Program May 18, 2014 Begins at 2 p.m.



NEWSLETTER

San Francisco Accordion Club

The May meeting welcomes Joe Domitrowich and Cafe Vienna. This unique group plays the romantic music you would hear in the famous Grinzing quarter of Vienna with its many Gasthauses and Cafes adorned with the music of accordion and violin playing in intimate settings. With musicians dressed in formal



attire and a repertoire including classical music from Europe, this chamber-like group often provides the music for elegant public or private events. We are honored that they will be playing for the Club this month.

Reno Di Bono will also be entertaining us in May. He is known for playing Northern California and San Francisco Bay Area's hottest Italian Music



His musical styles include Louie Prima, Dean Martin, Al Martino, Jerry Vale, Pavarotti and Bocelli. He has a new CD entitled *Songs of My Father*. Reno has an exciting website at http://www.italianaccordion.com/.



The third player we are welcoming in May is **Grigoriy Krumik**. He usually plays a bayan accordion which is a button accordion and Grigoriy is a master of it. He is a very polished performer and plays a wide variety of musical styles, including classical, American oldies, Latin and even country.

Gregoriy is a long time member of ACE, the Accordion Chamber Ensemble of San Francisco that was directed by the late **Joseph Smiell, Sr.** and is now being directed by **Joe Smiell, Jr.** He also participated in the Accordion Orchestra Project II.

Note: Next month's meeting will be held on the 4th Sunday in June which is June 22. Please mark your calendars.

Fundraising Event Report from our Treasurer, **Elaine Cooperstein**

The San Francisco Accordion Club is a non-profit organization. As such, we must generate enough revenue to cover expenses, and a little more "surplus" revenue to cover contingencies such as unexpected expenses or revenue shortfalls. Very occasionally, the Club holds a fund raiser event to support charitable or community service opportunities that present themselves. Our musical gathering on Sunday, April 13, 2014 was just such an event.

The Club sought to raise funds in a special effort to stimulate SF Bay Area accordionists' participation in the 74th Annual Festival of the Accordionists and Teachers Guild, International (ATG) to be held July 23-26, 2014 at the Crowne Plaza Airport Hotel in Burlingame, CA.

At our April musical event, the price of admission was \$10 instead of the usual \$6/\$8 (members/non-members). In addition, colorful stickers spelling out "I Love Accordion Music" in symbols were available for \$1 a piece, an introductory price. The special musical program included a set of 8 songs by the Accordion Orchestra Project, directed by **Richard Yaus**; as well as solo sets performed by **Peter Di Bono, Gail Campanella, and Lou Jacklich.**

When the accounting was completed, we were delighted to find we had nearly met our most optimistic goal of raising around \$2000. This grand total included over \$400 in donations made by the members of the Orchestra Project to the Laurel Elementary School in San Mateo which had generously allowed the use of its library for rehearsals, \$600 in donations made to SFAC by orchestra members and attendees of the April event, \$800 in admission revenue from 80 attendees, \$30 in sales of stickers, and \$60 in scholarship raffle ticket sales.

The SFAC would like to thank Richard Yaus and the members of the Accordion Orchestra Project and the amazing soloists for their contribution to the event, and of course the Club members who supported the fundraising effort by attending, first of all, and beyond that for their generous extra donations and purchases for this special event.

For competition information, registration forms, and more go to: http://www.accordions.com/atg.)

ATG Competition Categories for 2014

The San Francisco Accordion Club wants to be Instrumental in promoting ensemble music in the Bay Area!

We are very excited to announce to accordionists in the SF Bay area that the San Francisco Accordion Club will be sponsoring a contest at the upcoming ATG festival which will be held in San Francisco in July. We have provided the prize money for the category "Entertainment Showcase", which is open to all ensembles which include an accordion as a primary instrument.

What's more, we are proud to say that SFAC will pay the contest entry fee for any club member or accordionist in the SF Bay Area who wishes to enter any competition at ATG.

The Entertainment Showcase will have a first prize of \$250, second place will be \$150, and third place will be \$100.

For more information on the **ATG Festival** see page 6 of this newsletter or click on www.accordions.com/atg/



This sticker has been designed by Richard Yaus and produced by Elaine Cooperstein and will be available for sale at \$1 each.

