



**Donate to the Dante Club Legacy Fund!**

# DANTE'S INFERNO



## **PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

*Ron Pane*

### *Building renovation nears completion*

At our recent board meeting, Ernie Tomassilli commented that we are almost 98 percent done with the renovations to the club. It did make me sit back and think about how far we have, in fact, come since the middle of March.

We began renovating the Tuscan Room the week of Aug. 31 and encouraged members to make time in their schedules to come help with that last part of the remodel.

I'd like to again thank Ernie and his crew for donating countless hours to help turn the Dante Club into a facility of which we can all be proud. Special thanks to John Rosso, Pete Pesetti, George Procida, Tom Mezzanares, Frank Perri, Don Agostinelli, Steve Lavazzi and Joe Porata.

I hope everyone will stop by and see the improvements. We were able to make these many changes at a fraction of the cost

See **PRESIDENT'S CORNER**, Page 5



The Dante Club bar has a much-needed facelift after member workers contributed weeks of volunteer labor.

## **Makeover of bar now in final stage**

The Dante Club renovation has moved along swimmingly.

Much-needed improvements to the audio system in the Venetian Room are nearly completed, thanks to our technology technician, Kenny Lomax.

The bar makeover also is in its final stage, thanks to our amazing

See **MAKEOVER**, Page 6

## **Al fresco meeting set for Sept. 21**

After a six-month hiatus, the Dante Club will host a members meeting on Monday, Sept. 21.

The meeting will be a little different from those of the past. First, it will be outside. To comply with social distancing directives, we'll use the lawn area adjacent to the bocce courts and the gazebo. Masks will be required except when

See **MEETING**, Page 6



## NEWS, NOTES AND OTHERWISE

**Advisory, finance update**

The advisory and finance committees met recently with general manager Jennifer Peretti to review our operations and financial situation.

Several loans have been used to remodel the facility and pay off existing loans. Approximately \$250,000 has been spent.

Peretti reported that she has received a significant number of inquiries for events, all of which during this time of COVID-19 will be held in the lawn area. She also reported on several policy changes designed to improve event management and operations, along with an emphasis on internet and social media marketing.

The finance committee was asked to develop a simplified revenue and expenditure report for reporting our financial status to the members.

It was recommended and approved by the board that our next members dinner be held Sept. 21 in the lawn area by the bocce courts. The outdoor meal will include wine, if the state Department of Alcohol Beverage Control approves.

Peretti is reviewing the feasibility of serving members curbside meals. More information to come on this.

**In Memoriam**

Joe Cavallaro, a former Dante Club board member, passed away Aug. 13.

A Sacramento State graduate who played football and rugby for the Hornets, Cavallaro went on to

teach history at Del Campo High School. He also coached the two sports he excelled at in college.

He was instrumental in bringing rugby to the Sacramento area.

Joe Cavallaro will be remembered for being a champion of kids and one of the Dante Club's more interesting card players.

Rest in peace, Joe.

**Newsletter marketing**

The response to making *Dante's Inferno* a more interactive marketing vehicle for club and auxiliary members has been positive.

Members Johnny "The Barber" Waldron, Tom "Mixed Bag" Novi, Jim Relles of Relles Florist and Mark Pedroncelli of Pedroncelli Chiropractic, along with Ladies Auxiliary board member Helen Manfredi of Medic Ambulance, have all made annual advertising commitments for their businesses.

So, too, have the Italian Cemetery in Colma and Realtor Pat Vogeli. Many thanks to all.

Other members with businesses who wish to advertise may email John Caselli at [Jac6652@aol.com](mailto:Jac6652@aol.com).

**Bocce postponed**

As we remain vigilant during the pandemic, we will continue to delay the start of our bocce season. We hope the first ball can be thrown sometime in October.

Members should look for updates via email blast or the next *Inferno*.

In the meantime, players: Keep your arms and legs limber.



