



**Reserve now for the
June members and
family dinners!**

DANTE'S INFERNO



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Tom Novi

Upgraded center inspires pride

When I drive onto the Dante Event Center property, I always marvel at the changes and improvements I see: world-class landscaping provided by George Procida that is now maturing, an outdoor tent that has become a customer favorite and, behind the tent, our bocce courts, used at least weekly by Dante Club and Ladies Auxiliary bocce enthusiasts.

Inside, our completely remodeled event center continues to look like new. Manager Jennifer Peretti is constantly on the alert to correct any problems, with paint touch-up a regular task.

Dante Club members should be proud!

The Sunday Family Dinner in May was outstanding, with great food from chef Jonathan Diaz and more than 150 meals served.

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Members of the ROTC group at the University of California at Davis pose for pictures May 6 during the organization's Forged Gold Battalion Military Ball, one of many special events held at the Dante Event Center last month.

30-plus events fill up May

This is turning out to be the year of the phoenix, with the Dante Event Center rising from the ashes to become a popular destination for events in the Sacramento area.

In May, the center hosted not only several returning organizations—Allied Arts, California School Employees Association, Sacramento Police Veterans Association and Jazz @ Dante—but also a few weddings, birthday parties, anniversary celebrations and an

Italian dinner hosted by Piedmonte Reale.

“We hosted more than 30 events in May,” said general manager Jennifer Peretti. “We’re looking forward to the summer months ahead. Also, with the graduation season upon us, if club members know of anyone looking for a venue to host a graduation party, please send them our way.”

Peretti said the event center also is preparing for the holiday season

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NEWS, NOTES AND OTHERWISE

Advisory and finance

The advisory and finance committee has been tasked with ascertaining how the Dante Club's Building Capital Improvement Fund might achieve its goals.

Current estimates are that the fund needs to be approximately \$300,000 to pay for ongoing maintenance and major replacements at the Dante Event Center, such as installing a new air conditioning system, replacing roofs on both buildings and repaving the parking lot.

We hope there will be time between these major needs to allow us to prepare. The club also must make payments over the next 20 years on the \$421,000 in loans incurred to fund our recent improvements.

Although the event center is starting to show a profit, additional sources of income will be necessary to maintain the capital improvement fund. Ideas include earmarking income from our annual cioppino dinner for the fund, holding a Columbus Day dinner as a new annual fundraiser and increasing club dues, with the increase amount directed to the fund.

Members of the advisory and finance committee would appreciate hearing members' thoughts and suggestions.

Buildings and grounds

The buildings and grounds committee is working with the ADT alarm company to oversee installation of a new fire alarm system. The system will alert ADT in the event that heat and smoke are detected. It will help to protect our facilities for years to come.

The committee also is working on assembling a reserve study to predict future building and equipment needs. The goal is to identify the useful life and replacement costs of items such as building paint, heating and air conditioning systems, roofing, asphalt and kitchen equipment. This will give us a better understanding of future funding needs.

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 danteclub.shopgraphx.com or contact Mark Pedroncelli at 916-812-6729 or peddc@surewest.net.

For special orders, contact Julie Brown at 916-787-0603 or

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UPCOMING EVENTS
Call 916-925-8230 or reserve and
pay online at:
danteclub.com/members-event-calendar/

June 5

Sunday Family Dinner

Times: 4 p.m. cocktails, 5 p.m. dinner

Menu: House salad, chicken cordon bleu, garlic mashed potatoes, seasonal vegetables, rolls with butter, chef's choice dessert

Cost: \$15 adults, \$8 children age 12 and younger
Reserve by midnight Saturday, May 28.

June 13

Auxiliary Dinner and Meeting

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

Menu: Tortellini pasta salad, Tuscan pork loin, garlic mashed potatoes, seasonal vegetables, rolls with butter, chef's choice dessert

Cost: \$22 per member

Reserve by midnight Saturday, June 4.

