

MINUTES OF THE YOUNG MEN'S INSTITUTE
132nd GRAND COUNCIL SESSION
STATELINE, NEVADA

TUESDAY - JUNE 20, 2017

Opening Ceremonies

Michael Dimech #613, GP, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. in the Evergreen A & B Meeting Rooms of the MontBleu Resort Casino in Stateline, Nevada.

Chris McCann #8, GM, reported on the readiness of the Grand Council Chambers. He stated that the meeting chamber was properly prepared and all present were entitled to remain.

The opening prayer was led by Father Agnel De Heredia #32, GC.

The opening song, "God Bless America", was sung with the YMI Delegate Choir in complete harmony.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chris McCann #8, GM.

Roll Call

Grand Secretary Michael Amato #613 called the Roll. The Roll Call of the 132nd Grand Council was updated to reflect those in attendance and those not on the roll at the time of printing. The following represents attendance for each day of the Session.

132nd Grand Council Session Roll Call by Council

<i>Name</i>	<i>Date of Initiation</i>	<i>Attendance</i>	
		6/20/17	6/21/17

San Francisco Council #1 ~ San Francisco, CA ~ Organized 1883

<i>Name</i>	<i>Date of Initiation</i>	<i>Attendance</i>	
		6/20/17	6/21/17
Br. Jack Albrecht, Grand Treasurer	01-22-1957	P	P
Br. Edward DeLaTorre, PGP	07-28-1953	E	E
Br. Carl Franke, PGP	08-07-1957	E	E
Br. Mario DeVita, Grand Director	10-06-1982	P	P

San Jose Council #2 ~ San Jose, CA ~ Organized 1885

<i>Name</i>	<i>Date of Initiation</i>	<i>Attendance</i>	
		6/20/17	6/21/17
Br. Frank Hepburn, PGP	11-09-1982	P	P
Br. Richard Romano, DDGP	12-01-1975	P	P
Br. Lewis Borg, Council Elected Delegate	02-03-2009	P	P
Rev. Paolo Gobbo, Council Chaplain	06-01-2013	P	P
Br. Chuck Gullo, PDDGP Guest	02-07-1978	P	P
Br. Everist Romano, Council Elected Delegate	10-06-1970	P	P
Br. Joseph Rotolo, Council Elected Delegate	06-07-2011	P	P

Stockton Council #5 ~ Stockton, CA ~ Organized 1885

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American Council #8 ~ Oakland, CA ~ Organized 1885

Br. Chris McCann, Grand Marshal	02-17-1998	P	P
Br. Alex Schmitt, PGD & DDGP	11-12-2002	P	P

Petaluma Council #9 ~ Petaluma, CA ~ Organized 1885

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Vallejo Council #13 ~ Vallejo, CA ~ Organized 1885

Br. James Mullen, Council Elected Delegate	12-13-1983	P	P

Vinyes Council #16 ~ Benicia, CA ~ Organized 1885

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South San Francisco Council #32 ~ South San Francisco, CA ~ Organized 1946

Rev. Angel Jose De Heredia, Grand Chaplain	06-14-2001	P	P
Br. George Terry, Junior Past Grand President	10-15-1993	P	P
Br. Clifford Smethurst, PGP	04-11-1985	A	A
Br. Thomas Fourie, PGP	08-14-1986	P	P
Br. Philip Oberst, PGP	10-12-1972	E	E
Br. Richard Guaraldi, PGP	02-13-1975	E	E
Br. John West, PGP	03-12-1992	E	E
Br. Bob Bartoli, PGP & Grand Director	06-11-1992	P	P
Br. John Musgrove, PGP	05-12-1994	P	P

Br. Larry Andreatta, Council Elected Delegate	11-09-1989	P	P
Br. Paul Larson, Council Elected Delegate	12-09-2010	P	P
Br. Paul Walsh, Council Elected Delegate	09-14-1989	P	P
Br. Steve Cresci, GOS	05-02-1990	P	P
Br. Brian Dunbar, Council Elected Delegate	05-08-2003	P	P

Santa Rosa Council #40 ~ Santa Rosa, CA ~ Organized 1954

Br. Mike Keefer, Council Elected Delegate	11-04-2008	P	E
Br. Carlos Rivas, Grand Second Vice President	06-07-2005	P	P
Br. Dick Colombini, Council Elected Delegate	04-01-2003	P	P
Br. Steve May, DDGP	11-04-1997	A	A

