



**Grand President
Mike Amato**

GRAND PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

With the renewed hope of a new year, I am feeling some optimism that we are on a path to return to normalcy from this dreaded virus. Efforts are underway to increase the COVID-19 vaccine supply, improve distribution channels, and communicate key information about how/where to get a vaccine. Moreover, hospitals are reporting better intensive care room availability. While we still have a way to go, there is now a glimmer of a "light at the end of the tunnel!"

In the meantime, please continue to stay safe by following public health guidelines (restricting indoor social interactions, wearing masks in public, washing your hands, etc.). We can also help the many local small businesses (especially restaurants) that are suffering economically, by ordering take-out or supporting them with on-line purchases. If you or a loved one have/are suffering with COVID-19, please let us know. We can alert our Grand Chaplain, **Fr. Agnel De Heredia** and our YMI Brothers to offer many prayers for a full and speedy recovery. Despite the limits of COVID, I have been able to participate in Official Visits as Grand President to YMI Councils mainly relying on virtual means (i.e., teleconference call or by Zoom). To date, I have met with YMI Brothers from Councils #2, #8, #32, #40, #54, #80, #573 and #613. During these occasions, I have enjoyed the opportunity to chat with my YMI Brothers about upcoming Grand Council activities and to discuss my Grand President's Program. As I have a few more months remaining in my term, I am looking forward to meeting with YMI Brothers from other YMI Councils in the Spring!

As you will recall in prior editions of the Lamp Post, I had discussed the "Reason" and "Religion" pillar of St. John Bosco's three pillars of action that I have embraced for the YMI in my Grand President's Program. For this edition, I am focusing on the third and final pillar "Loving Kindness". The pillar of "Loving Kindness" refers to the quality of friendliness. St. John Bosco determined that by using loving kindness as part of his teaching method, it would inspire cooperation and confidence and would attract people to become part of his order. For St. John Bosco, loving kindness required the fostering of interpersonal relationships, as he sought to meet young men personally, relate to them empathetically, and maintain ongoing relationships.

Like St. John Bosco, the YMI should apply the pillar of "loving kindness" in its normal operations. We need to be approachable and willing to become mentors to those younger than us, as well as engaging with those men in our communities that are not so young!

Continued on page 2



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We need to work to develop relationship with men to inspire them to join us! Some practical ways we can apply this pillar are as follows:

- We have a terrific outreach program for the young: our YMI Pro Patria Essay Contest. Last year, we awarded \$8,750 in contest prizes to thirty students from three states and this year we have a prize fund of \$10,000. All YMI Councils should be promoting this contest to local schools in their communities.
- A few YMI Councils, including my own, offer scholarships programs to local schools. Perhaps other YMI Councils might consider setting aside funds to similarly provide YMI scholarships to get our name out there in your communities and among young people. The YMI Education Foundation "Matching Fund Program" can be a great source of funds for this endeavor as an \$800 investment will yield a \$1600 payback that can be used for a scholarship program.
- Young people often enjoy sports so perhaps we can consider sponsoring youth baseball, soccer, or basketball teams in our respective communities. Additionally, we might consider inviting and sponsoring some young people to participate in our YMI bowling, golf, or bocce ball tournaments, once we can host such tournaments again.

To further support this pillar, I have asked each YMI Council to designate a person or committee focused on membership outreach, who is tasked with reaching out to men (both young and not so young) in their respective communities, developing relationships, and encouraging them to come to a YMI meeting or event. I have also asked each YMI Council to embrace the Junior YMI Program. By inviting students (your sons, grandsons, nephews, etc.) to the YMI, we can build a base of young men that can be our future YMI leaders, as we strive to remain a vital organization throughout the 21st century. Since starting the Junior YMI program six years ago, YMI Council #613 has had 8 Junior YMI members elect to stay on in YMI as Benefit Members after finishing their schooling.

Finally, I am pleased to announce that our YMI Membership Committee, chaired by Br. **Steve Cresci** (GD) and ably supported by several dedicated YMI Brothers, has recommended that we select a month for YMI Councils to promote membership recruitment. After further consultation, I am pleased to announce **that May will be Membership Recruitment Month**. Please invite a relative, friend, neighbor, etc., to join us at your May meeting and hopefully become a new YMI member.

