

**Young Men's Institute**  
**Board of Grand Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**March 15, 2025**

**Call to Order – Brother Mike Amato #613, Chairman of the Board of Grand Directors 9:00 a.m.**

**Opening Prayer – Fr. Agnel prayer for members and families of the YMI**

**Pledge of Allegiance – Brother John Cleary, #613 Led pledge**

**Roll Call – Brother Michael Dimech #613, Past Grand President, GS**

<b>Domenic Carinalli #54 GD</b>	<b>present</b>
<b>Michael Amato #613 PGP GD</b>	<b>present</b>
<b>Nick Franceschine #54 PGP GD</b>	<b>present</b>
<b>Richard Murphy #32 GD</b>	<b>absent</b>
<b>Mario Balistreri #613 GD</b>	<b>present</b>
<b>Luis Alvarenga #32</b>	<b>excused</b>
<b>Danny Avilla</b>	<b>present</b>
<b>Gus Solidum</b>	<b>present</b>
<b>Steve Cresci #32 GP</b>	<b>present</b>
<b>Billy Avery #80 GFVP</b>	<b>present</b>
<b>Bill Walls #80 GSVP</b>	<b>present</b>
<b>Rev. Angel De Heredia #32 GC</b>	<b>present</b>
<b>Michael Dimech #613 GS PGP</b>	<b>present</b>
<b>Bob Bartoli #32 PGP, GT</b>	<b>present</b>
<b>Bob Fiorito #613 GOS</b>	<b>excused</b>
<b>Tom Fourie #32 PGP BM</b>	<b>present</b>

<b>Clement Gusman #573 DDGP</b>	<b>present</b>
<b>John Cleary, #613 GM</b>	<b>present</b>
<b>Paul Larson #32 GD</b>	<b>excused</b>
<b>Alex Preciado</b>	<b>present</b>
<b>Frank DiMaggio</b>	<b>present</b>

**Grand Director appointment to replace Br. McNeany. To date, Br. Billy has been unable to locate a replacement**

**Approval of the Minutes from the Board of Grand Directors January 11, 2025.**

**Meeting – Chairman of the Board, Brother Mike Amato, Grand Director, asked for a motion to accept the minutes from the January 11, 2025 Board of Grand Directors meeting.**

**Motion made by Br. Gus and seconded by Brother Br. Nick  
There were no other discussion. The Board unanimously accepted and approved the minutes.**

**Communications - Brother Michael Dimech #613, Past Grand President did not have any communications. Br. Tom reported that he received:**

**Communications received by the Grand Council Office since the November 19, 2024 Board Meeting.**

### **Communications**

#### **1. Council Newsletters**

**San Jose #2 - March, April**

**American #8 - April, May**

**South San Francisco #32 - April, May**

**Francis #573 - March, April, May**

**St. John Bosco #613 - April, May**

#### **2. Cover letter for Council Convention Package**

#### **3. Cover Letter for Pro Patria Raffle Winners**

#### **4. Cover Letter for March 31, 2025 Semi Annual Report**

#### **5. Cover Letter for Assessment #199**

6. Voice of YLI - Winter Issue
7. Catholic Voice - Spring 2025
8. Catholic San Francisco - April 2025
9. Thank you letter from the staff of Seton Catholic High School (Essay Contest)
10. Flyers:
  - St. John Bosco #613 - Ladies Night
  - 2025 Annual Grand Council Golf Tournament
  - St. John Bosco #613 - Summer Picnic
  - YMI - 2025 Bocce Ball Tournament

### **Grand Treasurer Report**

- Sent Budget, Deposit breakdown to all officers and Grand Directors.
- Bills are current
- Next month begins the new budget of YMI year 2025 – 2026.
- Over spending on postage, insurance,
- Saving on telecommunications
- Good shape as far as what spent this year.

### **Funds as of 1/10/25**

#### **Schaub**

DB: \$2.479m

RF: 398k

#### **UBS**

242K

66k

Investments down the last few days

Motion to approve the Grand Treasure's report as reported by Br. Bartoli by Br. Mario and seconded by Br. Danny.