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

**ALL CLUB AND MEMBER  
EVENTS ON HOLD UNTIL  
FURTHER NOTICE**

**Save pull tabs**

We continue to ask Dante Club members to save the pull tabs from their aluminum cans and bring them to the club. We will donate the pull tabs to a Sacramento Ronald McDonald House 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, which helps subsidize lodging costs for families staying at the Ronald McDonald House near the medical center while their children are hospitalized.

**Club apparel**

Members can purchase Dante Club-branded aprons and four styles of sweatshirts and polo shirts.

Clothing comes in sizes for men, women and children.

To order items, email Mark Pedroncelli at [peddc@surewest.net](mailto:peddc@surewest.net).

**Membership update**

The board has approved Chris Troughton and Paul Jacobs to receive club badges.

See NEWS, NOTES AND OTHERWISE, Page 6



## 2020 Committees and Assignments

(revised 8.1.20)

### COMMITTEES

#### ADVISORY AND OPERATIONS

Tom Novi, chairman; Michael Micciche, vice chairman  
Members: Tom Novi, Frank Calcagno, Richard Battistessa, Mark Pedroncelli, Jim Dimino

#### BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Ernie Tomassilli, chairman; Joe Porata, vice chairman  
Members: Ron Pane, Bob Guidera, vacancy

#### BYLAWS

Ron Fiorica, chairman; Tom Novi, vice chairman  
Members: Michael Micciche, Richard Battistessa, Ralph DiLibero

#### FINANCE

Tom Novi, chairman; Pat Orelli, vice chairman  
Members: Tom Mezzanares, Ralph DiLibero, Dan Calcagno

#### INVESTIGATION

Ron Pane, chairman; Bob Guidera, vice chairman  
Members: Pat Orelli, Ernie Tomassilli, Frank Calcagno

#### MEMBERSHIP

Dan Calcagno, chairman; Bob Guidera, vice chairman  
Members: Pat Orelli, Ernie Tomassilli, Frank Calcagno

#### PUBLICITY

John Caselli, chairman; Tom Mezzanares, vice chairman  
Member: Mark Pedroncelli, Dan Calcagno

#### SCHOLARSHIP

Rich Battistessa, chairman; Jim Dimino, vice chairman  
Members: Joe Porata, Mike Battistessa, two Ladies Auxiliary representatives

#### SOCIAL

Michael Micciche, chairman; Joe Porata, vice chairman  
Members: Pat Orelli, Mark Pedroncelli, Colin Orelli, vacancy, two Ladies Auxiliary representatives

#### PERFORMANCE AND SUSTAINABILITY (special committee)

Tom Novi, chairman; Ralph DiLibero, vice chairman  
Members: Jim Dimino, Rich Battistessa, Pat Orelli

#### VOLUNTEERS (special committee to recruit members to assist with painting, plumbing, electrical, landscaping, social activities, internet, website and other club needs)

Ernie Tomassilli, chairman; Ron Fiorica, vice chairman  
Members: Michael Micciche, Frank Calcagno, Jim Dimino

### ASSIGNMENTS

Bocce: Rich Battistessa and Ladies Auxiliary

Dante Club apparel: Mark Pedroncelli

General membership meetings: John Caselli, Joe Porata, Ron Bacher

Sergeant-at-arms: John Fiorica, general meeting

Ladies Auxiliary liaison: Richard Battistessa

## 2020 DANTE CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### OFFICERS

- Ron Pane, president: [repane@icloud.com](mailto:repane@icloud.com)
- Tom Novi, first vice president:  
[tomnovi@aol.com](mailto:tomnovi@aol.com)
- Patrick Orelli, second vice president,  
[pat@apcpagroup.com](mailto:pat@apcpagroup.com)
- Ron Fiorica, secretary:  
[rbfiorica@frontiernet.net](mailto:rbfiorica@frontiernet.net)
- Tom Mezzanares, treasurer:  
[tjmezzan@gmail.com](mailto:tjmezzan@gmail.com)

