



DANTE'S INFERNO



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Bob Guidera

New bocce courts add genuine Italian flair to summertime

Well, members, I must take a moment to mention our July barbecue when we brought bocce ball back to the Dante Club. The bocce playing was so well received that we did it all over again for the August barbecue.

We had very nice steaks for the beef lovers, and the bocce was even better — better because the courts, with use, had compacted and leveled, making for a better playing surface.

I was very pleased, because the club really took to bringing back bocce, and it was a major investment for us. Our next task will be to form a committee to promote it, set up tournaments and put the courts to good use.

These two barbecue events took the place of our regular July and August members meetings.

Also in August was our

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A LEAGUE OF THEIR OWN

Club organizes bocce teams after new courts spark great interest

Bocce ball has added a great dimension to the Dante Club's list of activities. Our two summer barbecues were well-attended, and our introduction to the two new bocce courts provided a great deal of excitement.

Cigars, beer and bragging — with a little arguing, too, of course — was the order of the day. The old guard members gave tips on how to play, and novice players soaked up the ambience.

All members are welcome to use the courts throughout the week. The office will take reservations from 10 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday.

If the answering machine comes on, members can leave a message saying when they'd like to play, and office staff will schedule the time. If the time is already booked, members will be notified and adjustments made.

Members also may drop in and play on the courts anytime as available. With only two courts, it's a share-the-road, first-come-first-served situation.

The club can provide ball sets, but players also can bring their own. In fact, that's a good idea, especially if the club is closed.



Jim Brennan, left, and Ben Racoma celebrate a win during an intramural tournament on the new bocce courts at the August barbecue.

We'll set up for play at 4 p.m. on the September meeting night. Arrive early to get on the courts. We have lights for evening play.

The club is developing a bocce league, with 20 people now on the list. Members who want to join can email Richard Battistessa at drbattistessa@comcast.net or call him at 916-961-4854.

Teams of six should give Rich their names, and individuals can be placed on a team.

Players of all experience levels are welcome. We will learn and enjoy the experience together. Look for more information at our September meeting.



NEWS, NOTES AND OTHERWISE

Ladies Auxiliary

After taking off July and August, Ladies Auxiliary members will return to their regularly scheduled meetings on the second Monday of each month.

The auxiliary is busy gearing up for its 4th annual mercato to be held on Columbus Day, Oct. 8, during the monthly dinner meeting.

The event will feature a small group of vendors who will sell a variety of gift items for holiday shopping, including handcrafted jewelry, fresh Italian baked goods, olive and gift sets, customized hand-stitched embroidery items, children's books and jams.

Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. Members are encouraged to come early and start their shopping — or treat themselves to a little something.

The auxiliary welcomes new ideas and new members.

Anyone who would like to participate as a mercato vendor or learn more about the group can contact Karol Reahm Buccola at 916-217-6124 or karolrb55@gmail.com.

New members

Marq Truscott, sponsored by Carl Perricone, and Marco Ambroselli, sponsored by Michael Micciche, will be inducted into the Dante Club this month.

Jim DeVard and Dennis Nord will be interviewed Sept. 17 for potential membership.

John Finegan has been interviewed and will be presented for consideration by members in December.

Please recommend qualified men to apply for Dante Club membership.

San Francisco trip

Theater-loving Dante Club and Ladies Auxiliary members can sign up for a Nov. 28 outing to see the national touring production of *A Bronx Tale* in San Francisco, followed by dinner in Berkeley.

Auxiliary member Gloria Tomei has organized the bus trip at a cost of \$195 per person. Participants will attend a matinee of the critically acclaimed musical at the Golden Gate Theater, followed by dinner at Spengers Fresh Fish Grotto in Berkeley.

Dinner is a choice of cedar plank salmon, chicken parmesan or pasta primavera, along with Caesar salad, chocolate truffle cake and coffee, iced tea or soda.

Here's the day's itinerary:

- Meet at 10:30 a.m. at Holy Spirit Church parking lot or Dante Club parking lot. Bus will arrive in San Francisco by 1:30 p.m. for the 2 p.m. show. Lunch provided on bus.
- After show, travel to Berkeley for 5:30 p.m. dinner. Depart at 7:30 and return to Sacramento by 9:30.