**Motion passed**

### **Reports of Grand Directors on the Board of Grand Directors**

Committees for the year 2024-2025 – Brother Mike Amato,  
Chairman of the Board of Grand Directors

**Charters/Archives:** Brother Danny Avilla, Domenic Carinalli, Nick Franceshine, PGP

- There was no report / activity from this committee at this time.
- Storage now in 1<sup>st</sup> fl. at All Souls Parish school. Requires some purging to lessen the amount of material in the closet.
- Br. Billy will schedule a meeting with Br. Tom along with Br. Danny to determine what can be removed.
- May consider digitizing some of the material

**Finance:** Brothers Michael Amato #613, PGP as Chairman, Luis Alvarenga, #32 and Mario Balistreri

- Bills have been paid. Everything looks good and up to date

**Long Range Planning:** Brother Mario Balistreri #613, Chairman, Michael Amato #613, PGP, Danny Avilla and Gus Soldium, # 94

- The committee meet on 3/12/25 to review the Long-Range Planning and membership recruitment
- Went over ideas for the membership committee
- Looking for an attorney to represent the YMI
- Review Parish Bulletins

- **Council Activities:** Brothers Domenic Carinalli #54 as Chairman, Paul Larson #32, and Richard Murphy #32
- Br. Billy continues to attend Council meeting of the various Councils and reported.
- Santa. Rosa is having a Polenta BBQ the following Saturday and will attend mass at St. Eugene

Council # 40 is planning a corned beef and cabbage dinner for March 8<sup>th</sup>.

- Br. Nick Franceshine reported his council had a corned Beef dinner the previous Saturday. Made \$3k from the event and split the proceeds with the Local YLI.
- 200 people attended
- Council # 44 is having a corned Beef and Cabbage dinner on 3/15/25 on a drive through basis
- Expect 800 dinners
- Notice of any Council activities need to be sent to the Grand Council Office before the event (potential workshop item)

**Insurance:** Br. Nick Franceshine (chair)

- Nothing to report at this time
- Will receive revised Insurance activities (Arthur Gallagher)
- Short \$5K this year – Increased Insurance by \$1.00 last year
- Br. Bartoli suggest we increase insurance cost by \$5.00 on the assessment at June Session
- Insurance cost prior year: \$12k / Only take in \$7k (5k shortage)

**Fund Raising:** ( no chair), Domenic Carinalli, #54

Brother Michael Dimech #613, PGP, GS and Grand President Cresci will later discuss the Pasta / Bingo event.

**Supplies:** Brother Luis Alvarenga, (Chait), Mike Amato #613

No report

Br. Luis previously did an inventory

**Technology Advancements;** br. Gus Solidum (chair), Br. Mike Amato

- Br. Gus will schedule meeting with Br. Tom & Br. Bob

- Created Zoom Account for Grand Council for licensing purposes and Password cloud management
  - Grand President's Report for Board Meeting March 15, 2025
  - Brothers of the YMI,
  - My Activities since Last Report Dec 12<sup>th</sup>.
  - January 9<sup>th</sup> YMI council 613 SSF GP Visit with G1VP
  - January 18<sup>th</sup> Attend YMI Pasta Bingo Fund Raiser in SSF
  - February 6<sup>th</sup> through the 10<sup>th</sup> Visit Hilo #573 with G1VP
  - February 26<sup>th</sup> Wednesday Atwater 80
  - March 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Red and White Mass Bus Trip to All Souls SSF
  - March 8<sup>th</sup>, Attend YLI #117 100 Year anniversary Celebration Mass in Merced
- Upcoming Meeting or Schedule of Events
- Santa Rosa #40 Polenta BBQ March 22
- Trip for Indiana Councils tentative date; May 5 through 11, 2025
- Scheduling for Sadoc #59 Pittsburg, Vallejo Council #13, and Stockton #5

**Grand First Vice President's Report – Brother Bill Walls reported:**

**Events Attended:**

- Went to Hawaii with the Grand President, St. Joseph high School, Science Fai, great experience
- Br. Tommy too them to the mass and meetings afterwards
- YMI / YLI 100-year anniversary
- Attended he Red & White Mass
- Raised \$14,100 in raffle sales
- \$1,100.00 raffle sales purchased by YLI
- \$1,450.00 came in from Pasta Bingo event
- \$12,700.00 in total raffle sales

