



DANTE'S INFERNO



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Rich Battistessa

Party, dinners and nominations round out our year-end schedule

Amici, in primo luogo di tutti vorrei augurargli tutto una festa molto felice. Buon Natale e un nuovo anno felice.

The month of December brings great joy and a sense of family. I hope that many of you will attend the Christmas party Dec. 17. Of course, as always, the more the merrier.

I would like to thank all members for supporting the Tuesday Family Night dinner Nov. 7. We had 138 attendees and enjoyed a great dinner.

We hope our numbers will continue to grow as we support this traditional Dante Club meal.

We had the first round of nominations for the 2018 board at our last general meeting.

At our Dec. 18 meeting, we will also ask for nominations from the floor.

See PRESIDENT'S CORNER, Page 3

And now is the time to say thanks and arrivederci!



A SPECIAL MESSAGE

Joy Reinhardt

Thank you, Dante Club, for allowing me the opportunity to learn everything there is to know about Italian culture ... and then some.

I enjoyed my four-plus years at your club and will certainly smile when I remember many special moments shared with each of you, my amazing team and, of course, our customers.

I'm headed to Santa Barbara with a bag over my shoulder and a smile on my face and in my heart. I want you to know that you are in the abundantly capable hands of our assistant manager, Sarah Nussman; our cook, Dawn Emerick; and the rest of the culinary crew.

Until next time, cheers to all of you, and Merry Christmas!
Affectionately,

Joy Reinhardt, Dante Club manager, 2014 to 2017

Vicenza: Walk and shop till you drop

By Michael Micciche

Vicenza in the Veneto region of Italy is a stone's throw from Venice and well worth a one- or two-day visit.

The beautifully laid out city is great for leisurely walking, with many architectural sites designed by 16th-century architect Andrea Palladio. Shoppers can enjoy the boutique shops of the central area, renowned for its gold jewelry.

As a thriving, cosmopolitan city, Vicenza offers rich history



Architect Andrea Palladio designed the Palladian Villas of the Veneto outside Vicenza's core area.

and culture, with many museums, art galleries, piazzas, villas, churches and Renaissance palaces.

See VICENZA, Page 3



NEWS, NOTES AND OTHERWISE

Ladies Auxiliary

The Ladies Auxiliary donated \$1,500 toward essential services for the victims of the Sonoma and Yuba City fires. Members also made a \$100 memorial donation in memory of Annetta Caselli. The donation will benefit the Dante Club's scholarship awards program.

The auxiliary's annual Christmas dinner meeting Dec. 11 promises to be full of fun and festivity, featuring a strolling Italian mandolin player and "Rat Pack"-style Italian singers.

Women interested in participating in the auxiliary may contact Karol Renm Buccola at 916-455-4232 (home), 916-217-6124 (cell) or karolrb55@gmail.com.

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.

Social activities

The upcoming Christmas dinner Dec. 17 will feature prime rib and delicious game hens for a very reasonable price. Members should plan to attend and embrace the holiday season with great food and drink.

Let's not forget the Tuesday Night Dinners on the first Tuesday of the month. This ongoing monthly activity guarantees nice Italian meals served at a modest price. So plan to attend if possible, because great food and drink and long-lasting friendships are the foundation of Dante.

Show Tom the money

Membership dues for 2018 are due Jan. 31. They can be paid online at <http://www.danteclub.com/members.php> or by sending a \$100 check to:

Dante Club, Attn: Tom Mezzanares
2330 Fair Oaks Blvd.
Sacramento, CA 95825

Checks should be made payable to the Dante Club.

New members

Members recently honored the Dimino family: member Mike, longtime successful football coach at Del Campo High School; son Tyler, star quarterback of undefeated Del Campo; and, of course, father and grandfather Jim, revered and important Dante Club member.

Jim is a past club president who has served on the social, building and grounds and advisory committees. He also has prolonged his distinguished football career by announcing local high school football games for the past 20 years.

Grazie to the Dimino family!

We recently inducted three new members to contribute to our club. Steve DeCristofaro brings his business expertise. Ron Grove, a legendary Roseville High School volleyball coach, is a longtime attendee at club events, and Harold Price is a longtime volunteer at Dante events.

