



GRAND PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Grand President's Message

Many thanks to all of you, my YMI Brothers, for your prayers and support! Especially, I wish to thank all our Grand Council officers and Past Grand Presidents who have offered their encouragement and advice as we prepare to guide the YMI through another year.



In particular, I want to thank Brother Darrell Fonseca, our new Grand First Vice President, for his cheerful optimism and unflagging support during the last difficult year and the last few busy months. In spite of the pandemic, Brother Darrell organized the Red and White Mass this year, and is overseeing this year's Pro Patria raffle and essay contest. There is a long list of kind things I want to say about our Immediate Past Grand President, Mike Amato. Brother Mike's tremendous energy and dedication to the Young Men's Institute are well known to all of us. Just a few examples: he made helpful suggestions to me about Committee chairmen; he proofread the proposed essay questions for last year's Pro Patria essay contest and offered useful comments; and he has actively participated in every major YMI activity for more years than I can recall. Thanks so much, Brother Mike, for all your hard work and service! You've left very big shoes for me to fill.

So many Brothers and their spouses deserve our gratitude for their efforts in keeping our YMI activities going, especially during these challenging Covid times. At the risk of missing someone (please forgive me, there isn't space here to mention everybody), here are just a few:

- Tom and Pat Fourie. Brother Tom is our Order's Business Manager, and is directly responsible for organizing and coordinating many of our activities.
- Phil and Cindy Fondale. You may not be aware, but Cindy has been one of the key players in making this Journal look professional and polished. If the Lamp Post looks good, we can all thank Cindy!
- Steve and Linda Cresci. Steve served as Chairman of the Board this last year, and did a great job keeping meetings on task. He also coordinated Zoom meetings for us whenever needed. Steve agreed to serve as Grand Second Vice President this year - in my opinion, the best man for the job!
- Bob and Nancy Bartoli. Both Bob and Nancy are heavily involved in many of the coordination and recordkeeping tasks of the YMI, and that's a huge understatement. Also Bob organizes our YMI conference calls.

Well, for the second year in a row, we were not able to hold our traditional in-person Grand Council convention. Instead, we did a combination of (1) a Red and White Mass, lovingly celebrated by our Grand Chaplain, Father Agnel, which was broadcast on YouTube;

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INSTITUTE JOURNAL

USPS Permit No. 92
Young Men's Institute
P. O. Box 1161
South San Francisco, CA 94080-1161

Published 4 times yearly as its official organ of:

Young Men's Institute

Grand Council Office
Thomas A. Fourie #32, PGP, Business Mgr.
P.O. Box 281047
San Francisco, CA 94128-1047
YMIUS@AOL.COM
Subscription \$2.00 per year,
included in the dues
Periodical Postage paid
at San Bruno, California
Editor: Tom Fourie #32, PGP

Officers of the Young Men's Institute

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Grand 1st Vice President, Darrell Fonseca #99
Grand 2nd Vice President, Steve Cresci #32
Immediate Past Grand President, Michael Amato #613
Grand Chaplain, Fr. Agnel DeHeredia #32
Grand Secretary, Michael Dimech #613
Grand Treasurer, Jack Albrecht #1
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(2) a Zoom call, to allow discussion of any relevant matters; and (3) balloting by email (mostly). Big thanks to the many people who worked hard to pull that off, and so well too! This Covid thing will not stop us!

However, our country continues to struggle under the cross of the pandemic. Life hasn't yet fully returned to normal. While most of our Councils are organizing alternative meetings of some kind, usually Zoom calls or outdoor gatherings, we are not always able to resume all the functions that we usually do, like fundraisers and other parish activities.

My heart goes out to our many Brothers who are isolated during these times. I suggest that each Council look over its roster of members and identify those Brothers who are still unable to get out and be with people, for whatever reason. Something as simple as a phone call every week can make a big difference in a person's life – somebody still cares about me, I am not forgotten!

One of the founding principles of the YMI is Love of Country. This doesn't only mean caring for our beautiful land on the national level – this also means on the local level. When you encounter governmental workers of ANY type – first responders, IRS agents, even the folks at the DMV – just remember that these are all just regular people who have a job to do. It's entirely appropriate to thank them for their service to our community, and we should!

Brother Darrell, Brother Steve and I ask for your prayers as we work together this year. Our Officers and Directors are an outstanding group of talented and dedicated men – with a team like this, how can we lose?

To all my Brothers: let us always remember that the love and friendship we share is what the YMI is. As John Wayne said in *The Green Berets*, "You're what this is all about!"

Yours for God and Country,
Nick Franceschine GP
707-824-9600

IMMEDIATE PAST GRAND PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Brothers...Please find a summary of our Grand Council Mass and Session held during June 2021 and a few concluding remarks.