- Breakeven point: \$15,000.00
- 185 Brothers purchased tickets
- Essay contest – 8 judges
- 142 HS essays
- 174 7<sup>th</sup> / 8<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Takes several days to complete judging and scoring
- Several ties for 1<sup>st</sup> place
- Fr. Agnel then read then essays plus 2 / 3 more people were invited
- Prepared 360 certificates

**Grand Second Vice President's Report – Brother Richard Murphy, # 32 Grand Second Vice President was not at the meeting but the following was reported on his behalf:**

**Information below provided by officers attending 11/19/24 meeting.**

- Chaired the very successful Red & White Mass & Dinner is on March 1, 2025 in the All Souls lower church
- Fr. Agnel and & members from 7 Councils attended
- Catered by La Tapita – Great meal
- Br. Murphy thanked the crew from Council # 32 and Nancy Bartoli
- Nice Job by the Grand Second Vice President

### **Grand Secretary Report 3/15/25**

**Since our January 11th Grand Director Board Meeting:**

**I requested several updates from our Webmaster to our YMI Website to include to include**

- Council newsletters received from the Business manager and the individual Councils have been uploaded onto the YMI Website.

- Prepared and sent out the Minutes from the January 11th Grand Directors Board Meeting.
- Br. Steve Cresci and I and members from our Councils and some of our wives put on the Pasta Bingo Dinner event on January 18<sup>th</sup> at St. Cecilia's Parish. This event brought in a profit of \$1,450.00 that went to this year's Pro Patria Essay Contest.
- I also want to thank all the brothers who helped put on this event (Steve Cresci, Mike Amato, Mario Balistreri, Joe Soraco, Tom Fourie, and some of our wives, Pat Fourie, Theresa Balistreri and Jeanne Dimech.

I also want to thank Grand President Billy Avery and former Grand President, Mike Thiesen who came from the Valley to attend this event. In all we had Brothers from five different Councils who were in attendance

- Possibly have a Pasta Bingo dinner in the Valley
- I attended the Red and White Mass & Dinner on March 1<sup>st</sup>
- I also attended Council 613's February and March Business meeting and Councils 2's February Business meetings
- Finally, I will be reached out to IACC and scheduled this year's bocce ball tournament for Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup> at Orange Park in South San Francisco

## **Business Manager Report**

### **II. Business Manager's Activity Report for the Grand Council Office since January 11, 2025**

1. Attended Memorial Service for Brother John Prouty #32
2. Worked with Brother Ed Sutton #32 on IRS paperwork



- concerning dropped Councils
3. On-going recording of Pro Patria Raffle sales (daily)
  4. Attended and helped sell raffle tickets at the YMI Pasta/Bingo Fundraiser at St. Cecilia's Church in San Francisco
  5. On-going printing of essays submitted electronically for the Pro Patria Essay Contest
  6. Attended Council #32's social dinner in January
  7. Prepared YMI January bills for the Grand Treasurer
  8. Prepared Financial Report for the Seminarian Education Foundation Meeting
  9. Attended January 29, 2025 YMI Education Foundation Meeting
  10. Begin to distributed Pro Patria Essay packets to judges
  11. Contacted Bally's Hotel and Casino on a variety of topics due to changes in their Group Sales Office
  12. Experienced problems with office print connection – needed the Bartoli touch
  13. Attended Seminarian Education Foundation Meeting
  14. Attended first Reserve Committee Budget Committee meeting - presentation by UBS
  15. Attended Council #32's Business Meeting
  16. Recorded Assessment checks from Councils
  17. Daily work responding to a multitude of e-mails and phone calls
  18. Continue to move Pro Patria Essay packets among judges
  19. Received judged essay packets from the Pro Patria Contest Chairperson
  20. Began preparing for Assessment #199 mailing
  21. Began preparing Semi-Annual Report paperwork for mailing
  22. Worked on Death Benefits paperwork
  23. Attended second Reserve Committee Budget Committee meeting - presentation by Schwab
  24. Planned and hosted first Convention Planning Committee meeting
  25. Attended Council #32's February Social Dinner
  26. Drove Father Agnel to and from the Red and White Mass

