



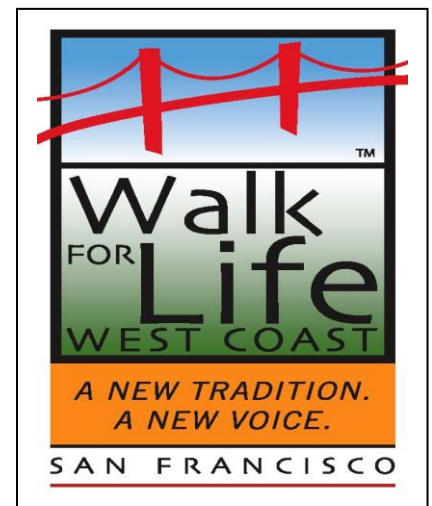
GRAND PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

our daily prayers. The Board of Directors have made several suggestions as to where donations can be sent to help with relief efforts. Disaster recovery will be ongoing for quite some time. Please give generously.

Sylvia and I had the pleasure of riding with Brother Bob Fiorito and his daughter in the annual Italian Heritage Parade. It was great seeing the streets of San Francisco from a different angle and finding new restaurants to try next time we visit the City.

My Council visits have been coming along. If I haven't visited your Council yet, give me a call so we can set up a date to visit. One of the recurring themes in my visits and from the District Deputy reports is the need for help with membership. I am happy to report that the Grand Council Membership Committee has been meeting to discuss ways to help Councils with their membership issues. The Committee report is elsewhere in this edition of the Journal for your review. There are some very good ideas listed. As I pointed out in the Grand President's Program, I encourage Councils to become partners with other parish groups. This includes the parish

pastor and the school principal. Sitting around complaining about it won't change the situation. Now it's up to you to get to work to turn your Council around.



Another aspect of the Grand President's Program is the Coordinating Committee. One of the points that is in there is support for the annual West Coast Walk for Life. The event this year is January 27, 2018 and will start at 12:30 at Civic Center Plaza in San Francisco. Many parishes come by bus and I encourage you to be part of this event.

Also as part of my Council visits, I am encouraging Councils to send more members to the annual convention. Your participation and voice are what is going to keep YMI going.
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Grand President's Message

Brothers,

It is with great sadness that I write this column. The recent fires in the Santa Rosa/Sebastopol area have left many of our Brothers without a home. I cannot imagine having to live in circumstances where my home and community have been devastated. We must continue to keep our YMI Brothers and their families in

INSTITUTE JOURNAL

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The more your members are engaged in Grand Council activities, the better able they are to explain to other men why they should become members of the YMI.

Sylvia and I had a great time on the Official Visit to Council #497 In Huntingburg and Council #612 in Richmond, Indiana. The hospitality we received was truly appreciated, and we were made to feel like we were part of the family. I am looking forward to some of our Indiana Brothers coming to the Grand Council Session in Reno next June.

Brothers, I sincerely hope you enjoyed the blessings of Christmas. 2017 has been a trying year for many of our Brothers and are still in need of our prayers. Please take time from your endeavors to focus on what really is important and remember that Jesus is the reason for the season.

Pro Deo, Pro Patria
Mike Nelson
Grand President

Helping Santa Rosa!!!!

The October 2017 Northern California Fires destroyed much in the form of tangible items for our Brothers in Santa Rosa Council #40, however, it did not destroy their spirit. Despite having many Brothers and their families lose their homes, vehicles, personal belongings, schools, jobs, etc. they have pulled together to help each other in these worst of times. The Council from their own treasury has set up a fund to specifically help their Brothers. If any YMI Council or individual Brother would like to donate to this fund, please make checks payable to "Santa Rosa Council #40 – Fire Relief" and send them to the Grand Council Office at PO Box 281047, San Francisco, CA 94128. Brother Tom Fourie, Business Manager, will forward any donation directly to the Council. May God Bless and take care for all our Brothers.

YOUNG MEN'S INSTITUTE - CELEBRATING 135 YEARS OF BROTHERHOOD

RED AND WHITE MASS

Saturday, March 10, 2019

St. Columba Catholic Church
213 Orange Street
Chowchilla, CA 93610



3:30 p.m.

Banner procession of YMI
Councils and Ceremony
honoring
past/present YMI Brothers

4:00p.m.

