



## GRAND PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



### Grand President's Message

Greetings my Brothers,

Thank you for putting your trust in me to lead the YMI for another year. I had not planned on serving a second year, but our system of governance requires serving through the Chairs. We had a glitch this year, but with your help, we are going to work through it. It was a pleasure to see several new faces at the Grand Council Session in Reno and I look forward to more participation in Grand

Council events as the coming year unfolds.

For those of you who are new members of the YMI, I want to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My wife Sylvia and I met in high school and were married after we graduated from college. We have been married 37 years and have two children, Sarah and Matt. Between them we have six grandchildren. I am a convert to Catholicism, having converted after our children were born. I consider that to be one of the greatest blessings in my life. It always amazes me that so many "cradle Catholics" don't understand or appreciate the blessings of being raised Catholic. I have had a varied work career (Sylvia says I have a short attention span). My degree is in Agriculture and I have worked as a farm manager, the safety director for the local frozen food plant, a firefighter, a politician, and I am currently self-employed as an environmental assessor for commercial real estate transactions.

I would like to thank those who have helped me on my YMI journey. I have been a member of St. Christopher Council #80 in Atwater, CA for 22 years. Thanks to the encouragement of brothers like PGP Larry Silva, PGP Rudy Albritton, and PGP Luther Evans, I stepped forward to move up the ladder.



I also want to thank those of you who have helped me this past year as I tried to figure out what exactly I was supposed to do. Chief among these is Bro. Tom Fourie. As Business Manager, he is a great asset to our organization and it would have been difficult to accomplish what I did without his help.

I especially want to thank the District Deputy Grand Presidents. These men serve as my "eyes and ears". I have asked a lot of them and they have not disappointed.

My journey this past year took me across the breadth of YMI territory as I traveled from Indiana in the east and Hawaii in the west along with the length of California. I have met many wonderful Brothers who embody the spirit of the Young Men's Institute. That is one of the things we really need to work on. We all know brothers and councils who are YMI in name, we need them to be YMI in spirit also.

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Grand 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Michael Amato #613  
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[www.ymiusa.org](http://www.ymiusa.org)

### **Continued from page 1**

One thing I want to ask of you, please be on the lookout for Brothers who have the potential to be Grand Officers. I don't want us to wait until June to scramble to find someone to fill the Grand Second VP seat. Men who are capable to fill the role are out there, they just need to be asked.

Official Grand Officer council visits are one of the ways Grand Council keeps in touch with individual Councils. I have found that many councils aren't even aware that they should be asking the Grand President to visit them. If your Council hasn't yet scheduled me for an Official Visit, please encourage your President to give me a call.

I encourage you to please check the YMI website from time to time. The Grand Secretary has done a great job in providing plenty of information. If you have Facebook, please "Like" the Young Men's Institute page.

I didn't see any need to write a new Grand President's Program as last year's program could really be used for several years. I have modified it somewhat, but it is essentially the same. I encourage you read it and see where you fit into it. We need your help if YMI is to not only survive, but to thrive.

The common theme of past Grand President Programs has been "moving forward". But how do we do that if we don't know where we have been? We need to ask ourselves "who are we and what is our purpose"?

### **Our Purpose**

Our purpose is three-fold: Faith, Patriotism and Fraternalism.

- Faith - We pledge ourselves to be practicing Catholics and we are active participants supporting our parishes.
- Patriotism - We love our country, respect its laws and show our public support for America by voting, flying our flags and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance at each meeting.
- Fraternalism - As members of the YMI, we extend our hand to each other in brotherly love and call each other "brother". Family and family values are important to us, so our families are included in many of our functions.

That is why we are here and involved in the YMI. But we must move beyond just that. How do we do this? I believe a look at our Mission Statement provides a clue.

**Continued on page 3**

## **Our Mission**

The Mission of the YMI is to provide for the mutual aid and good will, the moral, intellectual and social improvement of Its members, devotion to the Catholic Church, and loyalty to our country in accordance with its motto: "Pro Deo, Pro Patria - For God, For Country." To achieve this mission, the YMI dedicates Itself to the education of its members in all things Catholic, in all things American and in all things that will lead all men to their ultimate salvation.

## **Mutual Aid and Good Will**

Mutual aid is a term first coined in 1530 and is the cooperative as opposed to the competitive factors operating in the development of society. Good will is defined as friendly disposition, benevolence and kindness. For our use, both can refer to the support we give each other as Brothers of the fraternity and the support individual Councils give to each other and to the Grand Council.