Holy Rosary Council #44 ~ Hilmar, CA ~ Organized 1951

Br. Manuel Drumonde, PGP & GD	04-18-1974	P	P
Br. Kelly Cox, PGD Council Elected Delegate	02-05-1987	E	E
Br. Christopher Freeberg, PGD & Council Elected Delegate	08-03-1989	P	E
Br. Virgil Pacheco Council Elected Delegate	05-28-1998	P	P

Sebastopol Council #54 ~ Sebastopol, CA ~ Organized 1923

Br. Nick Franceschine, Grand Director	06-11-1986	P	P
Br. Domenic Carinalli, Grand Director	02-09-1966	P	P

Br. Charles Wallin, Council Elected Delegate	02-11-1998	P	P

Sadoc Council #59 ~ Pittsburg, CA ~ Organized 1926

Br. Michael Sanzeri, DDGP	04-01-1997	P	P
Br. Salvatore Enea, PGP	10-19-1948	P	P
Br. Frank Di Maggio, PGP	11-07-1989	P	P

Madera Council #60 ~ Madera, CA ~ Organized 1927

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St. Christopher Council #80 ~ Atwater, CA ~ Organized 1935

Br. Luther Evans, Past Grand President & DDGP	09-27-2000	P	P
Br. William Effinger III, PGD & Council Elected Delegate	02-23-2005	P	P
Br. Larry Silva, PGP	01-28-1959	A	A
Br. Rudy Albritton, PGP	03-26-2003	A	A
Br. Billy Pimentel, Council Elected Delegate	10-26-1964	P	P
Br. Michael Nelson, Grand First Vice President	05-22-1996	P	P
Br. Matt Nelson, Grand Director	06-23-2004	P	P
Br. Bill Avery, Council Elected Delegate	08-25-2010	P	P
Br. Bill Walls, Grand Director	08-25-2010	P	P
Br. Gary Frago, Council Elected Delegate	12-19-2001	P	P

Manteca Council #88 ~ Manteca, CA ~ Organized 1947

Br. Jerry DeGroot, PGP	11-21-1967	A	A
Br. Panteleon Padron, PGP	10-15-1985	A	A
Br. Luis Barboza, Council Elected Delegate	04-01-1982	P	P

Tracy Council #92 ~ Tracy, CA ~ Organized 1940

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Gustine Council #93 ~ Gustine, CA ~ Organized 1941

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St. Columba Council #94 ~ Chowchilla, CA ~ Organized 1941

Br. Mike Thissen, DDGP	03-01-1983	P	P
Br. Eugene Espinola, Council Elected Delegate	12-02-1981	P	P

Dos Palos Council #99 ~ Dos Palos, CA ~ Organized 1946

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Bakersfield Council #100 ~ Bakersfield, CA ~ Organized 1946

Br. Joseph Reza, PGP & DDGP	11-18-2006	P	P
Br. Elijah Reza, Council Elected Delegate	04-12-2016	P	P

Diablo Valley Council #111 ~ Concord, CA ~ Organized 1995

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Our Lady of the Pines Council #137 ~ Pioneer, CA ~ Organized 2009

Br. Phil Fondale, PGD & DDGP	10-17-1989	E	E

St. Augustine Council #497 ~ Huntingburg, Indiana ~ Organized 1898

Br. John Mundy, DDGP	10-16-1992	A	A

Francis Council #573 ~ Hilo, Hawaii ~ Organized 1901

Br. James S. Souza, DDGP	09-27-1949	A	A
Br. James Mullen, PGP	11-10-1966	P	P

Gonzaga Council #612 ~ Richmond, Indiana ~ Organized 1907

Br. Scott Vogelgesang, DDGP	07-25-1973	A	A
Br. Jim Rohe, Council Elected Delegate	07-09-1980	P	P

St. John Bosco Council #613 ~ San Francisco, CA ~ Organized 1908

Br. Michael Amato, Grand Secretary	09-14-2004	P	P
Br. Michael Dimech, Grand President	11-28-2006	P	P
Br. Richard Pisciotta, Grand Inside Sentinel	11-08-1960	P	P
Br. Cosmo Amato, DDGP	01-27-1970	P	P
Br. Bob Fiorito, Grand Director	05-08-2007	P	P
Br. Joseph Soracco, Council Elected Delegate	04-13-2010	P	P

Br. David Burbank, Alternate	03-14-2017	P	P
Fr. Joseph Landi, Chaplain & Council Elected Delegate	03-12-2013	P	P
Br. Jeffrey Morrow, Council Elected Delegate	11-11-2014	P	P

Communications

Four communications were read by Michael Amato #613, GS: Brother Richard Guaraldi #32, PGP, stating he was unable to attend the Session, regretted not being present due to family responsibilities in Georgia; Br. John West #32, PGP, stating he was unable to attend the Session due to health reasons; Br. Phil Oberst #32, PGP, stating he was unable to attend due to his work schedule; and Brs. Ed DeLaTorre #1, PGP as well as Br. Carl Franke #1, PGP both could not attend due to health issues.