June 20

Members Dinner and Meeting

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

Menu: Tortellini pasta salad, calabrese sausages with pepper trio and onions, creamy cheddar polenta, rolls with butter, chef's choice dessert

Cost: \$22 per member

Reserve by midnight Saturday, June 11.

July 11

Auxiliary Dinner and Meeting

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

Menu: House salad, rice pilaf, tilapia with mango salsa, seasonal vegetables, rolls with butter, chef's choice dessert

Cost: \$22 per member

Reserve by midnight Saturday, July 2.

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.

NOTE: No Sunday Dinner in July because of July 4.



Honoring excellence

The Dante Club's May 16 members dinner was a great night for scholars. The club awarded eight high school students with \$1,500 scholarships to help with their college expenses.

Dante Event Center chef Jonathan Diaz prepared a fabulous dinner for members, the students and their families.

Scholarship winners demonstrated excellent academic achievement and community service at their respective schools. We wish them much success as they embark on their college careers.

Congratulations to these outstanding student winners: Brendan King, Sean Battistessa, Claire LaRocca, Jillian Rocanova, Katelyn Piacentini, Julia Jones, Drusilla Bowden-Iniguez and Olivia Lasley. (Drusilla and Olivia are not pictured here.)



Events

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and scheduling parties now. She said the calendar is starting to fill up.

If Dante Club members want to host events at the center in the coming year, Peretti recommends they inquire about booking sooner rather than later, as bookings are already underway through 2023.

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 info@danteclub.com or 916-925-8230.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Travel to Italy much easier, but be aware of ever-changing protocols

By Michael Micciche

Some Dante Club members have expressed interest in learning what it's like, firsthand, to visit Italy or most of Europe now that travel to these areas has reopened.

My wife and I just returned from nearly three weeks in Italy, primarily Sicily and Rome. Although traveling is different today, I would go back to Italy in a minute.

We departed from San Francisco, flew nonstop to Paris, connecting to Rome, and continued on to Cefalù, Sicilia. The flights to Europe were uneventful and problem-free, because we followed instructions provided by the airline to comply with COVID-19 requirements.

The airlines are the primary, most updated source of information about mandates—on the plane and at your destination. I can't stress enough the importance of checking with your carrier frequently. Allow them to text or email you right up to departure. Most airlines will allow you to

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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, Michael Micciche, Don Agostinelli, Dick Zarzana

► Member Involvement Subcommittee: Tom Mezzanares, Ron Fiorica

PUBLICITY AND MARKETING

John Caselli, chairman; Tom Mezzanares, vice chairman

Member: Michael Micciche

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

Member: Dick Zarzana, Bill Zellers, Don Agostinelli, John Rizzardo, Frank Bartucco

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Members to be determined

DINNER PROGRAM

Rich Battistessa, chairman; Jim Dimino, vice chairman

Members: Don Agostinelli, Dick Zarzana

ENHANCING OUR ITALIAN CULTURE

Michael Micciche, chairman

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, Michael Micciche, Matt Longo and new members

• Club apparel: Mark Pedroncelli

• Sergeant-at-arms: Michael Micciche

2022-2023 DANTE CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

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

DIRECTORS

- Don Agostinelli: donjos451@aol.com, 916-451-1155
- Richard Battistessa: drbattistessa@comcast.net, 916-961-4854
- Dan Calcagno: dcalextra@aol.com, 916-481-8368
- John Caselli: jac6652@aol.com, 916-456-1253
- Jim Dimino: jkdimino@sbcglobal.net, 916-956-6691
- Bob Guidera: robertguidera@att.net, 916-451-1467
- Matt Longo: longomb@sbcglobal.net, 916-397-5869
- Michael Micciche: michael.micciche@gmail.com, 916-550-1122
- Mark Pedroncelli: peddc@surewest.net, 916-812-6729
- George Procida: gprocida@gplandscape.com, 916-455-4738
- Dick Zarzana: razarzana@comcast.net, 916-683-4812



Member describes her long family connection to Dante

At our May meeting, the Ladies Auxiliary enjoyed an incredible salmon and risotto dinner, celebrated Mother's Day and spoiled members with some incredible raffle gifts.