Reservation deadline is Sept. 16. Send a check with an entree choice to Gloria Tomei at 2785 4th St., Sacramento, CA 95818. For more details, call Gloria at 916-447-5559 or email her at gtomei@comcast.net.

A Bronx Tale is a musical based on a 1989 original one-man show by actor Chazz Palminteri and a later movie version starring Palminteri and Robert De Niro. Set in the 1960s, the musical is loosely based on Palminteri's early life growing up in an Italian-American neighborhood in the Bronx.

The show is directed by Robert

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Upcoming Events
Reserve and pay online at:
<http://www.danteclub.com/calendar.php>

September 17**Member Meeting Dinner**

Time: 6 p.m. cocktails, 7 p.m. dinner, 8 p.m. meeting

Menu: Northern Italian trattoria burger, Mediterranean salad with green beans and feta, rigatoni, limoncello cake

Cost: \$13 with reservations, \$15 at the door

Reserve by 10 a.m. Friday, Sept. 14. Come early to play bocce.

October 11**50th Annual Stag Sausage Feed and Bocce Ball**

Time: 4 p.m. bocce, 6 p.m. social hour with cocktails, 7 p.m. dinner

Menu: sausages and more

Cost: \$25 per person

And more: Special Hooters guests will sell raffle tickets. Event is open only to men, age 21 or older. Sign up for the event online or call 916-925-8230 for questions and reservations.

HOLD THESE DATES:

DECEMBER 23:
Christmas Dinner

DECEMBER 31:
New Year's Eve Party

Look soon for date, time and other information about this popular annual event:

Mangia Italiano

**President's Corner**

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annual Vic Martinelli Memorial Golf Tournament. I'm happy to report that it, too, was a great success.

The Aug. 4 event was held at the Bartley Cavanaugh Golf Course, a nice 18-hole course on Freeport Boulevard in Sacramento's south area.

The event attracted 110 golfers who had good things to say about the day and the lunch we offered after the tournament back at the club.

The tournament, as you know, is a large fundraiser for our scholarship fund.

We had a fun night of River Cats baseball on Aug. 24 during Dante Club Night at Raley Field in West Sacramento. The evening ended with a fireworks show.

Don't forget that in September we return to our regular meeting schedule and prepare for fall and winter.

During the September meeting, we will induct folks we interviewed over the summer and get them started with the club.

Members, please keep on the lookout for potential club members, as we are always looking for good people to keep our club moving forward.

Our Stag Sausage Feed in October might be a good opportunity to show off our club to potential members.

Tournament raises nearly \$10,000 for fund to benefit college-bound students

Our annual Vic Martinelli Memorial Golf Tournament on Aug. 4 was a huge success, generating close to \$10,000 for the Dante Club's scholarship fund, which allows us to provide financial help to college-bound students.

A big round of applause goes to event planners Frank Calcagno, Dan

Calcagno, Frank Bartucco, Rich Battistessa, Tom Novi, Roy Jones, Ernie Tomasilli and Frank Buccola.

We also want to thank all our hole sponsors, especially Pavilion Car Wash, Gazzetta Jewelry, Lexus of



Taking a break during the tournament are Frank Bartucco, left, and Frankie Buccola.

Sacramento and Haggin Oaks for their continuing donations and support of the event over the years.

In this year's tournament, two teams tied for first place, and both went to sudden death, shooting 12 under par. We did a reverse scoring, starting on hole 18, where both teams tied. We then went to hole 17, and the team of

Mike Mason, Bob Ecklund, Charlie Allen and David Allen birdied the hole, while the other team parred it.

The Kevin and Keith Calcagno group tied for first place. Both teams played very well.