When was the last time your Council went as a group to a neighboring Council either for their monthly meeting or to one of their fundraisers? When was the last time you came to a Grand Council social event such as bowling, bocce ball, or the Pasta Bingo dinner? These are examples of mutual aid and promote good will among Brothers. I encourage you to attend Grand Council events and I especially encourage you to consider visiting other Councils. It might be what struggling Councils need for them to realize they are part of a larger group. A group that wants them to succeed.

## **Moral, Intellectual, and Social Improvement**

How can we as YMI members become better Men of God? How do we show our fellow parishioners that being a YMI Brother has helped us improve morally, intellectually, and socially? Do we do that by talking bad about our Brothers or do we do it by supporting our Brothers on their Journey to become better men and better Catholics?

Listening to the homily on Sunday and then going back to our secular life on Monday morning has never been the answer. There are a variety of ways to improve ourselves. Have you thought about what you can do during the week to strengthen your faith life such as watching EWTN when you get home, listening to Catholic radio on your way to work, or reading the Daily Mass readings?

Has your Council thought about partnering with other parish groups to sponsor a parish retreat or Dynamic

Catholic book giveaway at Easter? In this era of decreased participation nationwide in fraternal groups, partnerships are a way we can all benefit to strengthen our local parishes and, in tum, promote the YMI.

## **Devotion to the Catholic Church**

What does devotion mean? Devotion is an earnest attachment or a profound dedication to a cause or person. One cannot be considered a true member of the YMI without a devotion to the Catholic Church. Our meetings begin and end with prayer. Our Councils regularly contribute to their respective parishes. Our members actively participate in parish activities, ministries, etc. Is that enough? Each Brother must answer that for himself and Councils need to figure that out collectively.

## **Loyalty to Our Country**

All Brothers I have met, regardless of their political ideology, have a deep, abiding loyalty to the United States. How can we show and encourage others in our parishes to do the same?

## **Member Education - Catholic, American, and Our Ultimate Salvation**

We should always consider ourselves to be "lifelong learners". It seems that many of us have only a rudimentary knowledge of our faith. We learned what we know during catechism classes in grade school and then we stopped. Our ultimate salvation depends on the recognition of squaring our actions with the requirements of our Faith. Everything in Christian life - from our ethical behavior, to prayer, to the liturgy, to the works of justice - all of It Is meant to lead us to our ultimate salvation. Member education on how to be better Catholics and better Americans can help each of us reach that goal. So, listen to the voice of the Shepherd and follow him wherever he goes.

## **In Conclusion**

I cannot tell you how to implement these ideas in your individual Councils, but I encourage each Council to choose at least one of them to see how they can implement them into the "culture" of their individual Councils. By strengthening our individual Councils, we strengthen the YMI organization. If we want the YMI to continue through the 21<sup>st</sup> century, all of us, from our newest to our most senior member, must play a part in making that happen. By working together, we can keep our noble organization strong and headed to future success.

# From the Podium



## 133<sup>rd</sup> Grand Council Session

I have been given the duty to write a recap of our recent Grand Council Session in Reno as I am wearing two hats at present, that of GP and Junior Past GP.

First off, I want to first thank the Grand Council Session Planning Committee. Brothers Tom Fourie, #32 Michael Amato, #613 Bob Bartoli, #32 and Richard Pisciotta, #613 and their wives Pat, Mara, Nancy and Connie did an outstanding job preparing for the Session. Many of you are probably unaware of how much work and preparation goes into the planning of our yearly Session. There are many meetings and phone calls with the Planning Committee members and a great deal of work goes into assembling and mailing the Advance Proceedings which this year was 116 pages long. Also, thank you to Dick and Connie Pisciotta# 613, for their efforts with our daily 50/50 raffle. This year's proceeds of \$1,245 were given to the Santa Rosa Council #40 fire relief effort. In addition, the lucky winner graciously donated his winnings to the Santa Rosa Council.

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At this year's Session, **55 delegates attended from 17 of our 22 Councils**. This appears to be about average. We had four first-time delegates in attendance, but we need to improve that. Five Councils did not send any delegates. A Resolution was passed (discussion elsewhere) that may help with increasing Council participation in the Grand Council Session. If you were a delegate and enjoyed this year's Sessions and the time you spent in Reno, please let your fellow Brothers know. Maybe next year we can increase the attendance.

