



DANTE'S INFERNO



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Bob Guidera

Fun events in store for fall and winter

As we move into the cooler fall season, we can look back with pride at a wonderful summer for the Dante Club, featuring our annual golf tournament, two great meeting-night barbecues and — a new adventure for the Dante Club — the completion of our bocce ball courts.

With the return of bocce to the club after almost 40 years, we've rediscovered a fun activity that's drawn great interest among our members.

We're now billing evening events that include bocce starting at 4 p.m. Anyone who wants to come out and play can simply call the club and reserve a court.

This month we have our 50th annual Stag Sausage Feed on Oct. 11. That's a lot of years for any event, and this year's promises to be an especially good one.

We'll have special guests from Hooter's helping with the raffle and, of course, we'll have

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Sweet Caroline ...



Neil Diamond tribute band Super Diamond, above, performed Sept. 21 at the Dante Club. Frank and Sandy Calcagno and Richard and Diane Battistessa, below, dressed in 1960s regalia and sang "Sweet Caroline" with a band member. Other attendees included, bottom left, Geoff and Rhonda Wharton, Bob Guidera, Olga Gatchel and Vanessa and Tom Mezzanares. Dante Club staff pose with the band member, bottom right.





NEWS, NOTES AND OTHERWISE

Ladies Auxiliary

On Oct. 8, Ladies Auxiliary members will present their 4th annual Mercato on Columbus Day event during their monthly dinner meeting.

The event will feature a small group of vendors selling gift items for holiday shopping, including handcrafted jewelry, Italian baked goods, homemade jams and pie fillings, a variety of olive and gift sets, customized hand-stitched embroidery items, children's books, Italian T-shirts, Christmas ornaments and giftware.

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 encourages members to invite guests to the dinner event to ensure a nice crowd and to make it a continued success.

The auxiliary welcomes new ideas and new members. To learn more about the group, contact Karol Reahm Buccola at 916-217-6124 or karolrb55@gmail.com.

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.

New members

In June we inducted Geoff Wharton, sponsored by Tom Matrangola, into the Dante Club.

In September we inducted Marq Truscott, sponsored by Carl Perricone,

and Marco Ambroselli, sponsored by Michael Micciche.

We also voted in John Finegan, sponsored by Joe Guzzo, and Jim DeVard, sponsored by Dick Zarzana.

This month, we will interview Dennis Nord for potential membership. Dennis is sponsored by Pietro Pozzuto.

The club has two more people on the waiting list.

Members, please encourage qualified men to join our ranks.

Save pull tabs

A big thank-you goes out to club member Howard Seaton of Gold Beach, Oregon, who mailed the Dante Club a bag of pull tabs for our ongoing donation efforts benefiting the Sacramento Ronald McDonald House pull-tab program.

Howard sent a note with his donation: "For Ronald McDonald House, a good cause."

The pull-tab program, based at the University of California Davis Medical Center in Sacramento, collects and recycles pull tabs from aluminum cans and contributes proceeds to the Adopt-A-Family Program.

The program 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.

Dante Club members are asked to save their pull tabs and bring them to club events and meetings.

We will collect and donate them from the club to the Sacramento Ronald McDonald House.



Upcoming Events

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

October 11

50th Annual Stag Sausage Feed and Bocce Ball

Time: 4 p.m. bocce, cigars and cocktails; 7 p.m. dinner

Menu: sausages and more

Cost: \$25 per person

And more: Special Hooters guests will sell raffle tickets.

Reserve by 10 a.m. Oct. 8.

November 6

Tuesday Night Dinner

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

Menu: Roma tomato jam with manchego cheese bruschetta, Italian greens and herb salad, rigatoni, bouillabaisse, rolls and butter, pumpkin fangelico pie with mascarpone, house wine

Cost: \$28 adults, \$14 children ages 5 to 10

Reserve by 10 a.m. Nov. 2.

HOLD THESE DATES:

Dec. 23: Christmas Dinner

Dec. 31: New Year's Eve Party

Event ideas sought

This month, the board and social committee will survey members online and at the October meeting to learn what social events they like or don't like. We'll request suggestions that will help us prepare our 2019 events calendar.

Anyone with ideas who also would be willing to chair an event should let us know. We welcome all thoughts that can help us guide the future of our club.

**President's Corner**

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the usual delicious sausages.

Also, for our bocce enthusiasts, we will have the courts ready for play at 4 p.m.

Please come out to help us keep the 50-year tradition alive and to play a game or two of bocce.

