carol Rose	Phyllis Tadda
John Palombi	John Palombi	Carol Rose	Phyllis Tadda
John Palombi	John Palombi	Carol Rose	Phyllis Tadda

SATURDAY at Convention started off with the

MEMORIAL MASS Ricordare (Remember)

Reverend Christopher Bennett, Spiritual Director presided over the mass with **Father Mario Rizzo, Father Jerry Ochetti, Father Roberto Vera and Father Michael Mahoney.**

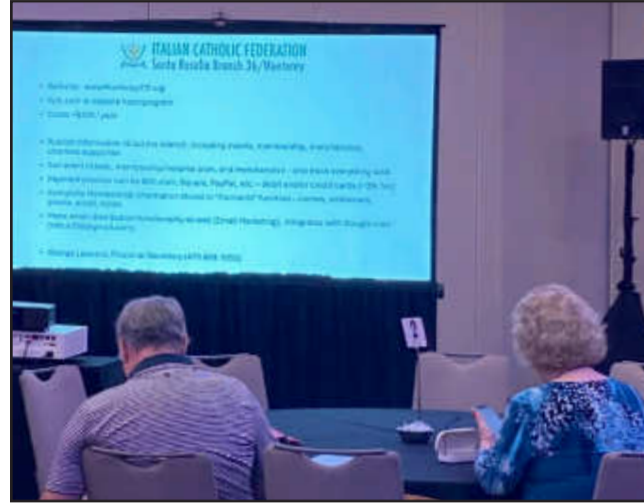
Readings by Julianna Midwin from Branch 191

Music by Allen & Crystal Watts, Br. 281, Bakersfield.

Father Bennett gave a heartwarming gospel during this mass filled with mixed emotions as we remembered the passing of some many beloved members and family. He said, "Love never leaves you as it finds you...it transforms...do not let your hearts be troubled, but to trust in God."



Saturday at the Convention



13th 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 13th Annual Convention Blood Drive in Burlingame. From our donors, Vitalant Blood Bank collected 11 units of whole blood, 2 double red (4 units of whole red blood cells), 4 red blood cell/plasma, and 1 plasma, totaling **20 lifesaving units of blood** products collected. 1 unit can help up to 3 patients. This means we collected **60 lifesaving units for the hospitals.**

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 and thank the Vitalant staff, led by Alexandra Carter, for their exceptional hard work.

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude for the following blood donors: thank you for donating blood and giving the gift of life. God bless each of you.

- Joseph Aguilar
- Marianne Cameron
- Mary Cook
- Tom Cook
- Lisa Crudo
- Jo-Ann Donovan
- Raymond Jackson
- Ken Marshall
- Nanette Metz
- Judy Miller
- Glena Navarra
- Andy Pappani
- Sid Pappani
- Consuelo Perez
- Christine Ragusa
- Carmelo Sabatella
- Tad Shaw
- Richard Shimshock
- William Veloso
- Leonard Zasoski, Jr.
- Melissa Zenor

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

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 drives are the key to ensuring that an adequate blood supply is available for patients in need. Approximately half of the nation's blood supply is collected at blood drives like the ICF's. Blood Banks like Vitalant are able to meet the blood needs of patients they serve because of blood drives like these.

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

Thank you again to everyone who participated.

Respectfully,
Carmen Kilcullen, Chair, Live to Give Committee
Ken Marshall, Member, Live to Give Committee
Pat Mages, Member, Live to Give Committee
Lisa Crudo, Member, Live to Give Committee
Laurice Levine, Member, Live to Give Committee

Saturday at the Convention



ICF WORKSHOPS

SPiritual Workshop #1: Led by Reverend Christopher Bennett "walking out of the past into the future." Discussed how the founders relate to today.

PUBLIC RELATIONS WORKSHOP: Led by Pat Mages, PR Chairperson, brought together the Bollettino editor as well as Vince Piro and Perry Shurko to communicate steps branches could take to make better use of branch articles as well as overlooked PR tools available on the ICF website.

HERITAGE WORKSHOP: Led by Bob Acquistapace and Carmen Kilcullen shared stories and inspiration about the evolution of ICF. They told stories of the lives of Sir Luigi Providenza and Rev. Albert Bandini and how they formed the ICF to bring the Italian immigrant back to the Catholic Church.

The workshop occurred in the Heritage Room surrounded by photos and memorabilia recounting the role ICF and its members have in many communities. Due to a glitch in the schedule, Kilcullen led a second workshop later in the day to another full crowd.

TECHNOLOGY WORKSHOP: Led by Patrick Senge from Br. 438 Roseville, George Leonard from Br. 36 Monterey and Lauren Kilcullen, Br. 52 San Francisco Di Sales. Patrick discussed Square, George discussed Wix.com and I discussed Mailchimp

OPEN FORUM

The event invited members to share success stories from their branches as well as their questions.

- A big topic of discussion was the awards. There was concern that this year only 3 of the awards had enough submission. Some talked of reducing the number of awards, but others suggested the awards if enhanced and better recognized could be useful ways to better connect with the community and grow ICF. There may be an award workshop to better explain the process. Several members brought up the value in getting schools involved. They could bring young people in first for volunteering and then to see the value of being an active member of the branch for themselves and their families.

Many highlighted ICF was pretty good at getting new members, but they were not so good at holding on to them. Retention is a huge factor.

SPiritual Workshop #2: Led by Reverend Mario Rizzo discussed life of the Saints and how we connect with them as family

CONVENTION GENERAL SESSION

CALL TO ORDER by Grand President Denise Antonowicz

OPENING PRAYER given by Rev. Mario Rizzo referenced the first millennial saint: Carlos Acutis. He was a teenaged computer whiz who used the internet to spread the Catholic faith. Acutis is referred to as "God's influencer." Fr. Mario remind all to "make our joy fulfilled."

The Central Council members, including Life Members, as well as clergy and staff were introduced.

ADOPTION OF RULES/REGULATIONS led by Grand Parliamentarian Leonard Rossi so delegates would understand what was expected of them during the voting process.

CREDENTIAL REPORT explained by Grand Secretary Lauren Kilcullen which highlighted delegates present and Central Council members for 140 voting delegates. Three chaplains were also present.

