



DANTE'S INFERNO



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Rich Battistessa

Let's make August the month for recruiting

I'm on vacation in Canada, so this will be short and sweet.

August in Italy is a favorite getaway month for many families, and so it is in the United States as well.

So I offer you this brief reminder from beautiful Canada: August is a great month for our members to recruit and sponsor new paesani for the club. Let's reach out to friends who want to enrich their Italian heritage.

The men's barbecue is a wonderful way to introduce new people to the club, and guests surely will be welcome at Italian night at the River Cats game on Aug. 31.

The pasta sauce cook-off is coming up in September, and we'd like you to get involved and share your recipes. Guests are welcome, too.

Hope you will all attend these upcoming activities. Let's have a great August!



Dante Club member Michael Micciche, seated left in photo at right, enjoys a meal with new friends during a two-month stay in Italy's Lake Como area. Hotel Lenno and a tasty mixed seafood grill are pictured at left.

Living like a local proves easy in Italy's welcoming Lake Como

Story and Photos by Michael Micciche

On July 5, my wife and I began a two-month stay in a non-tourist town in Italy's Lake Como area, which has given us the opportunity to live like the locals.

We're staying in a fully functional, air-conditioned modern apartment, so we can cook, wash clothes and watch TV.

The experience has shown me what I have always believed: The Italian lifestyle is healthy, relaxed and family-oriented. Generally, people enjoy their lives just as they

are and for what they are. They accept and enjoy life and are very happy with the cards they've been dealt.

This doesn't imply that career ladders aren't important to workers, but people here are far less obsessed with money at the expense of happiness and contentment.

Neighbors befriended us from our first day and gave us tips on dining, shopping and getting around the area.

See LAKE COMO, Page 3



NEWS, NOTES AND OTHERWISE

Ladies Auxiliary

The Ladies Auxiliary is gearing up for its 3rd annual Mercato, set for Columbus Day, Monday, Oct. 9, at the auxiliary's monthly meeting.

The event will feature a small group of vendors selling crafts, baked goods and a variety of Italian products. It will be a great opportunity to start holiday shopping!

Those interested in participating in the event may contact Karol Buccola at 916-455-4232 or karolrb55@gmail.com.

The Ladies Auxiliary meets the second Monday of each month, except July and August, for dinner and social events.

New members

The club interviewed Steve DeCristafaro during our July barbecue and will present him to members in September.

Gary Lukins will be inducted in September, and we'll interview Frank Lomascola at the August barbecue.

The club has lots of openings. We encourage members to sponsor qualified applicants, who should be able to join our ranks soon.

To obtain member applications, go to the club website, speak to Joy Reinhardt in the office or contact Frank Calcagno at 916-515-1117 or fscal@comcast.net.

In memoriam

Former club member Bob Caselli died July 18.

Bob played professional baseball for the Boston Red Sox and was inducted into the Sacramento Baseball Hall of Fame.

Please keep the Caselli family in your thoughts and prayers.

Club apparel

Aprons and sweatshirts are among clothing items available for purchase.

We have four styles of sweatshirts and polo shirts for men, women and children.

To order items, speak to Ron Cristoni at a meeting or reach him at 916-457-4516 or roncristoni@aol.com.

Christmas in July?

Recent 100-degree days have everyone thinking about retreating to the beach, but it isn't too soon to put 2017 holiday parties on the calendar.

Club manager Joy Reinhardt has begun taking reservations for what looks to be a strong December for facilities rental at the club.

If you or any family members or friends are responsible for a holiday party at a place of business, please consider the club's banquet rooms as venue options. Contact Joy via phone or email. While you're at it, spread the word by liking the Dante Club on Facebook, and



Upcoming Events
To reserve and pay online, go to:
<http://www.danteclub.com/calendar.php>

August 12**Vic Martinelli Memorial Golf Tournament**

Location: Bartley Cavanaugh Golf Course, 8301 Freeport Blvd., Sacramento

Time: 7 a.m. check-in, 8 a.m. shotgun start, 2 p.m. bar opens, 2:30 p.m. lunch

Costs: \$85 golf, lunch, awards; \$20 lunch only; \$20 each additional lunch guest; \$100 hole sponsorships for businesses, individuals (sponsor signs displayed at each hole)

Pay by cash or check: Call Ken Buono at 916-955-9413 or Frank Buccola at 916-606-4026.

Pay by credit card: Website or call 916-925-8230.

August 31**Italian Heritage Night at River Cats vs. Las Vegas Game**

Location: Raley Field, 400 Ballpark Drive, West Sacramento

Time: 5 p.m. wine tasting, 7:05 p.m. game time

Cost: \$19

Highlights: pregame Italian folk dancing, Dante Club scoreboard recognition, \$2 Miller Lites

September 5**Tuesday Night Dinner**

Time: 6 p.m. cocktails, 7 p.m. dinner

Menu: pork shank with farro, braised cannellini beans, heirloom tomato and onion salad, seasonal vegetables, hazelnut cake

Cost: \$24 adults, \$12 ages 5 to 10

Reservations are pending.

October 3**Tuesday Night Dinner**

Time: 6 p.m. cocktails, 7 p.m. dinner

Menu: arugula and sorrel salad with kumquat vinaigrette, pasta bolognese, green beans with garlic croutons, Meyer lemon semifreddo, rolls and wine

Cost: \$24 adults, \$12 ages 5 to 10

Reservations are pending.

