

Young Men's Institute
Board of Grand Directors Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2025

Call to Order – Brother Mike Amato #613, Chairman of the Board of Grand Directors 9:00 a.m.

Opening Prayer – Fr. Agnel prayer

Pledge of Allegiance – Brother John Cleary, #613 Led pledge

Roll Call – Brother Michael Dimech #613, Past Grand President, GS

Domenic Carinalli #54 GD	present
Michael Amato #613 PGP GD	present
Nick Franceschine #54 PGP GD	present
Richard Murphy #32 GD	absent
Mario Balistreri #613 GD	present
Luis Alvarenga #32	present
Bill McNeany, #40	resigned
Danny Avilla	present
Gus Solidum	excused
Steve Cresci #32 GP	present
Billy Avery #80 GFVP	present
Bill Walls #80 GSVP	present
Rev. Angel De Heredia #32 GC	present
Michael Dimech #613 GS PGP	present
Bob Bartoli #32 PGP, GT	present
Bob Fiorito #613 GOS	excused

Tom Fourie #32 PGP Business Manager	present
Clement Gusman #573 DDGP	present
John Cleary, #613 GM	present
Paul Larson #32 GD	present
Alex Preciado	present

Br. Bill McNeany resigned his Grand Director position and GP Br. Avery is currently looking for a Brother to fill his position. Cannot use a Brother from Council # 32 & 613.

Approval of the Minutes from the Board of Grand Directors November 19, 2024.

Meeting – Chairman of the Board, Brother Mike Amato, Grand Director, asked for a motion to accept the minutes from the November 19, 2024 Board of Grand Directors meeting.

Motion made by Br. Nick and seconded by Brother Br. Mario . There was no other discussion. The Board unanimously accepted and approved the minutes.

Communications - Brother Michael Dimech #613, Past Grand President did not have any communications. Br. Tom reported that he received:

Communications received by the Grand Council Office since the November 19, 2024 Board Meeting.

A. Council Newsletters

San Jose #2 - November, December

American #8 - December

South San Francisco #32 - December, January

Francis #573 - December

St. John Bosco #613 - December, January

Grand Council Office Activities since November 19, 2024

- A. Contacted Arthur Gallagher Inc. on behalf of Santa Rosa #40 - additional certificate of insurance**
- B. Prepared/Filed/Deposits for Pro Patria Raffle**
- C. Changed plans for the Indiana Official Visit**
- D. Obtained YMI mail from the Burlingame Post Office on several days**
- E. Interacted with the Grand Treasurer on a regular basis (mail, December bills, etc.)**
- F. Several phone conversations with Brothers from the two Indiana Councils**
- G. Begin to receive and prepare articles for the Winter Edition of the Institute Journal - combined efforts with Cindy Fondale. Do a final edit and then e-mail issue to Brothers and Councils**
- H. Processed Education Foundation Memorials**
- I. Attend and serve as Master of Ceremonies for South San Francisco #32's Christmas Party**
- J. Updated St. Columba #94's completed new membership information.**
- K. Attended South San Francisco Council #32's December and January Business Meetings**
- L. Attended St. John Bosco Council #613's Christmas Party**
- M. Updated YMI Death Certificates and sent beneficiary checks**
- N. Prepared and mailed Assessment #198 to all Councils**
- O. Worked on preparing South San Francisco #32's Christmas Food Baskets (225)**

This is a partial list.

Grand Treasurer Report

Sent Budget, Deposit breakdown to all officers and Grand Directors. All bills have been paid to date. Spoke about savings on phone bill. Met with Steve Davis to review investments. Will set up a zoom link and invite few brothers to this meeting.

Funds as of 1/10/25

Schaub

DB: \$2.5m

RF: 410k

UBS

247k

67k

2024 – Schaub DB & RF increased by 21% in 2024

Motion to approve the Grand Treasure's report as reported by Br. Bartoli by Br. Danny and seconded by Br. Nick.

Motion passed

Reports of Grand Directors on the Board of Grand Directors

Committees for the year 2024-2025 – Brother Mike Amato, Chairman of the Board of Grand Directors

Charters/Archives: Brother Danny Avilla, Domenic Carinalli, Nick Franceshine, PGP

- **There was no report / activity from this committee at this time.**

Finance: Brothers Michael Amato #613, PGP as Chairman, Luis Alvarenga, #32 and Mario Balistreri

- **Bills have been paid. Everything looks good.**

Long Range Planning: Brother Mario Balistreri #613, Chairman, Michael Amato #613, PGP, Danny Avilla and Gus Soldium, # 94

- **The committee is planning a meeting for the second half of January to discuss the suggestions from last year.**

- **Council Activities:** Brothers Domenic Carinalli #54 as Chairman, Paul Larson #32, and Richard Murphy #32

Council # 40 is planning a corned beef and cabbage dinner for March 8th.