Mass

Fr. Agnel de Heredia, Grand
Chaplain, Celebrant

Dinner following Mass
O'Laughlin Hall
213 Orange St., Chowchilla

RSVP BY February 26, 2018

For more information:

Br. Mike Thissen 559-223-4830

Or - mjthissen@hotmail.com



DINNER RESERVATIONS

Name: _____

Council #: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Will your council be participating in the Banner
Procession? Yes ___ No ___

Number attending Dinner:

Adults _____ @ \$20 each \$ _____

Children _____ @ \$10 each \$ _____
(12 and under)

Steak _____ or Chicken _____

Total amount enclosed: \$ _____

Checks payable to YMI Council #94
P.O. Box 216
Chowchilla, CA 93610

Menu

Rib Eye Steak
Chicken Roulade with white wine
mushroom sauce
Green Salad
Grilled Squash
Garlic spinach mashed potatoes
Rolls
Cake

Report of the Death Benefit Committee: Death Benefits for Associate Members

In 2015, as part of our review of the financial condition of the Order's death benefit program, we surveyed the Brothers to see what features of our death benefit program we should consider improving. One of the findings of that survey: roughly half of the Brothers who responded expressed some interest in providing a death benefit to the families of our Associate Members (Brothers who join the YMI after reaching age 45).

The Board takes the opinions of our members seriously, and formed this committee to explore issues relating to the death benefit program. We contacted an attorney and obtained his opinion that the monies in the existing death benefit fund could not be used to pay for death benefits on behalf of Associate Members. Our Business Manager, Br. Tom Fourie, provided information about our membership that allowed us to quantify the cost of a proposed new death benefit for Associate Members. We learned that a new death benefit program for Associate Members that provided a death benefit of only \$500 would cost \$36 per Associate Member per year.

This information was presented to the delegates at the 2017 Grand Council Session in South Lake Tahoe. At that time we distributed a new survey, asking the Brothers if they would support a new death benefit program for Associate Members, given the anticipated cost. **The overwhelming majority of those responding to the survey said NO.** There was almost no support at all for adopting a new program for Associate Members.

After reviewing the results of the survey, the YMI Board of Directors agreed not to pursue the matter any further.

I wish to thank the members of the Death Benefit Committee for their comments, wisdom and support: Brothers Mike Nelson, Jack Albrecht, Cosmo Amato, Mike Amato, Domenic Carinalli, Mike Dimech, Tom Fourie, and Frank Hepburn.

For God and country,
Br. Nick Franceschine, Council 54, Sebastopol



Educational Foundation Memorials/Donations

Raymond Crosat: South San Francisco Council #32

Joseph M. Fantazia: Holy Rosary Council #44

Mel Nelson: Tom and Pat Fourie, Bob and Nancy Bartoli, Mike and Sylvia Nelson

Marlene Prouty: Steve and Linda Cresci, Mary Giusti, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices California Realty

Charles (Jack) Schroeder: Gonzaga Council #612

Wendell Serrao: Tom and Pat Fourie, Jack and Alice Albrecht, Michael and Mara Amato, Mr. and Mrs. Salvatore Enea, Jim and Helen Mullen, Beverly Ferreira, Ann Medeiros, Thomas and Rosanna Figueira, James and Janet Souza, Bob and Nancy Bartoli, Manuel and Celeste Drumonde

Janet Souza: Tom and Pat Fourie, Manuel and Celeste Drumonde, Clement A. Gusman

Manuel C. Souza: Holy Rosary Council #44

All YMI Brothers, family members and friends are thanked for their generous contributions to the Educational Foundation. We also acknowledge everyone's minimum donation of \$10 towards the requested Mass.

*The State of the Institute
By Michael Dimech*

To all of our Brothers of our Great Order

We all have an important role and share in the direction of our Brotherhood. Along with the Grand Council, I am seeking suggestions from all of our Brothers on how to improve our fraternal organization and especially ideas on ways to increase our membership. If you have a suggestion please send it to the Grand Council, Attention Br. Tom Fourie at P.O. Box 281047 or send me an e-mail at Mdimech7@gmail.com.

Please remember that all of your ideas are welcome and need to be received for consideration by March 1, 2018. Once your suggestion has been received, the Grand Council will review and determine if the proposal will be published in the Institution Journal and subsequently presented to the Delegates at the June 2018 Session in Reno, NV.