Special Committees

Michael Dimech #613, GP, reviewed the appointment of Special Committees.

- Assistant to the Grand Secretary – Thomas Fourie #32, PGP
- Assistant Marshal – Joseph Soracco #613
- Parliamentarian – Christopher Freeberg #44, PGD
- Elections – Jim Rohe #612 and Jeff Morrow #613
- Remembrance Ceremony – Thomas Fourie #32, PGP

Rules of the Session

Michael Dimech #613, GP, referred to the Rules of the Grand Council Session on page 17 of the Advance Proceedings. He hoped that all had read the Rules, however, since there were first time delegates present, he asked that the Grand Secretary, Michael Amato

#613, read the Rules aloud. Following the reading, the Grand President asked if there were any questions. Hearing none he entertained a motion to accept the Rules.

MSC – Thomas Fourie #32, PGP/Joseph Reza #100, PGP – to accept the Rules of the 132nd Grand Council Session as presented. Passed unanimously

Michael Dimech #613, GP, reminded all delegates to feel free to use the facilities as needed and there would be periodic stretch breaks.

Unfinished Business

Michael Dimech #613, GP, asked the Grand Secretary if there was any unfinished business from the 131st Grand Council Session. Michael Amato #613, GS, answered there was one item. That item centered on further discussion of the feasibility of a Death Benefit Program for Associate Members. That particular discussion has been scheduled for tomorrow during the Workshop Session.

Credentials

The Credentials Committee chairman, Michael Amato #613, GS, reported that in attendance were 58 delegates thus far, all of whom had submitted their credentials in proper order. Last year there were 67 delegates in attendance. In 2015 there were 59 delegates in attendance.

Charity Box

Michael Dimech #613, GP, designated the YMI Educational Foundation (50%) and the Seminarian Educational Foundation of the Young Men's Institute (50%) for the receipt of funds from the Charity Box (one half the proceeds from the 50/50 raffles).

Session Announcements

Grand Council Session Committee representative, Thomas Fourie #32, PGP, welcomed everyone on behalf of the Committee and encouraged all participants to be on time to the scheduled events. He introduced the members of the Planning Committee and invited all Brothers to become members of future Planning Committees. He thanked everyone for attending the Opening Mass/Remembrance Ceremony on Monday evening at St. Theresa's Catholic Church. He announced that 53 delegates bought lunches for today and he would be collecting the tickets. Forty-five individuals bought Dinner Cruise tickets for this evening, departing the hotel at 5:00 p.m. He apologized for the weight of the Advance Proceedings document, as there was a copy error resulting in single sided printing. He noted that Brothers would find the facilities down the hall to the left.

At this time, Michael Dimech #613, GP explained the presence on the podium of a statue of St. Joseph, It was a gift to him from Gonzaga Council #612 in Richmond, Indiana when he made his Official Visit last November. He has brought it with him to all his subsequent Official Visits.

Grand Chaplain's Report

Rev. Agnel Jose De Heredia #32, GC, welcomed everyone to the Grand Council Session and how nice it was to be together once again. He asked that all remember those in the Order who are ill and not able to attend the annual meeting. His presentation is summarized below:

- Referenced the three children who witnessed the appearance of the Blessed Mother 100 years ago at Fatima. Nothing has really changed since 1917 – given values in social justice and relationship with God.
- God reveals Himself from time to time. There were three secrets of Fatima, only Lucy could hear. A. – her cousins would die soon and they did. B. – a bishop dressed in white would be shot with a gun, Pope John Paul. C. – the current World War would end and it did.
- Lucy became a saint, but endured much doubt, including that of her own bishop.
- A question from Father Agnel: What do you remember your father telling you? He reviewed the words of famous fathers of Columbus, Michaelangelo, Einstein and Jonah.
- He concluded with a moving story about a lad who wanted to play football and how he overcame the death of his father.

Nomination of Grand Council Officers

Nomination of Officers for Grand Council: all candidates were referred to Rule #5 on page 17. All nominees accepted their nomination.