- Br. Nick Franceshine reported on Saturday, December 13th his Council had their Christmas luncheon and invited the local YLI Council

Insurance: Br. Nick Franceshine (chair)

Nothing to report at this time

Fund Raising: Br. Bill McNeany, #40 (chair), Domenic Carinalli, #54

Brother Michael Dimech #613, PGP, GS and Grand President Cresci will later discuss the Pasta / Bingo event.

Supplies: Brother Luis Alvarenga, (Chair), Mike Amato #613

- Br. Luis previously reported there are 156 pins. Recently ordered 25 and 50 year pins. Need to place on website
- Provided a report to GC office.

Technology Advancements; br. Gus Solidum (chair), Br. Mike Amato

- The Committee met recently and a summary of the meeting was sent out by Br. Gus. Br. Gus discussed the following issues:
 - Trying to set up a google map
 - Use of G-mail is more secure than that of AOL – further discussion on this
 - Next meeting will invite Br. Bartoli & Br. Fourie
 - Will take time to develop any changes
 - Possible budget item for next year
 - Br. Gus to set up next tech. meeting

- **Thanked Br. Steve Cresci and Br. Mike Amato for setting up zoom meetings in the past**

Grand President's Report

Grand President's Report for Board Meeting January 11, 2025

Brothers of the YMI,

My Activities since last report on Aug 3rd.

Aug 11th 2024 Council #80 YMI YLI Picnic at Veterans Park

Aug 13th 2024 San Jose #2 Essay and Scholarship Awards

Aug 22nd GC State of the Institute Committee Zoom Meeting

Aug 25th YMI South San Francisco BBQ

Aug 28th Attend Sebastopol YMI Wine Country BBQ Br Nick Franceschine

Sep 4th Attend Chowchilla #94 monthly meeting with 1st GVP

Sep 23rd Grand Directors Zoom meeting

Sep 24th YMI Board of Directors Zoom Meeting

Sep 26th Hilmar #44 Family Night at 10 Pin Fun Center

Oct 8th Attend Dos Palos #99 Monthly Meeting with 1st GVP and DD

Oct 13th Italian Heritage Day Parade in Fisherman's Warf SF

Oct 17th Attend State of the Institute Committee Meeting

Oct 26th Attend American #8 Red Shirt Breakfast meeting with 1st GVP

Oct 29th Attend Grand Council Education Foundation Zoom

Dec 2nd Attend Chowchilla #94 Christmas Dinner Social

Dec 5th Attend Tracy #92 Monthly Meeting with 1st GVP

Dec 11th Attend State of the Institute Zoom

Dec 12th Attend Hilmar Christmas Social with 1st GVP and DD

Jan 9th Attend SSF #32 Meeting with 1st GVP

Upcoming Events

February 6th Thursday Hilo #573 visit through the 10th

February 26th Wednesday Atwater 80

March 1st Saturday Red and White Mass Bus Trip

I have received a quote for a Valley Bus from Classic Charter and I am working with councils to boost attendance

Trip for Indiana postponed until TBD

Grand secretary requested the PDF version of the Red & White Flyer for placement on the website.

Motion by Br. Mike Amato – To Provide Bus Transportation fees (\$1,000.00) from membership fund for brothers from the Valley to attend the Red & White as & Dinner

Seconded: Br. Mario

Motion Passed

Grand First Vice President's Report – Brother Bill Walls reported:

Grand Directors Report for 1GVP January 11, 2025

Events Attended

**Oct 26th Attended American #8 Red Shirt Breakfast meeting
1st GVP**

Dec 2nd Attended Chowchilla #94 Christmas Dinner Social

Dec 5th Attended Tracy #92 Monthly Meeting 1st GVP

Dec 12th Attended Hilmar Christmas Social 1st GVP

Jan 9th Attend SSF #32 Meeting 1st GVP

Promoting the Grand Council essay contest at the different locations that have been visited.

- **Upcoming Events**
- **February 6th Thursday Hilo #573 visit through the 10th**
- **February 26th Wednesday Atwater 80**
- **March 1st Saturday Red and White Mass Bus Trip**
- **At all meetings talked about Essay Contest and at most meetings talked about Raffle**
- **Coordinated with Tom Fourie for Essay contest rubrics and Mike Amato**
- **Members contacted for Judging Essays so far includes:**
- **Tom Fourie, Steve Cresci, Mike Amato, Richard Murphy**
- **Have talked with local schools about essay contest**

Discussion:

- **Seton Catholic school – All students sent in essays:**
- **Need 15 – 20 judges**
- **Essays need to be read 3 times each**

Grand Second Vice President's Report – Brother Richard Murphy, # 32 Grand Second Vice President was not at the meeting but the following was reported on his behalf:

Information below provided by officers attending 11/19/24 meeting.

