

Reserve now for the July and August barbecues!

# DANTE'S INFERNO



PRESIDENT'S CORNER Tom Novi

### Men, women work together as a team

When you think about it, the Dante Club is, above all, a social club. It brings together friends, old and new, who have an Italian heritage and an interest in good food, drink and friendship.

The Dante Club Ladies Auxiliary serves the wives, sisters and daughters of Dante members with a woman's perspective, but the club and the auxiliary work in concert.

We saw this at our last members dinner when auxiliary president Debra Cattuzzo presented seven pounds of pull tabs to the club for donation to the Ronald McDonald House. A longtime charitable effort begun by past board member Ron Cristoni, the donation drive has seen nearly 1,500 pounds of aluminum-can pull tabs collected by club and auxiliary members.

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### **Collaboration benefits all**



A June 17 memorial service, left, honors Andrea Parker, a longtime Dante Event Center employee who died unexpectedly June 3. Center staff worked together with Dante Club and Ladies Auxiliary members to support Parker's family. In another show of collaboration, right, auxiliary president Debra Cattuzzo presents club president Tom Novi with seven pounds of pull tabs to benefit the Ronald McDonald House.

### Center staff and club members grieve death of longtime employee

he Dante Event Center hosted 32 events, including birthday parties, graduation celebrations, weddings, anniversary events and memorial services, during June.

With the annual graduation and wedding season underway, general manager Jennifer Peretti encourages club members to refer anyone looking for a venue to host a celebration or party. She said she and her staff also are already preparing for the holiday season and encourage people to book their special events soon, as the calendar is filling up. Peretti also reported an unexpected loss within her staff.

"It is with a sad and heavy heart that we lost one of our own this month," she said.

Andrea Parker, banquet captain at the Dante Club, died June 3. With more than eight years at the club, Parker was the longest-serving employee and had held almost every position.

"She was one of the pillars of the Dante Club, and she will be greatly missed," Peretti said.

Memorial services for Parker were held at the event center on

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### NEWS, NOTES AND OTHERWISE

### **Advisory and finance**

As of June 13, the Building Capital Improvement Fund had a balance of \$48,869. On that date, \$7,200 was transferred from the restaurant account to the building fund because the restaurant account contained more than the \$90,000 deemed necessary for continuing operations.

The 13th of each month has been designated as the date on which it will be determined if any excess funds can be moved to the Building Capital Improvement Fund.

At the last board of directors meeting, this amount was reduced to \$80,000 after a review of operations over the past few months.

With the assistance of Ron Pane and George Procida, a capital expenditure plan is under development to forecast funding needs over the next 20 to 30 years.

Getting ahead of the game may be challenging, as funds to add a fire alarm system and replace one of the air conditioning systems have already been approved for almost \$50,000.

Although the restaurant is showing a profit for the first time in many years, it may not be reasonable to expect that it can provide all funds needed for major improvements. New roofs and parking lot repaying, for example, are major expenditures.

Annual building expenditures are keeping the Building Capital Improvement Fund from growing. Contributions to the fund would certainly assist us in reaching its goals.

### **Club** apparel

The Dante Club is working with Julie Brown at Premier Graph-x to brand many items with our club logo, including hats, T-shirts, jackets and aprons in a wide array of colors. Members can go online to order items at <u>danteclub.shopgraphx.com</u> or contact Mark Pedroncelli at 916-812-6729 or <u>peddc@surewest.net</u>. For special orders, contact Julie Brown at 916-787-0603 or julie@premieregraphx.net.

### **Buildings and grounds**

The buildings and the grounds committee continues to work with the ADT security company to install a new fire alarm system. Product shipping delays have been an issue. Much of the wiring is in place. We hope to report more progress by next month's newsletter. One of our roof-mounted air conditioning units, which is 50 years old, finally gave out, and a new one has been ordered. We hope the replacement unit arrives faster than the alarm components.