APRIL MEETING REPORT by Kate Froeberg

April 13 was a special meeting. You could tell the moment you walked in. A sea of black and white keys rose up from the floor as far as you could see.

Lynn Ewing welcomed all the first-time guests and thanked those who set up the stage. She also thanked Richard Yaus who volunteered his time and expertise for the Accordion Ensemble Project, as well as Peter Di Bono, Gail Campanella, and Lou Jacklich who donated their playing to make the day extraordinary.

Richard was introduced and spoke about the Accordion Orchestra Project which included 14 members last year and 24 this year.

The Orchestra was particularly grateful for the outstanding performance by the percussionist **Michael Hoffman**, who joined them for the second time.

The first piece they played was the *Washington Post March*. The bass accordion was masterful from the first phrase. Amazingly, the accordions resembled a multi-instrument orchestra. The arrangement showed the versatility of sounds of the reeds. Next, the group played a tango called *A Media Luz* (half white/light) about a rich gentlemen who rented an apartment for an encounter with a young woman. Although there were no vocals, you felt the passion and expression as if words were being sung. The variety of staccato versus legato melody was beautiful.

The next song was *Landler in Thirds* by **Rudolph Wurthner**. As Richard gaily conducted this lovely and intricate waltz, the whole audience was bobbing their heads! All the musicians stared intently at their music, obviously consumed with the project and totally in the zone. **Barbara Winter**, who was sitting next to me, murmured "So pretty," at the end.

(Continued on next page)



ACCORDION ORCHESTRA PROJECT II MEMBERS: Front Row Left to Right: Lynn Ewing, Gail Campanella, Marian Kelly, Dave Perry, Peter Di Bono (hidden) Georgia Sutherland, Mike Zampiceni, Richard Paoli, Randall Hicks, and Taffy Stefan. Back Row: Grigoriy Krumik, Michael Hoffman, Steve Marshall, Nora Mazzara, Janet Jensen, Yakov Puhachevsky, Joe Simoni, Elaine Cooperstein, Jim Shoemaker, Alan Schwartz and Scott Andersen. Richard Yaus conducting.

Peter Di Bono, sporting a blue-gray bootie to protect his new bionic foot, was next on the



program. His first song was *Sweet and Low* which was played very gently and expressively with a lively bass on his Guilietti accordion. Next he played, *The Swan*, from Saint-Saen's Carnival of the Animals suite, which was technically complicated.

His final piece was a beautiful, short and stunning waltz

Griff Ziegler, who was visiting from Idaho, noticed Peter was playing very high on the bass keyboard. Peter joked that he plays everything in C#. In truth, he explained that he had his bass keyboard completely reorganized so that the flat basses are on the top. He plays professionally mostly in the flat keys, and it is far easier on the hand. Peter said that his trio will perform at dinner Saturday night at the ATG Festival.

The Orchestra played again beginning with *Non Ti Scordar Di Me* which featured a beautiful introduction. The separation and clarity of parts was striking. It was apparent the orchestra members were listening to each other because the balance and feel was lovely. Then they played a traditional Russian romantic tune known in English as *Those Were the Days*. It included play from the percussionist on the tambourine. The arrangement included chord progressions moving serially from section to section giving great effect. The deep bassoon solo sounded quite majestic.

Next, Lou Jacklich began his program with

Granada by
Augustin Lara.
It was totally
engrossing with
masterful use of
reeds and many
special effects.
Then he played a
medley of songs



from *Fiddler on the Roof* with great drama, interesting octave changes and superior sound. Lou concluded his set with his arrangement of the mambo hits *La Cumana* by Barclay Allen and *El Cumbanchero* by Rafael Hernandez.

After a lively intermission during which raffle

prizes were awarded (two winners were in the Orchestra), Gail Campanella from Santa Barbara played her Excelsior accordion. She started with Bubbles by Pietro Frosini which was light, airy and precise. Next she played Variations on



a Theme of Paganini with emotional depth and technical precision. Her use of bass registers was very effective. Next she performed Meglio Stasera (It Had Better Be Tonight) arranged by Frank Morocco from music by Henry Mancini. It was delightful. Then she played Papa S'Amuse (Grandpa's Having Fun) in a Joplin-esque treatment that was lovely. She ended with Angelo Di Pippo's Wrong Note Polka, which had all the musicians laughing. Non-musicians probably don't realize how difficult it is to play a "wrong note" when you are supposed to play one!