- **Red & White Mass & Dinner is on March 1, 2025**
- **Raffle Proceeds collected to date: \$8,475.00**

Only 117 Brothers have purchased raffle tickets to date (9%). Of those 117 Brothers 60 came in from Council # 32 & #613

YLI – 18 members purchased tickets

8 YMI Councils purchased raffle tickets

- **Need \$14,000.00 to support the essay prize fund**
- **Find out what Brothers have not purchased tickets and call them up. Need list of Brothers who have not purchased tickets.**
- **Br. Tom to send out list to Council #54 & 613**
- **Suggest Br. Walls send thank you letter to YLI for purchasing raffle tickets and a letter to individual Councils to purchase raffle tickets**
- **Br. Murphy to meet with the Pastor of All Souls to confirm lower hall**
- **Are funds needed for the Red & White Mass & Dinner? Won't know until after Br. Murphy meets with Pastor**
- **\$25.00 per person to attend Red & White Mass & Dinner**

Grand Secretary Report 1/11/25

Since our November 19th Grand Director Board Meeting:

I requested several updates from our Webmaster to our YMI Website to include to include

- **Council newsletters received from the Business manager and the individual Councils have been uploaded onto the YMI Website. Have also sent the webmaster the updated YMI By-Laws and Constitution for placement on our website.**
- **Prepared and sent out the Minutes from the November 19thth Grand Directors Board Meeting.**
- **Sent out the Lamppost to all the Council 900 members that I have address for**
- **Br. Steve Cresci and I have been working on the Pasta Bingo Dinner event and sent out the flyer to all board members on a few occasions. Will discuss this more later in this meeting.**
- **I also attended Council 613's December Business meeting and Councils 2's December and January Business meetings**
- **Finally, I will be reaching out to the IACC to schedule this year's bocce ball tournament.**

Business Manager Report

- **Contacted Arthur Gallagher**
- **Council #40 returning to St. Eugene from St Rose**
- **Prepare winter edition of the Lamppost**
- **Master of ceremonies for Council # 32 Christmas Party**
- **Attended Council #613 Christmas party**
- **Council 32 Business meetings**
- **Sent out recent assessments**
- **Helped out Council #32 food basket program**

Immediate Past Grand Presidents Report

- **Participated in State of the Institute committee, members working on a few proposals for the 2025 Sessions**
- **Working with the new Technology committee, good ideas**
- **Attending Council # 32 monthly business meetings**

Report of Grand Directors to Grand Council Committees for the year 2024-2025 - In accordance with the Grand Council By-Laws a member of the Grand Council Board of Directors is to be assigned to each of the Grand Council Committees that are delineated in the Grand President's Program for 2024-2025. In the program, each committee chairman, as chosen by the Grand President, is listed along with the goals and objectives of each committee.

Audit / Reserve Committee – Board Appointments: Brother

- **Still need a committee chair**
- **Did not audit Indiana**
- **No report, no audits scheduled**

Budget Committee – Board Appointments: Br. Danny Avilla

- Chairman is Brother Bob Bartoli GT #32
- Budget Committee will meet in February of 2025
- Reserve committee will meet with Broker
- Investments are currently stable

Ceremonials Committee- Board Appointment: Br. Danny Avilla #40 The Committee Chair is:

Not much going on at this time

Need for Br. Billy to assign a committee chair to this committee

Credential Committee- Board Appointment: Mario Balistreri #613. The committee Chair is Mike Dimech.

Nothing to report at this time.

Institute Journal Committee – Board Appointments: Brother Mike Amato #613. Committee Chairman is Brother Tom Fourie #32 PGP.

- Br. Tom asked the GD Board and officers if we should send out one or two journals prior to the 2025 Sessions
- It was suggested and agreed to that one journal be sent out and to aim to have it sent it out by April 15, 2025
- Br. Tom requested that the articles be submitted to him by the end of March for publication.
- Br. Steve Crecsi advised the State of the Institute Committee will have completed their work by March and will have a lengthy proposal

- Save on expenses on time and expenses by sending out on Journal

Laws and Revisions Committee – Board Appointments:
Brother Nick Franceschine #54 PGP. The Committee Chair is Nick Franceschine.

- Br. Nick advised that the committee received and reviewed proposed By- Law changes from individual Councils (32, 613, & 54) and the committee recommended approving the changes
- Br. Nick Thanked Br. Billy and Br. Eugene

Motion made: Br. Nick Franceschine

Seconded: Dann Avilla

Motion approved

Man & Council of the Year Committee – Board Appointments:
Br Domenic Carinalli #54. The Committee Chair is Br. Bob Bartoli #32 PGP

- Application are published in the next Institute Journal
- Need nominations for both awards – Have not received any nominations yet. Hope to receive nomination between now and June
- Previous Brothers winners can win

Membership Committee – Board Appointment: Br. Danny Avilla #40. Committee Chair is TBA.