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### July 18

### Members and Family Barbecue

**Times:** 6 p.m. cocktails, 7 p.m. dinner **Menu:** Fruit salad, Caesar salad, tortellini pasta salad, corn on the cob, ribeye steaks (toppings: garlic and oil, sautéed mushrooms, caramelized onions, steak seasoning), rolls with butter, ice cream bar **Cost:** \$28 per person *Reserve by midnight Saturday, July 9.* 

### August 7

### **Sunday Family Dinner**

**Times:** 6 p.m. cocktails, 7 p.m. dinner **Menu:** Strawberry mixed green salad with pecans and feta, homemade lasagna, seasonal vegetables, rolls with butter, chef's choice dessert **Cost:** \$15 adults, \$8 children *Reserve by midnight Saturday, July 30.* 

### August 15

### **Members and Family Barbecue**

**Times:** 6 p.m. cocktails, 7 p.m. dinner **Menu:** House salad, caprese salad, grilled zucchini and squash, grilled peppers and onions, rigatoni with marinara, ribeye steaks (toppings: garlic and oil, sautéed mushrooms, caramelized onions, steak seasoning), rolls with butter, spumoni **Cost:** \$28 per person *Reserve by midnight Saturday, Aug. 6.* 

**PLEASE NOTE:** No Sunday Family Dinner in July. No Ladies Auxiliary meetings in July and August.



### **TITILLATING TUSCANY**

# Endless delights keep visitors busy

Story and photos by Michael Micciche

uscany is the most visited region in Italy—and for very good reason. Tuscany contains

everything that's truly representative of Italy.

Every hill town and walled city has amazing history. The walls are a reminder of how Italy was before unification.

Each area of Italy had its own government, army and institutions.

Natural enemies required cities to construct walls and towers, so cities were built on hills to make them easier to defend.



Agritourism lets travelers experience rural Tuscan life with accommodations at working farms, country homes and wineries. Rosa dei Venti in Creti, near Arezzo and Cortona, is writer Michael Micciche's favorite agriturismo.

Today, the rivalries in Italy are more about cuisines, wines, traditions and re-enactments of historical battles. These are times of festivities, parades and honors.

Tuscany offers so many things to see and do that it's difficult to mention all the cities and towns



A whimsical bell ringer sits atop the 15th-century clock tower in the Piazza Grande of Montepulciano.

and their highlights. I can mention a few of the most popular, but I always recommend spending enough time in Tuscany so you can wander around and find your own favorite places.

Here are a few of mine: **Cortona** — It has lots of history, Etruscan influences, fantastic views, great restaurants, enotecas and shops. You can roam the streets and alleyways for hours. Arezzo — This is a fully functioning, working city. It's two cities really-modern and commercial outside the walls and interesting in the historical center. It also has great restaurants and shops and is Italy's gold capital. Montepulciano, Pienza and Montalcino — I put these together because they're a perfect threesome for a day or evening trip. Wines in Montepulciano, Vino Nobile and Rosso Montepulciano are consistently

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### **2022 Committees and Assignments**

### COMMITTEES

### **ADVISORY AND FINANCE**

Pat Orelli, chairman; Joe Porata, vice chairman Members: Tom Mezzanares, Richard Battistessa, George Procida, Tom Novi

### **BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS**

George Procida, chairman; Don Agostinelli, vice chairman Members: Matt Longo, Tom Mezzanares, Joe Porata, Ronnie Pane

### BYLAWS

Ron Fiorica, chairman; Don Agostinelli, vice chairman Members: Bob Guidera, Dan Calcagno

### **MEMBERSHIP AND INVESTIGATIONS**

Dan Calcagno, chairman Members: George Procida, Don Agostinelli, Dick Zarzana ▶ Member involvement subcommittee: Tom Mezzanares, Ron Fiorica

PUBLICITY AND MARKETING John Caselli, chairman; Tom Mezzanares, vice chairman

### **SCHOLARSHIP**

Rich Battistessa, chairman; Jim Dimino, vice chairman Members: Mark Pedroncelli, Mike Battistessa, Kyle Calcagno and auxiliary members Phyllis Keilholz and Nancy Doyle

### SOCIAL

Joe Porata, chairman; Rich Battistessa, vice chairman Members: Pat Orelli, Mark Pedroncelli, Dick Zarzana, John Caselli, Matt Longo, Bob Guidera, Michael St. John