Raffle prizes, including many gift baskets with treats for moms, went to these winners: Cathy Ranieri-Zerio, coffee break basket for mom; new member Julie Calcagno, facial and LED light therapy from Skin Curae; new member Gina Marie Stiriti, gift basket with Ghost Pines red wine and "1,003 Great Things About Moms" book; Virginia Griffin, \$10 cash; Bebe Wright, white leopard traveling cosmetics and jewelry case; auxiliary caller Margaret Lynch, wine basket with chardonnay and insulated wine cup; Dante Club event coordinator Annah Rose, bathtime gift basket with facial spin brush; Pam

LADIES AUXILIARY NEWS

Debra Cattuzzo

Routhier, facial with microdermabrasion; Linda Bottalo, haircut and style with red boa donated by caller Barbara Reali and bathtime basket with "Best Mom's List" pad; Peggy Alexander, Prosecco basket with "Reflections from Mom" book and coffee break for mom with "Stay Grounded" cup; and caller Roseann Jamison, free Dante dinner for June.

Thank you to Susie Franzioia-Rozewski for bringing in pull tabs to add to our donations bucket.

Three new members joined us for the May dinner: Gina Marie Stiriti, Susan Jas and Wendy Earle. Also that night, four guests signed up to become members:

Laura Valoppi; Mia Franzioia, granddaughter of member Denise Franzioia and niece of both Linda Franzioia-Feil and Susie Franzioia-Rozewski; and Juli Calcagno and Kristi Calcagno, both daughters-in-law of member Sandy Calcagno. Welcome to our seven new members!

Recently, I spoke to auxiliary member Cheryl Seaton, who lives in Nevada but says her family has had a long history associated with the Dante Club.

Cheryl used to be a member of the Balliamo Dancers, which performed for our auxiliary in April. Cheryl's daughter, Irene Brown, is the current leader of the dance troupe.

Cheryl told me that her aunt, Eleanor "Leonora" Yolanda (Galli) Larsen, died Feb. 20, at age 92. Eleanor was a past

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2022 LADIES AUXILIARY BOARD

- Debra Cattuzzo, president: cattuzzod@gmail.com
- Heidi Pesce Veneman, co-vice president: hpveneman@yahoo.com
- Helen Manfredi Pierson, co-vice president: helen@medicambulance.net
- Tina Luchini Bowers, co-treasurer: rkb0719@sbcglobal.net
- Debra Duccini Hansen, co-treasurer: dducc56@gmail.com
- Judy Farina, secretary: jfarina56@yahoo.com
- Anna Tenderella, hospitality: annatenderella@sbcglobal.net
- Karol Buccola, past president: karolrb55@gmail.com
- Sandy Calcagno, trustee/caller: fscal@comcast.net
- Adrienne DeFazio, trustee/caller: adefazio73@gmail.com
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- Roseann Jamison, trustee/caller: rosieado@yahoo.com
- Susan Kasimatis, trustee/caller: sjk955@gmail.com
- Phyllis Keilholz, trustee/caller: swedgewood@aol.com
- Margaret Lynch, trustee/caller: gmlynch@sbcglobal.net
- Barbara Reali, trustee/caller: barbara.reali46@gmail.com
- Ann Zacharias, trustee/caller: anncecelia02@yahoo.com

**Auxiliary**

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president of the Ladies Auxiliary, as was her older sister, Erma Hazel (Galli) Waggoner, who died in 2001.

The sisters were both active in the auxiliary in the 1970s and 1980s. During that time, Cheryl said, the auxiliary hosted fashion show fundraisers, many of which she attended with her mother,

Violet Marie Galli, who also was a longtime auxiliary member.

