



The May meeting of the SFAC will be in **Accordion Circle** format, which means that rather than hosting a special guest player we will devote the entire meeting to performances by our own Club members. Some of the players will be joining us virtually, from almost anywhere!

ZOOM attendees have lots of choices – they can play for us, play alongside the in-person players, or simply enjoy the musical program. As people have become more comfortable with ZOOM, the Club in turn has been able to expand its capabilities thanks to the hybrid in-person/virtual format we use for each meeting.

We would love to see you live at the esteemed Chetcuti Community Room in Milbrae, but the next best thing would be to join us over the internet. As for our in-person players, they run the gamut from seasoned, professional players to beginners; and everything in-between. We also treasure our non-players, because nothing motivates the players more than an audience as an integral part of the festivities.

- Although the Chetcuti doors open at 2:00 pm PST, it always takes a few minutes to fuss with our audio visual equipment. The in-person call to order will be around 2:10 pm and the playing around 2:15 pm.
- As usual, we will begin with a jam session led by Maestro Lou Jacklich, followed with open-mic performances. Jam books will be provided but bring your own music stand.
- To be an open-mic player, live or virtually, please contact Club President Ken Schwartz in advance to get on the schedule. See you there!



• \$5 suggested donation at the door

### **Teleshevs Earn Standing Ovation at Millbrae Accordion Performance**

April 16 Performance Review, San Francisco Accordion Club, by Scott Anderson

Sergei and Maria Teleshev put on a stellar performance at the San Francisco Accordion Club April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting, at the Millbrae Public Library's David J. Chetcuti Community Room. Maria is a competitive accordion champion with command of English, Russian and other languages. Sergei, a Russian music academy graduate who teaches and performs internationally, brought an effortless command of classical, ethnic, and popular music.



accordions, which afford a five-octave range on the treble clef. Featuring 108 buttons on the right hand, a free bass row, and chin switches, these wonderful instruments offer amazing sound and versatility.

Sergei also discussed the technical features of the Russian-preferred button

Photo credit: Steve Mobia



In addition to performing brilliantly, the duo stood and bowed after every number, in a traditional European manner. They also cut a sharp image in matching outfits of black tops and white trousers. After each piece, they gently extended their right arms in unison, allowing them to settle in a gesture of closure. Let's recap our musical journey:

1. *Firedance*, from **Riverdance** by Bill Whelan, sent us on a musical journey to Ireland. If you imagined Irish dancers jumping up and down with grace and athleticism, you were not alone. I particularly liked the use of the accordion body as a percussion surface for fill-ins.

Photo credit: Steve Mobia

- 2. *Berceuse* by Armas Jarnefelt. Translating from the French word for cradle song, this evocative piece was delivered in a heartfelt manner.
- 3. Tangos *La Cumparsita* and *Por Una Cabeza*. The interplay of counter-rhythms between the performers gave a musical conversation. Moreover, this piece was a great set-up for the later exploration of the so-called New Tango sound of Argentine composer Astor Piazzolla, which was to follow.
- 4. *Prelude in C minor* by J.S. Bach (Maria solo). How impressive it was to see Maria perform this solo rendition, showing her unique style.
- 5. Toccata in D minor by J.S. Bach (Sergei solo). As Maria took her break, Sergei carried the Bach repertoire further into the performance repertoire. This is a piece that appears on one of the CDs I bought, manifesting the soaring power of a grand concert organ.
- 6. *Schindler's List* by John Williams, arranged by Sergei Teleshev (Sergei solo). Although the sound was laced with sorrow, a sense of hope seemed to be the over-arching theme.
- 7. *Gogol Suite* in three parts by Alfred Shnittke. The Teleshevs knew all their pieces from memory, which was impressive. As with all the pieces, they played with confidence and verve.



- 8. *Waltz Musette Indifference*. The echoing effect of each performer taking the melody was hauntingly beautiful. I kept imagining the Teleshevs playing on a bridge over the river Seine.
  - *Thunderstruck* by AC/DC. Try as I might, I could not discern a rock and roll sensibility in this number. Perhaps the famous rock group has been classically influenced.



Continued on next page ...

## April Event Review (continued)



10. *Kärleksvals* (*Love Waltz*) by Ulrik Neumann. This piece added three-quarter rhythm to the mix.

- 11. Libertango by Astor Piazzolla. Around this time Maria highlighted her tango moves, adding a maraca beat with one hand.I felt ready to book a plane to Buenos Aires to hear more.
- 12. *Besame Mucho* by Consuelo Velazquez. The Teleshevs brought us back to well-tread territory for accordion fans with this favorite. Even an age-old tune sounded new and fresh.