### **SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

### BOCCE

Rich Battistessa, chairman; Jim Dimino, vice chairman Members: Dick Zarzana, Bill Zellers, Don Agostinelli, John Rizzardo, Frank Bartucco

### **GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Members: Joe Porata, Frank Buccola, Rich Battistessa, Tom Mathews

### **DINNER PROGRAM**

Rich Battistessa, chairman; Jim Dimino, vice chairman Members: Don Agostinelli, Dick Zarzana

### ENHANCING OUR ITALIAN CULTURE

Members: Ralph DiLibero, Rich Battistessa

### SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

- Ladies Auxiliary liaison: Rich Battistessa
- Check-in desk for club events and raffle: Joe Porata, chairman; Pat Orelli, vice chairman; members John Caselli, Bob Guidera, Matt Longo and new members
- Club apparel: Mark Pedroncelli
- Sergeant-at-arms: open position

### 2022-2023 DANTE CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### **OFFICERS**

- Tom Novi, president: <u>tomnovi@aol.com</u>, 916-961-6197
- Patrick Orelli, first vice president: pat@apcpagroup.com, 916-369-2327
- Joe Porata, second vice president: <u>iporata@sbcglobal.net</u>, 530-887-1583
- Ron Fiorica, secretary: <u>rbfiorica@frontiernet.net</u>, 916-687-6406
- Tom Mezzanares, treasurer: <u>timezzan@gmail.com</u>, 916-467-7483

### DIRECTORS

- Don Agostinelli: <u>donjos451@aol.com</u>, 916-451-1155
- Richard Battistessa: <u>drbattistessa@comcast.net</u>, 916-961-4854
- Dan Calcagno: dcalextra@aol.com, 916-481-8368
- John Caselli: jac6652@aol.com, 916-456-1253
- Jim Dimino: <u>ikdimino@sbcglobal.net</u>, 916-956-6691
- Bob Guidera: robertguidera@att.net, 916-451-1467
- Matt Longo: <u>longomb@sbcglobal.net</u>, 916-397-5869
- Mark Pedroncelli: <u>peddc@surewest.net</u>, 916-812-6729
- George Procida: <u>gprocida@gplandscape.com</u>, 916-455-4738
- Dick Zarzana: <u>razarzana@comcast.net</u>, 916-683-4812



# Auxiliary members rally to support family at time of loss

It was a somber meeting in June for the Ladies Auxiliary. We recognized the untimely passing of Andrea Parker, banquet captain for the Dante Event Center, who was a delightful personality, always smiling.

Andrea took care of us so well. She never said no to a request but would just handle it, saying, "I got this." It's a tragedy to lose such a full-of-life person.

Our members really stepped up. Among us, we raised \$2,200 for Andrea's two daughters, who are now left without a mother.

Two members also made donations totaling \$450 to the family's GoFundMe fundraiser.

In addition, Denise Franzoia presented me with a beautiful crocheted purple blanket and brought another multicolored afghan to the meeting. We auctioned off the other blanket, and the highest

### LADIES AUXILIARY NEWS Debra Cattuzzo



Denise Franzoia's handmade afghans helped raise money for Andrea Parker's daughters.

Denise's daughter, Linda Franzoia-Feil for \$100.

bidder was

Not only did Linda donate

the money and the blanket to

Andrea's daughters, but Denise decided to give another blanket to Andrea's other daughter.

Linda had a close relationship with Andrea outside of Dante, as Andrea would sometimes stop by Linda's bar, Stingers, on La Riviera.

I attended the wonderful service for Andrea Parker on Friday, June 17. The banquet room was beautifully decorated, and the staff served an incredible meal.

Nearly every person was dressed in orange and white in honor of Andrea. Many spoke of her warm personality and how she was a hard worker who held many jobs.

I spoke of our auxiliary's affection for Andrea and presented the afghans and the \$2,200 check to her daughters, Dondria and



To celebrate Flag Day, the board bestowed an Italian-American lapel pin on every member attending in June.

