



**YMI ST. JOHN BOSCO COUNCIL # 613
DECEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER**

Please join us at our next business meetings on ...

December 10th (Tues) 7:00 p.m. @ St Cecilia's Green Room
Dinner organized by Br. Paul Wuerstle
Meeting to cover 2020 Budget and Dues

President's Message

Brothers & Friends of YMI St. John Bosco Council #613.... As I prepare this newsletter, Thanksgiving is fast approaching and we are beginning to get ready for the Christmas season (e.g. stringing Christmas lights, ordering Christmas cards, etc.). It's hard to believe another year is nearly over, but I am looking very forward to the holidays because it is an opportunity to gather with family and share love and gratitude.

Before the year ends, let me take this opportunity to personally invite all of you to our annual **Christmas Party on December 15th (see details below)**. I am excited by the upcoming party, because it gives us an opportunity to gather and celebrate another successful year for YMI #613. Collectively, we have done an amazing amount of awesome work during 2019, most notably providing generous scholarship assistance and charity in excess of \$30,000! As has been the tradition, I plan to recap our impressive deeds during my remarks at the party.

For those that are unable to come to the **Christmas Party** or the next business meeting, please let me extend a **Merry Christmas and Happy New Year** to each one of you and your families.

Council News & Activities:

Christmas Party: YMI #613 annual Christmas Party will again be held at Dominic's Restaurant at Oyster Point (911 Marina Blvd, So SF) on **Sunday December 15th, starting at 6:00 p.m. for cocktails and 7:00 p.m. for dinner**. Dinner will feature salad, pasta and a choice of entrées (prime rib, chicken marsala, or salmon). We have held the event price at last year's level (\$55 per person for YMI members & one guest), so please make your reservations **before December 7th**. Of course, we will hold our spectacular Christmas party raffle afterwards, as well as hear our President go over the year's successes. **See the attached flyer**. If questions, please contact **Br. Dick Pisciotta at 415-334-6429 or Br. Cosmo Amato at 415-392-3560**.

Jim Calabretta Essay Contest: The deadline for our 17th annual essay contest is coming up really soon.....**December 3rd**. Please remind students in your families to prepare and submit their 300-word essays before the deadline. Essays may be submitted by e-mail or regular mail. The contest prize fund is \$20,000, with 55 cash prizes to be distributed among the three student divisions. If questions, please contact **Br. Mike Amato at 650-296-6297**.

Pro Patria Raffle/Essay Contest: Please take a few moments to submit your YMI raffle tickets sent on September 1st with a check to the YMI Grand Council Office. About 25% of our members have already purchase tickets but I would like to see this percentage over 50%. **See the attached sheet for raffle tickets.** Moreover, please encourage students you know to participate also in the **YMI Pro Patria Essay Contest**, which is a separate contest from the Jim Calabretta one. The YMI Pro Patria Essay Contest has a January 15th deadline and seeks a 500-word essay. You may download the entry application with contest rules and information from the YMI website at www.ymiusa.org. **Remember the YMI raffle proceeds support the Pro Patria Essay Contest prize fund, so your generosity ultimately benefits the youth!**

YMI Pasta Bingo: Thank you to all the YMI #613 brothers and families that attended our YMI Pasta Bingo event on November 16th! We had over 100 people in attendance, as many people submitted reservations during the week preceding the event, including several who came the day of the event. Grand President Mike Thissen of YMI #94 graced us with his presence travelling all the way from Chowchilla, and we were joined by brothers from YMI #1 and #32. All attendees enjoyed a great pasta dinner, ten games of bingo, and a generous raffle that evening! The event was quite profitable raising much needed funds for Pro Patria Essay Contest prize fund. We thank **Br. Mike Dimech** for his leadership in chairing this annual YMI event, as well as express gratitude to the several YMI #613 brothers who helped with the set-up and operations (**Brothers Bob Fiorito, Joe Sorocco, Jeff Morrow, Cosmo & Mike Amato**) as well as to those wonderful YMI #613 wives that helped served food (**Jeanne Dimech, Mara Amato, & Gloria Bertolozzi**).

Meal Coordinators Needed for 2020: Thank you to the YMI#613 brothers that signed up at our November meeting to coordinate dinner arrangements for our upcoming 2020 business meetings. We are still in need of brothers to coordinate the following three business meetings:

- March
- April
- October

If you're willing to coordinate dinner arrangements for one of these 2020 meetings, please contact **Br. Mike Amato at 650-296-6297** or let him know at the December business meeting. YMI #613 will cover the costs of the dinner and provide a modest stipend to the dinner coordinator for handling the task.

Grand President Visit: **Grand President Mike Thissen** will be making his official visit to the San Francisco area YMI Councils on **January 14th**. That evening, we will gather in the **St. Cecilia Lower Church** with our YMI brothers from Council #1 and #32 to hear from the Grand President and other officers of the YMI Grand Council. Please plan to attend that business meeting.

Birthdays: Happy Birthday to the following YMI #613 Brothers celebrating birthdays in December:

John Daly, James O'Sullivan, Joseph Soracco, Nicholas Bruna, George Rehmet, Frederick Dayoan, Noel Laffey, Bill Strachan, Nickolas Varanis, Richard Pisciotta Jr., Fr. Andrew Spyrow, Rafael Guajardo, Liam Reidy, James Medeiros

Monthly Reminders

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. **In 2019, we have donated so far approximately 1,025 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 or faded, we do have spare YMI shirts for purchase in a variety of sizes ranging from Small to 2XL. Shirts are just \$25 (*cash or check payable to YMI #613*). 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 (Tues) – YMI #613 Meeting (7:00 p.m. @ St. Cecilia's Green Room)
Dinner coordinated by Br. Paul Wuerstle

December 15th (Sun) – YMI #613 Christmas Party
(6:00 p.m. @ Dominic's Restaurant in South San Francisco)

January 14th (Tues) – YMI #613 Meeting (7:00 p.m. @ St. Cecilia's Lower Church)
Grand President Mike Thissen Official Visit to SF YMI Councils
Dinner coordinated by Br. Cosmo & Mike Amato

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