

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

Please join us at our next business meeting & dinner on ...

February 7th (Tues) -7:00 p.m. @ St Cecilia's Green Room

Dinner to be coordinated by Br. Art Jimenez. The meeting is expected to cover discussion of the new Student Award Program and provide updates on 2017 YMI #613 events.

President's Message

Brothers & Ladies of YMI #613.... Thank you to all of you who either attended and/or worked at the YMI Pasta Bingo dinner on January 14th. It was another terrific YMI event, which was chaired by our **Grand President, Br. Mike Dimech** and jointly supported by both South San Francisco Council #32 and St. John Bosco Council #613. We had 104 people in attendance (a 30% increase from last year) that evening and we did very well financially on behalf of the YMI Grand Council from dinner reservations, extra bingo card sales, the raffle, and bar collections. More importantly, the attendees were able to enjoy a wonderful pasta & meatball dinner, eight games of exciting bingo, and a nice evening of relaxing conversation and fun. **Br. Dimech** deserves a huge round of applause for his leadership in taking on this event. In addition, I wish to acknowledge **Br. Cosmo Amato, Br. Dick & Connie Pisciotta, Br. Bob Fiorito, Mara Amato** (my wife) and **Mia Soracco** (my personal raffle assistant) for their efforts in making the evening go so smoothly.

February is a rather light month for YMI #613 activities, but March resumes YMI events. First, there is a Red & White Mass in Santa Rosa on March 11th that will be hosted by Santa Rosa Council #40 this year. They are a terrific energetic council and I'm hoping we can send a large group there this year. In coordination with the YMI Grand Council, we are working out details to get a minibus to take us there and back. The event will begin with a procession of YMI Councils into the Church, followed by Mass and a tasty dinner. If interested, please contact **Br. Mike Amato (650-296-6297)** so I can add you to the bus list.

Second, we will be hosting our 14th Annual Essay Awards Banquet (hard to believe already 14!) on March 25th. All of you are invited to this banquet where 50 students will receive \$15,500 in scholarship awards from our council. While I enjoy all our events, I admit that the Essay Banquet is at the top of my list because it gives me great joy to see the many smiling faces of the students that evening, particularly when they hear their names called for a scholarship prize. Through this contest, we are providing many young people the opportunity to realize a personal accomplishment from the investment of time in preparing an essay! It is also gratifying to hear several students thank me later as young working adults, and sharing how our contest provided them a boost of confidence and self-esteem to excel in their academic careers.

Council News & Activities:

February Meeting Change: IMPORTANT! Since the 2nd Tuesday in February falls on Valentine's Day and our meeting attendance is likely to be affected adversely by husbands not wanting to upset their Valentines, we will move the February business meeting up one week to **Tuesday, February 7th**. Please make a note of it.

March Meeting: Our **March Business Meeting (March 14th) will be a Membership Recruiting event.** We invite **all YMI #613 brothers to bring a non-member guest (or more)** to this recruiting-oriented event to help bolster membership in our council. We plan to begin the evening with a corned beef and cabbage dinner, followed by introductions of prospective members. We will abbreviate the business meeting that night so we can enjoy more of a social evening and hopefully initiate many new members for YMI #613.

Red & White Mass: As discussed above, we hope you attend the Red & White Mass on March 11th. To make reservations to attend, please go the YMI Website at www.ymiusa.org to download a reservation form or alternately just come to our next YMI #613 business meeting. The cost is just \$20 per person. Also, if you would like to join us on a minibus to travel there, please let me know. (As there is a space limit, it will be first come, first served). We estimate the bus costs to be between \$10-20 per person at this time and it will be leaving from All Souls in South San Francisco.