Kaumariona. At our June meeting, we celebrated Flag Day, which was actually the following day.

The board surprised all

members in attendance with a lapel pin symbolizing the unity of the American and Italian flags, exactly like the Dante Club logo.

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### **2022 LADIES AUXILIARY BOARD**

- Debra Cattuzzo, president: <u>cattuzzod@gmail.com</u>
- Heidi Pesce Veneman, co-vice president: <u>hpveneman@yahoo.com</u>
- Helen Manfredi Pierson, co-vice president: <u>helen@medicambulance.net</u>
- Tina Luchini Bowers, co-treasurer: <u>rkb0719@sbcglobal.net</u>
- Debra Duccini Hansen, co-treasurer: <u>dducc56@gmail.com</u>

- Judy Farina, secretary: <u>ifarina56@yahoo.com</u>
- Anna Tenderella, hospitality: <u>annatenderella@sbcglobal.net</u>
- Karol Buccola, past president: karolrb55@gmail.com
- Sandy Calcagno, trustee/caller: <u>fscal@comcast.net</u>
- Adrienne DeFazio, trustee/ caller: <u>adefazio73@gmail.com</u>
- Nancy Doyle, trustee/caller: <u>ncdoyle59@gmail.com</u>

- Roseann Jamison, trustee/caller: rosieado@yahoo.com
- Susan Kasimatis, trustee/caller: <a href="mailto:sik955@gmail.com">sik955@gmail.com</a>
- Phyllis Keilholz, trustee/caller: <u>swedgewood@aol.com</u>
- Margaret Lynch, trustee/caller: <u>gmlynch@sbcglobal.net</u>
- Barbara Reali, trustee/caller: <u>barbara.reali46@gmail.com</u>
- Ann Zacharias, trustee/caller: <u>anncecelia02@yahoo.com</u>



We ran out of the flag pins, unfortunately, but we will present them again at our September meeting as I have ordered more. The women loved them!

At our June meeting, these members won raffle gifts: Ann Marie Faires, Pampered Chef veggie spiralizer; Mia Franzoia, tree-slice

#### President's Corner CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

In another example of teamwork, the Dante Event Center, the Dante Club and the Ladies Auxiliary recently collaborated to support the family of Andrea Parker, a longtime event center staff member who died unexpectedly last month, leaving behind two young daughters.

Dan Calcagno and his membership committee is reviewing several nominees for club membership, but we are actively seeking more.

Any members who have a friend of Italian origin or who is married to the daughter of a club member or a member of the auxiliary should talk to Dan.

The June members dinner was outstanding, with grilled sausage, peppers and onions.

But the real highlight was Ralph DiLibero, who spoke about the origin of Sambuca and

cutting board; Ida Remigi, bath and body products; Gladys Darling, American flag windmill decoration; Marisa Barone, white serving platter; guest Flourinda Fantasia, 4th of July hand towel and ornament; guest Julie Affinito, \$10; Elaine Shaedler, free dinner in September; Mia Franzoia, 4th of July door wreath; guest Terrie Barron, Blue David Jones purse; and Peg Alexander, Pampered Chef bowl with basket. However, Peg was gracious enough to give her winnings to me because I was in such envy. Thank you, Peggy! Thank you also to these members who brought in pull tabs for donation: Linda Raridan, Cathy Bertolani, Ann Marie Faires and Elaine Shadler.

I presented our four huge Ziploc bags full of pull tabs to the men's club at their dinner on June 20. They were amazed by the amount and grateful. We donated a full seven pounds of pull tabs!

Members, bring your wives, and don't forget to make your reservations on time.

Approximately 141 golfers have signed up for this year's annual Vic Martinelli/Frank Calcagno Golf Tournament on Saturday, July 9, at Haggin Oaks Golf Complex.

The event, which includes a luncheon, promises to be successful as we raise money for the Dante Scholarship Fund.

The Ladies Auxiliary is helping by fielding golf foursomes and running the raffle. Thank you, ladies.

Last year a freak storm forced us to cancel the tournament, but rain in July? Let's hope not, climate change notwithstanding.

