

The World's First
Accordion Club
since 1912



San Francisco Accordion Club

JULY 2012

NEWSLETTER

Come to our **July 15** meeting
@ 2 p.m. and hear . . .

Dave Perry

will be playing before the meeting. He is a member of the San Francisco Accordion Chamber Ensemble (ACE) and AbsolutAccordion.

Alex Roitman & Tangonero

and his group have played for us before and perform locally. Their versions of *tango* are not to be missed!

Bruce Metras

Frank Marocco was his mentor and father figure. After fixing Frank's accordion when it fell off the stage in Washington at a concert, Frank sent Bruce every one of his arrangements in gratitude.

Glenn Hartman

an accordion player and co-founder of the New Orleans Klezmer All Stars (NOKAS), has called San Francisco home since Hurricane Katrina displaced him and his family.

He plays around the Bay Area with a number of local musicians



Glen Hartman



Tangonero

Tom Torriglia

National Accordion Awareness Month was established in 1989 by this San Francisco native to help spread the word about the resurgence in popularity of the accordion. the world.



Tom Torriglia

What a great Week!

We all gathered at **Silver Falls State Park in Oregon** for the Rose City Accordion Club annual Accordion Camp. About 50 accordion players from all over the US and Canada were excited about our wonderful week in June playing our accordions in one of the great Orchestras and learning from our instructors. The Conductors were Ilmar Kuljus and Murl Allen Sanders - both outstanding with a great selection of music. When we were not at practice we were able to attend the workshops - one presented by Gordon Kohl—everything you wanted to know about bass accompaniment, chords, ornaments added to your melody's, and lots of great music in every style.

Our own Ron Borelli gave workshops on playing Jazz and Blues - there was so much information and handouts you really had your work cut out for the next year. The food is always outstanding, the cabins are very nice, and in the evening we were entertained by other campers and the sessions always ended with a Jam Session. On Thursday night both orchestras gave a concert which was well attended. The dates for 2013 are June 9th to the 15th. For information contact Marlene Meissner, email: Marlenem26@msn.com or write Marlene at 251 McNary Heights Drive North. Keizer. OR. 97303. A wonderful week, great people, I am looking forward to 2013

Gwyn Lister



My Accordions

Intrigued by accordions and the sounds they can make, I longed for one for years. In 1990 I purchased one from a friend, whose wife wanted to put her accordion past to rest. It was a red and white Camerano in a grayish hard case with some music books. Occasionally I took it out and managed to squeeze some notes from it, but since I could neither read music, or pick up this instrument easily I sold it. One day I saw a cool one at a thrift shop and had to have it. This one was a green marbled formica looking thing with a wavy shaped keyboard and a pattern of children playing on the bellows. It was cool, but had a few issues and no case or straps. I purchased some straps and had it in my car one day when buying pet food and the guy helping me load my purchase eyed it and so I sold it to him. At yet another thrift shop I found a 50s looking Sonola, ivory and black that sounded pretty good. It had straps and a case and looked like the grill of a buick. I next purchased a very small square 4 bass Honer with steel reeds that had hardly every been played and had it rebuilt by Smythes in Oakland. I had finally started taking lessons from Lou Jacklich, using the Sonola. These 2 just weren't enough as I had the addiction, looking and thinking about accordions all the time. I joined this club, went to Las Vegas International Accordion Festival twice and the ATG festival once and immersed myself into accordion music of all types and purchased three more instruments. I sincerely believe that accordions are the most versatile and interesting instrument invented. At present I own 5 accordions, and they all get along fine with one another.

Christina Knapp

June Meeting—Recap

Father's Day, was a glorious warm, windy Sunday at Oyster Point Yacht Club.

Skyler Fell was our MC and began by reminding us that it is Accordion Awareness month, founded in 1989.

Lorenzo Lucchesi, 12 years old, and a student of Peter DiBono played first—a short selection of Italian pieces, sang *C'E la Luna Mezzo Mare* (in Italian) and finished with *Sorrento*. Lorenzo is already an accomplished performer with a great stage presence.



Karla Mi Lugo played next, completely fascinating the audience by balancing on a soccer-sized ball, singing, whistling, and playing her accordion. At one point when a slight wobble set in, Karla mentioned that the balancing feats and playing the accordion, singing and whistling was really difficult!



Please Remember!

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



Richie Lawrence took the stage, and began by apologizing for forgetting his ball to stand on. He discussed the 5 pieces he would perform as all original compositions, and available on CD. His style includes celtic, country, and blue grass. One piece was about John Chapman, born 1774, who moved west, took a particular interest in apples, and is remembered as Johnny Appleseed.



After the break, **Jetty Swart** a seasoned performer with high energy and a very original playing style, played some of her original compositions: *Love That Doesn't Last*, *Love with You*, *Slow Love* (about a slug) and finished with a Dutch song. Jetty has a Facebook page, and videos on YouTube.

Aaron Seeman, aka **Duckmandu** performed some of his eclectic compositions starting with a Swedish "polska" (the Polish word for Poland). Polskas are slower and more rhythmic than their typical Polish equivalents. He continued with *Sweet Georgia Brown*, mentioning that he has 140 versions of this on his I-pod. We heard the 141st! Aaron has just completed a project where he composed a piece in each of the 24 chromatic key signatures, and his book was available at the meeting. He closed with a 1940s Swedish commercial: *Coffee Without Cream is like Love without Kisses*, and a Klezmer number.