Our time in Reno began with an opening and remembrance ceremony and Mass at Immaculate Conception Church on Monday evening. It was a very nice Mass where we paid tribute to our past, present, and future Brothers. The Mass was a great way to begin our Session. A fine pasta meal was prepared by the Parish Council of Immaculate Conception Church and our brothers and families appeared to have enjoyed themselves.

Tuesday morning, we had a great breakfast (in fact, all the food served at the El Dorado was great) and Grand Second Vice President Mike Thissen, #94 provided us with some wonderful words of wisdom about the YMI.

Our session began later that morning with the Call to Order followed by the Opening Prayer by Fr. Agnel de Heredia, #32 and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Grand Marshall Bro. Bill Avery, #80. The Rules of the Session were read by Grand Secretary, Michael Amato. A motion was made, and the Rules were passed unanimously. Following this motion, we proceeded to discuss any unfinished business from the 132<sup>nd</sup> Grand Session. The Grand Secretary reported there were no unfinished items.

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The Grand President then appointed the following Brothers to fill in the unoccupied seats of Grand Council: Bros. Kelly Cox, #44 and Steve Ortiz, #80 to the Grand Board of Directors. Bro. Gary Frago, #80 to the seat of Grand First Vice President.

The Credential Committee Chairman, Michael Amato provided us with his report and was followed by the announcement that this year's charity box will be going to the Santa Rosa Council #40 fire relief effort. Br. Tom then welcomed all the delegates on behalf of the Planning Committee and made some announcements regarding the day's events.

Grand Chaplain Fr. Angel, # 32 welcomed everyone to the Session. In his presentation he spoke about the youth in our society. He told a story about a silent child who was thinking. Youth today are so busy texting and focused on modern communications. He went on, "too often we are hearing about gun shootings. Is it guns or is it something more that is causing all these shootings to occur? Just a question of when or where. What are we doing about it?" He wrapped up by asking, "What kind of legacy are we leaving our children?" The delegates gave Father Agnel applause for providing an excellent presentation.

Following Fr. Agnel's remarks we proceeded with the nominations of the Grand Council Officers. A motion was made and seconded that the Grand Secretary cast a ballot for all the uncontested offices and they be declared elected by acclamation. The motion passed unanimously.

Grand Treasurer Br. Jack Albrecht, #1 presented the 2018-2019 YMI budget. He reviewed all the accounts of planned expenditures. He noted that the total budget being proposed was basically the same as the year previous. For the State of the Institute report, Grand Secretary Michael Amato spoke on behalf of JPGP Michael Dimech who was visiting Malta

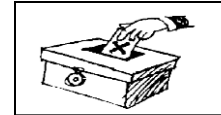
and presented the State of the Institute Report. Brother Amato read the first proposal concerning the change of Council delegates to the Grand Council Session. Only one comment was made by delegates present and that comment was in support of the proposal.

Brother Amato read the second proposal concerning financial assistance from Grand Council to Councils sending delegates to the Grand Council Session. There were a few comments on the proposal and they were generally in support of the proposal. Brother Phil Oberst #32, PGP asked what potential impact this proposal would have on the reserve fund if passed. He received a response that the estimate would be \$8000 maximum per year.

**Grand Council Committee Reports were presented. A few items of note:**

1. There were no applications submitted this year for Council of the Year. This was very disappointing as the application process is easy and only requires a Council to fill out the form found on both the website and in the Lamp Post. Hopefully this will encourage you to have your Council apply this coming year.
2. The Grand President thanked all his District Deputy Grand Presidents for being the eyes and ears of the Grand President. Special recognition was given to Cosmo Amato #613, DDGP for his outstanding reporting the past year.
3. The Pro Patria Committee reported that raffle ticket sales this past year were well below average and essay entries were half of what they have been in recent years. Every Council and every member is encouraged to do their part in ticket sales.

It was announced by the Grand Secretary that the Board of Directors had met with their newly elected members earlier in the day. It was reported that Bro. Bob Fiorito, #613 was elected to serve again as Chairman of the Board and that Mario DeVita, #1 was elected as Vice-Chairman.



**Balloting was conducted for the two State of the Institute proposals.**

After our meeting ended for the day, many Brothers, friends and family members partook in a dinner at Louis' Basque Corner, a short walk from the hotel. It was a great evening to relax and bond with our Brothers.

We resumed our session Wednesday morning with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. We heard the results from our Election Committee made up of Jim Rohe, #612 and Tommy Figueira, #573. The State of the Institute proposals were overwhelmingly approved.