Red & White Mass/Remembrance Mass:

The YMI combined its annual Red & White Mass with the YMI Remembrance Mass that typically opens the Grand Council Sessions and held it on Tuesday June 8th at **St. John's the Evangelist Church** in San Francisco. Our **Grand Chaplain, Fr. Agnel D'Heredia** did a masterful job of leading the Mass and he was ably supported by several YMI Grand Officers who performed specific duties during the service as well as a talented musician hired to play pleasant church hymns. The Mass was nicely attended by about 40-50 YMI Brothers & spouses in person and many more joined us online to watch the Mass. The Mass provided a great means to begin our Grand Council Session week, as it brought many of us together for the first time in fifteen months! If you would like to watch a replay of the Mass, you may go to the following link.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XibMazEBTXr-p0V57X6hVHlgQKqyWi7T/view?usp=sharing>

Grand Council Session

I had the privilege of presiding over the 136th Grand Council Session. Because of COVID-19, this year's annual gathering was held over Zoom on June 12th. With most of our YMI delegates participating on-line, we efficiently managed to cover a robust agenda (typically covered in 1.5 days) in just 100 minutes! During this meeting, we went over the many reports and information contained in the Advance Proceeding's document that was provided to all YMI Delegates and we did the following:

- nominated a slate of Grand Council officers led by
 - **Grand President – Br. Nick Franceschine, #54**
 - **Grand 1st Vice President – Br. Darrell Fonseca #99**
 - **Grand 2nd Vice President - Br. Steve Cresci #32.**
- covered a State of the Institute Proposal to amend the established process for setting forth a Special Session.
- discussed proposals for a YMI Budget and a Long-Range Plan for the 2021-22 business year.
- heard various reports from our many Committee Chairs on activities and plans.
- received status reports from the Presidents of both the YMI Educational and Seminarian Educational Foundations (**Br. John West, PGP #32** and **Br. Larry Andreatta #32**, respectively).
- named **Br. Steve Cresci #32** as the recipient of the **2021 YMI Man of the Year Award**.
- recognized **Fr. Agnel D'Heredia** with a Resolution for his 20 years of faithful service as our YMI Grand Chaplain.
- congratulated **St. John Bosco Council #613** for winning our **May Membership Challenge** with 6 new YMI enrollees.
- thanked my thirteen District Deputies for their faithful service.

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After the meeting concluded, the YMI Delegates were tasked to go the ballot box via the internet during the ensuing week. When the ballots were counted, 72 YMI Delegates had voted (a rather high number as compared to past years). All nominated candidates and ballot measures were easily approved, and the results were reported by our Elections Chair, **Br. Bob Bartoli, PGP #32** on June 20th.

Concluding Comments

My term as the YMI Grand President has now officially ended. I can honestly say that it was a pleasure serving the YMI these past twelve months, even though it had been an extraordinarily difficult year for all of us given the COVID-19 virus outbreak and the necessary restrictions implemented to minimize the tragic loss of so many lives. Although I would have preferred traveling and visiting more of our YMI Councils in person, I dealt with the pandemic following St. John Bosco's way and utilized new approaches to meet with the Councils. The new approaches included using Zoom, conference calls, and outdoor venues. Surprisingly, new approaches provided unforeseen benefits as Zoom allowed more YMI Brothers to participate in these visits. Moreover, I was pleased to see the YMI Grand Council and many YMI Councils followed St. John Bosco's way and continued to do its necessary business by adapting to these new approaches in holding regular meetings and events.

I am grateful to many YMI Brothers for supporting me this past year in my endeavors. Most notably, I want to offer thanks to our **YMI Business Manager Br. Tom Fourie** for his dedicated efforts to keep me continuously informed of YMI happenings and for his wise counsel as a former Grand President. In addition, I am incredibly thankful to our **SF District Deputy (and my father), Br. Cosmo Amato** for being a frequent companion on those YMI official visits and events (both actual and virtual) and for always being available to discuss YMI matters.

As I conclude my term, I proudly offer **"Congratulations & Best Wishes!"** to our new **Grand President Br. Nick Franceschine, #54** and the entire slate of YMI Brothers who were elected to a Grand Council office. I look forward to another great year of leadership from these YMI Brothers.

Pro Deo, Pro Patria!
Mike Amato

YMI Seminarian Foundation Sets Record!!!!

This past YMI year the Seminarian Educational Foundation of the Young Men's Institute received a record number of requests for financial assistance from nearly 60 young men. With a special acknowledgement to the generosity of San Francisco Council #1, the Foundation was able to award 57 scholarships totaling over \$27,000. The recipients represented Dioceses throughout the realm of the YMI: San Jose, Oakland, Santa Rosa, Fresno, Archdiocese of San Francisco, Indianapolis, Honolulu, Stockton, and Salesian Order Seminarians. All awards have been sent to the sponsoring Councils and it is their decision on how and when to present the checks. Thank you to all the YMI Brothers who over the years have supported the work of the Seminarian Foundation.