In closing, please let me extend my best wishes to all to keep healthy and safe.

Pro Deo, Pro Patria

Mike Amato
Grand President

2021 Pro Patria Essay Winners.....Congratulations!!!

Brother Nick Franceschine #54, GFVP is pleased to announce the winners of this year's
Pro Patria Essay Contest!

Grades 7-8

1st	\$1000	Kyle Lactaen	8 th	Holy Angels Catholic School	Colma, CA
2 nd	\$500	Erika Wilhelmi	8 th	Good Shepherd Catholic School	Pacifica, CA
3rd	\$500	Isabella Caskey	8 th	Seton Catholic High School	Richmond, IN
4th	\$400	Makayla Fong	8 th	Holy Angels Catholic School	Colma, CA
5th	\$300	Miki Maloney	8 th	Good Shepherd Catholic School	Pacifica, CA
6th	\$200	Makayla Means	7 th	Seton Catholic High School	Richmond, IN
7 th	\$200	Megan Dunbar	8 th	Holy Family Catholic School	San Jose, CA
8 th	\$200	Tessa Carbone	7 th	St. Robert Catholic School	San Bruno, CA
9 th	\$100	Rachel Flick	8 th	St. Jude Catholic School	Indianapolis, IN
10 th	\$100	Eva Blais	7 th	St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School	Petaluma, CA
11 th	\$100	Hope Malabed	8 th	Holy Angels Catholic School	Colma, CA
12th	\$100	Sophia Cacianti	8 th	St. Robert Catholic School	San Bruno, CA
13 th	\$100	Gabriella Demotte	8 th	Seton Catholic High School	Richmond, IN
14 th	\$100	Isabella Cornell	8 th	Seton Catholic High School	Richmond, IN
15th	\$100	Ryan Wilson	8 th	St. Robert Catholic School	San Bruno, CA

Grades 9-12

1st	\$1500	Matt Blake	9 th	St. Ignatius College Prep	San Francisco, CA
2 nd	\$750	Coral Shafer	12 th	Archbishop Riordan High School	San Francisco, CA
3rd	\$750	Christine Zhu	11 th	Archbishop Riordan High School	San Francisco, CA
4th	\$600	Thea Falvey	11 th	Marin Catholic High School	Kentfield, CA
5th	\$450	Stella Mullin	11 th	Sacred Heart Cathedral Prep	San Francisco, CA
6 th	\$300	Grayson Salomon	11 th	Archbishop Riordan High School	San Francisco, CA
7th	\$300	John Eftink	12 th	St. Joseph Catholic High School	Hilo, HI
8th	\$300	Bella Diehl	9 th	Seton Catholic High School	Richmond, IN
9th	\$150	Raymond Ponce	11 th	Archbishop Riordan High School	San Francisco, CA
10th	\$150	Leah Miller	9 th	Seton Catholic High School	Richmond, IN
11th	\$150	Livaly Faciane	12 th	Leadership High School	San Francisco, CA
12th	\$150	Alexa Okida	10 th	Central Catholic High School	Modesto, CA
13th	\$150	Elijah Calip	11 th	Archbishop Riordan High School	San Francisco, CA
14th	\$150	Cole Russell	9 th	Seton Catholic High School	Richmond, IN
15th	\$150	Trey Pipenger	9 th	Seton Catholic High School	Richmond, IN

Educational Foundation Memorials/Donations

All Past Brothers of the Young Men's Institute: San Francisco Council #1

Carlos B. Barros: Holy Rosary Council #44

Bill Cole: John West

Deceased Brothers of Francis Council #573: Francis Council #573

Tony Ellington: John West

Judy O'Brien: Jim and Helen Mullen

Thomas Schnellenberger: Leisa Lowrey

Feliz Ysturiz: Jack and Alice Albrecht

Get well wishes to Thom Thomsaon: John West

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.

Membership Corner



By the time you are reading this article Councils may be holding in person meetings again. It is a good bet that we will still be wearing masks. As we move forward to holding our business meetings and social events, membership has never been more important.

Grand President Amato, in this issue, has designated May as Membership Month. The G.C. membership committee has met several times during the past nine months to discuss ways YMI membership can grow. I would like to share some of those ideas with you.

