



DANTE'S INFERNO



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Bob Guidera

*Summer weather,
we're ready for you*

May's late rain and snow sure seemed like déjà vu: Didn't we experience the same weather in May last year? This has been such a long, wet winter, and I think we're due for a real Sacramento summer in June.

We're ready for it, especially with our bocce teams and play dates getting underway.

Rich Battistessa and Dan Calcagno are setting up Saturday dates, and we're looking to set up morning play with a lunch afterward.

Rich and Dan will coordinate with our general manager Sarah Nussman and chef Jessi Moreno, so we'll have beverages and food ready for the players.

Under Jessi's direction, our Mother's Day brunch on May 12 featured an array of delicious foods that brought many compliments.

We're considering adding more brunches to our offerings, perhaps

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SUPERIOR SCHOLARS



The Dante Club awarded almost \$9,000 in scholarships to seven college-bound students at our monthly members meeting May 20. Enthusiastically displaying their giant checks are six winners, from left, Massimo Giordano, Alexis Karnow, Jane Calcagno, Lauren Calcagno, Milan Calcagno and Marissa DeCristofaro. Seventh winner Ryan Jones is not pictured. Board member Ron Fiorica said the winners could cash their checks at any Bank of America, thanks to a longstanding agreement with A.P. Giannini.

Italian Riviera offers seaside views and balmy weather year-round

By Michael Micciche

The Italian Riviera has much to offer — beautiful beaches, scenic sea views, outstanding foods and wines, and a wealth of history and culture.

The region, shaped like a horseshoe stretching from the French border to the Tuscan border in Italy, boasts a temperate climate year-round. The well-known Cinque Terre, five picturesque towns hugging the seashore and cliffs of the Ligurian coast, is always

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NEWS, NOTES AND OTHERWISE

Ladies Auxiliary

Ladies Auxiliary member Gloria Tomei has organized a daylong group trip to the Golden Gate Fields horse racing and entertainment venue in Berkeley on Sunday, Aug. 18. Dante Club and auxiliary members who enjoy horse racing are invited to participate.

The day will begin with an all-you-can-eat buffet in the Turf Club on the top level of the grandstand. The club offers food, a full bar, betting windows, reserved seating, television monitors and exceptional views.

"We may even have a named race, with six or more lucky people going to the winner's circle for a photo with the race winner," Gloria said.

Recommended dress is smart and casual, such as stylish denim and footwear and festive hats. The racetrack discourages sweatpants, T-shirts, baseball hats, shorts and sleeveless shirts.

The Dante group will leave at 9:30 a.m. from the Target parking lot at Riverside Boulevard and Broadway in Sacramento.

Participants may go to the buffet upon their arrival at Golden Gate. The first race will begin at noon.

The group will leave Berkeley after the last race at about 6 p.m. and return to the Target parking lot by 7:30 p.m.

Reservations and payment for the trip must be received no later than Aug. 10. Checks should be made payable to Gloria Tomei and sent to her at 2785 14th St., Sacramento, CA 95818.

For more information, call Gloria at 916-447-5559 or email her at gtomei@comcast.net.

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.

Order items from Ron Cristoni at 916-457-4516 or roncristoni@aol.com.

New members

On May 20, we inducted three new members: John Morelli and Chuck Santoni, sponsored by Frank Calcagno, and Joe Alameida, sponsored by Tom Matranga.

We've also interviewed prospective member Vincenzo Gigi, sponsored by Frank Calcagno, and will ask members to vote him in. Vincenzo, a Bay Area transplant, has been active in Italian American clubs in the past.

Jim Parino, a Dante Club member since 1969, applied for lifetime member status. The board recommended its approval, and members gave their OK in May.

Waiting in the wings are longtime local baseball coach Ralph Rago, sponsored by John Patella, and Victor Massagli, sponsored by Frank Calcagno.

We have several openings still available. We encourage members to recruit qualified applicants.

In memoriam

Longtime member Peter Grassi, who joined the club in April 1969, died May 2 at age 95. Please keep the Grassi family in your thoughts and prayers.

Golf update

We encourage members to sign up their golfing foursomes for the Vic Martinelli Memorial Golf Tournament on Aug. 17 at the Bartley Cavanaugh Golf Course.

Proceeds from the annual event

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

July 2

Tuesday Night Dinner

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

Menu: Stone-fruit salad with balsamic glaze, farfalle with creamy vodka sauce, zucchini and other squash, gremolata roasted chicken, lavender lemon cake

Cost: \$25 adults, \$13 children ages 5 to 10
Reserve by 10 a.m. Friday, June 28.

July 15

Steak Barbecue for Members and Guests

Time: 5 p.m. cocktails, 6 p.m. steaks handed out

Menu: Cook-it-yourself 16-oz. ribeye steaks with choice of sautéed toppings, garden salad, corn on the cob, Italian pasta salad, fruit salad, gelato, biscotti, coffee

Cost: \$25 adults, \$13 children ages 5 to 10
Reserve by 10 a.m. Friday, July 12.

August 17

Vic Martinelli Memorial Golf Tournament

Time: 7:30 a.m. tee-off, 12:30 p.m. bar and lunch

Location: Bartley Cavanaugh Golf Course for golf, Dante Club for lunch
Costs: \$85 entry fee and lunch, \$25 lunch only, \$100 hole sponsorship
For more information, call chairman Frank Buccola at 916-606-4026.