The Orchestra Project Ensemble returned with an extremely professional performance to close the meeting. They played Horst Jankowski's *A Walk in the Black Forest* which sounded like a trek through the Alps.



Richard Yaus

Richard explained how the orchestra was constructed. They closed with *Fiesta Mexicana Medley* which included skillful and smooth segueways as rhythms and tempos changed with each tune. The unconventional finish was a fit ending to a great performance.

Accordion class Cupertino Senior Center Instructor RENO DI BONO

NEXT SESSION: MAY 6 TO JUNE 24, 2014 CUPERTINO SENIOR CENTER TIME 1:45 TO 3:15 PM

COST IS \$2.50 PER ONE HOUR THIRTY MINUTE LESSON PLUS MEMBERSHIP FEE TO CUPERTINO OF \$22.00 FOR A GRAND TOTAL OF \$5.50 PER LESSON.

Members may be interested to know that Reno has returned to teaching American History at Retirement Communities, and the Cupertino Senior Center. Also below is the link to his TV show interview on KMTV "Understanding the Constitution."

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gMEt059-N2E

It is a Cupertino Community show called the "Better Part." Reno was asked to do a series on US History and has done three TV shows, "The Constitution", "Civil War," and "World War I".

ACCORDION EXCHANGE

If you are seeking an accordion, or have one to sell, you are welcome to submit the details to the newsletter editor. This is strictly a service to our members, and SFAC cannot take responsibility for the condition of any accordion advertised.

CHANGE IN MEETING SCHEDULE

Your Board has decided to make a bold change in our club schedule. Every year, we have at least 5 major conflicts with holidays and events on the third Sunday, starting with Martin Luther King Day in January, President's Day in February, Father's Day in June, Cotati in August, and often "too close for comfort" dates near Thanksgiving and Christmas. This year has been a particularly difficult year in terms of Oyster Point Yacht Club (OPYC) conflicts, and we hope to alleviate that by working with them closely, and making a change to the SECOND SUNDAY of the month. This will begin in January of 2015.

Scholarship Information

Twice a year, our club awards scholarships to accordion students who have a financial need and demonstrate dedication to pursuing their study of the accordion. Students must study with a teacher who is an SFAC member in good standing. Applications can be obtained by emailing

Mike Zampiceni,

@ eclecticguy@comcast.net and should be returned to him at: 220 Tasman Dr, #106, Sunnyvale, CA. 94089.

This semester's scholarship has been awarded to **Peter Di Bono**'s student, **Audrey Spinazola**. Audrey will be playing for us in June.

2014 Changes in Meeting Dates:

June 22, 4th Sunday (OPYC request)

August - no meeting COTATI FESTIVAL

October 12, 2nd Sunday (OPYC request)

Healing thoughts to our dear Gus Greyhosky, who will be having Open Heart Surgery to replace an aortic valve on May 9th. Gus's surgery is at California Pacific Medical Center, and his home address for cards is: 165 Pierce St, #313, Daly City, CA 94015

ATG FESTIVAL COMES TO SAN FRANCISCO Crowne Plaza Airport Hotel Burlingame, CA

JULY 23-26, 2014



For competition information, registration forms, and more go to:

http://www.accordions.com/atg.

2014 ATG Festival by Joan Cochran Sommers

Every year right before our summer festivals, many of us hear the same question, "Why is it important for my students and me to attend a music festival?" I really have no troubles in answering the question! I began teaching at a time when the accordion was extremely popular and everyone seemed anxious to learn to play one. Yes, I was indeed lucky; I began teaching classes of young children at a time when parents were eager to bring their children in for a lesson as well as for band. Today it is a problem when both parents work perhaps, but the reasons for studying music and taking part in summer festivals remain the same

For one thing, it is a bit of excitement for both the student and the teacher. Yes, even teachers need some excitement in their life! Whether the festival requires long-distance travel or just across town, the preparation brings a focus on practicing for a reason. Everyone wants to do their best, whether they are beginners or professionals, when playing for judges or an audience. It means the pieces must be just a little bit more secure and polished than when playing for a teacher or even for mom and dad. Summer often means vacation time and, unless there is an activity requiring regular attendance at

lessons, both students and their parents may feel it is quite alright to skip not one but several lessons and when they do so, it means the students lose. Teachers also lose important income.