Cheryl, who became a member in 2000, thinks her grandmother, Emelia Maria Paulina (Columbani) Galli, was a founding member of the auxiliary. She said her grandfather, Ernesto Guido Galli, was a founding member of the Dante Club, and her father, Victor Galli, was a past president.

The Galli family was very involved with the Dante Club, and Cheryl said she has many fond memories of Dante events over the years.

That is why, even though she lives in another state, she continues to be a Ladies Auxiliary member. Thanks to her for honoring her family's history.

We have six auxiliary volunteers for the upcoming Vic Martinelli/

Frank Calcagno Golf Tournament, scheduled for July 9, but we need at least four or five more.

Members should contact me if they're interested and able to help with the event.

This month we will meet the day before Flag Day, so a red-white-and-blue theme is planned. Remember, our callers will need members' answers by Sunday, June 5.

President's Corner

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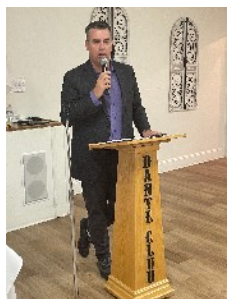
For families with young children or grandchildren, this is a wonderful way to enjoy a very nice Sunday meal at a modest price.

The May members dinner also was nicely done, with the centerpiece of the evening the awarding of seven \$1,500 scholarships to deserving students.

Rich Battistessa and his committee did an outstanding job evaluating applicants. The scholarships are funded largely by the annual Vic Martinelli/Frank Calcagno Golf Tournament, which will take place July 9 this year.

Golfers should sign up for the tournament sooner rather than later. Non-golfers can sponsor a hole or contribute a substantial prize for the luncheon raffle. This is a chance to contribute to a great cause.

Also during the meeting, Scott Moak, announcer for the



Sacramento Kings, gave an entertaining presentation, and we introduced Roger Niello, candidate for

the California State Senate.

The Niello family is a friend of the Dante Club, with the Niello BMW store a corporate sponsor of this year's golf tournament.

Concerning our regular dinners, members must get their reservations in on time.

Every month I have to explain to one or two people that the deadline is absolute and that we can't take late reservations.

Kitchen staff need to know down to the last person how many will attend so they can order the proper amount of food and avoid waste.

In addition, supply-chain problems require staff to place food orders early to make sure they can get the food. Shortages

hit our suppliers the same way they hit our local supermarkets.

The June program looks outstanding. Past board member and Italian scholar Ralph DiLibero will give a presentation on the different Italian regional productions of sambuca, with tastings of the liqueur provided afterward.

A reminder: We all like to have a great time during our member dinners, but during the program part, I ask everyone to be respectful of the speaker.

Lastly, on behalf of the Dante Club, I extend condolences to the Bacher and Lima families on the loss of their family members who were longtime club members, Ron Bacher and Peter Lima Jr.

I hope we will all keep these two families in our thoughts and prayers.

Thanks to the many members who have offered excellent suggestions and kind thoughts. Members are always welcome to contact me at tomnovi@aol.com.

Grazie, and stay well.

**News, Notes and Otherwise**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

julie@premieregraphx.net. Members are encouraged to order now for Father's Day.

Bocce update

As of May 14, the Dante Spring Bocce League's Sons of Beocce team finished in first place, with an overall record of 9-4. Team captain Tom Mezzanares and rollers Pat and Colin Orelli, Jim Brennan, Kevin Calcagno and Ben Racoma led the way to victory.

Extreme weather conditions forced cancellation of a post-season playoff tournament and social, originally scheduled for May 20.

Special thanks to Frank Bartucco for keeping our bocce courts in pristine shape and our teams on time with the ready-to-play procedures he put in place.

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. The four-person scramble will start at 7:30 a.m.