Domenic Carinalli #54, GD, nominated Nick Franceschine #54, GD for the office of Grand Outside Sentinel, which was seconded by Carlos Rivas #40, GSVP.

Nick Franceschine #54, GD, nominated Domenic Carinalli #54, GD, for the office of Grand Inside Sentinel, which was seconded by Carlos Rivas #40, GSVP.

Mike Nelson #80, GFVP, nominated Bill Avery #80, for the office of Grand Marshal, which was seconded by Luther Evans #80, PGP.

Thomas Fourie #32, PGP, nominated Manuel Drumonde #44, PGP & GD, for the office of Grand Director, which was seconded by Chris Freeberg #44, PGD.

Paul Larson #32 nominated Steve Cresci #32, GOS, for the office of Grand Director, which was seconded by Larry Andreatta #32, PGO.

Larry Andreatta #32, PGO, nominated Paul Walsh #32 for the office of Grand Director, which was seconded by Paul Larson #32.

Bob Bartoli #32, PGP & GD deferred to Nick Franceschine #54, GD, to read a letter aloud from John Kavanagh #613 to be considered as a candidate for Grand Director.

The Board and the Grand President accepted Br. Franceschine's nomination request. It was seconded by Joe Soracco #613.

Manuel Drumonde #44, PGP, nominated Jack Albrecht #1, GT, for the office of Grand Treasurer, which was seconded by Mario DeVita #1, GD.

Thomas Fourie #32, PGP, nominated Michael Amato #613, GS, for the office of Grand Secretary, which was seconded by Cosmo Amato #613, DDGP.

Eugene Espinola #94, nominated Michael Thissen #94, DDGP, for the office of Grand Second Vice President which was seconded by Luther Evans #80, PGP and Thomas Fourie #32, PGP.

Mike Keefer #40, nominated Carlos Rivas #40, GSVP, for the office of Grand First Vice President which was seconded by George Terry #32, PGP, and Dick Colombini #40.

Luther Evans #80, PGP, nominated Mike Nelson #80, GFVP, for the office of Grand President which was seconded by Gary Frago #80 and Matt Nelson #80, GD.

Michael Dimech #613, GP, declared all the nominations closed.

MSC – Thomas Fourie #32, PGP/Frank Dimaggio #59, PGP, that the Grand Secretary cast a ballot for all the uncontested offices and they be declared elected by acclamation. (passed unanimously)

Preliminary Budget Report

Jack Albrecht #1, GT, presented the proposed Grand Council Operating Budget for 2017-2018 as printed in the Advanced Proceedings on page 50. He reviewed all the accounts of planned expenditures and encouraged members to review the proposed budget for further discussion the next day.

Michael Dimech #613, GP, called a recess at 11:50 p.m. for lunch. The Session will resume in one hour. The lunch was served in the Evergreen A & B Meeting Rooms.

Recess

At 1:00 p.m. Michael Dimech #613, GP, called the Session back to order.

Michael Dimech #613, GP, recessed the Session at 1:00 p.m. in order for the Seminarian Educational Foundation and the YMI Educational Foundation to conduct their respective annual general meetings.

At 1:50 p.m. Michael Dimech #613, GP, called the Session back to order.

State of the Institute Report

George Terry #32, JPGP, reviewed the one State of the Institute proposal presented in the Advance Proceedings on page 75 to remove the phrase “proper distribution of the

Institute Journal” from the duties of the Grand Secretary. All delegates had been requested to read this report prior to the start of the Session. There were no questions at this time from the delegates. A motion by George Terry #32, JPGP/Bob Bartoli #32, PGP & GD, to accept the proposal as presented. Under the question:

- Manuel Drumonde #44, PGP & GD, asked if there had been any problem with this issue...Br. George Terry #32, JPGP responded no.
- Michael Sanzeri #59 asked for a clarification of the outcome.
- Michael Amato #613, GS, noted that this issue had not been a problem in his nine years as Grand Secretary but the proposal is technically more accurate.

The vote on the State of the Institute proposal would be taken by secret ballot later in the Session.