Many adults would not be expressing their gift for creativity had it not been for the dedication and encouragement by their teachers and parents when they were young; participation in festival activities provides a goal for everyone. Even inexperienced players, young or old, like to play in a group and a music festival gives the group a reason to rehearse and show off their abilities to each other, something which, believe it or not, most people like to do. It gives a reason to practice and to try for that elusive perfection. Besides that, it is fun to hang out with the other students and teachers. Everyone likes to make new friends, hear their ideas for teaching, find new and different repertoire, and perhaps take part in the festival orchestras, an activity in which they may not have opportunity to do on a regular basis.

Festivals offer the opportunity to meet others who may travel long distances to take part; sometimes they are from a far-distant country. It is interesting to hear the type of music they play. Players often come back from festivals with ideas for new pieces they want to learn, both for fun right now as well as for some future event; teachers experience the same. It is important for all players to learn from others, whether it is a fellow student or from a presenter of a festival workshop. It is a time for sharing of many ideas and of repertoire. Festivals offer both encouragement and inspiration to everyone. Even parents need encouragement, perhaps, from other parents with whom they visit.

It is important for teachers to encourage personal practice, set goals which will be possible to achieve, provide effective feedback, and to reinforce excellence, whether within groups or with soloists; festivals assist teachers in doing all of these.

I know from my own experiences and those of my students, that we all learn from others; festivals give us the perfect opportunity for that. The concerts are wonderful to hear, the workshops are interesting, the evaluation or competitive events for soloists and all sizes of groups...they're all exciting and they charge all of us up for many weeks and months afterwards. Try it with you and your students; I know you will like it and so will your students!

Performing Around the Bay

Ron Borelli • San Mateo rborelli@aol.com, www.ronborelli.com

Richard Denier • Carmel rdenier@sbcglobal.net

Peter Di Bono • San Francisco www.peterdibono.com

Reno Di Bono • South Bay ourhike@aol.com www.italianaccordion.com

William De Michelis • South Bay wdd777@comcast.net

Joe Domitrowich • South Bay www.capricious-accordion.com or www.alpinersusa.com

Skyler Fell, Hobo Gobbelins Oakland www.myspace.com/hobogobbelins

Ed Gorzynski, Jr. • East Bay edspolkas@yahoo.com

Bruce Kirschner & The Klezmakers kirschner@aol.com www.klezmakers.com

Big Lou, aka Linda Seekins • San Francisco www.accordionprincess.com

SFAC Newsletter Ad Policy

Members may place one small ad (business card size) for one month free of charge in a given year; after that the charge is \$10 per issue or \$100 per year.

Monthly ad prices for members: quarter page ad \$25.00; half page ad \$50, and a full page ad \$100. Nonmember rates are double the member rates.

A flyer (no larger than 5" x 8") advertising an event may be included in one issue for \$50 for members, \$65 for nonmembers.

Rob Reich • East Bay & San Francisco robbyreichmusic@gmail.com www.robreich.com

Diana Strong • Pacifica dianajstrong@gmail.com http://www.dianastrong.webs.com/Diana Strong - accordion/Home.html

Tangonero

http://tangonero.com

Whiskey and Women • www.whiskeyandwomenmusic.com or Facebook, MySpace and You Tube to view videos

Mike Zampiceni • South Bay eclecticguy@comcast.net

Please Remember!

To leave our meeting hall at the Oyster Point Yacht Club clean! Clean up food or drink spills and recycle all trash.

PLAY FOR US!

