



DANTE'S INFERNO



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Rich Battistessa

Calling all Italian cooks and braggarts

Anyone who's into cooking might appreciate our upcoming Il Cucco Magnifico, a pasta cook-off event planned for September.

We're looking for a few good cooks. Actually, we'd like to make this a fun competition. If you like to cook and brag a little, if you think you make a pretty mean pasta sauce, red or white, we'd love for you to participate.

Our thought is to have the contest as part of our regular September membership meeting. Members of both the men's club and the Ladies Auxiliary are invited to take part.

We're just in the planning stage for this event, so we'll have more information available in the coming weeks. Let's see who will be "Il Cucco Magnifico" of the Dante Club!

In other news, Dante Club members have given the OK

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Viva Vino!

A small but appreciative crowd enjoyed all that this year's Viva Vino had to offer. The May 21 event featured wines from nine local wineries and beers from two local breweries, as well as live music (including tunes by club member Eric Luchini, left), crafts by local artisans and handmade olive oils, sausages and pastas. Volunteers helped

make a flawless presentation from beginning to end. Dante Club members and friends who didn't make it to Viva Vino should calendar this wonderful event for May 2018 now.



NEWS, NOTES AND OTHERWISE

Ladies Auxiliary

Several Ladies Auxiliary members traveled by bus to San Francisco to see the musical *Roman Holiday*, followed by dinner in North Beach.

Auxiliary member Gloria Tomei organizes several trips a year for members and guests to a variety of events and locales.



Posing at the Golden Gate Theatre are, from left, Elaine Schaedler, Lauretta Marsalla, Sallie Marsalla, Jill Matranga and Joan Suarez.

New members

In May, the Dante Club inducted Anthony Reay, sponsored by Joe Cerniglia. We also interviewed Joe Porata, who was approved by members. We hope to induct him in June.

We also honored longtime member Babe Lovotti as a lifetime member. He joined the club in 1961 and is a past president.

We hope to honor Gus Kanelos in June.

The club has several openings for membership. After our recent member approval of a change in the bylaws, we hope to bring in a few more people to the club.

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 fsal@comcast.net.

In memoriam

Longtime member Walter Langhi died recently.

Please remember the Langhi family in your 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.

You must present cash or a check made out to the Dante Club when you place an order.

Scholarship winners

We will welcome scholarship winners at our June members meeting and present them with replicas of their checks. Recipients are Elaine Carlson, related to member Ernie Tomasilli; Julia Giordano, related to John Giordano; Julia Viliquette, related to Joe Cerniglia; Mia Franzonia, related to Mark Franzonia; and Nicolas Karnow, related to Josephine D'Alessandro.

Buildings and grounds

The Dante Club installed a new canopy at the entrance on May 24.

Jim Dimino, Bill Giovannetti and their crew continue to pursue the costs of bocce courts, oyster shells notwithstanding. They're also working with Joy Reinhardt to ensure club rooms stay at 72 degrees this summer. Joy is coordinating service for air conditioning units to include belts, filters, cleaning and fixing a thermostat in the Venetian room that's spezzato.



The Dante Club building sports a new green canopy at the entrance.



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

August 1**Family Night Dinner**

Time: 6 p.m. cocktails, 7 p.m. dinner
Menu: Caprese salad; veal chop with roasted chanterelles and garlic, radish and Campari; penne with toasted pinenuts and spumoni
Cost: \$24 adults, \$12 ages 5 to 10
Reservations are pending.

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: Go to club 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, scoreboard recognition for Dante Club, \$2 Miller Lites
Reserve via club website by July 15.

September 5**Family 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.

**President's Corner**

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for a change in our bylaws, which will now take effect.

After a third reading of the proposed change at our last membership meeting, members voted for the amendment, which affects members of the Ladies Auxiliary whose husbands wish to become members of the Dante Club.

Under the bylaws, a sponsor may introduce prospective members to the board, and they must be interviewed.

Here is the change in the bylaws:

- a. An Associate Member can be non-Italian by birth or origin, but his spouse must be the daughter of a member of the Dante Club, either deceased or living, in good standing.
- OR
- b. An Associate Member can be non-Italian by birth or origin, but his spouse must be of Italian origin and a current member of the Dante Club Auxiliary.
- c. Associate Members shall not exceed 15 percent of the total membership of the Dante Club. They shall enjoy all rights and privileges of membership but cannot vote or be nominated or elected to office.

Italian city of Bologna beckons with great food and lively atmosphere

Story and photos by Michael Micciche

Note: This is a reprint of an article by Dante Club member Michael Micciche, first published in Dante's Inferno in June 2016. Micciche operates Italian Journeys of Sacramento, which specializes in travel planning and booking services for Italy. He typically travels there annually.

Bologna is truly a marvelous, fascinating city, which is well-known for its fabulous cuisine.

I'm pleased to say that, in 2011, I had the pleasure of tasting a great deal of it.

There's no question that Bologna is one of the best foodie places in the world.

The famous Bolognese sauce was created here and remains one of the city's signature dishes. Mortadella with pistachios is another Bologna original.

There's more, of course, to Bologna than its

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Bologna's signature twin towers, left, the Torre degli Asinelli and the Torre Garisenda, tilt like the Leaning Tower of Pisa. Porticoes, similar to the one at right, make navigating the city easy and enjoyable.



Polpette, or Bologna-style meatballs, are among the city's many culinary delights.

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

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



A sculpture of Neptune, left, adorns a fountain in Piazza Maggiore, the central square and hub of political and social life in Bologna. A small side street, right, shows the city's charm.



Bologna

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cuisine. It's also home to Europe's oldest university, the University of Bologna, founded in 1088.

So it's a vibrant and alive city, a destination in Northern Italy that's not to be missed. The sidewalks of

many of the streets in Bologna are covered with porticoes. That feature, along with the city's layout, makes it an especially easy place to walk around and enjoy.

Bologna also is known as the city of towers because of its many

medieval towers, including two that tilt like the more famous leaning tower in Pisa.

From Bologna you can easily access the cities of Parma, Modena and Ferrara, as well as the Adriatic coast.

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 ybrida51@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.