Grand Council Committee Reports

Michael Dimech #613, GP reviewed the various Grand Council reports presented in the Advance Proceedings. He asked if there were any questions regarding these reports as well as those submitted by the District Deputy Grand Presidents. All delegates had been requested to read these reports prior to the start of the Session. Many of the reports had been referenced in various specific agenda items of the Session. Comments:

- Michael Dimech #613, GP – under the Coordinating Committee, the Grand President enjoyed visiting Councils and the YLI.
- Thomas Fourie #32, PGP – an attempt will be made to change the delivery of the Institute Journal. Due to postal regulations, costs, and logistics, it has become very time consuming to distribute. A plan will go into effect for the Fall Issue to

have the Journal e-mailed to as many YMI Brothers as possible. It will also continue to be accessed on the Website.

- The Membership report urged all to keep working at it. The Grand President referred to the Council Membership page in the Advance Proceedings showing 1872 members. We need to pay attention and increase this number now.
- The Organization Committee chairman, Michael Amato #613, GS, said we lost two Councils this year. He wants to see this trend stopped.
- Reserve Fund Chairman, Jack Albrecht #1, GT, spoke on the fine work the Stock Market has done for us this year, driving up our funds.
- Br. Carlos Rivas #40, GSVP, thanked all who attended the Red and White Mass and hopes it continues – a round of applause followed.

Special Recognition of 2016-2017 District Deputy Grand Presidents

Michael Dimech #613, GP, had nothing but good things to say about the District Deputies. He thanked all District Deputies for outstanding contributions in carrying forth their duties. He named each District Deputy and recognized them for their service.

Announcements

Several announcements were then made:

- a. Michael Amato #613, GS, announced that the new Board of Grand Directors would have their first Board Meeting on Monday, July 24, 2017 at World Headquarters beginning at 7:00 p.m. (conference call in use). Congratulations to Br. Bob Fiorito #613, GD, for being elected as Chairman of the Board for

2017-2018 and for Br. Bill Walls #80, GD, being elected as Vice-Chairman of the Board for 2017-2018.

- b. Thomas Fourie #32, PGP, reminded all that the bus will leave at 5:00 p.m. tonight for the Dinner Cruise. Don't be late.

Distribution of Ballots

Michael Dimech #613, GP requested that the Election Committee please distribute the prepared ballots for the voting on the State of the Institute proposal. This being a secret ballot, all delegates were asked to sign in and present their completed ballot to the Election Committee this afternoon.

Following the 50/50 raffle, a closing prayer was led by Rev. Agnel #32, GC, and Michael Dimech #613, GP, declared a recess at 2:40 p.m. until 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 21, 2017.

Recess

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 2017

Call to order at 9:02 a.m. by Michael Dimech #613, GP, in the Evergreen A & B Meeting Rooms of the MontBleu Resort Casino in Stateline, Nevada.

Opening Ceremonies

Chris McCann #8, GM, reported that the Council Chamber was properly prepared and all present were entitled to remain.

The Opening Prayer was led by Father Landi #613, Council Chaplain.

Chris McCann #8, GM, led the delegates in the Pledge of Allegiance which was loudly and proudly recited.

Roll Call

Michael Amato #613, GS, called the Roll. The results were similar to the roll taken on Tuesday, June 20, 2017. See the official roll sheet listed on previous pages of these minutes.

Communications

Michael Amato #613, GS, reported there were none.

Credentials Report

The Credentials Committee Chairman, Michael Amato #613, GS, announced that we received 58 credentials, same as reported on Tuesday, June 20, 2017.

Election Report

The Election Committee of Jim Rohe #612 and Jeff Morrow #613, made the following report based on the vote for the State of the Institute Proposal: 53 votes were cast, with 48 votes in favor of the proposal and 5 votes against the proposal. The proposal passed.

A motion was made to accept the results of the secret ballot vote and the motion passed.

MSC – Fourie #32, PGP/Reza #100, PGP – to authorize the chairman of the Election Committee to destroy the ballots (unanimous)

Thomas Fourie #32, PGP, informed the delegates that the results of the State of the Institute election would be given to the Chairman of the Laws and Revisions Committee (Br. Rob Bartoli, #32) to be incorporated into the current Grand Council By-Laws and/or Constitution. Each Council will be provided a new set of Grand Council By-Laws following a vote by the Board of Grand Directors on July 24, 2017.

Special Committee Appointments for Installation of Grand Officers

Thomas Fourie #32, PGP, reviewed the appointment of the special committee for the Installation of Grand Officers.

- Installing Officer for the Installation Ceremony – Rev. Agnel De Heredia #32, GC
- Installing Marshal for the Installation Ceremony – Luther Evans #80, PGP

- Guardian of the Flag – Matthew Nelson #80, GD.