A number of board vacancies need to be filled, so, as that old recruiting poster says, "We need YOU!" Anyone interested in finishing out the remainder of the

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Club member Ralph DiLibero explains the origin of the aniseflavored Italian liqueur Sambuca during the June meeting.

provided samples for all to taste and enjoy.

Our upcoming July and August barbecues, a longstanding Dante Club tradition, should again be outstanding, with ribeye steaks cooked by the members themselves. These are great social times with great food!



### News, Notes and Otherwise CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

### **Bocce update**

The Dante Club Bocce League took to the courts June 18 for the first outing of the summer season. It's already looking like a most competitive series.

These are the game results for Week 1 (numbers indicate wins and losses):

- Inferno (2-0) vs. Avanti (0-2)
- Maestri di Bocce (2-0) vs. D Rollers (0-2)
- Italian Stallions (2-0) vs. Riolo Rollers (0-2)
- Sons of Beocces (1-1) vs. Fratelli di Bocci (1-1)

Members who don't have time to play regularly but want to experience the game and meet the players can put their names in the pool, and we will call them. The league still has a few open spots, and new players can be added.

The summer barbecues will feature bocce. The courts will be ready for play starting at 3:30 p.m. in July and August. Players can just show up, and we will introduce them to a great Italian sport.

For questions, contact Rich Battistessa.

### **Golf tournament**

The newly renamed Dante Club golf tourney, now the Vic Martinelli/Frank Calcagno Golf Tournament, will take place Saturday, July 9, at Haggin Oaks Golf Complex, 3645 Fulton Ave., Sacramento. Check-in will begin at 6:20 a.m. The pro shop will provide a shuttle from the parking lot to the carts. The range will have balls for warm-up. First call to carts is at 7:10 a.m., with announcements at 7:20. We want to tee off at 7:30.

Non-golfers are encouraged to come out and cheer on their fellow club members and guests. A recap of the event will be provided in the August *Inferno*.

### **Newsletter marketing**

McClatchy Insurance Agency, owned by club member Tom Mathews, is the newest advertiser in *Dante's Inferno*. New advertisers are always welcome. Anyone interested in advertising in the newsletter in 2022 can email John Caselli at jac6652@aol.com.

### Save pull tabs

Since member Ron Cristoni challenged club and auxiliary members to collect aluminum can pull tabs to

benefit the Ronald McDonald House, we've collected close to 1,300 pounds of pull tabs.

Proceeds help parents who can't afford to stay at the Ronald McDonald lodging place while their children are hospitalized at the University of California, Davis, Medical Center in Sacramento.

The \$1,300 raised so far has paid for more than 60 nights of lodging.

Members can give their collections to Cristoni. They can learn more about the pull-tab program at <u>www.rmhcnc.org</u>.

### In memoriam

Andrea Parker, banquet captain for the Dante Event Center, died suddenly the evening of June 3. She had complained of chest pains during the day, and her heart gave out that night while she slept. Only 36 years old, she leaves behind two daughters, ages 16 and 18.

Dante center staff and club members are devastated by the loss. They remember her as a delightful person who was always smiling and accommodating.

Her family has opened a GoFundMe account to raise money for the burial. Donations can be made at <u>https://gofund.me/d126f561</u>

A service for Andrea was held at the Dante Club on June 17. We ask club members to please keep the Parker family in their thoughts and prayers.

### **New members**

Bill Hendricks and Leroy Dal Porto were inducted into the Dante Club during the June members meeting.

Hendricks, sponsored by the membership committee, is the owner of Safer Building Solutions, manufacturer of fire-safe materials. Dal Porto, sponsored by Dick Zarzana, is retired after working for several federal agencies, including the U.S. Secret Service.

The committee also interviewed Mike Manassero, sponsored by Dick Zarzana. Manassero was nominated and accepted by the members present. He will be inducted later in the year.

The committee will have no interview activities during July and August, as meetings are suspended for the summer in lieu of monthly barbecues. The committee will resume in September.





Only a few medieval towers remain of the more than 70 built in San Gimignano during the 14th century. At that time, many wealthy families would build a tower not only for defense but also as a way to show off their prosperity.