- 27. Attended Red and White Mass and Dinner**
- 28. Began working on regalia's for Grand Session**
- 29. Attended Grand Council Budget Committee meeting**
- 30. Continue to plan and host the second Convention Planning Committee meeting**
- 31. Worked and completed mailing for Council's Semi-Annual Reports**
- 32. Attended South San Francisco Council #32's March Business Meeting**
- 33. Attended Council #613's March Business Meeting**

**This is only a partial list.**

### **Immediate Past Grand Presidents Report**

- Attended many Zoom meetings**
- Participated in State of the Institute committee meetings**
- Five proposals will be presented at the 2025 Sessions**
- Draft proposals placed in the Lamp Post**
- Working with the new Technology committee**
- Attending Council # 32 monthly business meetings**
- Attended the Red & White Mass, Pasta Bingo events**
- Judged Essays**

**Report of Grand Directors to Grand Council Committees for the year 2024-2025 - In accordance with the Grand Council By-Laws a member of the Grand Council Board of Directors is to be assigned to each of the Grand Council Committees that are delineated in the Grand President's Program for 2024-2025. In the program, each committee chairman, as chosen by the Grand President, is listed along with the goals and objectives of each committee.**

### **Audit / Reserve Committee – Board Appointments: Brother**

- Still need a committee chair**

- No report, no audits scheduled

**Budget Committee – Board Appointments: Br. Danny Avilla**

- Chairman is Brother Bob Bartoli GT #32
- Budget Committee meet in Jan
- Reserve committee will meet with Brokers (Schwab & UBS
- Discussed hoe investments are set up
- 175k available for Death Benefits
- Paid out 38 death benefits this year
- Discussed issues of tariffs / inflation with brokers
- 1% fee per yr. (.25% per qtr.
- Committee met regarding budget for next year
- GS & GT took a pay cut in budgets for next year
- Increased Gr Second to \$1000 for next year
- Grand Budget – Need to be review budget at Session
- New computer for Business Mgr. needed
- Budgeted \$14,700.00 for Pro Patria Essay Contest

**Motion: To approve the 2025 – 2026 budget – Danny A**

**Seconded Br. Mario**

**Motion Approved**

**Ceremonials Committee- Board Appointment: Br. Danny Avilla #40 The Committee Chair is:**

**Not much going on at this time**

**Credential Committee- Board Appointment: Mario Balistreri #613. The committee Chair is Mike Dimech.**

**Credential made and will go out this week**

**Institute Journal Committee – Board Appointments: Brother Mike Amato #613. Committee Chairman is Brother Tom Fourie #32 PGP.**

- Br. Tom requested that the articles be submitted to him by the April 15<sup>th</sup> for publication.
- Candidates are needed
- Takes some time to produce the document and send to Mrs. Fondale

**Laws and Revisions Committee – Board Appointments: Brother Nick Franceschine #54 PGP. The Committee Chair is Nick Franceschine.**

- Br. Nick advised that the committee received information that was reviewed earlier this year
- Not much going on in the last couple of months

**Man & Council of the Year Committee – Board Appointments: Br Domenic Carinalli #54. The Committee Chair is Br. Bob Bartoli #32 PGP**

- Man of the Year: one nomination
- Council of the year: no nominations
- Previous Brothers can win a second time
- Need Council of the Year to be submitted

**Membership Committee – Board Appointment: Br. Danny Avilla #40. Committee Chair is TBA.**

**Need someone to take the role of Board position next year**

**Pro Deo Committee - Board Appointment: Br. Luis Alverenga #32. Committee Chair is Brother Richard Murphy GSVP**

- Covered previously in Br. Richard's report

**Pro Patria – Board Appointment: Br. Gus Solidum #94. Committee Chair is Brother Bill Walls #80 GFVP**

- Covered previously in Br. Bill's report

**Organization Committee – Board Appointments: Brother Danny Avilla. Committee Chair is Brother Michael Dimech #613 GS**

- No report at this time

**Resolutions Committee – Board Appointment: Brother Nick Franceschine #54. Committee Chair is Br. Gene Espinola #94**

- No resolutions to date. Br. Nick will check with Br. Gene to see if he has any resolutions.

