

YOUNG MEN'S
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**YMI ST. JOHN BOSCO COUNCIL # 613
DECEMBER 2017 NEWSLETTER**

**Please join us at our next business meeting & dinner on ...
Dec. 12th (Tues) -7:00 p.m. @ St Cecilia's Green Room
Meal coordinated by Br. Paul Wuerstle
Business Meeting Item: Approve 2018 Budget/Set 2018 Dues**

President's Message

Brothers & Ladies of YMI #613...With December approaching, I am hoping to soon see a large volume of mail/e-mail containing applications and essays for our Jim Calabretta Essay Contest. While this usually means extra work for me in organizing the many essays into binders for our contest judges, I am motivated by the experience of witnessing the gleeful joy of the many students who realize that they have successfully earned a scholarship prize! There are still some days left, I kindly remind you to please give a final push to those students in your family to submit an essay. The odds of winning a prize is reasonably good (generally 5 out of 8 students win an award, and the chances are even better in the high school and college divisions!).

December also marks the time to celebrate **Christmas**. Accordingly, I am looking forward to see many of you at our annual **Christmas Party at Scoma's Restaurant on December 10th**, so that we can toast another successful year for our amazing council. As we have for many years now, YMI #613 continued its worthwhile endeavors into 2017 as follows:

- Issued \$15,500 in fifty scholarship prizes through our Jim Calabretta Essay Contest;
- Awarded six scholarships to 8th Grade students totaling \$3000 in our St John Bosco "Pro Deo, Pro Patria" Scholarship Program;
- Donated approximately \$7000 in cash to various church and community groups supporting religious and youth causes, as well as organizations helping the aged, disabled, or those struggling in poverty;
- Donated over 500 pounds of canned good and toiletries at our monthly meetings and council events for the Catholic Workers' Hospitality House in San Bruno;
- Sponsored 8 scholarship awards to seminarians via the YMI Seminarian Education Foundation totaling \$3700.

The above efforts are not possible without the support of the dedicated YMI #613 brothers! So as Christmas approaches, please know that I am very proud to be associated with a group of fine men who have clearly demonstrated Christmas spirit in being so generous and caring for the many who have benefitted from our great work!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to each one of you and your families!

Council News & Activities:

Christmas Party: Last call to sign up for the YMI #613 Christmas Party on **December 10th**. This year's Christmas Party will be held at highly rated **Scoma's Restaurant** at scenic **Fisherman's Wharf**. As you may recall, we enjoyed a fabulous banquet there on Ladies Night and we look forward to another wonderful meal. **Event details can be found in the attached event flyer.** **For questions or reservations, please contact Br. Dick Pisciotta at 415-334-6429.** Also, I kindly request we remember those in need this holiday season. **As has been our practice, we will have bins at the Christmas Party to collect canned goods and toiletries for the San Bruno Catholic Workers' Hospitality House. Please consider bringing a few items to toss into the bins so that the those in need can benefit from the spirit of Christmas.**

Jim Calabretta Essay Contest: The 15th essay contest final deadline is fast approaching. Essays are due by **December 4th**. For this year's contest, our prize fund is increased to \$17,000 with 50 scholarship awards available for students. **See the attached flyer for contest info and rules!** If any questions, feel free to contact **Br. Mike Amato at 650-871-9164.**

Grand President's Official Visit: **Grand President Mike Nelson** will be making his official visit to San Francisco, when he attends our 7:00 p.m. council meeting on January 9th. That evening, we will be joined by brothers from YMI Council #1 and #32 and we welcome the Grand President to share his message and YMI news. Please plan to attend this meeting!

St. John Bosco Feast Day Mass: Br. Cosmo Amato is coordinating details with Salesian religious to organize a Feast Day Mass Celebration for St. John Bosco on **January 28th at St's Peter & Paul Church**. The Mass will be at **8:45 a.m.** and we will be serving coffee and donuts to the parish community after the Mass. All YMI #613 brothers are encouraged to participate!

Supporters of YMI #613: I would like to take a moment and recognize two local businesses that have donated generous raffle prizes to YMI #613 for our Christmas Party raffle. We urge you to patronize these businesses:

- Scoma's Restaurant at Fisherman's Wharf
- Silver Cloud Restaurant & Bar in the Marina District

Meal Coordinators Needed for 2018: As many of you are aware, we have been rotating the task of bringing the meal for our brothers to share before our monthly business meeting. This approach has allowed us to share the work, while bringing in a variety of cuisines from various restaurants. As we come to the end of 2017, we have made good progress in getting YMI #613 brothers to sign up to be a coordinator. However, we still need meal coordinators for the following months: March, July, September, and December. YMI #613 will fully cover the dinner costs incurred and provide you a modest stipend for your efforts.

Birthdays: Happy Birthday wishes to the following YMI #613 Brothers who celebrate **December Birthdays:**

James O'Sullivan, Joseph Soracco, Nicholas Bruna, George Rehmet, Noel Laffey, Nickolas Varanis, Richard Pisciotta Jr., Rev. Andrew Spyrow, Rafael Guajardo, Liam Reidy

Monthly Reminders

YMI#613 Membership: Please consider bringing a relative, friend or neighbor to our next business meeting. **We will waive 2017 membership dues for any new member joining us in December, meaning that any new member can simply join us by paying 2018 dues in January.** This can be a great way to encourage a new member to check us out at a meeting and eventually become part of our brotherhood!

YMI#613 Charity: Please remember to bring canned goods or toiletries to our next business meeting. Our continuing efforts of collecting food and personal items at monthly business meetings and various council events have directly benefitted San Bruno's Catholic Hospitality Worker's House immensely. So far this year we have donated 800 lbs. of canned goods and toiletry items to San Bruno's Catholic Hospitality House

YMI Polo Shirts: If your YMI polo shirt has been misplaced or is looking worn, we do have spare shirts for purchase in a variety of sizes ranging from Small to 2XL. Shirts are just \$25 (cash or check payable to YMI #613). **(Ladies: this could be a great Christmas gift for your husbands!)** Contact **Br. Mike Amato at 650-871-9164** to order a shirt or see him before or after the meeting.

YMI #613 Calendar: Upcoming Meetings & Events:

December 10th (Sun) – YMI #613 Christmas Party @ Scoma's Restaurant in San Francisco)

**December 12th (Tues) – YMI #613 Meeting (7:00 p.m. @ St. Cecilia's Green Room).
Dinner coordinated by Br. Paul Wuerstle**

December 25th (Mon) - MERRY CHRISTMAS!

January 1st (Mon) - HAPPY NEW YEAR!

**January 9th (Tues) – YMI #613 Meeting (7:00 p.m. @ St. Cecilia's Green Room)
Special Meeting to welcome Grand President Mike Nelson on his official visit to SF
Dinner coordinated by Br. George Rehmet**

January 28th (Sun) – St. John Bosco Feast Day Mass (8:45 a.m @ Sts. Peter & Paul Church

January 31st (Wed) – ST. JOHN BOSCO FEAST DAY!

**February 13th (Tues) – YMI #613 Meeting (7:00 p.m. @ St. Cecilia's Green Room)
Dinner coordinated by Br. Ryan Casey**

March 10 (Sat) - YMI Red & White Mass @ Chowchilla, CA

**March 13th (Tues) – YMI #613 Meeting (7:00 p.m. @ St. Cecilia's Green Room)
Special Recruitment Meeting featuring Corned Beef Dinner coordinated by Br. ??????**