TREASURER'S REPORT described by Grand Financial Secretary Lisa Crudo regarding the financial packet all delegates received with the projected general fund profit and loss.

CANDIDATE SPEECHES

ROSEMARY COOK, Br. 13—highlighted her Sicilian heritage and desired to contribute further to Central Council and continue to grow her role.

LISA CRUDO, Br. 343—shared that as a member since 1981 she is looking forward the future of ICF.

SARA FARELLO, Br. 380—called for increasing membership engagement through enhanced social media. Remarks given on her behalf by Leonard Sasoski, Jr. since she was unable to attend due to an accident.

PAT MAGES, Br. 380—shared that she joined ICF to give, but has received so much in return.

VINCE MALFITANO, Br. 36—referenced his Sicilian heritage and desire to grow his faith, family and service as a member of Central Council.

KENNETH MARSHALL, Br. 342—shared how he has recruited many members to Knights of Columbus and ICF. He is hoping to get a branch opened in his new home of North Carolina.

THERESA SABATELLA-SHAW, Br. 108—revealed she has had 47 years with ICF having joined in 1977. She wants to keep our parishes, schools, faith, family, heritage and friends strong.

PERRY SHURKO, Br. 362—highlighted role of expansion committee and the opportunities that continue for ICF.

RESOLUTION AND COMMUNICATIONS read by Pat Mages and Public Relations Committee. For complete coverage of all resolutions and communications see page 29.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Perry Shurko—Basket of Golf Balls raffle for the upcoming SoCal-based Golf Tournament in Temecula. \$15 for 1 ball, \$30 for 2 balls, and \$45 for 3 balls or \$50 for 4 balls. Winner gets \$1000 if closest to the hole. \$100 for the ball that is furthest from the hole. See flyer for more info.

Julie, from Branch 25, Salinas thanked the venue and planners for a great job so far and the dancing.

Vince, from Branch 36, thanked the president and treasurer for making the branch the shining star it is.

Josephine Silva, from Branch 145, congratulated the convention committee on a wonderful convention watts

Donna, from Branch 127, loved the convention but had to buy a sweatshirt from the marketplace because it was cold.

Tad and Theresa Shaw were thanked for providing last night's music.

SATURDAY BANQUET

The evening began with a procession of the head table as well as the Past Grand Presidents and their spouses.

WELCOME by Barbara Firpo, San Mateo District President, provided a gracious welcome to the Saintry Banquet dinner and special guests.

MISTRESS OF CEREMONIES Deborah Rodondi, Past Grand President, Central Council Life Member, kept the evening moving light and joyful.

REMARKS by Sandy Comaroto from the Burlingame Building and Planning Commission. Comaroto was delighted to welcome the ICF National Convention to Burlingame, California. She is very familiar with ICF as her mother is a 40-year member. Also, her son received ICF scholarships which



helped support his eventual enrollment in the University of Massachusetts and Cornell University. Additionally, her husband is a native Italian, and she hopes to get dual citizenship.

INVOCATION led by Cardinal Robert McElroy, Diocese of San Diego, emphasized the role of the church and sacraments as God's presence in our life. ICF had touched his life since his youth. "I believe that whole history and ministry of the ICF has been one accompaniment for that word."

Sir Luigi's vision "saw the importance of the life in the church. ...flame of that church needed to be lit anew. ...providing an opportunity to be a source of grace." Cardinal McElroy said, the ICF founders "were called to sow the seed of God's grace by which God's presence is made manifest. However, the sower may never see the harvest but trust in God's grace that it is there." Just as it has been for ICF 100 years later.

HONOR PAST GRAND PRESIDENTS AND FIRST LADIES

Past Grand President Deborah Rodondi and current Grand President Denise Antonowicz recognized and honored each Past Grand President that was present as well as their spouses.

CLOSING PRAYER led by Bishop Myron Cotta, Diocese of Stockton. The bishop also grew up with ICF even though he was a Portuguese kid. The Portuguese and Italian communities were very strong at Sacred Heart. They both shared the camaraderie and rootedness in family and community that continues today.

GOD BLESS AMERICA led by Diana Mackinson, Contra Costa District President, Br. 442—Pleasant Hill, member. The entire room joined in singing.

Saturday Night Past Grand Presidents Recognition

Deborah Rodondi, Past Grand President & Current Grand Secretary

This evening is about honoring our Past Grand Presidents.

These individuals have been our guiding lights, our mentors, our friends; they have picked us up and brushed us off when needed and are a part of our family.

We have gone to them for advice, encouragement and to bounce ideas off them — their doors were always open.

The spouses and families of these individuals gave their support to them and oftentimes to us also — they made us feel welcomed.

Robert Acquistapace (Kathy) 1978-1981

- Life Member Emeritus of the Central Council, Branch 198 member.
Charter member of Branch 194 in Santa Rosa, currently chairperson of the Hospitalization Committee
Retired Teacher, Coach and Counselor at Montgomery High
Proud to be the oldest living Past Grand President
Also enjoys sharing the fact that the PGP pictures hanging on the wall at the office was his task for the task force and my uncle Ario Gregori to accomplish.

David Botta* (Pat) 1981-1984

- A member of Branch 14 in Crocket
Fondly known as the Rocket from Crocket
When mentoring Branch 13 in Martinez he adopted the slogan embroidered on their banner as his campaign slogan and our theme for this year's convention Sempre Avanti
Thank you Pat for the support you gave to David so that he could devote so much time and guidance to ICF and the Central Council

Carmen Kilcullen (Larry) 1993-1995

- Life Member Emeritus of the Central Council
Began her venture in ICF at Branch 175 in San Francisco, where she was Branch

- President and District President. In moving to Santa Rosa she became a member of Branch 52 Healdsburg.
Paving the way for some of us, Carmen was the first female Grand President.
Currently the chairperson of the Scholarship Committee and the Apostolate-Charity Committee
Retired School Teacher - Proud of her Genovese heritage

George Bacigalupi* (Diana) 1995-1997

- Was a member of several branches in San Francisco.
A CPA by profession, he modernized the bookkeeping at the ICF office
At an ICF convention, I recalled George pulling me aside and convincing me that I must run for Treasurer. Then he grabbed Leonard Rossi and said you need to nominate her. I was honored he thought I could do the job.
Diana, as gracious hosts, for many years you and George opened your home to the Central Council with the help of Richard and Lillian Valli for brunch before the San Francisco District Installations. You also taught some of us the trick of tracking what you wear to events so as not to duplicate.