As I stated above and during my term as Grand President, it is also important that all of our Brothers seek ways to increase our membership numbers. We need to think outside the box if we are going to bring in new members and remain a viable fraternal organization. The Membership Committee has met and have shared some suggestions to increase membership with the Grand Council.

I obtained our membership numbers from the Advanced Proceeding for the past couple of years and inserted them in the table below for everyone to review. These numbers speak for themselves. As you can see, our membership has dropped by 335 Brothers since 2012.

Council Membership Report 2012 - 2016

Year	Benefited	Associated	Jr. Members	Hon.	Yr. End
2016	1307	507	12	46	1872
2014 & 2015 *					
2013	1548	579	14	42	2183
2012	1531	621	0	55	2207

- Data for 2014 & 2015 was not available as some of the Semi-Annual Reports were not received, incomplete or membership numbers were not received at the time of the Advanced Proceeding printing.

In conclusion, let's work together to make our organization stronger and keep this important fraternity in place for our children and our grandchildren. Now is the time to get involved. Please work with your councils and fellow Brothers to send in your ideas and suggestions to me or to the Grand Council.

In God and Country
Br. Michael Dimech, PGP

Institute Journal Goes High Tech!!!

The Grand Council has directed the Institute Journal Committee to send this issue of the Journal via e-mail to those Councils who send their Council Newsletter via e-mail. Councils will then forward it to their respective members. Those Brothers who do not have e-mail will receive the Journal via regular mail.

TIME TO GIVE BACK TO THE NORTH BAY COMMUNITY

**2018 ANNUAL YMI GRAND COUNCIL
GOLF TOURNAMENT**



WHEN: Sunday, June 3, 2018
11:00 a.m.

COST: 7035 Oakmont Drive
\$100.00 per player
Includes Golf, Cart, Prize Fund and
(after golf) Banquet
\$ 35.00 Non-playing guest for Banquet
(4:30p.m. – 7:00p.m.)

Players report

at 10:30 a.m.

WHERE: Oakmont Golf Club
Santa Rosa, CA 95409

PLAYERS: Please indicate who is captain of foursome

- 1. _____ 2. _____
- 3. _____ 4. _____

Non-Playing Guests for Banquet: _____

Contact/Questions: Br. Bob Fiorito –(650) 867-6702 or email bmr850bob1@aol.com



DEADLINE: MAY 18, 2018

Make check out to “YMI Grand Council” and mail completed form with check to:
Bob Fiorito

1137 Hamilton Lane
Burlingame, CA 94010



**Y M I GRAND COUNCIL
BOWLING TOURNAMENT**

WHEN: Sunday, April 29th, 2018 1 p.m.
Captains report at 12:30 p.m.

WHERE: Pacific Avenue Bowl
5939 Pacific Ave.
Stockton, CA (209) 477 -0267

COST: \$50.00 for five man team. Shoes & ball
Included. Family, friends welcome to bowl.

Contact: Mike Sanzeri
For questions
Phone(925)324-7403
Or email to jsanzeri@hotmail.com

Mail roster and check to Mike Sanzeri 12
Waterberry Ct., Pleasant Hill ,Ca., 94523

- Players**
- 1. _____
 - 2. _____
 - 3. _____
 - 4. _____
 - 5. _____

Please indicate who is captain with his phone number.

Let's Roll

GRAND COUNCIL – YOUNG MEN’S INSTITUTE
Man of the Year 2018

The 2017 – 2018 Man of the Year Grand Council Committee has met and is now accepting nominations for the 2018 Man of the Year. Any YMI Brother, group of Brothers, or YMI Council is invited to submit a nomination. Criteria to be considered:

- Council Activities (Fraternalism)
- Service to the Parish (Faith)
- Service to the Community (Patriotism)
- Grand Council Activities
- Any character references for the nominee would be appreciated

Date: _____ Man of the Year Nominee: _____

Council # _____ Council Location: _____

Council activities nominee is involved in: _____

Nominee’s service to his Parish: _____

Nominee’s service to the community: _____

Grand Council activities nominee participated in or is involved in: _____

Please attach any additional information or character references for the nominee, should more space be needed.