1. Form a membership committee. If your Council does not have a membership committee then it should be a number one priority for the Council. The committee at the President's direction will plan and implement those goals and steps to bring in new members. Now is the time to work on what the Council will do in May for the membership drive.
2. Give a phone call or send an email to members that have lapsed in the last couple of years. There are those members who may want to reconnect as we move away from isolation and "lock downs" during the pandemic. A friendly phone call to welcome past members back can be a key to regaining membership. The membership committee can be part of the outreach program.
3. Reach out to newest Catechists. How many men became Catholic at Easter this April in your church? Invite these men to a meeting or at a minimum send them information about the YMI. Add their names to your Council's Newsletter list.
4. First Holy Communion & Confirmation parents are they even aware of YMI? Host a lunch, dinner, or ice cream treat dessert night following one of their preparation meetings or classes.
5. Some Councils have made donations to the schools or church in the name of the YMI Council. It is really about getting the word out. Your school's principal or pastor most likely will make mention of the donation at the pulpit or church/school bulletin.
6. Is there a Family Mass? Is your Council a sponsor of the Mass? Do the members of your Council usher, do collection, help in the parking lot, or provide coffee and donuts at the Mass? As we eventually get back to indoor Mass now is the time to plan-ahead.
7. Young men between the ages of 13-23 and either attend school full time or are currently active in military service are eligible to become a Junior YMI member.

These are just few ideas. Next issue I will share more ways to bring in new members. Remember, Membership Flyers, Applications, and Meeting Info Cards are available to download and print at ymiusa.org.

Pro – Patria Pro Deo
Steve Cresci #32 SSF
G.C. Membership Committee Chair





YMI IN ACTION!!!!!!

Through the generosity of the Brothers of San Francisco Council #1, Grand President Michael Amato and Grand Outside Sentinel Cosmo Amato were able to present the San Francisco-Marín Food Bank with a much needed donation of \$100,000. As noted by the Food Bank's Vice President – "this donation will feed 200,000 folks in need! Since Covid struck last year causing many to become unemployed, the Food Bank has had to deal with an escalating number of clients and distribution challenges. This donation was very much appreciated.



IN MEMORIAM

<i>Member</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Council</i>
Richard Quesada	10-26-2020	#26/#900
Stan Rasmussen	12-20-2020	#137
Vincent Ackerrman	11-11-2020	#497
Rev. Leonard J. Trindade	11-01-2020	#44
Robert Johnson	11-20-2020	#1
Francis A. Pruett	10-08-2020	#65/#900
Ronald Lawson	11-2020	#94
Normand Cloutier	01-05-2021	#80
Salvador J. Sanchez	01-07-2021	#80
Thomas Schnellenberger	12-25-2020	#497
Carl B. Barros	02-05-2021	#44
Anthony Machado	12-09-2020	#94
Michael Red	12-16-2020	#94

The 136th Grand Council Session

June 8-12, 2021

“Zoom”

On Saturday, March 20, 2021, the YMI Board of Grand Directors, during its Spring meeting, voted to conduct the 136th Grand Council Session once again via modern communication technology – similar to the 135th Grand Council Session in 2020.

The Board based its decision after reviewing the Grand Council Planning Committee’s findings as to hotels, meeting space, banquet availability, Church timing, etc. All of these concerns have always been addressed in the past for our successful Conventions. However, given that we are continuing to face public health restrictions from COVID-19, the Board concluded that an in-person Convention would not be feasible again this year. Hopefully next year it can happen!!

The 135th Grand Council Session in 2020 was quite successful using modern communication technology, with nearly one hundred delegates participating (a YMI record). Therefore, a similar format will be followed this year, although we plan to utilize Zoom internet technology as well, which will provide videotelephony and online chat services via a software platform. The Board of Grand Directors has been using Zoom during the current pandemic and it has proven effective as a means for the Board to communicate and interact remotely.

Going forward, individual YMI Councils will need to choose their at-large Council Delegates by May 1, 2021 based on March 31, 2021 membership totals and forward these names and e-mail addresses to the Business Manager. (For delegates unable to access the internet, please furnish us a mailing address). These at-large Council Delegates will join the current Grand Council Officers, District Deputy Grand Presidents and Past Grand Presidents to form the voting body (i.e., the Delegates) of the Grand Council Session.



