

**Young Men's Institute
Board of Grand Directors Meeting
May 16, 2026 @ 8:45 a.m.**

Agenda

Call to Order – Brother Mike Amato #613, Chairman, Board of Grand Directors @ 8:49 a.m.

Opening Prayer – Rev. Agnel De Heredia

Pledge of Allegiance – Brother Mario Balistreri, GSVP, #613

Roll Call – Brother Michael Dimech #613, GS/PGP

Michael Amato #613 GD/PGP (Chairman)

Danny Avila, #44 GD (Vice Chair) Exc.

Luis Alvarenga #32, GD

Domenic Carinalli #54 GD

John Cleary #613

Manuel Drumonde, #44, GD/PGP

Ed Silva, #54, GD

Gus Solidum #94, GD

Bill Walls #80 GP

Richard Murphy #32 GFVP

Mario Balistreri #613 GSVP

Billy Avery #80 IGP

Rev. Angel De Heredia #32 GC - Excused

Michael Dimech #613 GS/PGP

Bob Bartoli #32, GT/PGP

Chris McCann #8, GM Exc.

Paul Larson #32, GOS – Exc.

Bob Fiorito #613, GIS – Exc.

Tom Fourie #32, PGP, Business Manager

DDGPs:

Clement Gusman

Alex Preciado

Frank Dimaggio - Excused

Others:

Steve Cresci

Approval of Board Minutes- Br. Mike Dimech, GS/PGP:

- **Grand Director Meeting Minutes: March 3/21/26 (Motion needed to approve)**

Motion to approve: Br. John

Seconded: Br. Gus

Motion Approved

Communications - Br. Mike Dimech #613, GS/PGP & Br. Tom Fourie #32, BM/PGP

Council Newsletters:

San Jose Council #2 - January, February
St. John Bosco Council #613 - February, March
South San Francisco Council #32 - February, March
Francis Council #573 - February, March

Letter to all Councils from Business Manager, Brother Tom Fourie #32, PGP on their expected attendance at the March 14, 2026 Red and White Mass.

Red and White Mass Flyer

Court documents on the disbursement of assets from the late Brother Robert E. O'Donnell #1's estate. YMI to receive \$11,286.84.

2026 Annual Grand Council Golf Tournament Flyer

St. John Bosco #613 - flyer for their Annual Ladies Night Dinner

Catholic Voice - Diocese of Oakland

YLI - Voice of YLGI - Holiday/Winter Issue

Report of the Grand Treasurer & Approval to Pay Bills – Br. Bob Bartoli #32, GT/PGP

- Status of Bills/Receipts (Motion needed to pay bills)
- Status of Investments
- All deposits / checks for essay contest winners
- All bills have been paid
- Sent out new Budget for 2026-2027
- We are currently using the 2026-2027 budget now
- Spoke to Steve Davis - Moving funds from UBS to Schaub
- All investments are now with Schwab
- Broke down Golf & Bowling functions separately

- **Funds as of 5/16/26**
- **Schwab**
Death Benefits: \$2,785,796.85

Reserve Fund: \$446,529.45

Motion to approve the Financial Report of the Grand Treasurer: Manny

Seconded: Ed

Motion Passed

Reports of Grand Directors Board Committees for 2025-2026

- **Charters (includes Archives): Brothers Ed Silva #54 (Chairman), Dominic Carinalli #54 & Manuel Drumonde #44**
 - **Any progress other than the clearing YMI storage area at All Souls in December?**
 - **This committee takes the lead on any issues regarding charter applications or the storage of YMI records for safekeeping.**

Nothing new regarding charters

Sent report in to Business Manager for the Advanced Proceedings

- **Finance (includes Fundraising/Insurance): Brothers John Cleary #613 (Chairman) Michael Amato #613, & Luis Alvarenga #32**
 - This committee reviews the monthly bills of the Grand Council. Two members sign off on each bill. This is usually done around the 15th of each month in coordination with the Business Manager and the Grand Treasurer. Bills are being paid.
 - The committee addresses insurance issues (should they arise) in coordination with the Grand Council Office
 - Committee monitors and promotes YMI Fund Raising programs. To be discussed later
 - Bills have been reviewed and paid

- **Long Range Planning: Brothers Danny Avila #44 (Chairman), Michael Amato #613, Ed Silva #54 & Gus Solidum #94**
 - **Any progress?**
 - This committee should be looking to undertake efforts to consider how to implement goals in the 2025 Advanced Proceedings, as well as identify new goals for 2026.

No report submitted

- **Council Activities: Brothers Domenic Carinalli #54 (Chairman), Danny Avila #44 & Gus Solidum #94**

This committee keeps abreast of Council planned activities, sharing results and best practices.

