



# DANTE'S INFERNO



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

*Rich Battistessa*

### *Let's remember and practice our values*

At the March general meeting, several members approached me regarding an article discussing camaraderie and friendship that was in the Inferno circa April 2016.

The article talked about how members could get involved with the many different activities that the Dante Club sponsors. The goal is fun, friendship and fraternity.

These goals no doubt need to be revisited if we have members questioning whether we're reaching out enough to help encourage those basic tenets.

I believe our club offers ample avenues for members to get involved. As a board, we encourage volunteers to become active in the many committees that drive our social programs, as well as maintain the club's physical presence. This is always stressed during the interview process, and the membership committee encourages new members to get involved. We will continue to stress that members' involvement is crucial to what we experience at

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## Amendment to bylaws proposed

Dante Club members will consider a change in our bylaws. Article III (Membership), Section II (Classes), Paragraph 2 (Associate Members) now reads:

- a. An Associate Member can be non-Italian by birth or origin, but his spouse has to be the daughter of a member of the Dante Club, either deceased or living, in good standing.

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## Milan blends ancient and modern

Story and Photos by Michael Micciche

**M**ilan is financially the most important city in Italy and is the second most populous city but sits at the center of Italy's largest urban and metropolitan area.

Although not as beautiful as some Italian cities,

having been greatly destroyed by World War II bombing raids, the city has rebuilt itself into a thriving cosmopolitan business capital.

For tourists, what makes Milan interesting compared to other places is that the city is truly more about the lifestyle of enjoying worldly pleasures. It's a paradise for shopping, football, opera and nightlife.

Milan is the main marketplace for Italian fashion. Fashion aficionados, supermodels and international paparazzi descend on the city twice a year for its spring and autumn fairs.

Despite Milan's modern aspect, it's one of Europe's most ancient cities, with more than 26 centuries of history and cultural heritage. Famous sights include the Duomo and La Scala opera house.



Duomo di Milano, one of the world's largest cathedrals, stands in Gothic splendor in the city's Piazza del Duomo.



## NEWS, NOTES AND OTHERWISE

### Ladies Auxiliary

The Ladies Auxiliary meets the second Monday of each month, except July and August, for themed dinner meetings. Membership is open to any woman of Italian descent or who is married to an Italian.

Women who'd like to participate may call president Karol Buccola at 916-217-6124 or 916-455-4232 or email her at [Karolrb55@gmail.com](mailto:Karolrb55@gmail.com).

### New members

We have several openings for new members, with six on the waiting list.

Three newcomers will be inducted in April: Alex Sarti, sponsored by Dick Zarzana; Pat Costamagna, sponsored by Lou Bisbiglia; and Pietro Pozzuto, sponsored by Don Agostinelli.

We have a request from legendary member "Babe" Lovotti for lifetime member status. The board will consider this and present it for approval at the April meeting.

We've sent out four applications and await their return request. To obtain applications for prospective new members, go to the club website, get one from Joy in the Dante Club office or contact Frank Calcagno at [fscal@comcast.net](mailto:fscal@comcast.net) or 916-515-1117.

### Last call for dues

We make one final request to members to pay their dues. Certified letters will be sent out early this month dropping from membership anyone who has not paid.

### Club apparel

Aprons and sweatshirts are among Dante Club clothing items

available for purchase. We also have four styles of sweatshirts for men, women and children, along with short- and long-sleeved 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](mailto:roncristoni@aol.com).

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

### Club donation

Many thanks to Rick Tedaldi for donating his 50-50 winnings to the club at the March 13 general meeting. Grazie!

### In memoriam

Joe Puleo, a Dante Club member since 1978, died March 27. Joe served as club president in 1986.

Please keep the Puleo family in your thoughts and prayers.

### Golf tournament

The club's Vic Martinelli Golf Tournament, the main fundraiser for our scholarship fund, will be held Aug. 12 at Bartley Cavanaugh.

We need everyone's help in obtaining corporate and business sponsors, hole sponsors, raffle prizes and players.

If you or your relatives or friends want to play in the tournament, you can sign up on the Dante Club website or get a sign-up sheet from Ken Buono at [Kenbuono@aol.com](mailto:Kenbuono@aol.com) or from Frank Buccola at [frankiebuccola@gmail.com](mailto:frankiebuccola@gmail.com). Ken or Frank can offer help and answer questions about sponsorships.

The golf tournament committee

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### April 15

#### Easter Egg Hunt and Brunch

**Time:** 11 a.m. egg hunt and cocktails, noon brunch

**Menu:** Pastries, scrambled eggs, ham, bacon, Italian sausage with peppers and onions, waffles with whipped cream and strawberries, potatoes, rolls, tableside mimosas

**Brunch cost:** \$25 adults, \$10 for children age 5 to 10; free hunt

**Event for members and guests.**

**Reservations needed by 10**

**a.m. Tuesday, April 11. Pay by credit card at 916-925-8230.**

### May 2

#### Family Night Dinner

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

**Menu:** Warm radicchio with red onions and lemon, guinea hen with fregula, cauliflower ziti, biscotti

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

**Reservations are pending.**

### May 13

#### Mother's Day Brunch

**Time:** 11 a.m. cocktails, noon brunch

**Menu:** Mini pastries and quiches, prime rib with horseradish cream, eggs alla Fiorentina with Hollandaise, bacon, sausage, potatoes, rolls with butter, mimosas and Cosmopolitans

**Cost:** \$25 adults, \$10 children ages 5 to 10

**Reservations by 10 a.m.**

**Tuesday, May 9.**

### May 21

#### Viva Vino Wine and Beer Tasting Event

**Time:** 1 to 4 p.m.

**Cost:** \$25 through May 17; \$30 at door

**More details to come soon!**

**President's Corner**

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the Dante Club.