#### Tuscany Continued from Page 3

great, and wines in Montalcino, Brunello and Rosso Montalcino are excellent as well. Pienza, designed as the perfect plan for a city by Pope Pio, whose name it bears, is one main street with side streets and alleys opening up to great vistas of rolling hillsides and valleys. Pienza is known for its cheeses and meats.

**Siena** — Second only to Florence in size, this large city is spread out, with lots of history. It is home to the Palio horse race that's held in the main piazza twice each summer. Every Siena neighborhood, sporting specific colors, is represented in the race. The event is remarkable to watch, particularly

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# What's so special about being Italian?

Italian singers and crooners have long been considered among the best of the best — and none more so than Anthony Dominick Benedetto, better known as Tony Bennett.

An East Coast Italian born in 1926 in Astoria, New York, Bennett is a true musician, with 17 Grammys, numerous hit songs and more than 50 million records sold over the course of his long career.

Perhaps his most iconic song, "I Left My Heart in San Francisco," was a hit in 1962 and is now played after every Giants game victory.

No less an Italian crooner than Frank Sinatra was quoted as saying, "For my money, Tony Bennett is the best singer in the business."

Bennett's recent concert with Lady Gaga may have been the creme de la creme of his storied career.

As Anthony Benedetto, he is also an acclaimed painter. Many shows have featured his paintings, many of which have been donated to charitable causes.

Tony Bennett is truly an Italian great to be appreciated for both his talent and his generosity.

#### Loss Continued from Page 1

June 17, hosted by her daughters, Kamauriona and Dondria.

The event center is currently booking events for the 2022-2023 season. Any members interested in hosting an event should inquire soon about bookings.

To host an event, a member must schedule an in-person meeting with Peretti or event coordinator Annah Rose. Available dates and rooms, the type of event, the estimated guest count, the event timing, any catering needs and other pertinent details will be discussed.

"We will then place the room and the date on hold for two weeks to allow time to decide if the center is the best place for the event, without the date getting booked in the meantime," Peretti said. "At the end of the two weeks, if the security deposit has not been received, the date will be released. To confirm an event, a deposit must be paid, and a contract signed and dated." Club members can rent a banquet room at a 50% discount for a special personal event for themselves, immediate family members—including spouses, parents and children—or a personally owned business.

Members with questions about the room rental discount can contact club president Tom Novi at 916-961-6197. Booking inquiries can be directed to <u>info@danteclub.com</u> or 916-925-8230.



# Italian-style pasta salad an ideal dish for summer repasts

ith the temperatures soaring, nobody wants to spend a lot of time in the kitchen.

This pasta salad recipe, perfect for summertime, can be made ahead and served with any entree.

It can be featured at weeknight dinners, pool parties and backyard barbecues.

PASTA SALAD

**Ingredients for dressing:** 

- 1/4 cup lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon, plus 2 teaspoons, of Dijon mustard
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil

### JUST LIKE MOM USED TO MAKE Richard Battistessa

- 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
- Kosher salt
- Pepper

Salad ingredients:

- 1/2 lb. penne pasta (2 1/2 cups)
- 3 celery ribs, thinly sliced, plus 1/2 cup celery leaves
- 1/2 cup chopped parsley
- 1/2 cup pitted Kalamata olives, quartered lengthwise

• 1 cup Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese, finely grated

In a large bowl, whisk the lemon juice with the mustard and garlic. Whisk in the oils in a slow steady stream. Season the dressing with salt and pepper.

Cook the penne pasta in boiling salted water until al dente. Drain and rinse under cold running water.

Add pasta to the dressing and toss to coat. Add the sliced celery, celery leaves, parsley, olives and cheese. Toss to combine.

Refrigerate until ready to serve.

# Please patronize our paesanos





Bill Zellars Owner Zellars Concrete, LLC P.O. Box 60141 Sacramento, CA 95860 www.zellarsconcrete.com bill@zellarsconcrete.com





### **Building Capital Improvement Fund**

In March, the Building Capital Improvement Fund was used to make roof, tent and air conditioning repairs for a total of \$4,089.