We later had a very productive workshop given by Business Manager Bro. Tom Fourie, #32.

Bro. Michael Sanzeri, # 59 gave us a report on this year's bowling tournament. Bro. Michael Amato, #613, substituting for Chairman Mike Dimech, reported on the Bocce Ball tournament. Bro. Bob Fiorito, #613 recapped the success of the Golf Tournament. The proceeds from the tournament went towards the Santa Rosa Council #40 fire relief effort. Over \$8,000 was raised and given to Council #40.

**Bro. Nick Franceschine, Chairman of the Resolutions Committee read the three resolutions:**

1. Resolution for Bishop William Justice #32, on his golden anniversary of ordination to the priesthood.
2. Resolution for Mary Beth Wilson for her work and effort on the YMI Website.
3. Resolution for Nancy Bartoli for her many years of behind the scenes work to support Officers and Grand Council of the YMI.

Grand President Mike Nelson, #80 was then introduced as the YMI President for 2018-2019 and was greeted with applause from all the delegates in attendance. Bro. Nelson stated that he was honored to become the YMI President (again) and provided us with his opening remarks and vision for the YMI. Bro. Nelson then Installed the District Deputy Grand Presidents for the coming year.

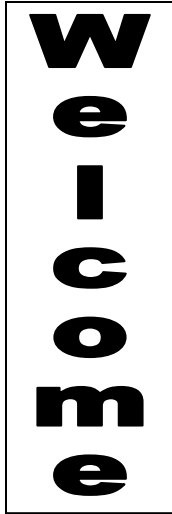
First-time delegates were invited to the microphone to give their impressions of being a delegate. Comments were generally positive with the feeling that Grand Council has a lot going on.

In closing, it has been an honor to serve as your YMI Grand President for the past year and I look forward to improving upon that this coming year.

**Pro Deo, Pro Patria  
Mike Nelson  
Grand President**

## NEW MEMBERS

<i>Member</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Council</i>
Frank Bastoni	Bob Vidalin	40
John Fitzgerald	Harry Licursi	40
John McHugh	Jack Tolin	40
Hilario Sandoval-Herrera	Angel Vera	40
Rafael Garcia	Rob Laxner	59
Dave Ragni	Paul Larson & Mark Schwery	32
Marc Azevedo	Steve Azevedo	40
Michael Lynch	Steve Azevedo	40
Rene R usalcava	Matt Nelson	80
William Strachan	Michael Amato	613
James Carbon	Al Colarusso	32
Randy Edwards	Manuel Drumonde	44
Chad Parreira	Matt Nelson	80
David Bennett	Paul DeMartini	613
John Ortiz	Steve Ortiz	80



## EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION MEMORIALS/DONATIONS

**Richard Barsi:** South San Francisco Council #32

**Eleanor Enea:** Thomas and Rosanne Figueira, Erlinda Serrao, John West, Jim and Helen Mullen, Frank DiMaggio, YMI Education Foundation

**Julia Padreddi:** Steve and Linda Cresci

**Joseph Todd:** Gonzaga Council #612

**Anthony Vierra:** Holy Rosary Council #44

**Thank you, Ron and LaVonne Brooks,:** YMI Grand Council



All YMI Brothers, family members and friends are thanked for their generous contributions to the Educational Foundation. We also acknowledge everyone's minimum donation of \$10 towards the requested Mass.

## IN MEMORIAM

<i>Member</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Council</i>
Richard D. Barsi	03-30-2018	32
Patrick J. Callagy	04-11-2018	1
Joseph Cardoza	04-09-2018	2
Chester Aioldi	04-18-2018	13
Salvatore De Carlo	04-29-2018	2
.Leo Rossi	04-10-2018	613
Paul Domergue	07-09-2018	1
Norman Gonsalves	10-2017	16
Anthony Vierra	05-27-2018	44

## NO COUNCIL OF THE YEAR IN 2018

The YMI “Council of the Year” Award was not presented at the 133<sup>rd</sup> Grand Council Session in Reno, Nevada, as no nominations were submitted to the Committee. Despite the application form being in the YMI “Lamp Post” and on the YMI website, no YMI Brother took the time to complete the rather short application form to nominate a worthy Council. With no nominations to consider, the Committee reported at the Grand Council Session in Reno that it could not issue the award in 2018.