Steve Fuentes (Harold) 2001-2003

- Life Member of the Central Council
Has been a member of several branches and currently a member of Branch 173 Our Lady of Angels
Retired from the School District and is embracing his love of traveling
He tends to keep us in line, focused and thinking outside the box
Steve along with his parents Harold and Virginia were and are a cornerstone of the San Mateo District

Leonard Rossi (Karen) 2005-2007

- Life Member of the Central Council
Also, has been a member of several branches in the East Bay District. Currently at Branch 343 Our Lady of Grace in Castro Valley.
Became a member of the Central Council in 1999

- Currently the Grand Parliamentarian and chairperson of the By-Laws and Ritual Committee and member of the Executive Committee
Retired Music teacher from O'Dowd High.
His hospitality room was the one that everyone made sure to stop at because of his lively accordion playing and his dad, Nello, singing Italian songs.

Jim Jones (Janice) 2009-2011

- Life Member Emeritus of the Central Council
A member of Branch 191 Mother Cabrini in San Jose
Joined the Central Council in 1999
Over the years he has generously made our wonderful convention backdrops at his business. I still have and use the gondola and leaning tower table decorations he made for many branches.
He was an avid toastmaster. When he would come into a room with his notebook while I was speaking, my concern was not to fill the pauses with the dreaded ums and ahs. He made me very aware that it is something most of us do without realizing it.

Bob Basuino 2013-2015

- Life Member of the Central Council
A member of branch 191 Mother Cabrini in San Jose
Joined the Central Council in 2006
Currently Grand Sentinel and chairperson of the Ways and Means Committee, and member of the Executive Committee
At one time had a catering business and recently retired from the Funeral industry.
During his term as GP, I was his secretary keeping a punch up list of things to be done.
A great cook and party planner

Leonard Zasoski Jr (BG) 2015-2017

- Life Member of the Central Council
Joined the Central Council in 2007
Member of Branch 281 Bakersfield and a member of the Executive Committee
I was Treasurer during his presidency and assisted Leonard in the organizing of

the ICF office and displaying the heritage memorabilia.
Instrumental at implementing the Strategic Plan

Andy Pappani (Sid) 2017-2019

- Life Member of the Central Council and member of Branch 28 in Gilroy
Joined the Central Council in 2006
Currently chairperson of the Membership and Workshop Committees. I was his Grand 2nd Vice President
With the assistance of Vince Piro they have put together some great workshops and PowerPoint presentations that are available to view on our website.
Andy and Sid have been longtime Gilroy Garlic Festival Planners and Workers.

Vince Piro (Robyn) 2019-2021

- Joined the Central Council in 2010
This weekend, Vince is becoming a Member Emeritus of the Central Council
Member of Branch 39 Merced and currently co-chair of Workshop and Membership Committee with Andy Pappani
Along with Leonard Zasoski was instrumental in keeping us in line with our strategic plan
Vince's biggest challenge as Grand President was the lockdown of our country due to COVID 19. He came up with innovative ways for us to meet and thanks to ZOOM we were able to have a virtual convention.

Deborah Rodondi 2021-2023

- Currently Grand Secretary, a member of Branch 19 in Colma
Joined the Central Council in 2008
Saw the end of the sheltering in place and the slow rebirth of our branches.
With the passing of Dave Rose took over the reconciling of the ICF accounts and doing the monthly cash investment reports.

Robert Grassilli, Jr., son of Robert Grassilli, Sr. Past Grand President, 1957-1958, was in attendance at the Saturday banquet and an annual supporter of the scholarship program.

* Surviving spouse accepted the award in place of the Past Grand President.



GENERAL MEETING

CALLED TO ORDER by Denise Antonowicz

OPENING PRAYER by Debbie Reid, Br. 449, Santee

CENTRAL COUNCIL ELECTION RESULTS announced by Leonard Zasoski, Jr.

Perry Shurko, Lisa Crudo, Rosemary Cook, Theresa Shaw and Vincent Malfitano elected for 2024-2025 term.

Vic Arnauo, Branch 1, received the 100-year banner signifying the length of time his branch has been active. He led the room in a chant of "We made it!"

NATIONAL CHARITY

PRESENTATION: Cooley's Anemia

ICF works hard to generate funds for our charities. We have donated over \$2 million dollars to date to the Thalassaemia Fund. This year Dr. Thomas Coates, Laurice Levine and her family were present to receive a check for \$45,400. The amount reflected branch and personal contributions including a \$20,000 donation from the family of Tad Shaw in memory of his sister.

Dr. Coates expressed his remarks how impressed he was by the ICF in its ability to "walk the walk." He encouraged ICF to spread the word on how unique of an organization ICF is by making such a positive contribution to Cooley's Anemia research and support. Between sending gifts to the children, such as the Christmas in a Box, to the pictures and thank you notes—it all makes a big difference.

He was happy to report on the advances being made in the treatment of Thalassaemia. There has been a big step forward in people not having to go on transfusions. Still often misdiagnosed as an iron deficiency, advances in gene therapy and bone marrow transplants are making a big difference. This is Laurice's 25th year with ICF.

Ben Levine, Laurice's 8-year-old son, gave a presentation: "All about Blood." He spoke with great conviction and understanding of the elements of blood. Notably, red blood cells live for 120 days, but in thalassaemia only live for 7 days.

APOSTOLATE/CHARITY AWARDS—Carmen Kilcullen shared that 90 branches did a tremendous amount of work and 59 branches submitted reports. While much was monetary, there were over 3 pages of nonmonetary charitable works including outreach programs in the parish, RCIA, CCD, other community ministries as well as St. Vincent de Paul, volunteering at hospitals and rest homes, as well as bringing food to the needy. Amount donated was \$371,152 which was \$14,000 more than last year.