Workshop

The workshop was conducted by members of the Grand Council Office under the direction of the Business Manager, Thomas Fourie #32, PGP:

- Reminded all delegates of their year-long responsibility to report back to their respective Councils and keep them focused and in line.
- A review of all forms contained in the registration packet:
 - The Donation Form for all to use for any/all contributions.
 - Website listing of services/reports for all members.
 - 2017 Bocce Ball Tournament details – 9/23/17 – 10th Anniversary at Orange Avenue Park in South San Francisco.
 - Pasta/Bingo Dinner – 11/18/2017 – St. Veronica Parish Hall in SSF – a fun time for all.
 - Grand Treasurer’s schedule of revenues for 2016-2017.
 - Raffle Prize List for the Grand Banquet.
 - Membership Application – new and improved. Signatures must be clear and readable.
 - Change of Beneficiary forms, Councils must keep an up to date copy.
 - YMI Death Certificate – the death benefit cannot be paid until Grand Council receives this certificate, which has been updated. There is a 60 day period for processing these claims.

- The Young Men's Institute, as a whole, continues to be very lax about doing things ON TIME! Several examples were presented.
- Semi-Annual Reports must be mathematically correct. What would happen if a Council received a letter from the IRS for an audit? Think about it! Check your math and complete only the information requested.
- All Councils should inform Br. Tom Fourie #32, PGP and Business Manager, if they receive any government letter.
- Our tax deadline is August 15 when electronic submissions are to be completed by the Business Manager.
- Concerning the Pro Patria Essay Contest:
 - o 1500+ essays this year
 - o We need many, many more judges (in groups of three)
 - o Br. Carlos Rivas #40, GFVP will be this year's chairman
 - o Judges need to promptly review the essays.
 - o Winners' checks should be given out promptly so that they can be cashed on time, eleven checks still not cashed from this year as reported by the Grand Treasurer.
 - o This is the largest outreach program for the YMI
- The membership count will be closer to 1900-2000 when all records are completed. This membership figure is used as the basis for the per capita tax assessment.

- The Audit Committee will have to begin individual Council Audits this year based on the errors appearing on the financial reports. The past IRS audit triggered our audit process. We have to get better in submitting reports.
- Traveler's Insurance Co. no long offers policies to non-profit organizations. Arthur Gallagher Co. has been shopping the YMI Liability Insurance policy for several months. The new carrier is Nova Casualty Co. out of Buffalo, NY. The rates remain the same. The Business Manager spent three days completing paperwork for the new company. We have never filed an insurance claim.
- The Institute Journal welcomes news contributions from any Council promoting events, activities or accomplishments.
- Manuel Drumonde #44, PGP & GD, suggested Councils have a variety of forms available at meetings for members. He also suggested that e-mails are important to communicate to members. He also recommended that personal delivery of checks (death benefit, essay prizes, etc.) is a good touch and most timely. He suggested an annual calendar/newsletter with advertisements be used to promote the Council. All activities should be reported to Grand Council before they are held.

Thomas Fourie #32, PGP introduced Nick Franceschine #54, GD to provide an update on the current and possible future Death Benefit Programs. Br. Franceschine shared the following:

- Currently beneficiaries of Benefit members receive \$1500 at the time of death.

- Annual assessment for Benefit members is \$12.
- There are enough funds to cover YMI's obligation for this benefit (\$1.7 million in funds invested in various stocks)
- Given current contributions, actual available funds will total about \$2 million.
- Stock market volatility keeps us from increasing the Death Benefit at this time.
- Question from Br. DeVita- asked if Council membership duration matters?
Answer: it has no impact.
- Last year's (2016) survey on these topics showed that Associate members were interested in a death benefit.
- Essential characteristics of such a program would be that the program would need to be mandatory for all Associate members and the program would be more expensive to set up as older members would be initiated.
- Round number estimates: A \$1000 death benefit would require \$72 contribution/year, and a \$500 death benefit would require a \$36 contribution/year
- How could we make this more affordable?
 - Cannot take money from existing benefit program for the Benefit members
 - Cannot change benefit members criteria to raise age eligibility
 - The Reserve Fund may be an option? There is \$236,000 in the Reserve Fund, however, there is a risk to removing monies from the Reserve Fund. Br. Franceschine estimated one would need to borrow about \$100,000.
 - Other options: moratorium on paying death benefits for five year, or requiring minimum years of YMI service (five or ten year).

- A survey was distributed to all delegates present requesting further feedback to better determine the next steps....September 30, 2017 deadline for all surveys to be returned from members.