The sausage feed is open to members and guests, so be sure to invite some friends to come along. See the calendar on Page 2 for reservation details.

We are already booking the Dante Club for holiday parties and events, which are sure to be memorable, thanks to our club manager Allison Nord. With Allison's many efforts over the past year to improve our facility, the club has never looked better. We would be delighted to serve groups looking for a nice place to celebrate.

We ask members to put the word out to their families, friends and business colleagues. To book a banquet room at the club, people should act quickly to secure the dates they want.

We are in the planning stages of our annual traditional Christmas dinner in December. We'll share more details of the event soon.

After our usual summer meeting break, we started the membership process in September with interviews and induction of new members.

To keep our club going, we need new members. Current members should reach out to any suitable candidates among their friends who may be interested in joining. The sausage feed could be a great way to introduce them to our club.

Club to offer venue for multicultural chamber mixer and political discussion

The Dante Club will provide the venue Oct. 17 for an event hosted by the National Tax Limitation Committee.

"The Intersection of Business and Politics," a multicultural chamber of commerce mixer and political discussion from 5 to 7:30 p.m., will feature a buffet of hors d'oeuvres and desserts, a no-host bar and a prize drawing along with the discussion.

David Lichtman, market president and publisher of the Sacramento Business Journal, will serve as master of ceremonies. Moderating the political discussion will be Dan Walters, former longtime political columnist for The Sacramento Bee and author of more than 9,000 columns about California politics published statewide.

U.S. Rep. Ami Bera, a Democrat representing California's 7th District, and his Republican challenger, Andrew Grant, have been invited to participate as well.

Area chambers of commerce have invited their members and guests to learn more about chamber membership during the event.

Each attendee will receive a free raffle ticket for the chance to win prizes, including a grand prize, from participating chambers.

Cost of the event is \$20. Go to www.limittaxes.eventbrite.com for tickets. For more information, call 916-616-7962.

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: vbrida@gmail.com
- Dan Calcagno, Easter Bunny: dmcalcagno@aol.com
- Frank Calcagno, membership: fsal@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



In Tuscany, get lost and let your journey unfold

By Michael Micciche

Tuscany is everything that's representative of Etruscan and medieval Italy. Every hill town and walled city is full of history and reminders of Italy before it unified.

Centuries ago, each area of Italy had its own government, army and institutions. To keep enemies out, cities built walls and towers and were constructed on hills to make them easier to defend.

Today, any rivalries among the cities are about cuisines, wines, traditions and historical battle reenactments. Modern times are about festivities, parades and honors.

Tuscany offers so much to see and do. I can mention a few of the most popular places, but it's best to wander around and find your own favorites. In fact, don't be afraid to go off the beaten path. These are among my favorites:

Cortona has lots of history, Etruscan influences, fantastic views and great trattorie, enoteche and mercati. You can roam the streets and alleyways for hours.



The main piazza of Arezzo, above, anchors the city inside its walls, where great history, art and architecture abound. Outside the walls is the city's commercial section. Arezzo offers a tantalizing assortment of restaurants and shops and is the gold center of Italy. Within the walled city of Lucca, a day trip from Florence, is a unique public square, Piazza dell' Anfiteatro, below. The elliptical-shaped piazza is the site of a former Roman amphitheater and now functions as a bustling center of town life, with a marketplace surrounded by private residences and cafes.



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
- Taylor's Market, Sacramento
- 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



Agriturismo Rosa dei Venti, above, offers visitors the chance to stay in a villa in the Tuscan countryside near Corona. Below, visitors can enjoy this iconic view of Florence, or Firenze, from the River Arno.



Tuscany

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Arezzo is two cities: modern and commercial outside its walls; history, art and architecture inside. It also has great restaurants and shops and is the gold center of Italy.

Montepulciano, Pienza and Montalcino are a perfect threesome for a daylong visit. Montepulciano and Montalcino offer consistently great wines, and Pienza is known for its cheeses and meats.

Siena is second in size only to Florence. It's home to the world-famous Palio horse race held twice every summer in the main piazza.

San Gimignano once boasted more than 20 towers for defense. Seven remain, and visitors can climb one for spectacular views.

Tuscany offers so many more wonderful cities. Firenze, Fiesole, San Sepolcro, Anghiari, Lucca, Pisa, Viareggio, Follonica, Montecatini Terme and Montecatini Alto all deserve a visit. My advice: Get lost, and the road will take you to places where you'll meet warm, friendly people who are proud of their towns, their food and their wines.

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.