Playing warm up or during the break is a great, casual way to share your talent and hone your performance skills. Although our featured performers are scheduled in advance, we have lots of opportunities during the first part of the meeting for people who would like to play a short 10 or 15 min- ute set, or even just a couple of songs. Contact **Dominic Palmisano** at 415-587-4423 or email accord47@gmail.com, or **Lynn Ewing**, 650- 453-3391, or ewinglynn@gmail.com

ACCORDION EVENTS

There are events happening all over the US. Check out <u>AccordionUSA.com</u> for all kinds of cool festivals and performances.

ATG FESTIVAL COMES TO SAN FRANCISCO Crowne Plaza Airport Hotel Burlingame, CA



JULY 23-26, 2014

See pages 2 and 6 of this newsletter for more information

Leavenworth International Accordion Celebration

June 19-22, 2014 Leavenworth, Washington

Sponsored by the Northwest Accordion Society

There will be nightly concerts, performances by Cory Pesaturo, Tony Lovello, Andy Mirkovich, Jaun Barco and Conjunto, and the Spokane Accordion Ensemble.

For more information go to: http://www.accordioncelebration.org/

AAA Festival July 9-13, 2014 in Tarrytown, NY

American Accordionists' Association (AAA)

Member of the Confédération Internationale des Accordéonistes - CIA (IMC-UNESCO)

Following the great success of the 75th Anniversary AAA Festival in NYC, the AAA is proud to announce the 2014 AAA Festival to be held at the Double Tree Hotel in Tarrytown, New York from July 9-13, 2014.

There will be several prize categories including the Carrozza Scholarship; Belfiore Entertainment; Tony Dannon Jazz. The Festival will feature interesting workshops and talented performers.

For further information: ameraccord1938@gmail.com

COTATI ACCORDION FESTIVAL



August 16-17, 2014
Performers announced, go to

http://www.cotatifest.com/

The 15th Annual Las Vegas International Accordion Convention

August 18 - August 21, 2014

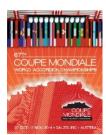


For more information go to:

http://accordionstars.com.dnnmax.com/Home.aspx

The Confédération Internationale des

Accordéonistes (CIA) will hold their 67th CIA Coupe Mondiale and 132nd General Assembly of Delegates in Salzburg, Austria, from October 27 to November 2, 2014.



For full details go to:

http://www.coupemondiale.org/index.htm

Accordion Club of the Redwoods 3rd

Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Hermann Sons Hall • 860 Western, Petaluma, CA \$3 admission donation Contact: Tony Mustaro— President (707) 318-0474 dcdacapo@gmail.com

Golden State Accordion Club (GSAC)

President/CEO: Carole Enneking (707) 864-2359 gsaccordionclub@netfirms.com

The Vacaville Chapter meets monthly on the second Thursday, 6:30 p.m. at Pietro's No. 2 at 679 Merchant Street, Vacaville, CA 95688 (707) 448-4588

The Humboldt Chapter meets monthly on the third Tuesday, 7 p.m. at Humboldt Swiss Club, 5403 Tompkins Hill Road, Loleta.

The Sacramento Chapter meets monthly on the fourth Wednesday, 7 p.m. at the Old Spaghetti Factory, 12401 Folsom Blvd., Rancho Cordova. Contact for all three Chapters: Carole Enneking (707) 864-2359

Good Time Accordion Club (GTAC)

meets monthly on the second Wednesday, 7 p.m. at Escalon Community Center, 1055 Escalon Ave, Escalon. Contact: (209) 545-3603

Northern California Accordion Society (NCAS) meets monthly on the first Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. at Lutheran Church Hall, 6365 Douglas, Blvd, off Hwy 80, Granite Bay, CA. Contact: Jerry Choate (530) 345-2031

Silicon Valley Accordion Club (SVAC)

meets 1st Sun. of each month at Harry's Hofbrau, 390 Saratoga Avenue, San Jose, corner of Kiely. 1 p.m. \$5, under 16 - no charge.