New Business

Michael Dimech #613, GP, asked for any new business.

No items were presented.

Sports Report

Michael Dimech #613, GP called upon Michael Sanzeri #59, PGO, for the final report on the Bowling Tournament. Br. Sanzeri referred to his written report on page 79 of the Advance Proceedings. The Tournament is the oldest social YMI event going back to the 1920's. This year's results:

St. Christopher #80 ~ Team 1 ~ 3311 pins

Holy Rosary #44 ~ Team 2 ~ 3218 pins

Stockton #5 ~ Team 3 ~ 3160 pins

Holy Rosary #44 ~ Team 1 ~ 3133 pins

St. Christopher #44 ~ Team 2 ~ 3077 pin

St. Columba #94 ~ Team 1 ~ 3065 pins

Sadoc #59 ~ Team 1 ~ 3052 pins

Stockton #5 ~ Team 1 ~ 2987 pins

Sebasstopol #54 ~ Team 1 ~ 2888 pins

Individual Awards

High Game Scratch – Score of 234 – Jeff Mendoca #44

High Game Handicap – Score of 268 – Jim Freitas #44

Best Team Score – St. Christopher #80

The next tournament will be April 29, 2018

Remember that family members are encouraged to bowl.

Michael Dimech #613, GP, previously recapped last year's Bocce Ball Tournament which was won by a team involving Brothers from Council #32.

There was no golf tournament in 2017, however, Bob Fiorito #613, GD, has been appointed chairman of the 2018 Golf Tournament and promises there will be a tournament.

Fund Raising

Bob Fiorito #613, GD reported that the Pasta/Bingo and the two Super Bowl Pools generated monies for the Grand Council this year.

Adoption of the 2017-2018 Budget

Jack Albrecht #1, GT, returned with the proposed Operating Budget for Grand Council that had a preliminary reading the day before. He asked if there were any questions – hearing none -

MSC – Joe Reza #100, PGP/Manuel Drumonde #44, PGP – to accept the 2017-2018 Operating Budget as presented on page 50 of the Advance Proceedings (passed unanimously).

Grand Council Officers' Summary Reports

Michael Dimech #613, GP, referred to the Grand Officers Reports which began with his report in the Advance Proceedings. He referred the Brothers to read these comprehensive reports contained in the Advance Proceedings and if there were any questions to please speak to the author of that report. He also asked that each delegate share these reports with the Brothers of their Council.

The Grand President and the Grand First Vice President had nothing further to add.

Carlos Rivas #40, GSVP, took this opportunity to announce the 2017-2018 Pro Patria Essay Contest. He distributed the entry forms and covered the topics. Br. Dimech encouraged Br. Nelson to bring entry forms to the YLI Convention. The form will be placed on the website. Br. Fourie noted that 1500 essays are received and the contest is the best public relations that the YMI has.

There were no other additions to reports by Grand Council Officers.

Resolutions

Nick Franceschine #54, GD, Chairman of the Resolutions Committee read the two resolutions prepared for this year:

a. Resolution for Msgr. Michael Harriman – retiring priest in the San Francisco Archdiocese for his service and commitment and his support of the YMI.

MSC – Nick Franceschine #54 GD/Michael Amato #613, GS to accept and present the resolution. Unanimously approved.

b. Resolution for Rev. Mauricio Hurtado, Parochial Administrator of St. Theresa Catholic Church in South Lake Tahoe for welcoming the YMI into his parish and the use of the church for YMI's Opening and Celebration Masses.

MSC – Nick Franceschine #54, GD/Luther Evans #80, GFVP, to accept and present the resolution. Unanimously approved.

Report on the 2018 Grand Council Session

Thomas Fourie #32, PGP and Business Manager, reported that the 2018 Grand Council Session will take place the week after Father's Day (6/18/18 – 6/20/18) at the El Dorado Hotel in Reno, Nevada, This site was chosen in accordance with the wishes of Mike Nelson #80, GFVP.

Report on the 2019 Grand Council Session

The announcement for the 2019 Grand Council Session will be made public once Carlos Rivas #40, GSVP makes initial inquiries in the Santa Rosa area.

Charity Box Distribution

Michael Dimech #613, GP, reminded everyone that the 50/50 raffles will go towards the two YMI Foundations. (Breaking News: Following the Grand Banquet and final drawing \$1150 was realized and split between the two Foundations). Richard Pisciotta #613, GIS, and his wife Connie were commended for the fine job they do each year on the raffle.