Photo credit: Steve Mobia

13. *Tico Ti*co Brazilian Samba. The accordion club members began to stand at the end of this number, as the performance reached a crescendo. It was their last number, for a minute.

#### Encore:

14. *Diamond Fingers* by A. Dorensky was presented as an encore, which the audience demanded with loud cheers. Indeed, a sparkling end to a gem of a performance.



Photo credit: Steve Mobia

The Teleshevs remained to pose for photographs. Although they had driven from Los Angeles the same morning, they were due back on the road. Maria is a fifteen-year-old high school student in Oregon, after all.

Thank you for visiting the San Francisco Accordion Club, Sergei and Maria, and delivering an accordion tour de force to our members, in person and online. Will we meet again? From the San Francisco Accordion Club perspective, I might quote an old Russian proverb: "In the kingdom of hope, there is no winter." We look forward to an enduring friendship.



## **Appreciation for the Kindness of SFAC Members and Fellow Accordion Travelers**

Non-profit organizations like the San Francisco Accordion Club depend on the generosity of their members, and sometimes non-members, to keep it going. This generosity involves donations of time, money, and goods in-kind. The SFAC has had the good fortune to maintain a stable Board of Directors and an ancillary dedicated group of fellow travelers to conduct the business of the Club, both at live meetings and in other ways. On top of that, a large percentage of our members donate money when they renew their memberships, and sometimes at odd times out of the blue. The goods in-kind we have received have included accordion-themed figurines, media, performances . . . and sometimes *actual accordions*!

Most recently the SFAC has gratefully received accordions from Marlene McBride, Marlen Zhagel and Don Jackson. These will eventually be made available for rental or sale to raise money for the Club, which will enable us to continue offering stipends to the amazing musicians we are able to engage for both live and virtual performances; also for funding scholarships for future accordion stars.

#### Marlene McBride donation (accordions of Brian McBride)

Marlene McBride has very generously donated three accordions from the collection of her late husband Brian, including a Dallape (full-size 120 bass), a Guerrini (student size 120 bass, white), and a Bouelli (mini 120 bass). We're thrilled to receive these wonderful instruments, which will be put to good use! Thank you, Marlene!





Marlene and Brian, Memorial Day, 2018

#### Marlen Zhagel

Marlen Zhagel, a long-time SFAC member, has very generously donated his Petosa Baby Grand 1960's accordion to the club. Another beautiful instrument will be put to good use! Thank you, Marlen!



Continued on next page ...

#### (Continued)

### **Appreciation for Donations to SFAC**

Don Jackson (his daughter's accordion)

Don Jackson donated to the SFAC his daughter's La Melodiosa Pezzolo accordion. In the United States, La Melodiosa was imported by Vince Cirelli. La Nuova Melodiosa factory was operational from 1932 to 1973 in Castelfidardo, Italy. Don Jackson's daughter had Marian Kelly, a long-time member and past President of the SFAC, as her teacher. Thank you so much, Don!

• Robert and Dildar Pisani (hosted snacks for our April meeting)

We are so grateful to Club members who routinely step up and bring refreshments to our live meetings and picnics, almost always unsolicited. Robert and Didar Pisani took that to the next level by hosting just about all of the snacks and liquid refreshments for our April meeting. They made our event even "sweeter," so many thanks! We may be dreaming, but we look forward to the day when a Club member will sponsor the appearance of one of their favorite accordion musicians ...



• Mr. William Popp (donated CDs featuring himself and the Air Force Strolling Strings)

Mr. William Popp, distinguished accordionist of Loveland, CO, has donated 20 CDs of his classical music performances in concert and 3 CDs of the **Air Force Strolling Strings**. His CDs feature sensational classical and pop performances; you'll be seeing them displayed at our future meetings.

Mr. Popp (Bill) has enjoyed a distinguished career, starting in Colorado, where he taught many students, followed by 20 years as the official accordionist for the United States Air Force **Strolling Strings**, Washington, D.C. In this capacity, he performed at the White House for several presidents, including Presidents Reagan and Clinton, and Vice-President Bush. He also performed on other occasions for Presidents Nixon, Carter and Ford as well as professionally for many social functions in D.C., prior to retiring from the Air Force in 2003. Last year, Bill performed at the World Accordion Day in Superior, WI. He still performs a bit and also composes. Mr. Popp found our club on the web. I've invited him to perform for us in the future. Stay tuned ... [In the meantime, check out <u>williampoppmusic.com</u>]



## **Annual SF Italian Street Fair Includes New Accordion Festival**

By Pamela Tom

The San Francisco Italian Athletic Club Foundation is sponsoring the *Festa Coloniale Italiana Street Fair* and the  $102^{nd}$  Statuto Race June 3-4 in North Beach (on Stockton St., between Union and Filbert). A new **accordi-on festival** will be launched on June 4! The two-day Fest Street Fair celebrates Italian food, drink, music, culture, family fun, and the Statuto Race.