No Report

Br. Manuel indicated his Council will be celebrating their 75 year anniversary on June 6th

- **Supplies: Brothers Luis Alveranga #32 (Chair), John Cleary #613**
 - Inventory of pins/YMI supplies already submitted. Thank you!
 - The committee advises on issues involving YMI supplies (e.g. pins, hats) and verifies inventory.
- Pin Inventory on the website
- Councils can contact Grand Council Office for pins

Grand President's Report – Br. Bill Walls

- Thanked everyone for their support and assistance this past year
- Attended the golf tournament
- Will attend one more council in Vallejo in the near future
- Will also attend a few meetings in the valley

- **Grand First Vice President's Report – Br. Richard Murphy #32 GFVP**

- Pro Patria Essay Contest: Status of Final Report
- 411 essays turned in this year – 20 more than previous year
- Thanked Judges for their work
- Winners from Turlock, Riordan
- Raffle: Final Report - \$15,700.00 in raffle sales
- Other official events/activities
- Went to six different Grammar Schools in the Sunset advertise the Essay contest
- Br. Steve commended Br. Murphy for the essay questions
- Raffle ticket participation rate: approximately 10%
- Council #99 sent in \$300.00 this year

Grand Second Vice President's Report – Br. Mario Balistreri, #613 GSVP

Red & White Mass Recap:

- 6 councils in attendance
- 85 people attended dinner
- \$800.00 in profit made
- Nice mass
- St. Cecilia's Pastoral staff attended
- Thanked Br. Billy for organizing the bus ride from the valley
-

Grand Secretary's Report – Br. Michael Dimech #613 GS/PGP

- YMI Website Updates Status
- Other official events/activities

Grand Secretary Report May 16, 2026

Since our March 21, 2026 Grand Director Board Meeting:

I requested the Webmaster to update our YMI Website with the following documents / information:

- *Grand Director Minutes of January 16, 2026 Board Meeting*
- *Council newsletters received from the Business manager and the individual Councils*
- *Bocce Ball and YMI Day at the Ballpark flyers*
- *Picture of winning foursome from the Grand Council Golf Tournament*
- *The Grand Session registration form*

- The tab under the Grand Council section in the YMI website was updated with information pertaining to our 2026 Grand Council Session
- *Photos of two students who won awards in the YMI Essay contest at Council 613's April Business Meeting*
- *Photos of two students from Riordan High School who won awards in the YMI Essay Contest*
- *List of all 2026 Essay Contest Winners*
- *Spring Edition of the Lamp Post*

Other activities since our March 21, 2026 Grand Director Meeting

- *Prepared and sent out the March 21, 2026 Grand Director Meeting minutes*
- *Sent letters to Council #2 and Council #32 for monetary donations they provided to support the Pasta Bingo Dinner*
- *Attended St. John Bosco Council's April and May Business Meetings*
- *Obtained the flyer for Council 613's 16th annual bocce ball which is scheduled for Saturday, October 3, 2026 at Orange Park in South San Francisco*
- *Submitted four articles that I am responsible for to the Business Manager for placement in the Advanced Proceeding*

Business Manager's Report – Br. Tom Fourie #32 PGP, Business Manager.

Activity Report from the Grand Council Office by the Business Manager

- Prepare Grand Council's January bills for payment by the Grand Treasurer.
- Daily receiving and processing of Pro Patria Essays for the 2026 contest.
- Continuous visits to YMI Post Office Box in Burlingame, CA.
- Attended YMI Education Foundation Meeting on January 27, 2026.
- Processed YMI Education Foundation donations.
- Prepared Treasurer's Report for the Seminarian Education Foundation.
- Prepared and attended the February Convention Planning Committee Meetings.
- Prepared Essay Judges' envelopes.
- Attended Seminarian Education Foundation Meeting on February 5, 2026.
- Prepared packets for Pro Patria Essay judges - continue moving to a variety of different judges.
- Contacted Bally's Hotel in South Lake Tahoe working on details for Convention meals, registration, etc.
- Attend South San Francisco Council #32's business meeting on February 12, 2026.
- Begin work on Institute Journal.
- Attended YMI Pasta/Bingo Mass and Dinner at St. Cecilia's Church.
- Print out 440 individual student participation certificates from the Pro Patria Essay Contest.
- Attend Grand Treasurer's Finance Committee Meeting with Br. Steve Davis and Mark Chapman.
- Prepared YMI February bills and receipts for the Grand Treasurer.
- Daily update and movement of Pro Patria Essays to different judges.
- Attend YMI Budget Committee Meeting.

- t. Prepare Death Benefit requests for Grand Treasurer.
- u. Attend South San Francisco Council #32 Social (lamb dinner)
- v. Daily processing of Pro Patria Raffle returns.
- w. Collect and organize Pro Patria Essay judging results.
- x. Attend South San Francisco Council #32's Business Meeting
- y. Attend YMI Red and White Mass and Dinner.