### BOARD MEMBERS

- Richard Battistessa: [drbattistessa@comcast.net](mailto:drbattistessa@comcast.net)
- Dan Calcagno: [dmcalcagno@aol.com](mailto:dmcalcagno@aol.com)
- Frank Calcagno: [fscal@comcast.net](mailto:fscal@comcast.net)
- John Caselli: [jac6652@aol.com](mailto:jac6652@aol.com)
- Ralph DiLibero: [ralph.dilibero@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:ralph.dilibero@dhcs.ca.gov)
- Jim Dimino: [jkdimino@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jkdimino@sbcglobal.net)
- Ron Fiorica: [rbfiorica@frontiernet.net](mailto:rbfiorica@frontiernet.net)
- Bob Guidera: [robertguidera@att.net](mailto:robertguidera@att.net)
- Matt Longo: [longomb@sbcglobal.net](mailto:longomb@sbcglobal.net)
- Tom Mezzanares: [tjmezzan@gmail.com](mailto:tjmezzan@gmail.com)
- Michael Micciche: [michael.micciche@gmail.com](mailto:michael.micciche@gmail.com)
- Tom Novi: [tomnovi@aol.com](mailto:tomnovi@aol.com)
- Patrick Orelli: [pat@apcpagroup.com](mailto:pat@apcpagroup.com)
- Ron Pane: [repane@icloud.com](mailto:repane@icloud.com)
- Mark Pedroncelli: [peddc@surewest.net](mailto:peddc@surewest.net)
- Joe Porata: [jporata@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jporata@sbcglobal.net)
- Ernie Tomassilli: [ca.ernest@pacbell.net](mailto:ca.ernest@pacbell.net)



## Memories are made of these: photo books and gnocchi recipes

Hello, ladies! I hope everyone is keeping safe during this COVID-19 pandemic.

As much as we wanted a September meeting, it doesn't look like that will happen. Stay tuned for updates on any future meetings.

I hope auxiliary members will grab a mask and drop by the Dante Club to see the many exciting improvements. The place looks amazing!

I know Ronnie and the gang have been there every day doing such great work so we can all be proud to hold an event there or direct people to have their functions there.

\*\*\*\*\*

One of our auxiliary members, Nancy Quinlan, has a business called Scattered Pictures. She takes people's loose photos and memories and turns them into keepsake photo books.

One of her memory books tells the love story of her parents and their journey to America. Not only does she incorporate photographs but also their birth certificates, citizenship papers, marriage license and other documents.

What a great way to not only keep family documents from deteriorating but also to have them readily available to share with children, grandchildren and generations to come. Some older photos have to be retouched, but it's hard to tell.

Nancy will take a box of photographs and make any kind of memory book someone wants —

### LADIES AUXILIARY NEWS

*Debra Cattuzzo*

about their life, their children's lives or their memorable trips, like mine to Africa. What a great way to keep memories alive by just grabbing a book from the bookshelf and reliving the experience or sharing with family and friends.

Nancy was our board historian who chronicled Dante history in a handout given to members.

Anyone interested in her services can reach her at [scatteredpictures2@gmail.com](mailto:scatteredpictures2@gmail.com) or 916-798-7038.

\*\*\*\*\*

Friends and I recently made gnocchi and are curious to know whether others make it with different recipes.

Of course, my family thinks ours is the best, but let's see if others' recipes are good, too. Please email family gnocchi recipes (or any other favorite recipes) to me at [cattuzzod@gmail.com](mailto:cattuzzod@gmail.com), and let's compare.

#### **Cattuzzo Family Gnocchi**

*6 large red potatoes  
1 cube butter, melted  
3 eggs, slightly beaten  
2 teaspoons baking powder  
4 cups sifted flour  
¼ cup grated parmesan cheese  
1 tsp salt*

Boil the potatoes, but avoid puncturing them as too much water

will enter the potato. Baking is an option, too, if preferred.

Peel the potatoes, and put through a potato ricer. Let cool slightly, then add eggs, salt, butter and parmesan, making sure the melted butter isn't so hot that it cooks the eggs.

Gradually add flour and baking powder until the mixture can be put on a board and kneaded. Avoid handling it too much as this can make the gnocchi hard.

Roll into strings about the thickness of a finger. Cut into small pieces and roll lightly down a gnocchi board or a fork at a 45-degree angle until there's a slight pocket to help hold the sauce.