Special Presentation

George Terry #32, JGP, presented Michael Dimech #613, GP, with his YMI Official pocket insignia, the Official indication of a Grand President of the Young Men's Institute. All delegates stood and loudly applauded Brother Dimech for his service. Brother Michael (a bit emotional) offered his closing remarks as Grand President by thanking everyone for their work this past year, all the District Deputies and Grand Officers. He will remember his experience always and will continue to work in the name of the Young Men's Institute.

Presentation of Grand President Elect

Michael Dimech #613, GP, proudly presented the Grand President Elect, Mike Nelson #80, GFVP, who was greeted with applause by the delegates. Brother Nelson expressed his pleasure and honor to begin his YMI journey. He remarked that there were too many “Mike’s” running the YMI. His opening comments revolved around “active” YMI members and moving forward, however, we need to know where we came from. He spoke to patriotism, faith, fraternalism, Pro Deo, Pro Patria, mutual aid, good will, Council visitations, showing moral, intellectual, social improvement, devotion to the Catholic Church, education of Catholic teachings and being true Americans, politics aside.

He distributed his program for the 2017-2018 YMI year.

Presentation and Installation of District Deputy Grand Presidents

Brother Mike Nelson #80, Grand President Elect, read aloud the names and the duties of the District Deputy Grand Presidents covering the YMI territories this year. The District Deputies are working for the Grand President.

MSC –Bob Bartoli #32 PGP & GD/Thomas Fourie #32, PGP, to accept the nominated Brothers (Brothers Cosmo Amato, Joseph Reza, Luther Evans, James Souza, Alex Schmitt, Michael Sanzeri, Phil Fondale, Richard Romano, Eugene Espinola, Jim Rohe) as

District Deputy Grand Presidents with all the responsibilities and privileges as stated in the Grand Council Constitution and By-Laws. Unanimously passed.

Brother Nelson initiated his new District Deputies and they took their oath of office.

Good of the Order

Bob Fiorito #613, GD, chairperson of YMI's participation in the SF Columbus Day Parade invited the new Grand President to ride in the parade.

First time delegate Jeffrey Morrow #613 appreciated the passion of the delegates, an impressive group and he was overwhelmed by all the good works and appreciated the Grand Chaplain's message.

First time delegate Brian Dunbar #32 thanked his Council Brothers, learned a lot of what the YMI does and is looking forward to being more active.

First time delegate David Burbank #613 thanked everyone, it was a fantastic and phenomenal experience.

First time delegate Elijah Reza #100 has been associated with the YMI all his life and he learned a lot. His Dad, Joe Reza #100, PGP, said it was important to bring our children.

First time delegate Mike Thissen #94 was very happy to be connected and attend the Convention, it was great to see all who he will be encountering this year.

First time delegate Eugene Espinola #94 better understands the YMI, why his Dad joined, wants to help continue the organization for at least the next 32 years, we need to continue the good we are doing.

Thomas Fourie #32, PGP and Business Manager addressed the elephant in the room – “unless something is done to increase membership, we will not be here in five years.” The organization currently “stinks” at present in working to attract new members.

Jim Mullen #573, PGP reflected on the 25 year losing streak of members when he became Grand President. He reviewed all that he had to do to turn the tide – he was successful – use technology, Councils in the community, Vice Presidents to be District leaders, understand “what are we here for !”

Mike Nelson #80, GFVP, thanked all those present from St. Christopher #80 for their support.

Father Agnel, our Grand Chaplain complemented everyone in attendance for all their work.

Bill Avery #80 does not have an i-phone, but he uses e-mails for a simple message “the meeting is tonight”.

Manual Drumonde #44, PGP & GD thanked the committee for their work, thanked the first time delegates for their words, sad to see a drop in membership, committed to give \$25 to any Brother who sponsors five new members this year.

Steve Cresci #32, GOS, thanked all the Grand Officers for their work.

George Terry #32, JPGP asked all to keep Wendell Serrao, #573, PGO in our prayers and he is truly missed.

Michael Sanzeri #59 said a loss of 47 members outside of death cannot happen.

Brother Tom Fourie #32, PGP, asked that Officers please turn in their regalias before leaving the chambers.

Closing Prayer and Adjournment

The closing prayer was led by Father Agnel De Heredia #32, GC.

Grand President Michael Dimech #613 adjourned the 132nd Grand Council Session at 12:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Amato #613, GS

Thomas Fourie #32, PGP

Business Manager

Minutes approved by the Board of Grand Directors on July 24, 2017. .