Please submit your nomination with supporting documentation ***by May 1, 2018***. Please send to:

Brother Bob Bartoli #32, GD PGP
675 Pine Terrace
South San Francisco, CA 94080
650-871-7878

2018 Grand Directors' Council of the Year Award Application

Date: _____

Council # _____ Council Location: _____

Council President: _____

Recording Secretary: _____

Applicant's signature: _____

1. Number of inter-council events attended by members of Council _____

List of events: _____

2. If charity work was performed by the Council, please provide a brief description of the work performed, the number of council members in attendance, and number of hours worked.

3. Did your council have an increase in membership for the period from 4/1/2017 through 3/31/2018?
If so, what was the percentage increase from the previous year: _____.

4. Did your Council participate in any fund-raising events? If so, how many? _____

List of events: _____

5. Did your council participate in the Pro Patria Raffle? If so, what was the percentage of members who purchased raffle tickets? _____

6. Was your Council represented at the 2017 Grand Council Sessions? _____ Yes _____ No
If so, how many delegates did your Council send? _____

7. Participation at Grand Council / events – Circle all that apply: 1. Bocce Ball
2. Red & White Mass
3. Bowling
4. Golf

**Send to Br. Bob Bartoli, 675 Pine Terrace, South San Francisco, CA 94080
Deadline: May 1, 2018**

September Bocce

On Saturday, September 23rd YMI Council # 613 hosted their 10th annual Bocce Ball Tournament at Orange Park in South San Francisco. Under Sunny Skies 17 teams representing 7 YMI Councils (#1, # 2, #32, #40, #54, #80 #613) competed in this year's tournament.

As with prior tournaments many of the games were very competitive in the double elimination format. In the finals of this year's tournament, Council # 32's On a Roll a team made up Dominic Franco, Hando DeAlba Norm Faria and Danny Marcucci faced off against Fellow Council #32 team and first-time finalist, the Pallbearers, a team made of Bob Bartoli, Alan Patrick, Bill Albera, George Terry and Dave Carelli. In the end, team On a Roll defeated the Pallbearers to win the 10th annual YMI Council #613 Bocce Ball Tournament. Both Finalist received trophies.

Other teams who deserve honorable mention for playing well are:

3rd Place - YMI Council # 40 – Wondering Balls– Thomas Saksa, James Kany, Greg Nelson, Romeo Maffia

4th Place – YMI Council # 40 - Team Campus- John Campus, Mike Bottarini, Nick Goultas, Matt Wyatt

5th Place Tie – YMI Council # 40 – Wine Country - Angel Vera, Max Vera, Steve Azevendo, Carter Brown

5th Place Tie – YMI Council # 40– The Godfathers - Corbin Goin, Gerri Goin, Ron Misasi, Julie Misasi

7th Place Tie – YMI Council # 613 – Mike Amato, Bob Fiorito, Mike Dimech, Donna Dimech

7th Place Tie – YMI Council # 54 – Just For Fun – Brad Nichols, Mary Lou Nicholls, Charlie Wallin, Debbie Wallin



YMI RIDES PROUDLY AT THE ITALIAN HERITAGE PARADE

YMI St. John Bosco Council #613 received news that it earned a **2nd Place Award** (\$100 award) from its participation in the 149th San Francisco Italian Heritage Columbus Day Parade on October 8th.

The YMI has been involved in the oldest Columbus Day celebration parade in America for ten years now. Through a long-standing partnership between YMI St. John Bosco Council #613 and the San Francisco Model -A Ford Auto Club, the YMI's parade entry this year featured nine stunning motor vehicles (circa 1920's-1940's) including a 1938 San Francisco city bus that had traveled through the streets of North Beach when Joe DiMaggio was a young lad. Each vehicle was adorned with signs prominently bearing our YMI name and logo, as well as decorated with several American and Italian flags plus many, many red, green and white balloons (the colors of the Italian flag).