This is only a partial list.

Immediate Past Grand President's Report – Br. Billy Avery #80 IPGP

- Bus from Valley to Red & White Mass: Were you able to pay for bus?
- State of Institute: Status of Proposals for GC Sessions:
- Other
 - Accomplished quite a bit
 - Will be attending the convention in Sault Lake Tahoe
 - Working with the membership and State of the Institute committees
 - Two proposals will be voted on at the convention
 - Will be attending the Bowling Tournament on 6/17/26
 - Learn a lot about the YMI while going through the seats

Unfinished Business –

- Candidates seeking YMI Grand Council Office for 2026-27
See the YMI Candidate Slate at the end of this agenda -we need 3 more candidates – a GSVP and 2 GDs)
- Status of YMI Advance Proceedings: Reports were due by April 30th
- Status of 2026 Grand Council Sessions: June 15-18 (Br. Walls #80 & Committee)
 - Need to fill three positions for next year – GSVP and two Grand director positions.
 - Possible candidates: Ron Serchia – Current president of Council #32
 - Br. Avery may be interested in a Grand Director position
 - Would nice to see Brothers from Hawaii and Indiana Councils as Grand Directors
 - Grand Second VP will receive support from other brothers
 - All interested individual will need send an e-mail to Br. Fourie and Br. Amato

Status of YMI Advanced Proceeding Reports:

Missing Reports:

- Grand President, Immediate Past Grand President, Activity, Long Range Planning, Technology Advancement
- Golf and Bowling will be given at the Sessions
- District Deputy Reports:
- Indiana North, Indiana South, Merced, Dos Palos, San Joaquin, Sonoma
- Reports not received by June 1st will be listed No Report Submitted in Advanced Proceedings

Session Registrations

- Registrations received for Sessions to date: 32
- If registrations do not increase in future years may have to consider change in where Sessions take place

New Business -

- Other:
 - (e.g. YMI Race – Gus Solidum #94)?
- 5 K fun run for YMI in San Francisco, Crissy Field
- Possible different locations can participate (HI, Valley, Bay Area)
- May bring in new younger members
- Create committee to discuss, need volunteers
- Cost, Insurance / Permit Fees

Reports from Grand Council Committees 2025-2026

- **Audit/Reserve Committee – GD Board Appointment: Br. John Cleary #613. The Committee Chair: Br. Steve Cresci #32, PGP**
 - *Audit plan for 2025-26 to ensure the best practices are being followed by YMI Councils and Foundations.*

Audit of the Grand Council Books will be performed in the next couple of weeks

Completed audits of Grand Council and YMI Educational Foundations. Both audits passed.

- **Budget/Reserve Fund Committee** – GD Board Appointment: Br. John Cleary #613.
The Committee Chair is Brother Bob Bartoli #32 GT
 - *Review of YMI investment portfolio periodically considering market changes/risks and the level of liquidity and diversification needed.*
 - ***New developments from doing actuarial analysis of the YMI DB Accounts.***
 - ***New proposal on handling rising Insurance costs***

No report

- **Ceremonials Committee** – GD Board Appointment: Br. Domenic Carinalli #54. The Committee Chair: Br. Bill Walls #80, PGP (*pending an appointment by the GP*).

Nothing to report

- **Institute Journal Committee** – GD Board Appointment: Brother Mike Amato #613.
The Committee Chair is Br. Tom Fourie #32 BM/PGP.
 - ***Status of the next Lamp Post edition?***

Possible August issue

- **Laws and Revisions Committee** – GD Board Appointments: Brother Ed Silva #54 GD.
The Committee Chair is Br. Nick Franceschine, #54, PGP.
 - Any By-Law changes under review?

Nothing to review – Have not worked on anything since March

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

- **No Council of the Year nomination was submitted this year**

- **Membership Committee** – GD Board Appointments: Br. Danny Avila #44 & Br. Manuel Drumonde. The Committee Chair: Br. Billy Avery, #80 IPGP.

- *Should be working to review & implement LR Planning Committee recommendations for membership, among other ideas.*

2025-2026 Membership Committee Report:

Brothers of the YMI,

It has been very challenging working on ways to build membership for the YMI. I have worked with PGP Manuel Drumonde and GP Bill Walls mostly.

Several other brothers have expressed interest in helping with this important function, and I myself are planning to work on new things for the Future of the YMI.

The Committee has not had much meeting time, just sharing some ideas and thinking about what to do.

Br Manuel provided me with a copy of his councils Letter to new members, and he suggested that there be one for every council. When Council #44 initiates a new member, the new member is provided with the councils list of activities for the upcoming year. (As few or as many events as that may be) This allows new members to learn the way the council works and lets them think about ways to participate and assist. Council #2 has been very diligent about publishing a newsletter and sharing the happenings in San Jose, and it's time for the rest of the YMI to do likewise.