Congratulations

BROTHER STEVE CRESCI IS SELECTED AS 2021 YMI MAN OF THE YEAR

The YMI "Man of the Year" Award is the YMI's most prestigious individual award, which is based on the YMI's three-fold purpose: Faith, Patriotism and Fraternalism. The award is bestowed annually during the Grand Council Sessions to a worthy YMI brother in consideration of the following criteria:

- **Faith** as defined by one's service to the parish.
- **Patriotism** as shown by one's service to the community.
- **Fraternalism** as demonstrated by one's efforts supporting YMI Council & Grand Council Activities.

**For the 136thnd Technology Based Grand Council Session
YMI recognized Brother Steve Cresci of South San Francisco Council #32
As the YMI Man of the Year for 2021.**

With regard to **Faith**, Brother Steve and his family have been active parishioners for many years of St. Augustine Parish in South San Francisco. Steve also continues to support both St. Anne's Elementary School and Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory High School, which he is an alumnus.

With Respect to **Patriotism**, Brother Steve was born on the Fourth of July a very patriotic day indeed. Steve has been helping those in need in South San Francisco and neighboring cities by serving on the Louis P. Guaraldi Food Basket Committee and never forgetting our veterans.

Finally **Fraternalism**, Brother Steve Joined San Francisco Council #1 in May of 1990. In 2007 Brother Steve transferred to South San Francisco Council #32. He has become a vital member of Council #32 having served as Council President, Chairman of the Executive Committee and other officer positions. Steve chairs Council #32's Trivia Contest and Bocce Tournament. Brother Steve has been a Grand Director for 2 terms and is now the Grand Second Vice-President. He has served on several Grand Council Committees.

Congratulations Brother Steve on your well-deserved award!



Linda & Steve Cresci

2021 Grand Directors Award- Council of the Year

Due to the pandemic and the fact that many councils were unable to have their usual functions, there was no Council of the Year awarded this year.

Please consider nominating your council for the 2022 award and nominating a worthy brother for the Man of the Year award.

Membership Corner

As Councils struggle to bring in new members it is worth repeating Br. Franceschine's words from the Grand President's Program: The most important thing is not to worry about it... We can't change the world; we can't even change the community we live in. What we can do is to continue to do the smart things.

Here are some more suggestions to add to Br. Franceschine's list:

August – is back to school month (remember when school didn't start until after Labor Day!). If your Parish school has a back-to-school night, why not see if your Council can have a member or two speak for a few minutes to the parents? If there is a member who has a child or children at the school what a great representative that would be to give a presentation.

Taking a step further, perhaps, your Council can host a table with coffee and cookies, along with membership flyer.

If not having an in person back-to-school night, then see about including in packets or email letters to parents' information about the YMI and your Council's meeting nights. Doesn't have to be a lot just a short paragraph, that's all!

If you missed out on August – plan ahead for September & October. Because of the pandemic many young couples held off getting married. It looks like the coming months will be big for weddings.

Couples getting married in your Parish. How about sending a Congratulations letter with details about the YMI and an invitation to come to a meeting for the newlywed?

The same can be done for those couples that are baptizing their child. Check your church's bulletin, request from the Parish rector or secretary if you can have the name & address of the parents and you have a potential member.

Just a few ideas to share. Would like to hear what is working for your Council bringing in new members. Let me know happy to pass it on!

Pro Deo Pro Patria,

Br. Steve Cresci #32

2nd GVP

Membership Committee





In Memoriam

Al Frates	03-20-2021	900
Maurice A. Brindeiro	04-03-2021	44
Henry Massaro	02-20-2021	94
Vincent Costello	02-25-2021	32
Max Olinger	02-25-2021	497
Edward Bettencourt	03-21-2021	92
Charles Cordina	04-17-2021	900
Robert Figone	06-17-2021	613
Lindo De Martini	06-06-2021	613
William Farac	03-23-2021	613

RESPONSE FROM THE GRAND CHAPLAIN.....

Dear Brothers Tom, Nick, Michael and Michael,

Brothers, thank you so much for the Grand Council Resolution. Brother Tom sent it to me. I received it in the mail a little while ago today.

It means a lot to me, even though I do not feel I have done much for the Young Men's Institute. That was my job, I signed up for it. What is so great about it? I ask?

Come to think of it, time just flew by. In fact you have done so much for me and for the parishes. May I suggest that I respectfully and gratefully receive it, in your honor. Let it be known that way! Thank you.

Keep well and safe!

Love to all of you, to your families and all the Brothers of the Young Men's Institute.

Pro Deo, Pro Patria.

St. Joseph pray for us!

Father Agnel

Archbishop Riordan High School



Sacred Heart High School



Thank you to San Francisco #1 for the donations to these two High Schools. Money was donated from #1 when they closed their council.