Accordion Instruction

Bart Beninco (707) 769-8744
Ron Borelli (650) 574-5707
David Chelini (916) 428-8764
Peter Di Bono (415) 753-1502
Lynn Ewing (650) 453-3391
Skyler Fell (415) 596-5952
Lou Jacklich (510) 317-9510
Marian Kelly (650) 854-1896
Vincent Rinaldi (415) 824-7609
Big Lou (Linda Seekins) (415) 468 5986
Joe Simoni (650) 867-1122
Sharon Walters-Greyhosky (650) 731-6010
Richard Yaus (650) 832-1740
Mike Zampiceni (408) 569-2579
Norma Zonay-Parsons (408) 246-3073

SFAC Officers

Lynn Ewing, President (650) 453-3391 - ewinglynn@gmail.com

Dominic Palmisano, Vice President (415) 587-4423 - *accord47@gmail.com*

Mike Zampiceni, Secretary (408) 734-1565 - eclecticguy@comcast.net

Elaine Cooperstein, Treasurer (510) 921-9323 - elainedc@sbcglobal.net

SFAC Directors

Jean Moshofsky Butler, (415) 377-9266 threehummingbirds@gmail.com

Vince Rinaldi, (415) 824-7609 *vinnyrinaldi01@gmail.com*

Robert Cooperstein, (510) 207-6009 drrcoop@sbcglobal.net

Don Savant, (408) 257-0379 donsavant@yahoo.com

Newsletter

Deeana McLemore, (650) 483-4223 deeanamc@yahoo.com

Christina Knapp, Graphic Design snapp.chris@gmail.com











Summer Sunshine

by Paul Pasquali

A new CD release by **Stas Venglevski** and **Joan Cochran Sommers**



Summer
Sunshine is a refreshing and exciting new release from accordionist Joan Cochran
Sommers and Stas Venglevski (bayan) that will keep your head bobbing and toes

tapping to 14 wonderfully performed and executed original compositions by Stas. The performances are fresh and interesting, and will leave you feeling the cheerful summer sunshine. One of the more melodic and pensive songs, Sommers Fantasy, written by Stas for Joan, puts you in a very relaxed mood, like the end of a beautiful summer day, full of pleasure with its dreamy romantic classical style. This CD will be on sale at the Las Vegas Accordion Convention, but if you can't wait until then - contact Accordions International at 1-800-935-0013, and they will take your order and ship this new release.

Accordion Repair
Professional Service
by Master Craftsman
Yakov Puhachevsky



San Francisco & Bay Area
415-254-9418
yakovpuhachevsky@yahoo.com

2014 Changes in Meeting Dates:

June 22, 4th Sunday (OPYC request)

August - no meeting COTATI FESTIVAL

October 12, 2nd Sunday (OPYC request)

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome Robert T.
Anderson, MD, and Edna
Mitchell, PhD, our newest
club members. We thank
Scott Anderson, MD, PhD,
who played with the
Orchestra Project for
bringing these new members
to our Club.



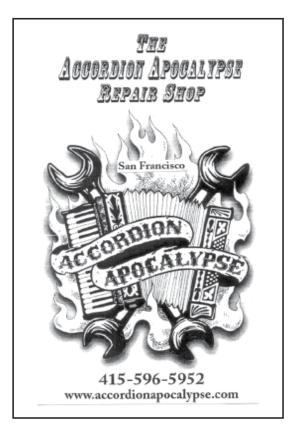




Advertisements

Please support the businesses which help support us.





Join us one Sunday each month at the Oyster Point Yacht Club, 911 Marina Blvd, South San Francisco

Club & Musical Meeting next meeting May 18 @ 2 p.m. Admission: \$6 members, \$8 guests

DIRECTIONS:

From 101 traveling either North or South, Oyster Point exit. Turn right onto Marina Blvd. (be careful not to turn right onto Gull Drive, just before Marina Blvd.) Continue past the gate house to the sign Oyster Point Yacht Club. There is plenty of parking and ramp access. Visit us online @www.sfaccordionclub.com



SFAC Membership is

\$30.00 per year for individual or family. For membership renewal, please send a check to: S.F.A.C., C/O Elaine Cooperstein 539 Elsie Ave, San Leandro, CA 94577

NEW MEMBERS, please include your name and address along with your check, as well as a phone number and email address, if you wish.

Newsletter of the San Francisco Accordion Club

P.O. Box 318175 San Francisco, CA 94131-8175 www.sfaccordionclub.com



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