In April, we paid for plumbing and other repairs for \$682.78. In May, we paid to have the grease lines cleared for \$800, and in June, we paid to replace all leaky faucets in the kitchen for \$1,013.

As noted in the advisory and finance committee report on Page 2, the Building Capital Improvement Fund had a balance of \$48,869 as of June 13. However, the new, nearly completed fire alarm system will cost approximately \$30,000, and a new air conditioning unit is being installed on the roof to cool the back office, staff area and restrooms for about \$13,000.

We also ordered and received 200 folding chairs to be used outside for weddings, at a cost of \$4,800.

Funding for the fund comes from donations and from the restaurant account.

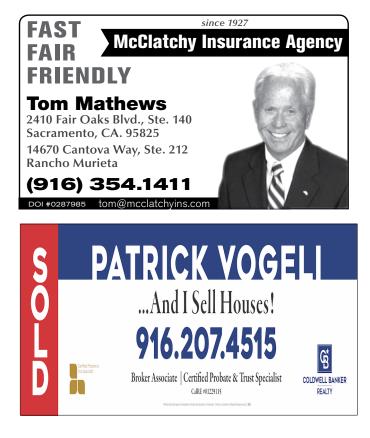
# Please patronize our paesanos





Linda Novi 2405 K Street Store Owner Sacramento, CA 95816 www.mixedbagsac.com 916-447-6123 10% discount for Dante Club and auxiliary members

**GIFTS FOR EVERY REASON** 



### **Business Listing**

Fondazione Properties, LLC "Lifting Properties, Elevating Standards" www.fondazioneproperties.com



Tuscany Continued from Page 8

from the vantage point of a hotel on the square.

San Gimignano — Built to defend itself, the city once boasted more than 70 towers. Today, only a handful remain. You can climb to the top of them for spectacular views. San Gimignano also has many wonderful shops and restaurants.

Tuscany boasts other great cities, including Florence, Fiesole, San Sepolcro, Lucca, Pisa, Viareggio, Follonica, Montacatini Terme, Montacatini Alto and Chuisi, as well as many small, quaint villages.

My advice is to just get lost and let the road take you to these places where you'll meet warm, friendly people who are proud of their towns, their foods and their wines.

Dante Club member Michael Micciche operates a travel service company, Italian Journeys of Sacramento.

### President's Corner CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

terms should contact me at tomnovi@aol.com.

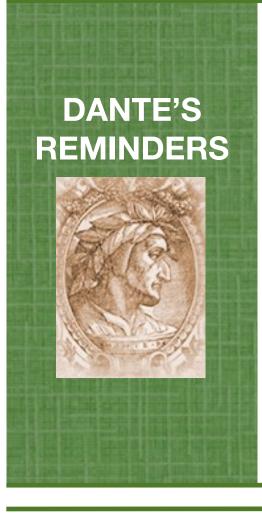
The board meets on the second Monday of the month at the event center to discuss and decide matters related to the center and the club. So please step up and contribute.

Finally, I really enjoy the privilege of serving as club president and try to personally spend time with each member, especially those who have suggestions on how we can make the club all it can be.

So please say hello to me at a members dinner or other event.

If we haven't met before, please let me buy you a drink—my contribution!

Grazie, and stay well.



### Member volunteers

To volunteer, contact George Procida for anything related to buildings and grounds and Joe Porata for anything related to social events. Reach Procida at 916-455-4738 or gprocida@gplandscape.com and Porata at 530-887-1583 or jporata@sbcglobal.net.

### 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 online at <u>https://danteclub.com/donations/</u>.

### Dante Club apparel

To purchase club shirts and other clothing items, contact Mark Pedroncelli at 916-812-6729 or <u>peddc@surewest.net</u> or speak to him at a members meeting. Cash or checks are needed to place orders. Members also can order through the Dante Club website at <u>danteclub.shopgraphx.com</u>.

### 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. Members also can post news and photos on the Dante Club's Facebook page.

### **Contact information**

Recently changed an address or phone number? Please alert Tom Mezzanares at 916-467-7483 or tjmezzan@gmail.com.