- Br. Billy reported in his travels that it is nice to see more installations take place
- Seeing more Brothers pass away

- Per Br. Tom more deaths this year than new Brothers who joined the membership
- Had 1,272 at last 2024 Session, may have only 1,200 at this year's Session

Pro Deo Committee - Board Appointment: Br. Luis Alverenga #32. Committee Chair is Brother Richard Murphy GSVP

- Covered previously

Pro Patria – Board Appointment: Br. Gus Solidum #94. Committee Chair is Brother Bill Walls #80 GFVP

- Covered previously report

Organization Committee – Board Appointments: Brother Danny Avilla. Committee Chair is Brother Michael Dimech #613 GS

- No report at this time

Resolutions Committee – Board Appointment: Brother Nick Franceschine #54. Committee Chair is Br. Gene Espinola #94

- Previously covered.

State of the Institute – Board Appointments: Br. Luis Alverenga #32. Committee Chair is Brother Steve Cresci IPGP

- Previously covered in Br. Steve's comments

Workshop Committee – Board Appointments: Brother Gus Solidum #94. Committee Chair is the Staff of the Grand Council Office.

- No report at this time. Too early to discuss

Unfinished Business

Pasta Bingo

- Scheduled for January 18, 2025
- St. Cecilia Parish – 15 minutes south of Golden Gate Bridge
- Requested Councils to provide Gift Cards as Raffle Contest
- Good marketing tool to promote the YMI
- All profits made from the pasta bingo event to go towards the Pro Patria Essay contest.
- Will contact St. Cecilia to have parish staff to attend
- Asked each Council to provide a gift certificate for the raffle
- Thanked Council for the \$100.00 gift card to Ealaine's Restaurant in West Porta
- Will be requesting a donation from my Council #613 at our next meeting.

Motion: Made by Br. Mike Amato

Seconded: Br. Mario

\$100.00 donation from the membership budget of Grand Council to go towards the purchase of gift cards for the Pasta Bingo Dinner.

2025 Grand Council Sessions (Br. Fourie #32) – Status update? When/Where?

- Room rate remained the same as this year
- Br. Tom is working with a new representative with Bally's Hotel. Ownership is back east.
- Cannot call the Hotel – Information will be in the journal
- Call Church in May

2026 Grand Council Sessions – (Br. Bill Walls #80). Any news?)

- **Br. Bill Walls will be the chair for the 2026 Grand Council Session**
- **No committee formed as of yet. Br. Walls to work on this**
No report at this time.

Council 900 Dues

- **Dues notices were sent out to Council 900 Brothers with the \$5.00 increase in dues**
- **Some dues notice letters were returned**
- **Br. Fourie reported there are 32 active Council 900 members**
- **Many Council 900 Brothers have purchased raffle tickets**

New Business

Stipend

Motion: made by Br. Danny

Seconded: Br. Mario

Grand Council to pay each individual Council \$125.00 for each elected delegate who attends the 2025 Session but not more than 4 people up to a maximum of \$500.00

Motion Passed

Bulk Mail Permit

- The bulk mail permit is used once a year and was renewed by Br. Bartoli for \$350.00
- Will Grand Council approve the payment of the Bulk Permit under the postage budget
- Current Postage stamp .73 cents

Motion: Made by Br. Danny

Seconded: Br. Mike Amato

For Grand Council to pay the annual renewal for Bulk mail permit in the amount of \$350.00 for 2025

Motion Passed

Report of Sports Committees:

Chairmen of the Sports Group of Committees:

Bocce Ball – Brother Mike Dimech #613

Will looking to schedule this year's tournament in September

Golf Tournament – Brother Bob Fiorito #613

- Br. Paul asked for each Council to provide a donation / gift card
- Golf Tournament in Castro Valley, nice golf course and banquet facility

Motion:

For Grand Council to donate \$100.00 towards 2025 Golf Tournament the prize fund.

Br. Mike Amato

Seconded: B. Mario

Motion passed

Bowling –

- Br. Avery to contact Brother Michael Sanzeri #59 regarding the tournament – Need to place information in the Institute Journal and website

Grand Chaplain's Report – Rev. Agnel De Heredia #32, Grand Chaplain

- Fr. Agnel asked if we knew anyone who was effected by the Southern California Fires
- Need to Pray for the fire victims

Good of the Order:

- Matching Funds approved for 2025 – same amount as last year. Due by end of April.
- All applications sent via regular mail and is on the website

Next Grand Director Meeting: March 15thth at 9:00 a.m.

Closing Prayer – Fr. Agnel

Adjournment

11:13 a.m.