We are in the process of putting together the traditional Advance Proceedings Report. All Delegates will be e-mailed their copy of the Advance Proceedings on or before May 28, 2021. (Non-internet savvy Delegates will receive the Advance Proceedings by mail).

Before the Grand Council Session begins, a Red & White/Memorial Mass will be offered by the Grand Chaplain on June 8, 2021 beginning at 6:00 p.m. from St. John the Evangelist Church in San Francisco. This Mass will be a hybrid of the traditional Red & White ceremony usually held in March and the Memorial Mass that normally opens the Grand Council Session. This Mass will be live streamed to all YMI members and their families and it can be watched remotely by all. We urge all YMI Delegates as well as all YMI Brothers to participate in the viewing.

On Saturday, June 12, 2021, the Grand President, Brother Michael Amato #613, will preside over a three hour (9:00 a.m. – Noon) mini-Convention over Zoom. While we intend to streamline our agenda and processes a bit to meet the shorter timeframe, we intend to allow some time for Delegate interaction (e.g. comments, questions, etc.) at appropriate junctures during the abbreviated Session. Information to access the Zoom meeting will be provided to all Delegates in the Advance Proceedings.

Ballots will be sent by e-mail to all Delegates on June 13, 2021. The ballot will cover the Grand Council officer elections, State of the Institute proposals, Resolutions, Directors for both the YMI Educational Foundation and the YMI Seminarian Educational Foundation, and any other matter that we typically vote upon during the typical Grand Council Session. (For the non-Internet savvy Delegates, a ballot will be mailed to you). All ballots need to be submitted or returned by Noon on June 20, 2021 as we plan to announce all election results on June 21, 2021.

Once the elections are complete, we intend to install the new Grand Council Officers for 2021-22 at the Board of Grand Directors Meeting in July 2021. Should you have any questions about the process, you may call the Grand Council Office.



DECLARED CANDIDATES FOR 2021-2022 GRAND COUNCIL OFFICE.....THUS FAR!!!

YOUNG MEN'S
INSTITUTE



**Brother Nick
Franceschine**

For
Grand President
*Experienced with
Grand Council and
Council Workings*

*Unanimously supported
by the Brothers of
Sebastopol Council #54*

ST. JOHN BOSCO COUNCIL #613
PROUDLY ANNOUNCES
THE CANDIDACY OF

**BROTHER
COSMO AMATO**
FOR
Grand Inside Sentinel

**South San
Francisco
Council #32**
Announces Its
Support For
**Brother Jack
Albrecht**
Grand Treasurer

Dos Palos Council #99

Presents

**Brother
Darrell
Fonseca**

For the Office of
**Grand First Vice
President**
**Knowledge,
Leadership
And more!!!!**

St. John Bosco Council #613

Proudly Sponsors
**BROTHER
MICHAEL
DIMECH**

"A true veteran
Brother"
For the Office of Grand
Secretary

Sebastopol Council #54
Proudly Sponsor
**Domenic
Carinalli**
For Grand Inside
Sentinel
**A Proven
Leader!!!**

**Brother Alex
Schmitt**

Announces His
Candidacy For the
Office of

**Grand
Director**

With the unanimous
support of
American Council #8

South San Francisco Council
#32

Presents

**Brother Steve
Cresci**

For the Office of
Grand Marshal
Experience, dedication and
more!!!

State of the Institute Report – 2021

One proposal thus far was presented to the State of the Institute Committee this year for consideration and to be voted on at the June 2021 Grand Council Session. The proposal was accepted and is presented as follows:

Existing Language:

Article IV, Section 5 SPECIAL SESSIONS: Special Sessions may be set by Grand Council, or called by the Grand President upon the written petition of at least twenty (20) Councils. Such call shall be issued by the Grand President within fifteen (15) days after receipt of the petition, but the Special Session shall not convene for at least fifteen (15) days nor more than sixty (60) days after the issuance of the call. No business shall be transacted at a special Session other than the particular business for which it was called, except by unanimous consent of Grand Council.

Proposed Rewrite:

Article IV, Section 5 SPECIAL SESSIONS: Special Sessions may be set by Grand Council, or called by the Grand President upon the written petition of at least 51% of existing Councils (excluding Council #900). Such call shall be issued by the Grand President within fifteen (15) days after receipt of the petition, but the Special Session shall not convene for at least fifteen (15) days nor more than sixty (60) days after the issuance of the call. No business shall be transacted at a Special Session other than the particular business for which it was called, except by unanimous consent of Grand Council.