The \$125-per-person fee includes green fees, a cart, balls and a lunch at the club afterward. Non-golfers can purchase lunch only, for \$30.

Registrations and payments must be received by June 25. Forms and sponsorships information are available [online](#) at the Dante Club website.

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 Ronald McDonald House Center of Northern California pull-tab program online at www.rmhcnc.org. Click "Get Involved" and scroll to "Pop Tab Program."

In memoriam

Longtime club member Ron Bacher died May 6 at age 83. He will always be remembered as the smiling man who yelled at members as they approached the greeter's table. We also lost lifetime member and past president Peter Lima Jr., who died Jan. 24 at age 78.

We ask members to keep the Bacher and Lima families in their thoughts and prayers.

New members

May saw the induction of three new members into the Dante Club: Frank Crandall, sponsored by Ron Pane; Jim Dubendorf, sponsored by Tom Mathews; and Frank Lienert, sponsored by Bob DeNigris.

We also interviewed Leroy Dal Porto, sponsored by Dick Zarzana. The general membership accepted the membership committee's recommendation and approved Dal Porto's application. He is scheduled for induction, along with Chris Mascarini, in June.

Nic White, sponsored by Ron Pane, submitted an application and will be added to the waiting list.

Thanks to members for continuing to encourage family and friends to join the club. Several more people have expressed interest and will apply soon.

Guest speaker

What better place to find a guest speaker than within our own ranks? At our June 20 meeting, member Ralph DiLibero will give a PowerPoint presentation on the cultural history of Sambuca, an anise-flavored, usually colorless Italian liqueur. The name Sambuca comes from the Latin word meaning "elderberry."

After his presentation, DiLibero will provide members with samplings of a variety of Italian regional productions of Sambuca.

**Italy**

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update required documents on their websites. Do not ignore the instructions.

I strongly recommend that you don't take advice from friends or family without confirming it with your airline. You'll only face problems down the road, as situations change.

Our departure documents included proof of COVID-19 vaccination. We did not need a COVID test to board the plane or upon our arrival in Italy.

We also downloaded a destination locator form from the airline website.

Each person traveling must fill out this form and upload it. It is used to identify where you will stay during your journey, including dates, addresses and contact numbers.

Airport connecting locations are not considered destinations.

It's important to arrive early at the departure airport in case you forgot to do or bring something.



Ceramic planters adorn a Sicilian walkway. Visitors, right, take a break by a duomo.



The process for returning to the United States is even more critical. Instructions about COVID-19 testing proved confusing, leading to last-minute inconvenience.

The United States requires a COVID-19 test within 24 hours of boarding any aircraft heading home. You also must download and fill out a paper version of what is called an attestation form, in which you swear under penalty of perjury that you've had a negative test within 24 hours of

boarding or you had COVID-19 and it's been at least 14 days since you were infected or you're excused from vaccinations for medical reasons. You check off the appropriate response and sign and attest to your choice.

Unfortunately, it wasn't clear whether we needed to include the test with the form or what kind of test was acceptable. We brought our free federal test kits and used them the night before our departure from Rome. I took photos of the negative results,

dated and timed them, and we each signed that we had observed the test-taking.

At the airport, we presented our test results and attestation, feeling pretty good about our compliance.

Turns out, though, that the United States does not accept self-tests. Tests must be administered by a third party.

We could not get boarding passes or check our luggage until we returned from a clinic, and the location of the clinic at the airport was very far from the airline check-in desk. It took us two hours to get there, wait in line, get the test and wait 10 to 15 minutes for results. Then we had to scurry back to check in and get boarding passes.

So even though we arrived more than two-and-a-half hours early, we barely made our flight—and only because we had priority boarding.

By this time, our old bones and muscles were

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What's so special about being Italian?

The Dante Club's namesake, Dante Alighieri—generally known only by his first name—was a 13th century Italian poet, writer and philosopher.