**State of the Institute – Board Appointments: Br. Luis Alverenga #32. Committee Chair is Brother Steve Cresci IPGP**

- Previously covered in Br. Steve's comments

**Workshop Committee – Board Appointments: Brother Gus Solidum #94. Committee Chair is the Staff of the Grand Council Office.**

- No report at this time.

## **Unfinished Business**

### **Pasta Bingo**

- Took place on January 18, 2025
- St. Cecilia Parish
- Good marketing tool to promote the YMI
- Profit of \$1450.00 made from the pasta bingo event went towards the Pro Patria Essay contest

### **2025 Grand Council Sessions (Br. Fourie #32) – Status update? When/Where?**

- Room rate remained the same as this year
- Parking \$15.00 per day
- Br. Tom is working with a new representative with Bally's Hotel. Ownership is back east. Do not work when it snows
- Church has been called
- Committee has met twice
- Completed Session registration form
- Advanced Proceedings documents to go out in early June
- Reports from Brothers need to be sent in the sooner the better / before May 15<sup>th</sup>
- Agenda will be performed by GP, GS and Board Chairman
- Working on Grand Presidents Program – Need by June 1<sup>st</sup>. presentations and two foundations
- Mario Balistreri submitted his name for second Grand Vice President for next year
- Mario's Grand Director position will be taken by Br. John Cleary who will run for open position
- Two Grand Director seats need to be filled for next year
- Grand Marshall position is opened
- Indiana & Hawaii can also participate in Grand Council

## **2026 Grand Council Sessions – (Br. Bill Walls #80)**

- **Br. Bill Walls will be the chair for the 2026 Grand Council Session**
- **Looking at having convention in Sault Lake Tahoe**
- **No committee formed as of yet. Br. Walls to work on this**
- **Suggested he have some information available at the 2025 Session as some questions may be asked by Brothers**

## **New Business**

### **Business. Mgr.'s Contract**

- **Need to change dates of the Business Mgr.'s contract**
- **Same the rate of pay as prior years**
- **The Grand Director's contract needs to be reviewed by the Board to approve**
- **Motion to extend Br. Tom's contract for two months – pending review of contract by the GD Board**  
**Seconded by Br. Gus – Contract to be resolved at May Grand Director meeting**

**Motion approved**

**Zoom: What will be the Process of YMI Grand Council to use Zoom to organize meetings in the future**

- **Zoom has been set up for the Grand Council**
- **Br. Gus can schedule zoom meetings going forward**
- **Need to pay licensing fees / Hope to have this done by next month**
- **Br. Gus to be gatekeeper**
- **Transition mode at this time**
- **Fees are in next year's budget**

## **Report of Sports Committees:**

### **Chairmen of the Sports Group of Committees:**

#### **Bocce Ball – Brother Mike Dimech #613**

- This year's tournament will be September 27, 2025
- In South San Francisco
- Flyer on the website

#### **Golf Tournament – Brother Bob Fiorito #613 & Paul Larson #32**

- Golf Tournament in Castro Valley, April 27, 2025, nice golf course and banquet facility
- Looking for 12 foursomes
- Have 7 or 8 at this time
- Looking for more participation from the valley
- Flyer is on the website

#### **Bowling –**

- Tournament: May 18<sup>th</sup> – Pacific Lanes in Stockton
- \$75.00 per team
- Bowling fees appear to be too low. Consider raising tournament fees in the future
- Possible each Council make a \$25.00 donation

#### **YMI Day at the Ballpark 2.0**

**July 19, 2025 (Saturday)  
San Jose Giants vs Modesto Nuts**



**Grand Chaplain's Report – Rev. Agnel De Heredia #32, Grand Chaplain**

- Fr. Agnel is praying for all of us

**Good of the Order:**

- Five proposals for state of the Institute
- Six Councils sent in for matching Funds - \$1,250.00 maximum
- Seminarian Foundation – Applications received from San Jose Diocese & Priest from St. Peter & Paul – on the webpage

**Next Grand Director Meeting: May 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.**

**Closing Prayer – Br. Nick**

**Adjournment**

**11:15 a.m.**