Festa highlights:

- Full entertainment and Kids' Corner
- Live Italian music from Sonamo, il Sole and Bella Ciao
- Pizza toss by 13 time World Champion and restaurateur Tony Gemignani of Tony's Pizza Napoletana of North Beach
- Italian cuisine and wine tasting featuring Capo Isetta and Highway 12
- Children's corner: Italian Marionette show, tarantella dancing, face painting and crafts
- Italian products sold by local vendors, including Lianna Soap, Giovanni's Specialties, True Delicious, Zoe Aquila Jewelry, Amelia Imports and more.

## FREE "Symphony of Accordions" Festival. A San Francisco First! June 4, 2023

- 11:00 11:50 AM Mike Trucco Band
- 12:10 12:30 PM Tatiana Semichastnaya
- 12:45 1:30 PM Ron Borelli Group
- 1:45 2:30 PM il Sole, featuring Steve Albini

2:45 - 3:00 PM Accordion play/sing along *That's Amore* (in the key of C)

3:15 - 4:00 PM Bella Ciao, featuring Tom Torriglia

Details for the 2023 Festa are being finalized. Check the <u>SFIAC Foundation website</u> for the most current details, start and ending times, 102<sup>nd</sup> Statuto Race registration, and contact information: <u>https://</u> www.sfiacfoundation.com/festa-coloniale-italiana



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## A New Home for the SFAC Stage - An Ed Massolo Original!

Many of you will recall our Club's stage, which was so artfully constructed by our treasured member, Ed Massolo, many years ago and served us so well for our years when we met at the Oyster Point Yacht Club. Ed's stage was the focal point of the performances and contributed so much to the many events we enjoyed when we met at that venue. The stage was cleverly designed to double as a storage unit, which allowed us to keep most of our sound equipment and coffee supplies on site in those days. Unfortunately, our recent meeting sites cannot accommodate us in storing any of our items in between monthly meetings, and the SFAC has been unable to enjoy the many benefits that this stage design offers.

We are pleased to inform you that Ed's stage has found a new home with the Palo Alto Players, a local theater company, where it will continue to serve the community for many years to come.

Thank you, Ed!









https://paplayers.org

# Accordion Figurines for Sale

<u>info@sfaccordionclub.com</u> Proceeds benefit the San Francisco Accordion Club



Sailor Man accordion figurine
7 ½" high, apparently heavy-duty plastic
\$30 OBO (+Shipping)

Clown with accordion 6 ½" high \$30 OBO (+Shipping)





Two adorable accordion figurines for sale, \$35 each OBO (+Shipping)



Vintage Capodimonte Italy Porcelain Man on Bench with Accordion (10" tall) \$60 OBO (+Shipping)

Bing & Grondahl Denmark Porcelain Merry Sailor Man with Accordion (9" tall) \$60 OBO (+Shipping)





## Ron Borelli, Accordionist

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#### SFAC Board of Directors

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#### Scholarship:

Mike Zampiceni (408)569-2579, eclecticguy@comcast.net





## President's Report

#### Hi everyone!

The Club had a great turnout last month and enjoyed yet another great event, thanks to the many who worked to make it all happen. Many thanks to those who volunteered, including Rosemary Busher and Natasha Lyukevich at the door; intermission hosted by Robert and Dildar Pisani; Scott Anderson, event summary; sound, Paul Cain; photography Steve Mobia, Jane Tan, and Ken Schwartz; and Pamela Tom, who facilitated the arrangements with the Teleshevs.

We hope you will attend future events in-person and welcome your participation to make them a success. See you shortly!