*Memorial Concert
for Frank Marocco
at Castelfidardo, Italy 2012*



Frank Petrilli in Russia

Club member **Frank Petrilli**, protege of Frank Marocco, played a concert in Kiev, Ukraine, which had been originally scheduled for Frank Marocco. Frank reports that the quality of accordionists in the Ukraine is absolutely off the charts! He continued on to Castelfidardo, Italy, where a memorial concert in Frank Marocco's honor had been arranged by his manager, Elke Arenholz. To see a you tube of the concert go to **YOU TUBE** and search for Frank Marocco Memorial Concert.

NEW MEMBER

The Club welcomes new member Jocelyn Poulin from Berkeley who joined at our June meeting.

ACCORDION EVENTS

The Annual American Accordionists' Association Festival, July 11-15 held at the Sheraton City Center, Baltimore, MD Guest Artist and conductor of the AAA Festival Orchestra this year will be Stas Venglevski. www.ameraccord.com/festival.html

The 72nd Annual Competition and Festival of the Accordionists and Teachers Guild, International

July 25-29 held at the Lisle Hyatt Hotel, Lisle (Chicago), IL. For the latest Festival details, check the ATG's <http://www.accordions.com/atg/>

13th annual Las Vegas International Accordion Convention, September 24-27 at the Gold Coast, Las Vegas, Nevada. www.accordionstars.com

**NO meeting in August.
see you at the**

**Cotati Accordion Festival
Saturday & Sunday
August 18 & 19, 2012
9:30 - 8:30 both days**

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and a host of other
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performers.*

PLAY FOR US!

We are always grateful and accepting of anyone who wishes to play for us as warm up before the meeting starts, during the break, or in the first part of the program.. Share your talent and hone your performance skills! Call Domenic Palmisano, 415-587-4423, or email him at accord47@gmail.com to sign up.

From our President Lynn Ewing

The Gift from San Francisco
~10 accordions just arrived at Tohoku~

We are so pleased to report that the Japan Accordion Association has now made arrangements to deliver the 10 accordions which were donated through the efforts of the San Francisco Accordion Club to recipients in Japan. Five of the accordions will go to musicians who lost their instruments in the disaster. The remaining five will be donated to childcare centers and schools in the Sendai area, which was hardest hit. Mini concerts and workshops will be taking place at the schools. Also, there will be a special ceremony and workshop at one of the schools in July for the presentation of the accordions. Mr. Lars Holm, a famous Swedish accordionist, will be presenting the workshop and concert for support of the people of Tohoku. Mr Holm is described as wearing a beard that looks like Santa Claus, and they are sure that the children especially will enjoy the concert because of his pleasant personality, his talent, and his looks!



This August I will be conducting the orchestra at the Festival held by AFNA. I hope you will read the attached invitation and consider joining the orchestra. It will be a wonderful time for all of us to get together once more and prepare three exciting pieces for performance.

Please pass the word on to all your accordion friends, too. The arrangements by Anthony Galla-Rini all have parts suitable for every level of player; there is one exactly for you!

Many thanks!
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Scholarship Awards

Twice a year, in April and October, our club awards scholarships to accordion students demonstrating promise to further their study and knowledge of the accordion. Scholarship Guidelines and Application forms are available at the monthly meetings or can be obtained from the club secretary, Randy Hicks—by emailing: hickr01@sprintmail.com. Completed applications are to be returned to: Mike Zampiceni—220 Tasman Dr., #106, Sunnyvale, CA 94089 by the end of either March or September to be considered for an award the following month.

Mike Z., Scholarship Chairman

Nearby Club Meetings

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 Golden State Accordion Club meets monthly on the second Thursday, 6:30 p.m. at Pietro's No. 2679 Merchant Street, Vacaville, CA 95688 707-451-9000

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 Keifer (916) 652-0836

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

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David Chelini (916) 428-8764
Peter Di Bono (415) 753-1502
Lynn Ewing (650) 453-3391
Skyler Fell (415) 596-5952
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Marjorie Konrad (707) 539-5308
Marian Kelly (650) 854-1896
Vincent Rinaldi (415) 824-7609
Big Lou (Linda Seekins) (415) 468 5986
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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.

Non-member 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 non-members.

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Club & Musical Meeting • July 15 @ 2 p.m.

**Playing in July — Tangonero, Dave Perry, Bruce Metras,
Glenn Hartman, Alex Roitman and & Tom Torriglia**

**Join us on the third sunday of the month
at the Oyster Point Yacht Club, 911 Marina Blvd, South San Francisco**

DIRECTIONS:

From 101 traveling either North or South, take the 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

P A R K I N G N O T I C E

The new Ferry Terminal is now operational, and parking behind the yacht club is again possible.

**PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN THE
Commodore's designated space!**

SFAC Membership is

\$30.00 per year for individual or family.
Meeting admission is \$6 per member & \$8 per guest. For membership renewal, please send a check to: S.F.A.C., c/o Randall Hicks, 21071 Gary Drive, #212, Castro Valley, CA 94546.
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

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