



**YMI ST. JOHN BOSCO COUNCIL # 613
APRIL 2020 NEWSLETTER**

The April 14th Meeting is cancelled due to a shelter in place directive issued concerning the Corona Virus pandemic.

President's Message

Brothers & Friends of YMI #613.....I hope you and your family are holding up reasonably well during this virus ordeal that we are experiencing together. As covered below, **all YMI events planned for mid-March to the end of April 2020 have been cancelled.** This includes the Red & White Mass, our April business meeting, and the Jim Calabretta Awards Ceremony. For our planned events to be held in May, we will likely make an announcement by mid-April on whether these events will be held as planned, postponed, or cancelled.

As you shelter in place in your homes, please remember to pray that the number of people affected by the virus begins to diminish, that those people already afflicted recover fully and quickly, and that life returns to normal.

Council News & Activities:

Jim Calabretta Essay Contest: Initially, we had postponed our **17th Essay Award Ceremony** from Sunday March 29th to Sunday April 26th in response to government, archdiocesan, and public health directives urging people to shelter in place and to not gather together during the Corona Virus pandemic. However, as the situation has unfortunately continued, we have **cancelled the awards ceremony** altogether. We are currently working on a Plan B, but we will likely use the U.S. Mail to send all 62 students their prize and certificate of merit by mid to late April. A complete copy of the winner's list will be provided in the next newsletter. If there are any questions, you may contact **Br. Mike Amato at 650-296-6297 or Br. Rod Ordon at 415- 928-3355.**

Red & White Mass/Dinner: The YMI Red & White Mass/Dinner that had been scheduled for March 14th was cancelled in response to the previously mentioned directives regarding the Corona Virus. This was truly disappointing as Council #54 had spent much time preparing and we were all looking forward to attending this event. Those YMI #613 brothers that submitted a check for the bus fee should be aware that the checks were torn up and will not be cashed!

Pro Patria Raffle: As the Grand First Vice President and YMI Pro Patria chair, let me begin by sharing my deep gratitude to the YMI #613 brothers who actively supported the YMI raffle ticket drive. We had a very impressive 57% participation rate among the YMI #613 brothers buying raffle tickets! With the strong support of YMI #613, as well as many YMI Councils and YMI Institutes, we were able to raise a total of **\$17,140** this year, which was over **\$5,000** more than my goal and about **\$7,500 more than last year's proceeds!** The surplus funds will be placed in the YMI Pro Patria Account and will be available next year for a potentially larger prize fund!

Although we were unable to hold the raffle at the Red & White Dinner as is the custom, we did draw eight raffle tickets the following week during the YMI Grand Director Meeting. Let me extend congratulations to **Br. Rod Ordon** for winning the **7th place award of \$100!**

Pro Patria Essay Contest: As the Pro Patria chair, my other major duty is to oversee the Pro Patria Essay Contest that is offered by our YMI Order in the territories of all 21 of our YMI Councils. This year we received about 1000 essay submissions from students in Grades 7-8 to Grades 9-12. Each essay was read by three judges independently, so consequently we needed a TON of help from people to read and rate each essay. Thankfully, the brothers and family members of YMI #32 and #613 responded to my call for help and volunteered their personal time to judge essays! Thank you to the following people associated with YMI #613 for helping me with the contest judging:

Br. Mike Dimech

Br. Reggie Calaguas

Mara Amato (wife)

Br. John Kavanagh

Cynthia Bringas

Br. George Rehmet

Yvonne & Mia Soracco

As far as the Pro Patria essay contest, YMI #613 did quite well! **Eight of the 30 contest winners were sponsored by YMI #613**, with 5 of the students hailing from nearby Archbishop Riordan High School! Great job Crusaders! Of special note, I would like to congratulate the following:

- **Br. Jack Kavanaugh** of St Ignatius (a Junior YMI member & son of **Br. John Kavanaugh**) for finishing in 2nd place in the HS Division of the Pro Patria Contest and winning \$750. Br. Jack has a writing talent as he has finished in 2nd last year too and has done quite well in our own Jim Calabretta Essay Contest. Outstanding! *(Note: his dad Br. John Kavanaugh did not judge the HS division of the Pro Patria Contest, so there was no conflict of interest!).*
- **Shane Reidy** of University High School (son of **Br. Liam Reidy**) for finishing in 8th place in the HS Division of the Pro Patria Contest and winning \$150. Great job!

A copy of the Pro Patria Essay Contest winner's list is attached.

Ladies Day: Our annual **Ladies Night** event is currently scheduled for **May 3rd** at **Bertolucci's Restaurant**. **See the attached event flyer.** Please consider coming and treating your special lady out to an enjoyable dinner with many good friends! We have kept the price reasonable holding it to last year's level. YMI widows remain free! Please contact **Br. Bob Fiorito at 650-650-777-4301** if any questions concerning this event. *Alas, the event may have to be rescheduled if the restaurant is not allowed to seat guests, given the current Corona Virus restrictions. Stay tune for more info!*

Golf Tourney: For those wanting to play in the YMI Golf Tourney, it is currently scheduled for **May 31st** to be held at **Santa Rosa's Bennet Valley Golf Course**. The golf fee is \$100 per player, which includes a cart and dinner. As has been our practice, YMI #613 will subsidize a large amount of the golf fee. Please contact **Br. Bob Fiorito at 650-650-777-4301** if there are any questions concerning this event. *Alas this event is also subject to change, as Bay Area golf courses have been ordered to be closed during the pandemic. Stay tune for more info!*

Convention Delegates: At this time, the YMI Convention is presently scheduled to be held on June 22-24th in Reno, Nevada. We are hopeful that we can proceed with this event. In the meantime, we are in the process of selecting delegates in response to my request for volunteers that was sent out last week via e-mail to the YMI #613 brothers.

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

**William Farac, Rev. Nicholas Reina, John Campus,
Frank Cisek, Steve Welch, Jack Kavanaugh**

YMI #613 Calendar: Upcoming Meetings & Events

Apr 14th – #613 Business Meeting is cancelled

*May 3rd – Ladies Night @ Bertolucci's Restaurant
(event subject to possible postponement/cancellation)*

*May 12th – #613 Business Meeting Green Rm. (Dinner: J. Kavanagh):
Nominations & Elections*

*May 31st - YMI Golf Tourney@ Bennett Valley Golf Course in Santa Rosa
(event subject to possible postponement/cancellation)*

June 8th – #613 Business Meeting @ Green Rm (Dinner: M Dimech)

June 22nd to 24th – YMI Convention @ Reno, Nevada

June 28th– YLI/YMI Family Mass @ St. Cecilia Church

July 14th – #613 Business Meeting @ Green Rm (Dinner: M Baliststreri)

July 18th- Grand President Congratulations Dinner @ St. Cecilia Lower Church

Aug 11th – #613 Business Meeting @ Green Rm (Dinner: M Delaurenti)

Aug 16th – YMI Summer Picnic @ Junipero Serra Park

Sept 8th – #613 Business Meeting @ Green Room (Dinner: K. Roche)

Sept 26- YMI Bocce Ball Tourney @ Orange Park

Oct 11 – Italian Heritage Parade @ SF's North Beach

Oct 13th – #613 Business Meeting @ Green Room (Dinner: J. Madrid)

Nov 8th – Hour of Memory @ SF Italian Athletic Club

Nov 10th – #613 Business Meeting @ Green Room (Dinner: M Amato)

Nov?? – YMI Pasta Bingo

Dec 13th – Christmas Party @ Dominic's Oyster Point

Dec 15th – #613 Business Meeting @ Green Room (Dinner: P. Wuerstle)