The fun part is attending social functions and just enjoying the events.

The friendship aspect is for all of us, new and old, to reach out and make a new friend (paesani).

The third part, fraternity, is to support the club's efforts — political, economic and educational — that help maintain the legacy of what and who Italians really are.

Having coffee at Dianda's Italian Bakery and Cafe in Fair Oaks, I saw on the wall an Italian flag that had two words across its face: *Sempre Famiglia*.

We should always put our immediate family first and then work hard to maintain our cultural heritage that makes the Italian community so strong.

For those of us who have been in the Dante Club for many years, I ask you to please reach out to our newer members and make them feel welcome. Encourage them to get involved.

That's what our club is all about.

By doing so, we will all benefit.

**Bylaws**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

b. Associate Members shall not exceed 15 percent of the total membership of the Dante Club. They shall enjoy all rights and privileges of membership, except they cannot be nominated or elected to office.

We have proposed the following amendment to the information in our bylaws about qualifying associate members:

a. An Associate Member can be non-Italian by birth or origin, but his spouse has to 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 has to 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, except they cannot vote or be nominated or elected to office.

**News, Notes and Otherwise**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

will be successful only with everyone's help, so members are encouraged to get involved.

**Buildings and grounds**

We've ordered a new canopy for our building's facade, which should arrive in May. It will feature the club logo that's on our apparel.

Also, the building's exterior stucco will receive a fresh coat of paint, and the original bocce court will be resurrected soon on the east end of the property.

Magpie Preschool has obtained keys to the Privato and is now retrofitting the space for its needs.

**Dante Club's 6th Annual****Wine & Beer Tasting Social Event****Sunday, May 21st 1-4pm***Proceeds benefit the Building Fund*

- Taste wine and beer from local wineries and breweries
- Sample local olive oils
- Nibble on tasty Italian appetizers
- Listen to the acoustic sounds of local musicians and view the works of local artists
- Socialize in a comfortable setting under shady trees.
- Admission/Wine/Beer Tickets:  
Early Bird Special — purchase by May 17: \$25 for adults (21+)  
After May 17: \$30 per person  
Designated Drivers \$5

Purchase tickets at [danteclub.com/events](http://danteclub.com/events) or contact Randy Canova at (916) 212-6972

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- 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](mailto:drbattistessa@comcast.net) or 916-961-4854 and Tom at [tomnovi@aol.com](mailto:tomnovi@aol.com) or 916-961-6197. To explore new social events, contact Vic Brida at [ybrida51@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:tjmezzan@gmail.com).

## CLIP AND SAVE: YOUR 2017 DANTE CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NAME	EMAIL ADDRESS	COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
Bacher, Ron	<a href="mailto:ronald.bacher@gmail.com">ronald.bacher@gmail.com</a>	membership
Battistessa, Richard (president)	<a href="mailto:drbattistessa@comcast.net">drbattistessa@comcast.net</a>	advisory chairman, finance chairman
Brida, Vic	<a href="mailto:ybrida51@gmail.com">ybrida51@gmail.com</a>	membership, social
Calcagno, Dan	<a href="mailto:dcalextra@aol.com">dcalextra@aol.com</a>	finance, buildings and grounds
Calcagno, Frank	<a href="mailto:fscal@comcast.net">fscal@comcast.net</a>	membership chairman, scholarship
Caselli, John	<a href="mailto:jac6652@aol.com">jac6652@aol.com</a>	publicity and marketing chairman
Cristoni, Ron	<a href="mailto:roncristoni@aol.com">roncristoni@aol.com</a>	buildings and grounds
Dimino, Jim	<a href="mailto:jkdimino@sbcglobal.net">jkdimino@sbcglobal.net</a>	buildings and grounds
Novi, Tom	<a href="mailto:tomnovi@aol.com">tomnovi@aol.com</a>	social, finance, scholarship
Fiorica, Ron (secretary)	<a href="mailto:rbfiorica@frontiernet.net">rbfiorica@frontiernet.net</a>	bylaws chairman, scholarship chairman
Giovannetti, Bill	<a href="mailto:wgiovannetti@comcast.net">wgiovannetti@comcast.net</a>	finance, buildings and grounds
Guidera, Robert (first vice president)	<a href="mailto:robertguidera@att.net">robertguidera@att.net</a>	advisory, bylaws
Mezzanares, Tom (treasurer)	<a href="mailto:tjmezzan@gmail.com">tjmezzan@gmail.com</a>	advisory, finance
Orelli, Patrick	<a href="mailto:porelli@galina.com">porelli@galina.com</a>	finance, social
Micciche, Michael	<a href="mailto:michael.micciche@gmail.com">michael.micciche@gmail.com</a>	social, publicity
Longo, Matt	<a href="mailto:longomb@sbcglobal.net">longomb@sbcglobal.net</a>	buildings and grounds
Talani, Michael (second vice president)	<a href="mailto:mickimon333@gmail.com">mickimon333@gmail.com</a>	advisory, finance, social