The YMI “Council of the Year” Award is a fairly recent award initiated by the Board of Grand Directors in 2015. The award recognizes several criteria including:

- participation in YMI Grand Council events/activities, including the Pro Patria raffle
- demonstration of being an active YMI Council with various events/activities and fundraising activities
- successful achievement with membership recruitment
- a record of notable charitable efforts or community service.

Past YMI “Council of the Year” Award winners include St. John Bosco Council #613 (2015); Santa Rosa Council #40 (2016); and South San Francisco Council #32 (2017). The committee chairs anticipate issuing the award again at the 2019 Grand Council Session, but we will need our YMI Brothers to make nominations during the nomination period that will likely begin near the end of the year.

## *2018 Grand Council Golf Tournament - A Swinging Success*

The numbers for the June 3, 2018 Grand Council Golf Tournament were as follows:

- We had 43 players from five different Councils: #1, #32, #40, #44, #613. Council #40 had eleven playing members. As for the banquet following golf, there were 60 people in attendance.
- Low Gross....Council #613...Rich Rosemont, L. Fernando, S Fernando, Patrick Keightley
- 1<sup>st</sup> Low Net...Council #1...Bryan Handlos, Frank Weber, Jeff Ibarra, Rich Ibarra
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Low Net...Council #44...Bryce Betschart, Jack Betschart, Ian Johnson, Travis Maynard
- Longest Drive...Council #40...Jorge Gonzalez
- Closest to the pin...Council #32...Mario Da San Martino

Money raised for Santa Rosa Council Fire Victims: \$8150.00

Thanks to all who participated...  
Br. Bob Fiorito 3613, GD  
Golf Chairman



## FR. AGNEL DE HEREDIA, #32 (GC) NAMED 2018 MAN OF THE YEAR

The YMI "*Man of the Year*" Award is the YMI's most prestigious individual award. It is based on the YMI's three-fold purpose: Faith, Patriotism and Fraternalism. The award is bestowed annually during the Grand Council Session to a worthy YMI brother in consideration of the following criteria:

- **Faith** as defined by one's service to the parish;
- **Patriotism** as shown by one's service to the community;
- **Fraternalism** as demonstrated by one's efforts supporting YMI Council & Grand Council Activities.



For the 133<sup>rd</sup> Grand Council Session in Reno, Nevada, the YMI recognized our **Grand Chaplain, Fr. Agnel De Heredia of South San Francisco Council #32** as the **YMI Man of the Year for 2018**.

Starting with the criterion of Fraternalism, Fr. Agnel has actively served both his YMI Council and the YMI Grand Council as chaplain for seventeen consecutive years. In that role, he has prominently participated at the Grand Council Sessions and the Annual Red & White Mass for almost two decades. In addition, he has served as the organization's spiritual leader, advising us on church teachings and how to be better stewards for Christ.

With respect to Patriotism, Fr. Agnel came to America in 1991 as a young man, after growing up in India and completing many years of education in Europe and Asia. In time, Fr. Agnel chose to become an American citizen, an act that demonstrates his passion for his new country.

Finally, in terms of Faith, the committee recognized that this specific criterion set this brother well above the rest as no YMI brother has made a stronger commitment to the Catholic faith. Fr. Agnel became a priest in 1980 and served San Francisco archdiocese in several locations including Our Lady of the Pillar in Half Moon Bay and St. Mary's Cathedral in San Francisco. In 2003, he was appointed as the 9<sup>th</sup> pastor of All Souls Church in South San Francisco in 2003 presiding there for twelve successful years. Among his many achievements:

- Launching All Souls to be a pioneer on the internet with a website in 2003.
- Forming a stewardship council in 2004.
- Celebrating his 25-year ordination as a priest in 2005 with the YMI in a moving program with his mother being present and being the last person to congratulate him.
- Overseeing many building and property improvements totaling \$1.2 million, including a huge "Fixing God's House" campaign in 2005. His efforts led to a new roof, windows, furnaces, sound and telephone systems, sewer lines and bathrooms to name just a handful of achievements.

Although Fr. Agnel now serves as the Pastor of St. John the Evangelist Church in San Francisco, he has remained true to the YMI and continues to support the YMI brotherhood actively.

Most importantly, he has become a friend and confident to the entire membership of YMI, in both times of sorrow due to sickness and death to gleeful celebrations from marriages and baptisms.

Congratulations Fr. Agnel on your well-deserved award!