HERITAGE by Franklyn Lopes Jr.: 29 branches submitted heritage reports this year. Each year we recognize the most outstanding branch heritage efforts. This year we had two branches did a remarkable job going over and above what was asked: Br. 445, Jan Marianelli Stumhoffer and Br. 191, Juliana Mandolati Midwin. Additionally, Lopes recognized the extraordinary contribution of Louise Vento and her husband for all they have done over the years. They were guardians of our heritage. Louise said, "We enjoyed doing what we do to promote heritage... Really enjoy talking to people."

Franklyn invited everyone to the Italian American Columbus Day Parade on Sunday, October 13th in San Francisco. The Parade begins at 12:30 pm at the foot of Jefferson and Powell Streets in Fisherman's Wharf, proceeds south through North Beach on Columbus Avenue and ends in Washington. All are welcome!

MEMBERSHIP by Andy Pappani and Vince Piro shared that membership has been steadily climbing. ICF has 5911 members with 633 new members in the last year. The key has been retention of the members. It is not enough to join, but to get the new and older members engaged. Various membership awards were given. These included branches that maintained 100% of their membership as well as branches that increased membership and added family memberships.

SCHOLARSHIP by Carmen Kilcullen returned to the podium to celebrate the rise in scholarships given this year and to thank everyone for sharing in the importance of good education of students. She thanked everyone for their donations and encouraged ICF to continue to provide support.

This year \$56,400 was given to 141 first year scholarship recipients. \$49,000 for 36 second year, 25 third year, and 16 fourth year scholarships.

CONVENTION SITE REPORT

Lauren Kilcullen recognized the San Mateo District members and the Convention Committee for the work on organizing and hosting this year's convention. In 2025, the 94th Annual ICF Convention will be in Visalia, California on August 29 to 31 at the Wyndham Visalia. The location is well-placed for visiting the glorious sequoias in Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Park.

CLOSING PRAYER led by Juliana Midwin, Br. 191, San Jose

AWARDS LUNCHEON

WELCOME—Lauren Kilcullen, Convention Director, Grand 2nd Vice President welcomed everyone to the special awards luncheon and introduced Vic Arnauo.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES role filled by Victor Arnauo, President Br. 1 - San Francisco. As the president of the original branch, Arnauo is in the rare position to have served as part of the longest active branch. This role provides perspective and depth on the history of ICF.

Arnauo gave an overview of the ICF awards to be given during the ceremony. As a longtime member of ICF, he been involved at all levels of ICF.

OPENING PRAYER given by Father Roberto Vera from Central Coast District.

GRAND PRESIDENT'S AWARD RECIPIENT

Elaine Valentine of Br. 36, Monterey, worked tirelessly to grow and foster the membership and retention of her branch which now has 626 members. To do so, she used a membership tracking system developed by her husband, Richard. Elaine said, "I am very honored, very thrilled. This is my proudest day." She donated the \$500 award to the scholarship fund.

While Elaine joined 20 years ago, and became president 3 years ago, she said, "I sometimes feel like Luigi is up there guiding me."

YOUNG ADULT LEADERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENT

Ryuko (RJ) Novak- Murano of Br. 362, Downey, started with ICF helping out at BINGO 6 years ago. Helping at a few games morphed into being a team lead and overseeing younger teens. She moved on to helping at St. Joseph's table and being an elf for Cooley's Anemia events. RJ thanked Perry Shurko and her branch president for their support. She donated the \$500 award to Cooley's Anemia.

RJ said in the end, it's "important to keep showing up."

ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA AWARD RECIPIENT

Missionaries of Charity provided a little history of their organization. In 1982, Saint Teresa opened three charities in San Francisco including an AIDS hospice and center for young mothers. They also operate the Queen of Peace Shelter that provides short-term emergency shelter for adult mothers (aged 18 years and older) with up to two children (aged 5 years and younger). The sisters prepare meals daily for homeless shelter and young mothers. They engage in outreach to immigrants.

They gladly accepted the Blankets and Socks Donation gathered at the convention which consisted of two and a half truckloads to be distributed to those in need.

LIFE MEMBER EMERITUS—Vince Piro, Past Grand President and Central Council member was recognized as a Life Member Emeritus. He said, "I am honored to serve as an elected member for many years. It was a pleasure to work with the various members. Our actions are our prayers."

CLOSING PRAYER given by Father Jerry Ochetti, San Bernardino Diocesan Chaplain.

CONCELEBRATED MASS AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Cardinal Robert W. McElroy, Cardinal/Bishop of San Diego S. Frumenzio ai Prati Fiscali presided over Sunday afternoon closing Mass which was an impressive Celebration.

Concelebrants: Myron J. Cotta, Bishop of Stockton Diocese, Father Christopher Bennett, ICF Spiritual Director, Father Mario Rizzo, East Bay District Chaplain and Father Jerry Ochetti, San Bernardino Diocesan Chaplain.

REMARKS BY GRAND PRESIDENT—Denise Antonowicz

CONVENTION RAFFLE WINNERS

The winners were selected. A complete list can be found on page 26 of this issue of the *Bollettino*

FEDERATION ANTHEM

Music by Allen and Crystal Watts, Br. 281, Bakersfield.

INSTALLATION OF CENTRAL COUNCIL OFFICERS Installing Officer, Deborah Rodondi, Past Grand President.

Sempre Avanti



Convention Pictures continued on page 46.

SAN MATEO DISTRICT



Left to right: Cheryl Simon, Dorene Campanile, Barbara Firpo, Brenda Wemiz, Donna Barnes, Deborah Rodondi, Mara Millis, Kathy Trevizo; Back center: Don Simon



Members of Br. 213 enjoying a night of the 1920's. Seated from left to right are: Kathy Amiot, Linda Marcelli, Linda Benedetti, Judy Crosetti, 2 visitors to our table, Marianne Cameron and Barbara Gabriel.



Judy and Joe Crosetti Br. 213 Dress up for a night of the 1920's.



Bartenders and Branch 130



STOCKTON DISTRICT



Br. 390, Stockton District attendees including Stockton Bishop Cotta at National Convention.