**President's Corner**

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alternating the Tuesday night dinners with an occasional brunch for the month.

If this idea sounds good to you, please let social chairman Tom Novi or any board member know of your interest.

I want to remind members of our club tradition of suspending monthly members meetings during July and August. Instead, we feature our popular steak barbecues during these two summer months.

We'll have more details about the barbecues soon. Please also keep in mind our annual Vic Martinelli golf tournament in August.

This year we will hold our annual Viva Vino and Beer event in September instead of May. We think later might be better, as sometimes May can be very warm.

The Dante Club thrives by adding new members. If you know someone who might make a good member, ask them to consider joining. You can begin by inviting them to one of our summer events and show us off a little.

Andiamo avanti!



Waterfront homes and shops in multicolored pastel hues add to the small-town charm and scenic beauty of the marina at Portofino, a retro port community along Italy's Tuscan border.

Riviera

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busy with tourists, especially during the summer.

I'm escorting a small group there as part of a trip to northern Italy.

Dotted along the horseshoe are several

interesting towns, with Genoa in the center.

The towns from south to north are Monterosso al Mare, Vernazza, Corniglia, Manarola and Riomaggiore.

From Genoa to the Tuscan border are

wonderfully scenic villages. Portofino is a retro port community, featuring multicolored pastel houses and shops.

The nearby towns of Santa Margherita and Rapallo offer lovely areas with miles of picturesque seaside.

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An outdoor market draws visitors and townsfolk to the square at Santa Margherita.



Mamma mia! That was some brunch!

More than 70 moms and their family members enjoyed the Dante Club's annual Mother's Day brunch event May 12. Guests raved about the beautifully displayed selection of foods and the outstanding mimosas, all for the modest price of \$25 per person.

News, Notes and Otherwise

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benefit our scholarship fund.

We will tee off at 7:30 a.m. this year to avoid the heat. After the tournament, golfers will go to the Dante Club for awards, a raffle and a luncheon of sausages, rigatoni and salad. A no-host bar will open at 12:30 p.m. with lunch to follow.

The \$85 tournament entry fee includes greens fees and lunch. Cost for a lunch guest is \$25.

Event chairman Frank Buccola needs a few more volunteer helpers. Those who don't golf can donate wine for the raffle or sponsor a hole for \$100. Hole sponsorships also are open to area businesses.

For more information, contact Frank at 916-606-4026 or frankiebuccola@gmail.com.

Bocce update

The Dante Club bocce league began May 25 with a total of eight teams and more than 40 players.

Teams are selecting team names, choosing captains and deciding on league shirts. Randy Canova helped us get a roller to smooth and compact the courts. Thank you, Randy!

With matches scheduled two Saturdays a month through October, we're looking forward to some spirited competition. Frank Bartucco has thrown down the gauntlet, saying he is on the No. 1 team whose members' names will be on the trophy at season's end. Other teams may want to challenge his words!

Contact Michael Micciche at michael.micciche@gmail.com or Dan Calcagno at dmcacagno@aol.com for more information.

Save pull tabs

Dante Club members are asked to save the pull tabs from their aluminum cans and bring them to our club events and meetings.

We will collect the pull-tabs and donate them on behalf of the club to the Sacramento Ronald McDonald House pull-tab program, based at the University of California Davis Medical Center in Sacramento.

The program collects and recycles pull tabs and contributes proceeds to the Adopt-A-Family Program. The program helps subsidize lodging costs for families staying at the Ronald McDonald House near the medical center

while their children are hospitalized.

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

Homeland news

Caleb Ewan of Australia sprinted to victory May 22 on the 11th stage of the 2019 Giro d'Italia, a three-week Grand Tour cycling race in Italy.

Italian cyclist Valerio Conti was the overall leader, remaining 1 minute, 50 seconds ahead of Slovenian cyclist Primož Roglič, a favorite, and 2:21 ahead of Nans Peters of France.

It was the second victory at this year's Giro for the 24-year-old Ewan, who also won the sprint at the end of the eighth stage.

Bar news

Club manager Sarah Nussman will soon send members e-alerts listing weekend event dates when the club bar will be open not only for events but also for members. They can stop by for an adult beverage and receive a discount with their membership cards.



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

2019 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
- Ron Pane, tour director: repane@icloud.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.net
- 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

**Riviera**

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The villages of Rapallo, Santa Margherita and Portofino are connected by a beautiful promenade.

North of the Cinque Terre lie La Spezia, Portovenere, Lerici and Tellaro, which are less touristy but definitely worth visiting.

Pesto sauce was created in this region and is still the best in the world.

Very good white wines dominate the area.

If you want city life, venture to Genoa, a bustling historical city with a large but very walkable old town area.

Be sure to visit the aquarium, one of the most innovative in the world.

The Italian Riviera, with its mild weather and excellent, fresh seafood, is a great place to relax and tour around at your leisure.



The Italian fishing village of Portofino, with its colorful buildings and scenic views, spreads out around a small harbour. Portofino has long attracted Riviera-loving artists and celebrities who often establish vacation homes there.

Fly into Genoa or Pisa, and take the short drive or train to the heart of the Riviera.

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.

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.