Jim Calabretta Essay Contest: We have received 64 essays this year for our annual essay contest (15 college, 19 high school, & 30 middle school). At this time, the judges are nearing completion of their scoring of the essays. By early February, we plan to send out invitations to the essay banquet to those students scoring well enough to earn a prize. This year's banquet will be held on March 25th (6:30 p.m.) at Sts. Peter & Paul's Church Auditorium. **Br. Rod Ordon** is again serving as our banquet chair and he has managed to assemble the talented team of cooks from the **Campus/Goultas/Bottarini** clan. **See the attached event flyer for reservation information.** If questions about the essay contest, contact **Br. Mike Amato (650-296-6297)** and for the banquet, please contact **Br. Rod Ordon (415-928-3355).**

Family Mass: Please save the morning of **Sunday March 19th** to attend the Family Mass at St. Cecilia's Church that the YMI and YLI are assigned to coordinate. Besides handling the reading and the offertory, we will serve coffee and donuts afterwards. (We also have been assigned June 25th). If you can help, please let **Br. Mike Amato (650-296-6297)** know.

2017 Dues: IMPORTANT! In mid-December, you should have received a notice from our Treasurer that your 2017 YMI membership dues are owed. **Dues are \$62 for Benefit Members and \$50 for Associate Members.** As compared to other organization, this is a modest membership price. To avoid us incurring unnecessary postage costs and adding to the work of our Treasurer in having to send additional notices, please make your 2017 dues payment today. If questions, please contact **Br. Cosmo Amato (415-392-3560)**. Checks should be made payable to **YMI #613** and sent to our mailing address:

**YMI St John Bosco Council #613, c/o Sts. Peter & Paul Church,
666 Filbert St,
San Francisco CA 94133.**

Pro Patria Raffle: While we're talking about money, please don't forget to send in your YMI raffle tickets by early March. Although our council currently has the highest percentage of sales at 31%, we are below last year's level of 55%. Thank you for your generosity, as the raffle ticket proceeds support the scholarship prizes of the YMI Grand Council Essay Contest.

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

**Grant Young, Mario Balistreri, Paul Zarich, Kevin Soracco,
John Smith, Stephen Goulding, Nick Goultas**

Monthly Reminders

Sponsor a New Member- Please consider sponsoring a new member and sharing the opportunity of participating in the YMI brotherhood. Besides being part of an organization that does great work for our faith and community demonstrated by the fact that we contributed nearly \$25,000 in donations and scholarships each year, new members will be able to participate in many fun, social events (e.g. dinners, sports tourneys, picnics). **Note: our March meeting will be a membership recruitment event.**

#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. In 2016, we donated an estimated 810 lbs. of canned goods, fruit and toiletry items. So far this year we have donated 65 lbs. to San Bruno's Catholic Hospitality House.

YMI #613 Calendar: Upcoming Meetings & Events:

February 7th (Tues) - YMI #613 Meeting (7:00 p.m. @ St. Cecilia's Green Room).
Note Date Change Dinner coordinated by Br. Art Jimenez

February 14th – VALENTINE'S DAY

March 11th (Sat) – YMI Red & White Mass (@ Santa Rosa)

March 14th (Tues) – Special YMI #613 Membership Recruitment Meeting
(7:00 p.m. @ St. Cecilia's Green Room).
Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner coordinated by Br. John Smith

March 19th (Sun) – YMI/YLI Family Mass (9:30 a.m., @ St. Cecilia's Church)

March 25th (Sat) – Jim Calabretta Essay Contest Banquet
(6:30 p.m. @ Sts. Peter & Paul's Church)

April 11th (Tues) – YMI #613 Meeting (7:00 p.m. @ St. Cecilia's Green Room)
Dinner coordinated by Br. Rod Ordon

April 16th – HAPPY EASTER!

April 30th (Sun) – YMI Golf Tourney (11:00 a.m. @ Manteca Muni Golf Course)

May 7th (Sun) – YMI Bowling Tournament (12:30 p.m. @ Stockton's Pacific Lanes)

May 7th (Sun) Ladies Night (tentative date)

June 19th-21st – YMI Grand Council Sessions (@Mont Bleu Hotel, South Lake Tahoe)

June 25th (Sun) – YMI/YLI Family Mass (9:30 a.m., @ St. Cecilia's Church)