All of Branch 390 attendees at National Convention.



Br 82 Italian Exchange Student, Sophis and host family Kyle and Kristy with member, John



Br 82 The Moberly Family at Stockton District Picnic



Br 82 The Moberly Family at Stockton District Picnic



Br 82 Patty and Chris with Birdie, Br 139, at Convention



Br. 82, St Anne, Lodi President Chris Whiting at Convention

STOCKTON DISTRICT (continued)



Branch 395 Mary Ann Piana Chapman and Jo & Bob Weber with Bishop Cotta at the 2024 ICF Annual Convention



Branch 395 Jo & Bob Weber at the 2024 ICF Annual Convention



Stockton District Picnic



Branch 395 Mary Fry Master Gardener (left) with the Stockton Garden Club



Stockton District Picnic



Stockton District Picnic



Branch 395 Mary Fry Master Gardener (left) with the Stockton Garden Club



Stockton District Picnic



Stockton District Picnic



Br. 390, Dancing king



Branch 395, Maryann, Bob & Jo



Branch 395

SANTA ROSA DISTRICT



Br. 144, C&P Cooks



Br. 144 Chicken & Polenta cooks



Br. 144. Convention Delegates Josephine Silva (145), Rosemary Melendy and Anne Eanni



Branch 209 and other booths at St. Sebastian's Multicultural Festival.



ICF Branch 209 at St. Sebastian Church's Multicultural Festival 9/8/24



Br. 209, Steve Stedman and Roy Spadoni represent Branch #209 at St. Sebastian Church's Multicultural Festival.



Br. 145, Eureka branch delegate Josephine Silva shows off her raffle prize while attending the 2024 convention in San Mateo County.



Br. 144 Dr. Joseph Arcidi & Pres. Rosemary Melendy

Roseville Br. 438, St. Clare of Assisi

Bingo! We joined forces with The Blessed Sacrament District to share a wonderful afternoon together. The variety of raffle prizes were outstanding coming from all four branches of our district: 1) St. Mary's Branch #45, 2) St. Rose of Lima Branch #73, 3) St. Joseph Branch #342, 4) St. Clare of Assisi Branch #438. The luncheon was also very good, as was the fellowship and camaraderie.

The weather has been so hot that we decided to do a Fiesta Taco Salad for our August Dinner. Everybody enjoyed the salad with many toppings and selections of meat to choose from. As usual, the 50/50 Raffle was also well-received. Being together with friends and sharing a meal is always a great way to spend an evening.

We also had our first Paint & Sip fundraiser. We found an art teacher who taught the participants how to paint a specific piece of art. Everyone had a great time meeting new friends, sharing stories and painting techniques.

Our second fundraiser was a Spaghetti Feed and Raffle. Everyone enjoyed looking at the raffle prizes and selecting which ones they wanted to take home. Congratulations to the winners! The meal was full of flavor, along with the delicious desserts.

Our final fundraiser for the year will be our popular Harvest Bake Sale. The members bake so many delectable desserts, the parishioners of St. Clare can't wait to take them home and serve them to their families.

SANTA ROSA District

Healdsburg Br. 52, San Francisco Di Sales

Upcoming Events:

ICF meeting: Tuesday, October 8 at 6:00 p.m. in the rectory

Saturday, November 2: Polenta Dinner! Richard Passalacqua will be the cook. Price: \$25.00. For reservations, call Carmen and Lauren: 707-595-3111 or purchase tickets after Mass. This is our first polenta dinner of the season.

Our delegates enjoyed their time at the ICF Convention in Burlingame. They've come back re-energized and full of new ideas for our branch. We won an award for 2nd place in Apostolate-Charity.

One of our members was the Grand Prize winner of \$2,500 at the ICF Raffle! Congratulations!

Happy Halloween!
Lauren Kilcullen

Petaluma Br. 127, St. Vincent

Trick or treat. It's getting that time. Love seeing all the little ones dressed up. Hopefully we won't have any candy left over. I don't need it.

Good news is no news. Meaning no one is sick at the moment. Mary Ellen is home now recouping from pneumonia and welcome back Marilyn.

Donna Piezzi was our delegate at convention. Her first year and she gave us a very complete and detailed report. Thank you, Donna.

We would love to see more of you at meetings. We need your input on issues.

The Central Council has sent us a new calendar. They are \$30 and you can win up to \$100. Cal Pres. Dennice 707-481-8784

Ciao for now. Margaret Cordrey

Arcata Br. 144, St. Mary

Rosemary Melendy (Pres) accompanied by Anne Carlisle Eanni (Secretary), and Josephine Silva (Branch #145 delegate), enjoyed attending the recent convention held in Burlingame (photo). We did have a six-hour drive at the end and were happy to arrive to our homes "behind-the-redwood-curtain."

Josephine was overjoyed to win at the raffle and brought home the Cabrini movie. Now our two branches are planning a movie event soon!

Anne appreciates all the tablemates who allowed her to share her "squirrel infestation" story.

We held our bi-annual Chicken & Polenta dinner on Sept. 9. We continue to have sit-down and take-out options. It is a highly enjoyable event thanks to our amazing cooks and kitchen crew (photos).

Students from Cal Poly Humboldt State University Newman Center provided many helpful volunteer hours (photos). We are already in the planning stages for the next one, most likely March 2, but will keep you posted.

Dr. Joseph Arcidi, the only Thoracic/Cardiac surgeon north of Napa, (photo) and a new member of our neighbors, Branch #145, presented the procedures now available at St. Joseph/Providence Hospital. We have the lowest mortality rate (0%) of the 20 Cardiac Centers in the Providence network. That's quite an accomplishment and have done 6499 cases at the Eureka location.

Favorite time of year is upon us up here in Humboldt County where we can enjoy the evergreens as they highlight the deciduous trees with their brilliant colors as the leaves change.

Buon Autunno!
Anne Carlisle Eanni
Anne Seymour Carlisle

Eureka Br. 145, St. Ambrose

The Colivas Memorial Scholarship Dinner is back, and it will be better than ever. October 12th from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. a delicious pasta dinner will be served by the members of

ICF Eureka Branch #145 using Jerry Colivas's recipe for the sauce.