2018 DANTE CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

- Robert Guidera, president: robertguidera@att.net
- Bill Giovanetti, first vice president, building and grounds: wgiovanetti@comcast.net
- Ron Cristoni, second vice president, club clothing: roncristoni@aol.com
- Ron Fiorica, recording secretary, scholarships: rbfiorica@frontiernet.net
- Tom Mezzanares, treasurer: tjmezzan@gmail.com

BOARD MEMBERS

- Ronald Bacher, admission ticket chairman: ronald.bacher@gmail.com
- Richard Battistessa, advisory, social activities: drbattistessa@comcast.net
- Victor Brida, tour director: ybrida@gmail.com
- Dan Calcagno, Easter Bunny: dmcalcagno@aol.com
- Frank Calcagno, membership: fscal@comcast.net
- John Caselli, publicity: jac6652@aol.com
- Jim Dimino, advisory committee: jkdimino@sbcglobal.com
- John Fiorica, sergeant at arms: jfpacificrr@frontiernet.net
- Matt Longo, building and grounds: longomb@sbcglobal.net
- Michael Micciche, corporate travel: Michael.micciche@gmail.com
- Tom Novi, social activities: tomnovi@aol.com
- Patrick Orelli, finance: pat@apcpagroup.com



Romanesque-style Alba Cathedral, the episcopal seat of the Diocese of Alba, stands in the main piazza of the city of Alba in Italy's Piedmont region.

Wine, truffles and Nutella among Piedmont's delights

By Michael Micciche

The Piedmont, or Piemonte, region of Italy has some of the most beautiful countryside vistas in all of Italy.

The region also is the home of wonderful Barolo, Barbera, Dolcetto and Barbaresco wines made from the Nebbiolo grape.

The region's Torino is a beautiful and vibrant city, full of young people who are students at the university there.

The River Po flows through the city and provides the perfect place for

frequent rowing competitions.

Walking and sightseeing around Torino are easy. The cuisine is excellent, especially in the fall when truffles and mushrooms are plentiful.

By Italian measures of age, Torino is relatively modern and well-designed, offering wonderful views of the majestic Alps.

The city played host to the 2006 Winter Olympics.

After a short drive from Torino, visitors will find the rolling hills and

vineyards of Alba and Asti.

Alba is a small city that can claim fame to Asti Spumante, Nutella and excellent Italian truffles. Visitors can go on a truffle hunt with trained dogs and watch them sniff out treasure.

Alba offers rolling hills, vineyards and villages not too far apart. Visitors can enjoy pasta dishes laced with fresh truffles and porcini mushrooms, and nearby Asti offers a great spot to sip sparkling wine.

News, Notes and Otherwise

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De Niro and Jerry Zakes, with music by Alan Menken and lyrics by Glenn Slater. The show ran from Dec. 1, 2016 to Aug. 5, 2018 at the Longacre Theater in New York City.

Club apparel

Members can buy Dante Club-branded clothing, including aprons and four styles of sweatshirts and polo shirts. Clothing comes in sizes for men, women and children. To order, speak to Ron Cristoni at a meeting or reach him at 916-457-4516 or roncristoni@aol.com.

In memoriam

Longtime Dante Club member Bill Deasy died at age 88 on June 29.

A club member since Sept. 15, 1969, he was born in Woodland and attended Grant Union High School.

Bill fought in Korea for four years as an Air Force pilot. After his return to Sacramento, he worked for the Sacramento County District Attorney's office for 35 years as a criminal investigator.

Please keep the Deasy family in your thoughts and prayers.

Save pull tabs

The Dante Club continues monthly to give back to the community through the Sacramento Ronald McDonald House pull-tab program at the University of California Davis Medical Center in Sacramento.

The program collects and recycles pull tabs from aluminum cans and contributes proceeds to the Adopt-A-Family Program, which helps subsidize lodging costs for families staying at the Sacramento Ronald McDonald House.

The program collects only aluminum can tabs instead of entire cans because collection and storage of the tabs is easier and more hygienic.

Members are asked to save their pull tabs and bring them to Dante Club events and meetings. We will collect and donate them from the club to the Sacramento Ronald McDonald House.



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
- 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 Bob Guidera or social chairman Tom Novi to offer your services. You can reach Bob at robertguidera@att.net or 916-451-1467 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 20th 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 our club treasurer, Tom Mezzanares, at 916-467-7483 or tjmezzan@gmail.com.