Place gnocchi onto a floured or parchment-papered cookie sheet, without letting them touch each other. Freeze the gnocchi for at least 30 minutes.

Put frozen gnocchi into boiling water with a tablespoon of oil. In a few minutes, the gnocchi will rise to the surface of the boiling water. After a few more seconds, lift out and layer with the sauce and more parmesan.

The sauce we use is my cousin Dorine Weise's recipe. It is a light, flavorful sauce that complements the gnocchi.

What type of sauce does your family use?

I'd love to hear members' news or stories of what they've been doing during quarantine.

Please send an email to me at [cattuzzod@gmail.com](mailto:cattuzzod@gmail.com).

**President's Corner**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

because of our volunteer labor, but we still must pay the hard costs of materials and certain expertise. We secured loans to cover these expenditures, which need to be repaid.

Our new general manager, Jennifer Peretti, has generated some nice buzz about our facility that will bring in dollars from future events.

In the meantime, I call on all our members to help us bridge the gap by making a donation to the Legacy Fund.

To date, we have raised more than \$11,600, but we have a long way to go to reach our goal to repay our loans in a timely manner. Please be generous.

Last month I mentioned a possible name change for the club. I'm pleased to announce that the board reached a decision Aug. 23 to rename the Dante Club facility the Dante Event Center.

This came after months of research revealed that many people thought our facility was private because the name on the building contained the word "club."

In an attempt to make our name more inclusive, we've replaced "club" with "event center."

Our new name will be reflected in a new sign above the awning. The awning will continue to read "Dante Club, Established 1926," and we will continue "doing business as" the Dante Club.

I hope you are well, and I look forward to seeing you Sept. 21.

## *Members asked to review proposed bylaws changes*

Because we haven't been able to meet in person, we've shared our proposed bylaws changes in *Dante's Inferno* for the last few months.

The board wants all members to review the proposed changes so there are no misunderstandings in the future. A second reading is tentatively planned for the October meeting and a call for a vote in November.

Here are the proposed bylaws changes:

### **Nonsubstantive, semi-technical**

- changing the word "shall" to "may"
- renumbering certain agenda items
- combining position titles financial secretary and treasurer to treasurer/financial secretary

### **Substantive**

- combining advisory and finance committees and their duties, and membership and investigating committees and their duties
- changing the membership of certain committees
- shortening the bylaws amendment process from three to two months by voting in the second month
- reducing the bylaws amendment vote requirement from two-thirds of those present to a majority of those present
- increasing terms of the board of directors from one to two years
- having club officers assume their duties at the time of election
- adding duties to the role of recording secretary
- changing the term "club room" to "Dante Club facility"

For questions or concerns, call Ron Pane at 916-798-0111 or email him at [repane@icloud.com](mailto:repane@icloud.com).



Workers repair a fascia on a portion of the building as part of the Dante Club's recent renovation effort.



### Makeover

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

member volunteers.

Our new general manager, Jennifer Peretti, is taking a new approach to marketing, putting the Dante Club's name out in the public so we can rejuvenate our image in the Sacramento area.

We have recently begun hosting events in our outdoor area. If COVID-19 restrictions continue, we hope to host members meetings outdoors as well.

Peretti reports that the search for a new chef will begin shortly. Menus will be revamped, but in the meantime, member input on food items is welcome.

"While it doesn't feel like it now, fall is soon approaching," Peretti said. "We will be brainstorming new menus for the monthly club meetings promptly."

Peretti is hopeful that recent improvements in the Dante facility will produce positive results.

"The Dante Club is heading in the right direction," she said. "Soon, we'll once again be Sacramento's premier event and meeting facility."