Please call Joe Bonino at home phone 707-445-5799 if you can help set up, serve, clean up, or have a raffle prize to donate. Or email Joe at FJB504@gmail.com Dinner tickets are \$10 for adults and \$25 for families.

At our September meeting our newest member, Joe Arcidi, MD, gave an interesting and detailed presentation on the cardiac heart institute's work at St. Joseph's Hospital. We are very lucky to have medical professionals of his ability to handle these serious surgeries locally.

Be sure to attend our October 8th meeting at 1:30 p.m.

That is right: we are switching back to daytime meetings for the winter darkness times. Hope to see you there.

Santa Rosa Br. 198, St. Eugene

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The ICF convention to celebrate the 100th anniversary was a huge success.

Our President, Doreen O'Rourke, represented us well and she received a certificate from the scholarship committee showing that our branch gave more first year scholarships than any other branch in the Federation.

Our September potluck was a success as always and we can now look to our October 7th Harvest Soup Dinner. This has always been a real treat.

DON'T MISS IT.

We will also choose our 2025 officers in October. If you want to be an officer contact Doreen and let her know. It is an honor and a privilege to serve at St. Eugene's ICF.

For the future, plan to attend our meeting on November 4 which will be preceded by a turkey dinner. Yum, Yum!

Our Mass schedule for Deceased members is as follows: October 9 Wednesday 8:00 a.m.

November 5 Tuesday 8:00 a.m.

Please pray for Lorraine Castelli who broke her hip and is now in rehab. It was good to see Lynette and Millie at our last meeting.

May the start of Fall bring Peace and Harmony to all members of Branch 198.

Ciao,
Robert Acquistapace



Sebastopol Br. 209, St. Michael

Hello from Branch #209!

We hope you've had a wonderful summer!

Gene and Lorraine Vannetti represented our Branch at this year's Convention. They had a wonderful time! They gave us a full report at our general meeting.

On Sunday, September 8th, St. Sebastian's Church hosted a Multicultural Festival. Our Branch #209 represented Italian Heritage! We decorated our booth in Italian colors and made posters with ICF's history and information. We made homemade Italian raw apple cake, Italian biscotti cookies, and homemade Italian salad dressing. We had a wonderful turnout, and everyone enjoyed themselves!

We have Bishop's Day on September 15th and are gearing up for our next Chicken and Polenta Dinner on October 19th. We can't believe how fast this year has gone by and hope you are all doing well.

Take care and we'll check in again next month.

Ciao,
Yvonne Dorr
Recording Secretary
Branch #209

FRESNO District Council

The 100th Anniversary of Sacred Heart Church

Sacred Heart Church, Dos Palos

One of our long-time branches in Dos Palos, Branch 30, has closed but not forgotten. Join Sacred Heart Church in Dos Palos in celebration of their 100th Anniversary. The 100th Anniversary Mass celebrated by Bishop Brennan will take place on Saturday, November 9th at 10:00 a.m. A brunch will follow the Mass in the parish hall.

It was fun getting together at the Convention, thank you Allen for sharing your room. Our next District Meeting will be in October in Fresno, date, and time will be announced. Branch Presidents will be informed when location is set.

Bishop Brennan invites you to the Annual Red Mass. Join Bishop Brennan at the Annual Red Mass on Friday, October 18, 2024, at St. John's Cathedral in Fresno at 12:15 p.m.

Bishop Brennan invites legal professionals, law students, government officials and the faithful to honor all who seek justice at this special Mass.

LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE DISTRICT



ICF 111-Luncheon at San Antonio Winery



Br. 111, Happy Birthday to Filomena, Vincenzo & Salvatore



ICF 111-ICF 100th Anniversary Mass



ICF 111-Visit to Italian American Museum of Los Angeles



ICF 111-Happy Birthday to Lourdes, Robin & Ruben



ICF 111-Happy Birthday to Lourdes, Robin & Ruben



Br. 115, Neal e Anna Di Leva



LA Archdiocesan District 2024 Convention



Branch 447 celebrates 100 years of Italian Catholic Federation at Our Lady of the Angels Cathedral



Branch 447 plays Bocce ball in ElSegundo 8-17-24 L to R Sheila Walsh -Vargas , John D'Isacco, Denice De Palma, and Deacon Bob Mescher



LOS ANGELES ARCHDIOCESE DISTRICT (continued)



Feast of St. John Joseph of the Cross and Branch 115 - 70th Anniversary Dinner.



Branch 115 Feast of St. John Joseph of the Cross statue and flags carriers Mary Star of the Sea Church, San Pedro



Feast of St. John Joseph of the Cross and Br. 115- 70th Anniversary. Anthony Amalfitano, cook.



Feast of St. John Joseph of the Cross and Branch 115 - 70th Anniversary Dinner.



Br. 444, President Hany, Cristina & Carol, ICF 100 Year Gala



Br. 444, President Hany Francis, ICF 100 Year Gala



ICF branch 108 members at Saturday dinner and view of San Francisco from the San Francisco Airport Marriott hotel in Burlingame, CA.



ICF National Branch 67 President Carmelo Sabatella with Dr. Coates Director of Cooley's Anemia Research at Children's Hospital in Los Angeles with ICF/CC Member Teresa Helfand and husband at ICF Convention.

BLESSED SACRAMENT DISTRICT



Branch 342 members Pam Andersen and Adriana Jensen enjoying the 2024 Convention



Branch 342 Maria and Ken enjoying the 2024 Convention

SAN FRANCISCO DISTRICT



Branch 1 President Vic Arnaudo--the MC at Sunday's Awards Luncheon.



Branch 1



Branch 50



Branch 1



Branch 1, Victor Arunado president with his family plus cousin who donates generously towards collegee scholarship fund.

SAN DIEGO DISTRICT



Br. 246 Kitchen Crew



Br. 246 satisfied customers



Branch 246 Members Host Fr. John Amsberry's 60th Birthday Party



Br. 246 Members enjoy our annual Summer BBQ



Our parish celebrated its annual St. Rose of Lima Festival in August. We provided free pasta for the parishioners.