I am also part of the Technology Committee and I think that by using tech, we can make the YMI more appealing to younger members. I have had other suggestions from other brothers like Danny Avila from #44 Hilmar who is also and I would like to develop each idea and use the YMIUSA.ORG as an online link for brothers old and new. Just like we keep the Lamp Post available to read as desired, I feel that each council should assist with the development of a welcome letter that is tailored to their council that can be posted on the web-site for easy access. All the important documents like applications, limited contact information, etc. are already there and we have the ability to make it much more than that.

The Incoming GP Richard Murphy has contacted me and will keep me on as chairman of the membership committee for the new term. I plan to share my thoughts and work with Bro Gus Solidum, Clem Gusman, and the other members of technology as well as Br Dimech who is the contact for the web-site and start a promotion of "YMI At Your Fingertips" It's time the old guys of the YMI learn to make use of the Technology that we each carry in our pockets and learn to share the YMI with our fingers on our smart phones.

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- The YMI will have to get Smarter. Starting with our phones

- **Organization Committee** – GD Board Appointment: Br. Luis Alvarenga, #32 Committee Chair is Brother Michael Dimech #613 GS/PGP.
- Report was submitted for the Advanced Proceedings

- **Resolutions Committee** – GD Board Appointment: Brother Manuel Drumonde #80
PGP Committee Chair is Br. Alex Schmitt #8, PGD
- No resolutions have been received as of this date
- **Advanced Technology: Committee Chair & GD Board Appointment: Br Gus Solidum**
 - *The committee is intended to look at ways the YMI can use modern technologies to improve its operations and how it communicates information. Action should build off 2025 work.*
 - ***Did the Committee finalize its best practice document?***
- TAC updates
- Hawaii Council can now schedule Zoom to conduct meetings using the Grand Council Accounts
- Best practices, goals, behaviors will be provided at the Grand Council Sessions during the workshop
- Propose name change the by-laws terminology of the Advancement Technology
- Discuss the possibility of using Venmo
- Change YMI e-mail address to YMIusa1@gmail.com
- **Pro Deo Committee** – Board Appointment: Br. Mike Amato #613. Committee Chair is Brother Mario Balistreri #613 GSVP.
 - ***Report to be skipped as covered previously in the GSVP Report.***
- **Pro Patria** – GD Board Appointment: Br. Luis Alvarenga, #32. The Committee Chair is Brother Richard Murphy #32 GFVP.
 - ***Report to be skipped as covered previously in the GFVP Report.***
- **State of the Institute** – GD Board Appointment: Br. Danny Avila #44. Committee Chair is Brother Billy Avery #80 IPGP.
 - ***Report to be skipped as covered previously in the IPGP Report.***
- **Credentials Committee** – GD Board Appointment: Br. Ed Silva #54. The Committee Chair is Br. Mike Dimech #613 GS/PGP.
 - ***YMI Credentials prepared and will be handed out at the Grand Sessions this year***

- **Workshop Committee – GD Board Appointment: Brother Gus Solidum #94. The Committee Chair is the Grand Council Office.**

Br. Gus to go over best practices, goals, behaviors will be provided at the Grand Council Sessions

Reports from Sports Committees:

- **Golf – Br. Bob Fiorito #613/Br. Paul Larson #613 (April 19th) - Status**

Results of Golf Tournament to be discussed at the Grand Sessions

Bowling – This year's Bowling tournament is scheduled for May 17th

- **Flyer is on the website**
- **To be discussed at convention**
- **Council #32 and Council # 80 are sending in tow teams each**

Bocce Ball Tournament

- **This year's tournament is scheduled for October 3, 2026**
- **Flyer is on the website**

San Jose Minor League Baseball game – July 25th / 5:00 p.m.

Flyer is on the website

San Jose Giants vs. Ontario Tower Buzzers at Excite field

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

No Report

Good of the Order:

- **Mass / Luncheon Holy Rosary Council #44 – June 7, 2026
Celebrating Council's 75th year anniversary**
- **Chicken BBQ in July**
- **!OK in scholarship - Council #44**

Closing Prayer – Billy Avery #80

- Please keep in our prayers:
- Br. Gus' Mother-In-Law
- Br. Chris McCann for speedy recovery
- Fr. Agnel's Cousin

Next Meetings: *Potential Dates/Times*

- Grand Council Sessions June 15-17, 2026

Next Grand Director Meeting:

July 18th

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88576056258?pwd=fJPmcHltx2LY2a4x6CczS8Z5sPXwbj.1>

Meeting chat link

<https://us06web.zoom.us/jc/88576056258>

Meeting ID: 885 7605 6258

Passcode: 777777

Adjournment: 11:15 A.M.