### News, Notes and Otherwise

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Additionally, we have received membership applications from 12 people. The applicants and their sponsors are:

- Leroy Dal Porto, sponsored by Richard Zarzana
- Ryan Dimino, sponsored by Carl Perricone
- Andy Danovaro, sponsored by Don Agostinelli
- Daniel Dalfonso, sponsored by Anthony Catanese
- Louis Lodi, sponsored by Ronnie Pane
- Carl DeNigris, sponsored by Robert DeNigris
- William Charles Zellars, sponsored by Robert DeNigris
- Frank Michael Lienert, sponsored by Robert DeNigris
- Joseph Constantine Bonacci, sponsored by Frank Calcagno
- Scott Medford, sponsored by Richard Battistessa
- Rico Bertini, sponsored by Ronnie Pane
- Rick Sabbatini, self-referred

Interviews with the prospective new members will take place as soon as member meetings resume.

Members should email Dan Calcagno at [dmcalcagno@aol.com](mailto:dmcalcagno@aol.com) if they have any corrections to their contact information.

### Meeting

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

members are seated at their tables. The season will officially be fall, so we hope for a beautiful evening.

Second, this dinner event, and possibly future members meetings, will be by reservation only. In addition, only members can attend.

The menu for the \$15 meal will include rolls with sweet butter, caprese salad, grilled marinated eggplant and zucchini with Sicilian oregano, Parmesan-encrusted chicken breast, fettuccine with porcini mushroom sauce, and panna cotta with caramelized figs.

Members can pay by check, cash or credit card, in person or online.

Reservations must be made no later than Sept. 14. No exceptions will be made at the door.



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Mixed Bag. Gifts for all reasons. 24th and K. 9-6 M-SA, 10-5 SU. 10% discount to club members. Tom & Linda Novi, proprietors. 916-447-6123. [mixedbagsac.com](http://mixedbagsac.com).

**THIS SPACE AVAILABLE**  
For details, contact John Caselli at [jac6652@aol.com](mailto:jac6652@aol.com) or 916-217-6482.



## Dante Club Legacy Building Fund

These members of the Dante Club and the Ladies Auxiliary have contributed to our building fund since January, for a total of \$11,678.09 to date. Many thanks to everyone for their continued support:

- Don Agostinelli, \$250
- Anonymous, \$300
- Frank Bartucco, \$200
- Lee Bennet, in memory of Shirley Bennet, \$150
- John Bertoni, \$200
- Frank Calcagno, \$100
- Kyle Calcagno, \$100
- Randy Canova, \$150
- John Caselli, \$101
- Beverly Catchpool, \$100
- Debra Cattuzzo, \$500
- Kenneth Cemo, \$25
- Ron Cristoni, \$250
- Steve DeRoss, \$200
- Jim Dimino, \$100
- Nancy Doyle, \$100
- Ron Fiorica, \$100
- Joseph Guzzo, \$250
- Vince Heater, \$100
- J.A. Kaminski, \$100
- Richard Kinzel, \$200
- Fran Koscheski, \$500
- Bill Maffei, \$200
- Thomas Matranga, \$100
- Tom Mezzanares, \$100
- Michael Micciche, \$100
- Tom Novi, \$100
- Patrick Orelli: \$100
- J. Paul Pane Jr., \$250
- Ron Pane, \$3,277.18
- Vito Parisi, \$200
- Donald Pasquini, \$150
- Peter and Carol Pesetti, \$200
- Joe Porata, \$250
- Peter and Linda Raridan, \$100
- Jim Relles, \$100
- Tom Relles, \$100
- James Riolo, \$100
- John Rosso, \$768.52
- Elaine Panattoni Schaedler, \$500
- John Skinner, \$100
- Anna Tenderella, \$100
- Ernie Tomassilli, \$106.39
- Gloria Tomei, \$300
- George Zarzana, \$100
- Richard Zarzana, \$100

## DANTE'S REMINDERS



### Member volunteers

To volunteer, contact club president Ron Pane or social chairman Michael Micciche to offer your services. You can reach Ron at 916-798-0111 or [repane@icloud.com](mailto:repane@icloud.com). You can contact Michael at 916-550-1122 or [michael.micciche@gmail.com](mailto:michael.micciche@gmail.com).

### 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 Mark Pedroncelli at 916-812-6729 or [peddc@surewest.net](mailto:peddc@surewest.net) 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 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](mailto:tjmezzan@gmail.com).