Mille grazie to our member JoJo Penna, who cooked the delicious marinara sauce! Cari saluti e Dio vi benedica tutti.

2024 2nd to 4th Year Scholarship Winners

STUDENT	IN MEMORY OF	IN HONOR OF	DONATED BY
2nd Year Scholarships (\$500.00) - 36 Awarded			
Elijah Marsalek			Br. 354 - Paso Robles
Keira Dooley	David Botta		Br. 14 - Crockett
Gian Ciapponi			Br. 352 - Danville
Mikayala Parker			Br. 352 - Danville
Serena Bond			East Bay District
Antonio Arevalo			Br. 10 - Alameda
Gina Sorbi			Br. 10 - Alameda
Alena Gagnon			Br. 285 - Livermore
Joseph Cantelmi			Br. 32 - Fresno (Closing Donation)
Sarah Skenfield			Br. 32 - Fresno (Closing Donation)
Leila Isabelle Zarate			Br. 32 - Fresno (Closing Donation)
Juliet Hallier			Br. 39 - Merced
Kassidy Taylor			Br. 39 - Merced
Michael Geloso			Br. 332 - Novato
Carina Consolini			Br. 342 - Auburn
Alyssa Rizzardo			Br. 438 - Roseville
Justin Ries		Officers and Members of Br. 446	Br. 446 - Upland
Sarah Valdivia		Officers and Members of Br. 446	Br. 446 - Upland
Nickalus Ketcham	Eva Perata		Br. 258 - San Francisco (Closing Donation)
Julian Regan			Br. 19 - Colma
William Anderson			Br. 28 - Gilroy
Hannah Miller			Br. 368 - San Jose
Eleanor Crema			Br. 435 - Morgan Hill
Adelina Heath			Br. 52 - Healdsburg
Lily Anne Roberts	The Richard Gatti Family		Br. 127 - Petaluma
Isabella Israel			Br. 390 - Tracy
Anthony Robert Jariett	Reverend William Pegnam		Jerry and Joan Delfino - Br. 368, San Jose
Catherine Mastroni	Andrew Santo Palumbo		Viva Palumbo - Br. 379, Huntington Beach
Steven Rubly	Andrew Santo Palumbo		Viva Palumbo - Br. 379, Huntington Beach
Halena Hill	David Vincent Pellegr		The Pellegr Family
Sienna Crawford	David Vincent Pellegr		Alissa Pellegr and Cara Ornellas
Audrianna Bellotti	Eva Perata		Family and Friends
Anna Gorman		Elaine Valentine	Italian Catholic Federation
Rachel Lee			Scholarship Fund
Siri Panetta			Scholarship Fund
Marco Vanoni			Scholarship Fund
3rd Year Scholarships (\$600.00) - 25 Awarded			
Bella Arietta			East Bay District
Addison Thomas			Br. 285 - Livermore
Allyx Faretta			Br. 32 - Fresno (Closing Donation)
Petrina Gilardi			Br. 32 - Fresno (Closing Donation)
Ella Parks			Br. 32 - Fresno (Closing Donation)
Dominic Gates			Br. 39 - Merced
Easten Priddell			Br. 39 - Merced
Grace Perryman			Br. 332 - Novato
Gianna Catherine Huckins			Br. 342 - Auburn
Jason Pipitone			Br. 438 - Roseville
Ciera Sesock			Br. 449 - Santee
Jenna Stanovcak	Mary Ann Robbiano		Br. 351 - Menlo Park
Addison Bugas			Br. 191 - San Jose
Timothy Lencioni			Br. 391 - San Jose
Dominic Trimble			Br. 445 - San Jose
Isabella Pires			Stockton District
Kayla Guzman			Br. 390 - Tracy
Angelina Carmella Fugazi	David Vincent Pellegr		Dante Galeazzi, Br. 139 and Russell Kagehiro
Bailey Gualco	David Vincent Pellegr		Dante Galeazzi, Br. 139 and Russell Kagehiro
Valentino Bugica	Ambrogio and Teresa Solari		Larry and Carmen Kilcullen - Br. 52, Healdsburg
Thea Falvey	Eva Perata		
Dominic Bolla Morris	Robert and Theresa Dianda		Michael and Donna Santich - Br. 91, Oakland
Joshua Elboom			Scholarship Fund
Kaela Richards			Scholarship Fund