Young Men's Institute
Forty-Eighth Annual
Essay Contest

Entry Form

(Please type or print clearly)

NAME _____
Last First

AGE _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____

HOME ADDRESS _____
Number and Street

_____ City or Town State Zip Code

TELEPHONE NUMBER (____) _____

SCHOOL NAME _____

GRADE _____

SCHOOL ADDRESS _____
Street Address

_____ City State Zip Code

SPONSOR _____
YMI Member Name or Council's Name

COUNCIL # _____

Cash Prizes to be Awarded:

	Grades 7-8	Grades 9-12
Grand Prize	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00
2 nd Place	\$500.00	\$ 800.00
3 rd Place	\$500.00	\$ 800.00
4 th Place	\$400.00	\$ 600.00
5 th and 6 th Place	\$200.00	\$ 500.00
7 th -15 th Place	\$100.00	\$ 200.00

Contest Rules:

1. **Topics**

7th & 8th Grades – *What can you do to start and energize your Church's Youth program? Provide several specific examples to explain your plan.*

9th – 12th Grades – *Despite controversies, many people look to law enforcement for guidance and help. What can be done to encourage young people to enter this profession and maintain high ethical standards? Specifically, what can you do to assist in that process?*

- Contest is open to any Catholic student (Private or Public School).
- A Young Men's Institute member or Council must sponsor each student entry.
- The essay must be original and not more than 500 words.
- The essay can be word processed, typed, or neatly hand printed.
- The essay must be accompanied by the information requested by the Entry Form. (See "Entry Form" section)
- All entries must be received by January 19, 2022.
- All entries will be judged on content, neatness, grammar, spelling, and adherence to contest rules. A panel of impartial persons will conduct judging for the Grand Award. The decision of the judges is final. All entries become the property of the Young Men's Institute.

RETURN ESSAY TO: Young Men's Institute
Pro Patria Committee
E-MAIL: YMIUS@AOL.COM
US MAIL: P.O. BOX 281047, San Francisco CA 94128

Educational Foundation Memorials/Donations

Maurice A. Brindeiro: Holy Rosary Council #44, Manuel and Celeste Drumonde

Gina Controno: John West

Ed and Mary De La Torre: John West

Paul Domeniconi: South San Francisco Council #32

Albert Boyd Ferreira: Clement A. Gusman

Gene Mullin: South San Francisco Council #32

Chris Ramos: Thomas and Patricia Fourie

Francis Rodillas: Francis Council #573, Clement A. Gusman

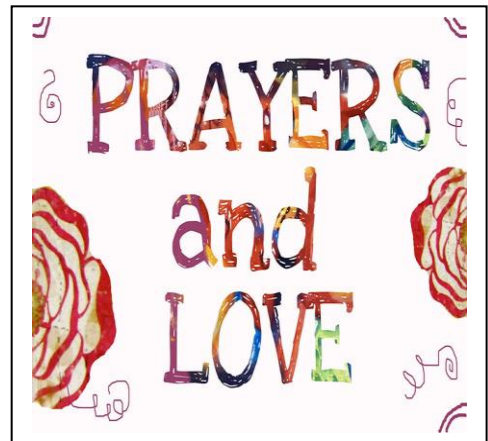
Violet Souza Victorino: Clement A. Gusman

Keith Woodcock: Richard and Gloria Guaraldi

Get well soon John and Mary Musgrove: John West

Get well soon Mary Fox: John West

Get well soon Jean Edson: John West



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.

Welcome New Members

Name	Sponsor	Council	Status
Brock Pisacco	David Pisacco	80	Benefit
Andy Levand	Bob Bacchetti	92	Benefit
Sonny Chitnis	Bob Bacchetti	92	Benefit
Tony Meredith	Bob Bacchetti	92	Benefit
Rudy Mason	Bob Bacchetti	92	Associate
Kyle Dowd	William Farac	613	Benefit
Andrew Del Campo	Cosmo Amato	613	Benefit
Carlos Del Campo	Cosmo Amato	613	Benefit
Ronald Serchia	Steve Cresci	32	Associate
Joseph Curran	John Kavanagh	613	Benefit
Marc Villareal	John Kavanagh	613	Associate
Vilaska Nguyen	John Kavanagh	613	Benefit
David Allan	Joseph Soracco	613	Associate
John Bower	Dominic Panina	613	Associate
George Totah	Dominic Panina	613	Associate
Mark Dutra	Manuel Drumonde	44	Benefit



**Don't miss the next issue of
the Young Men's Institute Journal**

**DON'T FORGET.....Due Date: The next issue of
the Institute Journal will be the Fall Winter Issue. All
articles, pictures, etc. to be submitted to the Business
Manager by October 31, 2021**

Send to YMIUS@aol.com