November 7**Tuesday Night Dinner**

Time: 6 p.m. cocktails, 7 p.m. dinner

Menu: simple winter greens, grilled lamb chops with broccoli rabe pesto, caponata with Turriga, leek risotto, rolls, wine and tiramisu

Cost: \$25 adults, \$12.50 ages 5 to 10

Reservations are pending.



News, Notes and Otherwise

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

share club posts with your friends.

And don't forget to put the Dante Club's Christmas party on your calendar for Dec. 17. Details to follow.

Social reminders

As the Dante Club is a social club, our social committee continues to provide members with multiple opportunities to be social with fellow paesani.

Coming up Aug. 12 is the annual Vic Martinelli Memorial Golf Tournament and luncheon (see details on Page 2 calendar). Bartley Cavanaugh Golf Course will be the setting where members and guests can regale each other with fish stories that can't be proven otherwise.

Members who can't or don't golf can still attend the event to cheer on their favorite foursomes. A delicious lunch will follow. Deadline for entries is Monday, Aug. 7.

Keeping with the athletic theme, Italian Heritage Night at Raley Field on Aug. 31 will kick off at 5 p.m. with wine tasting and Italian folk dancing, followed by the game at 7:05 p.m.

Come out and watch the River Cats take on the Las Vegas 51's. A splendid time for all is guaranteed.

Buildings and grounds

Bob Giovanetti and his team continue their lightning-speed makeover of the Dante Club building and grounds.

The effort includes installation of a new heating, ventilation and air conditioning unit planned for the first or second week of August, as well as ongoing door repair and general cleanup from recent construction.

Based on the list of things Bob has been working on, he will surely have steady employment well into 2020. Take a look around and notice the new sparkle that surrounds the club.



A postcard image shows a rail car making its way up a mountain track high above picturesque Lake Como in Northern Italy. The Funicular Railway has connected Lake Como with the town of Brunate since 1894.

Lake Como

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

These are some of the reasons that recent studies, reported in various media, have shown that if you're born in Italy and live there your entire life, you're likely to live longer than populations in any other country in the world.

Although a natural diet is one of the critical factors in the longevity of the Italian people, researchers say lifestyle and reduced stress levels also contribute in a significant way to the longer life.

So, yes, I feel younger already!

Living as a local is a wonderful experience, if you

can make the time. You really feel the lifestyle and the culture when you shop, dine, socialize and coexist in a non-tourist community.

If you're born in Italy and live there your entire life, you're likely to live longer than populations in any other country in the world.

Getting into the local flow of shopping at the open market, espresso breaks, pasta at the local trattoria, afternoon coffee or wine break, dinner after 8 p.m., gelato and passaggiata—all these customs help you acculturate

very quickly. We take day trips and weekend outings just as local retirees do.

You can't help but feel Italian.

And after a short time, you are Italian.

Give it a try sometime.



Winery, brewery and olive oil partners

Wine

- Balletto Vineyards, Santa Rosa
- Bella Grace Vineyards, Sutter Creek
- Carvalho Family Winery, Clarksburg
- Galvan Family Cellars, Fairfield
- Karmere Vineyards, Plymouth
- Merlo Vineyards, Redding
- Morse Wines, Fiddletown
- Pedroncelli, Geyserville

- Perry Creek Winery, Fair Play
- Sean Minor, Napa
- Secret Ravine, Loomis
- Taylor Family Vineyards, Napa
- Yorba Wines, Sutter Creek
- Young's Vineyard, Plymouth

- Lost Coast Brewery, Humboldt
- Mussetter Distributing, Auburn
- Out of Bounds Brewing Co., Rocklin
- Wildcard Brewing Co., Redding

Beer

- Blue Note Brewing Co., Woodland
- Hoppy Brewing Co., Sacramento

Olive Oil

- Olive Mix, Sacramento
- Maltese Olive Oil, Sacramento

DANTE'S REMINDERS



Member volunteers

To volunteer, contact club president Rich Battistessa or social chairman Tom Novi to offer your services. You can reach Rich at drbattistessa@comcast.net or 916-961-4854 and Tom at tomnovi@aol.com or 916-961-6197. To explore new social events, contact Vic Brida at vbrida51@gmail.com or 916-588-6276.

Donations

Donate to our scholarship or building funds in memory of a loved one or a friend to keep their legacy going. And buy raffle tickets! Donations can be made easily online at <http://www.danteclub.com/donation.html>.

Dante Club apparel

If you'd like to purchase club shirts or other specialty clothing items, contact Ron Cristoni at 916-457-4516 or roncristoni@aol.com or speak to him at a members meeting. You must present cash or a check to place an order.

Newsletter photos and news

Submit photos and news items for *Dante's Inferno* to John Caselli at jac6652@aol.com. Items must be received by the 25th of each month to be considered for the following month's newsletter. Publication depends on available space and is not guaranteed. To post news and photos on Facebook, log in to your Facebook account and search for "Dante Club."

Contact information

Have you recently changed your address or phone number? Please alert Tom Mezzanara at 916-467-7483 or tjmezzan@gmail.com.