Tom Mezzanares and Rich Battistessa sponsored these new members.

We interviewed and approved Dave Gregory, sponsored by John Caselli, for membership. Dave, a local radio

See NEWS, NOTES AND OTHERWISE, Page 3

**December 17****Dante Club Christmas Holiday Party**

Time: 5 p.m. cocktails, 6 p.m. dinner

Menu: antipasto, mixed greens, choice of prime rib with rosemary potatoes or Cornish game hen with wild rice, seasonal vegetables, rolls, wine, bundt cake, iced tea, coffee

Cost: \$32 adults, \$20 ages 12 and younger

Reservation deadline: Tuesday, Dec. 12

January 2**Tuesday Night Dinner**

Event canceled because of New Year.

January 20**Crab Feed**

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

Menu: antipasto, mixed greens, all-you-can-eat crab, rigatoni with meat sauce, seasonal vegetables, rolls, wine, spumoni, coffee, iced tea

Cost: \$45 adults, \$25 children age 12 and younger

Reservation deadline: 10 a.m. Friday, Jan. 12

February 6**Tuesday Night Dinner**

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

Menu: antipasto, chicken and polenta, seasonal vegetables, rigatoni, rolls, spumoni, wine, coffee, iced tea

Reservations are pending.



President's Corner

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

For any members interested in serving on the board and being considered for nomination, please let someone on the board know.

We would be more than happy to answer questions and explain more about how the board functions.

On Dec. 18, we also will vote on prospective board members, so attendance at this meeting is very important to our club.

In addition, by the time this month's *Dante's Inferno* publishes, a new manager will be under contract.

As Joy Reinhardt leaves the Dante Club to pursue a new adventure, we will move into 2018 with new ideas and a new direction.

Marketing the Dante Club facility as a prime venue for Sacramento events will be one of our major goals for the coming year.

Our new manager will be highly skilled in marketing strategies.

News, Notes and Otherwise

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

personality, will be inducted in January.

Frank Lomascola and Tom Lippi are waiting in the wings to join the club.

We encourage all members to recommend qualified applicants to join our club.

Lend a hand

The Dante Club has long supported local Italian-American

businesses whenever possible, and, in turn, the Sacramento-area Italian business community has long supported the Dante Club.

The club's board of directors recently decided to feature Italian businesses in *Dante's Inferno* as another way to show our support.

We will try this for the next few months to see if it should be a permanent feature in the newsletter.

There would be no cost, at least initially, to the businesses featured.

This should be a great opportunity for the Italian community to support local Italian businesses, because the *Inferno* has a circulation approaching 1,000 copies a month.

Owners of Italian businesses who would like to participate may contact Tom Novi at tomnovi@aol.com for further details.

Vicenza

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Vicenza is the third largest Italian industrial center as measured by the value of its exports.

It is among Italy's wealthiest cities, thanks to its textile and steel industries that employ tens of thousands of workers.

About one fifth of Italy's gold jewelry is made in Vicenza, which greatly contributes to the city's economy. Many jewelry makers are family-owned businesses.

The engineering and computer components industry also is important in Vicenza.

In 1994 UNESCO placed Vicenza on its list of World Heritage Sites.

In 1996 the designation was expanded to include the Palladian Villas outside the city's core area and renamed City of Palladio and the Palladian Villas of the Veneto.

Vicenza is home to 23 buildings designed by Palladio. Among the most famous are the Villa Almerico Capra, or La Rotonda, just outside the downtown



Teatro Olimpico, the final design of architect Andrea Palladio, wasn't completed until after his death in 1585.

area; Basilica Palladiana, in Vicenza's Piazza dei Signori; Teatro Olimpico, Palladio's final design, begun in 1580; Palazzo Chiericati; Palazzo del Capitaniato, home of the town council; Palazzo Porto; and Palazzo Barbaran da Porto, home of the Museo Palladio.



Premium 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

- Mount Saint Joseph Wines, Loomis
- 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

Beer

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

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

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 Mezzanares at 916-467-7483 or tjmezzan@gmail.com.