As has been the tradition, the YMI Grand President and his wife get to lead the parade delegation and this year **Grand President Mike Nelson #80 and his wife Sylvia** represented the YMI very well by riding in the rumble seat of a Model A classic driven by the **Chairman of the Board Bob Fiorito #613**. Also on hand was our reigning **YMI Man of Year, Outside Sentinel Nick Franceschine #54, who joined Grand Secretary Mike Amato #613 and YMI#613 Vice President Joe Soracco** on a vintage flatbed truck (circa 1930). Last but not least, **Brothers Ryan Casey and Mario Balestreri of YMI #613** rode together with their families aboard the 1938 bus. As an unexpected surprise, four sailors passing by accepted our offer to sit with the YMI aboard the bus and we understand they had a blast!

**YOUNG MEN'S INSTITUTE
EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
BROTHER FRANK PIGNATI
MATCHING FUNDS PROGRAM 2018**

Once again, the YMI Educational Foundation is proud to announce our Matching Funds Program for 2018. The intent of this program is to enhance and support YMI Councils, which have viable student scholarship programs in existence or are planning to have one during this school year.

All YMI Councils are encouraged to participate in this beneficial educational program. A cherished hallmark of the YMI has been to provide for the continued education of our young people.

Each Council may request any amount up to **\$750.00** in Matching Funds. Upon approval of the submitted request, the Educational Foundation will in turn write a check of any amount not to exceed **\$1,500.00** to the educational institution selected or the Council scholarship program as designated by the requesting Council. The requesting Council's general membership must vote for the request of Matching Funds during a regular business meeting, prior to submitting the Matching Funds Application, which is printed in this issue of the Institute Journal.

To participate in this program a Council must be participating or planning to participate in a scholarship program during this school year. A description of this participation is required on the application form that must be completed, submitted and postmarked not later than **April 1, 2018**. Barring a special circumstance request, Matching Fund checks will all be issued and mailed on **April 30, 2018**. PLEASE NOTE: Checks cannot be made payable to individual councils, they **MUST** be issued to a Council's scholarship program, directly to a school, or directly to an individual student.

Yours for God and Country,
Brother Bob Bartoli #32, PGP
Brother Tom Fourie #32, PGP
 Educational Foundation Directors

IN MEMORIAM

<i>Member</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Council</i>
Rudy Morin	04-07-2017	60
Kenneth Montanari	02-03-2017	60
Bart Sciacqua	09-04-2017	60
Robert E. Penna	08-13-2017	32
John B. Guaraglia	09-03-2017	613
Ronald A. Mirkovich	07-20-2017	613
Antonio Medeiros	08-29-2017	573
Wendell Serrao PGD	10-05-2017	573
James Z. Perez	02-24-2017	88

**YOUNG MEN'S INSTITUTE
EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
BROTHER FRANK PIGNATI
MATCHING FUNDS PROGRAM APPLICATION 2018**

1. Name and number of requesting Council: _____
2. Description of your Council's scholarship program. Please submit a written plan describing what the scholarship program consists of and how the money will be distributed.
3. Amount of Matching Funds requested (maximum amount per each Council is **\$750.00**): _____
4. Date of General Membership vote: _____ Number of votes: _____ YES
_____ NO
5. Signature of Council President: _____
6. Signature of Executive Committee Chairman: _____
7. List the recipient of the Matching Funds Check below. ****PLEASE NOTE****
Checks will not be made payable to individual Councils and therefore cannot be deposited into the Council's regular checking account. The checks MUST be issued to a Council's scholarship program (which is a separate account), directly to a school, or directly to an individual student.

8. Where Matching Funds check is to be mailed:
NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____

9. Submit completed application form and requesting Council check payable to:

YMI Educational Foundation
P. O. Box 281047
San Francisco, CA 94128-1047

***APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED AND POSTMARKED NO LATER
THAN APRIL 1, 2018.***

***ALL CHECKS WILL BE ISSUED ON APRIL 30, 2018
Any questions please call 1-800-964-9646***



Young Men's Institute
P. O. Box 1161
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**URGENT REMINDER....ESSAYS AND RAFFLE
TICKETS!!!!!!!**

The Pro Patria Essays are due on January 15, 2018...please get them sent in from all your student writers. Also, the Pro Patria Raffle pays for this outreach program of the YMI. Please, please, buy and send in your tickets before the Red and White Mass.....the students are depending on you!!!!



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DON'T FORGET

DON'T FORGET

DON'T FORGET

Spring 2018 issue

Due Date: March 31, 2018 ~ Please submit articles, pictures, etc. to

YMI Business Manager: YMIUS@aol.com