Rationale:

The existing language requires 100% agreement of the 20 existing Councils in existence (excluding Council #900). Proposed rewrite would require 51% of the existing Councils (excluding Council #900 what has no body of officers).

Submitted by Brother Mike Thissen #94, IPGP, Chairman of the State of the Institute Committee



2021 Grand Directors' Council of the Year Award Application

Date: _____

Council #: _____ Council Location: _____

Council President: _____

Recording Secretary: _____

Applicant's signature: _____

1. Number of inter-council events attended by members of Council _____

List of events: _____

2. If charity work was performed by the Council, please provide a brief description of the work performed, the number of council members in attendance, and the number of hours worked.

3. Did your council have an increase in membership for the period from 4/1/2020 through 3/31/2021? If so, what was the percentage increase from the previous year: _____

4. Did your Council participate in any fundraising events? If so, how many? _____

List of events: _____

5. Did your council participate in the Pro Patria Raffle. If so, what was the percentage of members who purchased raffle tickets? _____

6. Was your Council represented at the 2020 Grand Council Sessions? ____ Yes ____ No
If so, how many delegates did your Council send? _____

**Send to Br. Bob Bartoli, 675 Pine Terrace, South San Francisco, CA 94080
or via email at: bbartoli@pacbell.net
Deadline: May 1, 2021**

Grand Council – Young Men’s Institute Man of the Year 2021

The 2020-2021 Man of the Year Grand Council Committee has met and is now accepting nominations for the 2021 Man of the Year. Any YMI Brother, group of Brothers, or YMI Council is invited to submit a nomination. Criteria to be considered:

- *Council Activities (Fraternalism)*
- *Service to the Parish (Faith)*
- *Service to the Community (Patriotism)*
- *Grand Council Activities*
- *Any character references for the nominee would be appreciated.*



Date: _____ Man of the Year Nominee: _____

Council # _____ Council Location: _____

Council activities nominee is involved in: _____

Nominee’s service to his Parish: _____

Nominee’s service to the community: _____

Grand Council activities nominee participated in or is involved in: _____

Please attach any additional information or character references for the nominee, should more space be needed.

Please submit your nomination with supporting documentation **by May 1, 2021** Please send to:

Brother Bob Bartoli #32, PGP
675 Pine Terrace
South San Francisco, CA 94080
650-871-7878
or email at: bbartoli@pacbell.net

GRAND SECOND VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Darrell Fonseca, GSVP 20-21, PP Dos Palos Council #99

Congratulations to Br. Nick Franceschine GFVP on a successful Essay and Raffle program. My **Council Visits** continue via Zoom and conference calls, with gratitude to Grand President Mike Amato for including me in his official visits. I've now had the pleasure of meeting with half of the Institute's councils including those recently held with San Francisco #1, South SF #32, St. Christopher #80, Dos Palos #99, St. John Bosco #613, and a most enjoyable meeting with Hawaii #573.

The **Red & White Mass** will be held virtually this year due to the virus pandemic. It will be live streamed at **6p.m., June 8, 2021.**

Welcome new
members

MAY IS MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT MONTH

In coordination with the YMI Membership Committee, chaired by **Br. Steve Cresci #32, GD** and ably supported by several dedicated YMI Brothers, **Grand President Mike Amato** has declared the month of **May to be a YMI Membership Recruitment Month.**

All YMI Brothers from all Councils are requested to invite a relative, friend, neighbor, co-workers, etc., to join us at your May YMI meeting and hopefully become a new YMI member. In addition, please consider bringing in your sons, nephews, and other children in your family (ages 13 to 23 and attending school) to become Junior YMI members.

Each Council should submit their new membership enrollees before the Grand Council Session and we can announce the results of the Council's efforts during the Session. Please help us re-build the YMI membership ranks

DON'T FORGET

DON'T FORGET
Summer 2021 Issue

DON'T FORGET

**Due Date: July 31, 2021 ~ Please submit articles, pictures, etc. to
YMI Business Manager: YMIUS@aol.com**