Ken

#### ন্স Thank You, Donors! ৰ্জ

Sincere Thanks to those who generously donate to support the SFAC. We thank these members who have made extra donations during our current membership year (Beginning October 1, 2022). Lorna Anderson; Dr. Scott T. Anderson; Ron Borelli; Dave Braun; Gail Campanella; Gay Castellano; Raymond Celentano; George Chavez; Elaine & Robert Cooperstein; Edward Crnich; Xavier & Candace de la Prade; Ed Gorzynski, Jr.; Jerry Keifer; Nancy Leonard; Linda Lonay; Franco, Susan & Lorenzo Lucchesi; Michael A. Marotta, Jr.; Ed Massolo; Nora Mazzara; Anna Nicora; Laura Jean Niland; Gisele B. Oakes; Casey & Colette Ogata; David Perry; Robert D. & Dil Pisani; Don & Mary Savant; Dr. Kenneth Schwartz; Georgia Sutherland; Bill & Gloria Tapogna; Pamela Tom; Frank Venturelli; Barbara Winter; Tseli Wu; Mike Zampiceni; Marlen Zhagel If you have donated and your name doesn't appear here, please contact elainedc@sbcglobal.net. We greatly appreciate the support and want to be sure you are recognized.



Memorial Day Parade, Bethlehem NY, 2022 https://spotlightnews.com/towns/bethlehem/2022/05/25/memorial-day-parade-in-delmar-on-monday-may-30th/

## **SFAC COMING EVENTS**

Mark Your Calendars!

May 21 – Accordion Circle (open mic & jam band)

June 18 - Kevin Solecki GRAMMY Nominated Accordionist (ZOOM-only)

**Sunday, July 30** – Annual SFAC Picnic Beresford Park, San Mateo



August 19-20 – <u>Cotati Accordion Festival</u>, Visit our SFAC canopy at the festival! No Millbrae meeting.

September 17 - TBA

October 15 - Accordion Circle - Oktoberfest Edition

November 19 - TBA

December 2023 – No SFAC meeting - Holiday break

SFAC Performances & Accordion Circle meetings will take place in the Chetcuti Community Room, Millbrae, unless otherwise indicated (ZOOM-only, Picnic, & Cotati). Members will receive ZOOM link via email.



#### SUPPORT THE BUSINESSES THAT SUPPORT THE SFAC!





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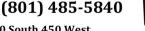
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#### SFAC Members Performing Around the Bay

Ron Borelli San Mateo - <u>RonBorelli@aol.com</u> <u>www.ronborelli.com</u>

RICHARD DENIER Carmel - <u>rjd.denier@gmail.com</u>

PETER DI BONO San Francisco <u>www.peterdibono.com</u>

**RENO DI BONO** South Bay - <u>ourhike@aol.com</u> <u>www.italianaccordion.com</u>

**JOE DOMITROWICH** South Bay -<u>www.alpinersusa.com</u> or <u>www.capricious-accordion.com</u>

ED GORZYNSKI, JR. East Bay - edspolkas@yahoo.com

IL DUETTO MUSICA (aka Paul Aebersold & Gloria Gazave) mazurkaman@yahoo.com https://www.facebook.com/II- Duetto-Musica-992981207392410/

#### Robert Kennedy

robertkennedymusic.com, missionhotclub.com

**PAMELA TOM** Yolo & Solano Counties <u>accordionpam@gmail.com</u>

**MIKE ZAMPICENI** East Bay & South Bay <u>eclecticguy@comcast.net</u>, <u>www.mikezamp.com</u>

## **ACCORDION INSTRUCTION**

- Gail Campanella\* <u>GailCampanella@gmail.com</u>
- Reno DiBono 30-minute group lessons\* Sundays 11am, request link from <u>OurHike@AOL.com</u>
- ◆ Lou Jacklich\* 510-317-9510
- Marian Kelly 650-954-3711
- Joe Simoni\* jsimoni2000@gmail.com, 650-867-1122
- Pamela Tom\* <u>accordionpam@gmail.com</u>
- Joel Weber\* <u>www.joelseastbayacordionlessons.weebly.com/</u>
- Mike Zampiceni\* <u>www.mikezamp.com</u>

\* = remote lessons (ZOOM, Facetime, Skype) available



### ACCORDION HAPPENINGS 2023 IN-PERSON & ONLINE EVENTS

Monthly: 1st & 3rd Monday - Joseph Natoli (Virtual) JANPress University - Topics vary monthly (\$) janpressmusic@yahoo.com

Monthly: 2nd Tuesday, 4:30-6:30 PM (Virtual, Free) Hosted by Laura Niland LauraJNiland@outlook.com

Monthly: 3rd Sunday - Gordon Kohl Workshop (Virtual) Topics vary (\$) <u>gkohl5890@gmail.com</u>

May 17 - 20 Kim & Dan Christian's Accordion Extravaganza & Band Camp Branson, MO <u>http://SqueezePlay.biz</u>