2024 2nd to 4th Year Scholarship Winners

STUDENT	IN MEMORY OF	IN HONOR OF	DONATED BY
3rd Year Scholarships (\$600.00) - 25 Awarded			
Lily Zichichi			Scholarship Fund
4th Year Scholarships (\$1,000.00) - Awarded 16			
Rebecca Ielati			East Bay District
Luke Olmos			Br. 10 - Alameda
Evan R. Clarke			Br. 32 - Fresno (Closing Donation)
Aidan Dooley			Br. 32 - Fresno (Closing Donation)
Annabella Piercey			Br. 32 - Fresno (Closing Donation)
Katie Hiler			Br. 39 - Merced
Alexis Presto			Br. 39 - Merced
Dawson Joseph Barnes			Br. 332 - Novato
Dominique Lucia Huckins			Br. 342 - Auburn
Natalie Descalso			Br. 258 - San Francisco (Closing Donation)
Adrianna M. Heredia	Frank and Elsie Gervasoni		
	Earl and Esther Gambonini		Br. 438 - Roseville
Samantha Gambonini	Frank and Elsie Gervasoni		
	Earl and Esther Gambonini		Br. 127 - Petaluma
Elisa Grim			Br. 390 - Tracy
Sarah Sarlatte			Larry and Carmen Kilcullen - Br. 52, Healdsburg
Kathleen Santich	Robert and Theresa Dianda		Michael and Donna Santich - Br. 91, Oakland
Lucille Marsalek			Scholarship Fund
<i>We also acknowledge the following partial donations that made some of the additional scholarships from the ICF Scholarship Fund possible.</i>			
Central Coast District: Br. 36;			
Contra Costa District: District, Pat Botta (Br. 14) - In Memory of Bob Osorio, Pat Botta - In Memory of Russ Vento and Annette Maggiora (Br. 91), Karen and Jessica Crosby - In Honor of the 100th Birthday of Mary Perata;			
East Bay District: Br. 91;			
Fresno District: District, Br. 31, Br. 250, Janet Dal Porto (Br. 39) - In Memory of Nettie Descalso-Del Nero, Lillian Dal Porto (Br. 39) - In Memory of Nettie Descalso-Del Nero, Antoinette and Angelo Pecora (Br. 308) - In Memory of Filomena Teresa Cerbo and Antoinette and Angelo Pecora - In Memory of Leonard Raymond Garber;			
Los Angeles Archdiocese District: Charlene Drobeck (Br. 362) - In Memory of Don Bohannon and Charlene Drobeck - In Memory of Elizabeth Hernandez;			
Orange District: Viva Palumbo (Br. 379) - In Memory of Andrew Santo Palumbo;			
San Bernardino District: Br. 210;			
San Mateo District: District - In Honor of Grand President Denise Antonowicz, Deborah Rodondi (Br. 19) - In Memory of Marie Antonowicz, Deborah Rodondi - In Memory of Barbara Jean Di Grazia and Deborah Rodondi - In Honor of the 90th Birthday of Carmen Kilcullen;			
Santa Barbara/Ventura Region: The Eckert, Fior and Mapes Families - In Memory of Anna Morosin;			
Santa Clara Valley District: District, Br. 191, Br. 368, Br. 391, Br. 408 - In Memory of Mary Jo Di Muccio, Br. 445, Eva Stern (Br. 47), Officers/Members of Br. 184 - In Memory of Romano Buonaccorsi, Denise Antonowicz (Br.5/Br. 36/Br. 184) - In Memory of Romano Buonaccorsi, Jo Bertaccini (Br. 191) - In Memory of Marie Antonowicz, Joan and Jerry Delfino (Br. 368) - In Memory of Jody Balestrieri, Joan and Jerry Delfino - In Memory of Mike Houghton, Joan and Jerry Delfino - In Honor of the Birthday of Elaine Osorio, Giulia Gallego (Br. 435) - In Memory of Marie Antonowicz, Giulia Gallego - In Honor of the Birthday of Bill Scheid, Giulia Gallego - In Honor of the Birthday of Arnold Togliatti, Giulia Gallego - Get Well Wishes for Louise Vento, Elaine Osorio (Br. 368) - Get Well Wishes for Jerry Delfino and J. and A. Thomas - In Memory of Marie Antonowicz;			
Santa Rosa District: Br. 209 and The Kilcullen Family (Br. 52) - Wedding Congratulations for Janet and Ray Hieronimus;			
Stockton District: Br. 139 and Br. 413.			
<i>“Never ever give up on what you really want to do. The person with big dreams is more powerful than one with all the facts.” — Albert Einstein</i>			

Sunday at the Convention



In memory of his sister, Tad Shaw making significant donation of \$20,000 to Thomas Coates, CHLA Cooley's Anemia ICF National Charity.



Grand President Antonowicz with Districts with 100% Participation in Heritage: Contra Costa, Blessed Sacrament, Central Coast, Reno, East Bay



Apostolate Charity 4th Place, Br. 374 - La Canada Flintridge, 3rd Place, Br. 354 - Paso Robles, GP Antonowicz, 2nd Place, Br. 445 - San Jose, and 1st Place, Br. 362 - Downey.



3rd Place, Br. 108 - South Pasadena, 2nd Place, Br. 111 - Montebello, Grand President Antonowicz, 4th Place, Br. 209 - Sebastopol



3rd Place, Br. 108 - South Pasadena, 2nd Place, Grand President Antonowicz, Br. 111 - Montebello, Grand President Antonowicz, 4th Place, Br. 209 - Sebastopol



2nd Place, Br. 111 - Montebello, 1st Place, Br. 191 - San Jose, Grand President Antonowicz, 3rd Place, Br. 28 - Gilroy



3rd Place, Br. 39 - Merced, 4th Place, Br. 390 - Tracy, Grand President Antonowicz, 1st Place, Br. 36 - Monterey, 2nd Place, Br. 52 - Healdsburg



1st Place, Br. 445 - San Jose, 2nd Place, Br. 210 - Fontana, Grand President Antonowicz, 3rd Place, Br. 217 - Redlands



3rd Place, Br. 446 - Upland, 2nd Place, Br. 82 - Lodi, Grand President Antonowicz, 3rd Place, Br. 362 - Downey

Sunday at the Convention



2 honorable awards for members who have gone over and beyond in their contribution to ICF heritage: Br. 445, Jan Marianelli Stumhoffer and Br. 191, Juliana Mandolati Midwin with Grand President.



Louise Vento and her husband were recognized for their contribution to ongoing heritage dedication. Bob Basuino presenting



100% membership retention: Br. 25 - Salinas, Br. 73 - Roseville, Br. 82 Lodi, GP Antonowicz, Br. 408 - Sunnyvale, Br. 358 - River Forest, Br. 217 - Redlands, Br. 13 - Martinez, Br. 1 - San Francisco



Vic Arnaudo, Branch 1, recipient of 100-year banner for oldest branch.



Increased membership: Br. 446 - Upland, Br. 438 - Roseville, Br. 438 - Roseville, GP Antonowicz, Br. 352 - Danville, Br. 217 - Redlands, Br. 130 - Redwood City



2nd Place, Br. 111 - Montebello, 1st Place, Br. 191 - San Jose, Grand President Antonowicz, 3rd Place, Br. 28 - Gilroy



Award winning branches with great success in active membership

Sunday at the Convention



Grand President's Award Recipient - Elaine Valentine



Young Adult Leadership Award Recipient - Ryuko Novak-Murano



Saint Teresa of Calcutta Award Recipients - The Missionaries of Charity



Fr. Jerry Ochetti



Fr. Roberto Vera.



Vince Piro receiving Member Emeritus status



Members from Br. 139 and Br. 48



Allen & Crystal Watts led everyone in song throughout both masses.



Members from Br. 82 -- Lodi



2024-2025 Central Council members taking oath of office



Cardinal McElroy presided over Sunday afternoon Closing Mass