**YMI Council # 613  
2018 Bocce Ball Tournament**



**When:** Saturday, September 29, 2018

**Where:** Orange Memorial Park Bocce Ball Courts  
1 West Orange Ave. South San Francisco

**Registration from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Games start promptly thereafter.**

**4 players per team (If you have less than 4 players, we will fill your team).  
Limited to the first 16 paid teams.**

**Deadline:** September 6, 2018 or until filled (t-shirts are ordered on this date)

**Cost:** \$35.00 per participant or \$140.00 per team

**Includes:** Breakfast: Coffee & Donuts  
Lunch: Hamburger & Hot Dog Lunch  
Raffle  
T-Shirts provided to all participants

**In you are interested in having a team participate, please fill out the bottom portion of this flyer and send it back with a check payable to YMI Council # 613 to Mike Dimech at the following address:  
205 Hazelwood Dr. South San Francisco, CA 94080.**

**For additional information contact Mike Dimech at (650) 922-2667 /  
mdimech7@gmail.com or Mike Amato at (650) 871-9164.**

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name	E-mail address	Shirt Size: Circle Size				
_____	_____	S	M	L	XL	XXL
_____	_____	S	M	L	XL	XXL
_____	_____	S	M	L	XL	XXL
_____	_____	S	M	L	XL	XXL





**What:** YMI Grand Council Pasta Bingo Dinner

**When:** Saturday, November 17, 2018  
Cocktails: 6:00 p.m.  
Dinner: 7:00 p.m. followed by Bingo and a Raffle

**Where:** St. Veronica Parish Cafeteria (Falcon Hall)  
434 Alida Way, South San Francisco, CA

**Cost:** \$25.00 per person  
**Includes:** Pasta dinner, salad, dessert  
2 Bingo cards



**RSVP with payment by November 13, 2018**

**For more information contact:** Br. Mike Dimech  
Cell - 650-922-2667  
E-mail - [mdimech7@gmail.com](mailto:mdimech7@gmail.com)

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**YMI Grand Council Pasta Bingo Dinner**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Council # \_\_\_\_\_

Number of adults attending dinner: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$25.00

Number of children (13 and under) attending dinner: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$12.00

Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make checks payable to: YMI Grand Council**  
**Return the attached to: Young Men's Institute c/o Br. Mike Dimech**  
**P.O. Box # 281047 San Francisco, CA 94128**

# Membership Corner

I have a confession to make. No, not the type I need to see a priest. An act of omission, perhaps. It has to do with talking with a prospective member or group.

Often in talking with a Dad about joining YMI, I will tell him about all the great things we do as an organization. You know, the charitable and fundraising events, scholarships, annual essay contest, seminarian foundation, etc. I will talk about the social aspect: picnics, dinners, parades, golf and bocce ball tournaments, bingo, community events, on and on.

Generally, the Dad will smile and nod his head. It all sounds good, right? Let me ask you then, what might I be missing?

How about “what’s in it for me”? Harking back to my early days of learning the art of selling, that’s it – hey what about the benefits! Are we not “selling” someone the benefits of joining YMI? What exactly are those benefits?

Benefit member: Under 45 years of age, a death benefit of \$1500, YMI Educational Foundation Benefits: K-8<sup>th</sup> grade up to \$1500 per child, High School up to \$2000 per child and a \$10,000 maximum for college.

Associate member: 45 years of age or over and children will be entitled to the YMI Educational Foundations benefits listed above.

Imagine talking to a group of parents and talking about these benefits – or one on one with a father with children. You think that might help with the decision of becoming a member? The point was driven home to me at the recent Grand Council Session. I recall hearing from a number of Brothers about the importance of discussing the death benefits with prospective members.

So, my message to you, put the benefits in your ‘back pocket’ and always bring them out the next time you talk to the fellow at church or school or wherever it may be.

**Yours for God and Country,  
Steve Cresci #32, GD, Membership Committee**

Young Men’s Institute  
Forty-Fifth Annual  
Essay Contest

**Prize information and Entry Form**

**May be obtained on YMI website  
Or by emailing YMIUS@AOL.COM**

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# **134<sup>th</sup> Grand Council Session**

June 17-19, 2019

Montblue Resort Casino & Spa  
South Lake Tahoe

Make reservations now by calling 1-800-648-3353 and use group code STYMI19

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**Winter 2018 Issue**

**Due Date: OCTOBER 31, 2018 ~ Please submit articles, pictures, etc. to  
YMI Business Manager: [YMIUS@aol.com](mailto:YMIUS@aol.com)**