May 22 - 27, May 29 - June 3 Jacques Mornet Workshops, New Orleans, LA http://cnima.com/usa

June 1-30 — National Accordion Awareness Month https://nationaltoday.com/national-accordion-awareness-month/

June 4 - 9 Rose City Accordion Club Accordion Camp, Eagle Creek, OR <u>maddoxfran43@gmail.com</u>

June 22 - 25 Leavenworth (WA) International Accordion Celebration http://accordioncelebration.org

June 23-27 Accordion Star International 2023 Virtual (Online) Competition/Festival https://www.facebook.com/AccoStarFest

July 12-16 American Accordion Association Festival Conshohocken, PA <u>http://www.ameraccord.com/</u>

July 19-22 Accordionists & Teachers Guild International Festival Lisle, IL (Chicago) https://www.atgaccordions.com/

July 28-30 Accordion Seminars: In the Shadow - In The ......!! – Virtual (On-line) accordionbill@gmail.com

August 19-20 Cotati Accordion Festival La Plaza Park, Cotati, CA <u>www.cotatifest.com</u>



## Friends of SFAC— Accordion Groups/Clubs

Some clubs are on hiatus or meeting virtually (online) only. Check each club's website and/or club contacts to verify meeting schedules

<u>Accordion Club of the Redwoods</u><sup>1</sup> (Santa Rosa) Meetings 3rd Wednesdays—Cibo Rustico Pizzeria (707) 318-0474, <u>dcdacapo@gmail.com</u>

Accordion Lovers Society International (ALSI)<sup>3</sup> 2nd Sundays—Mt. Miguel Covenant Village Spring Valley, CA <u>gkohl5890@gmail.com</u> (619) 427-4344

<u>Accordionaires of Los Angeles</u> Online 4th Sundays<sup>3</sup> - Meetings 3rd Tuesdays<sup>1</sup> Victorio's Ristorante, North Hollywood, CA <u>dnorferi@aol.com</u>or "Accordionaires" on Facebook

Northern California Accordion Society (NCAS)<sup>1</sup> 2nd Saturdays—Roseville, CA Lutheran Church of the Resurrection cvalashan@aol.com (610) 209-4496

San Antonio Accordion Society<sup>2</sup> 2nd Tuesdays online - Meetings on last Tuesdays Chester's Hamburgers, San Antonio, TX LauraJNiland@outlook.com

Silicon Valley Accordion Society (SVAS) 1st Sundays, online (in person schedule TBD) Christ Episcopal Church, Los Altos, CA (pending) www.svasociety.org

<sup>1</sup> In person meeting only <sup>2</sup> mixed: in-person and ZOOM meeting <sup>3</sup> ZOOM only meeting

The San Francisco Accordion Club is a **501(c)(3)** tax-exempt charitable organization whose purpose is to enhance, promote and stimulate an appreciation for the accordion within the membership and throughout the general public.

Donations are tax-deductible and gratefully accepted by using the **Donate** button at <u>www.sfaccordionclub.com</u> or by mailing your contribution to the SFAC Treasurer, Elaine Cooperstein, 539 Elsie Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577

#### SFAC Newsletter Ad Policy

Members may place 1/8-page (business-card size) free of charge for one month each year. Additional ads are \$10/issue or \$100/year. Monthly ad prices **for members**:

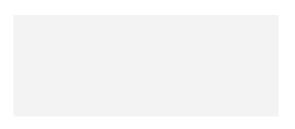
1/8 page: \$10; 1/4-page: \$25; 1/2-page: \$50; Full-page: \$100. Non-member rates are double. Contact info@sfaccordionclub.com

### San Francisco Accordion Club Newsletter

c/o 10233 Bay Avenue Englewood, FL 34224 www.sfaccordionclub.com



## FIRST CLASS POSTAGE



# **SFAC Sunday Meeting**

# **SFAC Accordion Circle**

# Sunday, May 21

## Join us for fun and great music! SFAC members will receive ZOOM link via email See email for details, or contact info@sfaccordionclub.com

## In Person and Via Zoom All Are Encouraged to Participate! "Open Mic" solo opportunities

\$5 contribution at the door, free for children & students 18 years and under. The Event will also be livestreamed via ZOOM for SFAC members only.



Millbrae Chetcuti Community Room Civic Center Plaza/Library Plaza 450 Poplar Avenue, Millbrae, CA SFAC Monthly Meetings:

Plenty of free parking in Library lot

Accessible location Close to public transit fb.com/sanfranciscoaccordionclub