Dante is best known for his epic narrative poem "The Divine Comedy," which

traces his imagined journey through paradise, purgatory and hell (aka inferno).

Dante is considered Italy's national poet, honored for his influence in expanding the Tuscan dialect into the national language of Italy, replacing Latin. His works are

revered not only in Italy but in countries throughout the world.

Dante has even been honored in our nation's capital with busts and statues that celebrate his literary genius over many centuries. Clearly, our club is well-named.

**Italy**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

aching. Was it worth it?

Once you have experienced the warmth of the Italian people, the excellent food and wine, and the incredible sights, my answer will always be yes.

But I'm sharing our experience so other travelers can avoid our mistakes. Bottom line: Stay on top of the vaccination and testing requirements as you make your travel plans.

More positively, Cefalù, Palermo and the surrounding areas offer beautiful coastlines and beaches. The island of Sicily is beautiful and historic. Rome needs no promotion. I always find sights to see each time I go.



A plaque serves as a monument to Giuseppe Garibaldi, the "George Washington of Italy."

Rome was busier than I have ever seen it at this time of year. Tourism right now is booming in Italy.

In most locations and shops in Italy, masks are optional. Small shops might require them or restrict how many people can come inside. Masks are not required in restaurants or outdoors.



People traverse a typical narrow street between shops and homes.

DANTE'S REMINDERS



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 <https://danteclub.com/donations/>.

Dante Club apparel

To purchase club shirts and other clothing items, contact Mark Pedroncelli at 916-812-6729 or peddc@surewest.net 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 danteclub.shopgraphx.com.

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.



Choose the freshest veggies for the tastiest of summer dishes

Fresh vegetables are right around the corner! Farmers markets throughout the Sacramento area are filled with fresh produce readily available to buy.

This easy-to-make beef and veggie dish tastes best when you use the freshest vegetables from a farmers market or your own summer garden.

ZUCCHINI WITH GROUND BEEF AND TOMATOES

Ingredients:

- 1 lb. ground beef
- 1 onion
- 1 or 2 large zucchinis, sliced thin

JUST LIKE MOM USED TO MAKE

Richard Battistessa

- 3 or 4 tomatoes, quartered
- Salt and pepper
- Chopped parsley
- Grated pecorino cheese
- 1 cup red wine or marsala (optional)
- Red pepper flake (optional)

Brown the ground beef. Remove the beef and set aside, but retain the beef fat in the pan. Lightly sauté the onion in the fat. Remove onion, set aside, and dispose of fat. Optional: Sauté the beef in a cup of red wine or marsala.

Simmer the sliced zucchini and quartered tomatoes. Cook covered until zucchini starts to soften, stirring occasionally. Return the cooked ground beef and onion to the pan. Continuing simmering the mixture until all the tomatoes have broken down.

Add chopped parsley. Simmer uncovered to evaporate the juices—about two hours from start to finish. Remove excess liquid, if necessary. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

Add plenty of grated pecorino cheese at the end of cooking.

Optional: For a bit of a kick, sprinkle a little red pepper flake on top of the dish.

Buon appetito!

Please patronize our paesanos

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CIO-0000291-LIC ERIC LUCHINI, DANTE CLUB MEMBER

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bill@zellarsconcrete.com





Building Capital Improvement Fund

Members of the Dante Club and the Ladies Auxiliary gave more than \$4,000 in 2021 to the recently renamed Building Capital Improvement Fund.

Many thanks to those who donated to help keep the club in good shape now and in the future.

In February we spent \$3,705 to service the kitchen fan blower, replace 60-amp breakers in the kitchen sub-panel, replace a roof air conditioning disconnect with a new 90-amp one and install a 40-amp, 240-volt coffee maker circuit.

We encourage members to consider making the Dante Club part of their estate plans.

A donation offered through a will or estate plan can help us maintain our facility as a premier venue for member and public events.

It's also a meaningful way members can have a lasting impact on their Italian heritage.

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