

The BAAC Page

Newsletter of the

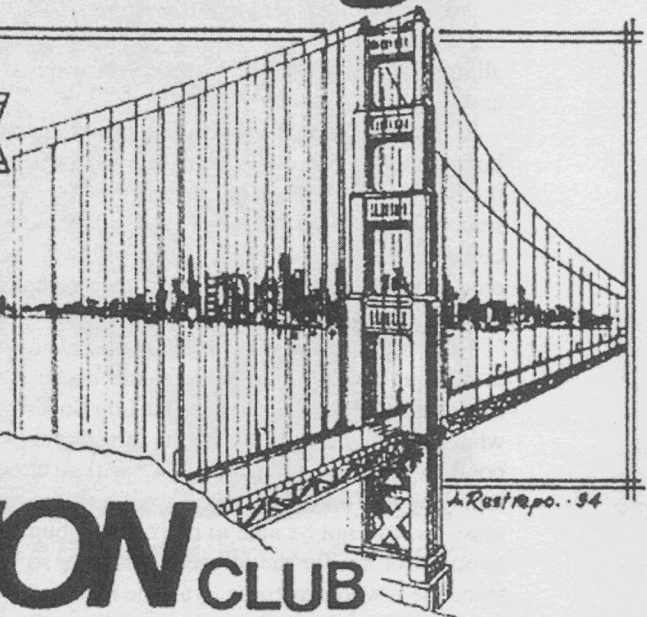
SAN FRANCISCO CALIFORNIA USA



BAY AREA

ACCORDION CLUB

August 2002



President's Message

I hope everyone had as much fun at the picnic as I did! We had somewhere around 150 in attendance, many of whom came from afar. It was gratifying to see so many people there, given that it was the summer travel season and a long-long weekend to boot! I can't possibly mention by name all the people who helped make the picnic the success it was, so if I leave anyone out, please know that your work and dedication were appreciated more than you can imagine. Topping the list are our wonderful food & party geniuses, **Frances and Dominic Benedetto** and their helpers **Danny and Lucy Dietri, Bob Pisani, and members of Jim Firpo's family**. They did all the food preparation, the barbecuing, serving and all the other related tasks.

I also want to thank all the performers, far too many to try to name, but who included the **BAAC Fun Band**, the famous **Ed & Frank Duo, Harry Gay and Bob Foppiano** with **Harry Cannata** and **Dick Van Rooyen, Herb Meier, Dennis Stoscher** and **Michael Sanossian**. Others got up and played spontaneously. They kept things lively

and people dancing with a variety of music ranging from ethnic to polka to ballroom dance styles and more. We had a lot of photographers there too, including **Kris Nelson** whom we thank for giving me a disk of his shots. And of course, our faithful **Bob Berta** who took care of the sound system and many other details.

The **Las Vegas International Accordion Convention** in June was absolutely incredible. I believe there were at least 500 participants. **Paul Pasquali** and his team are to be congratulated on a humongous task excellently done. It is a wonderful experience to meet and get to know all those accordion greats that we otherwise only read about, and to catch up with accordion friends from all over the world.

Our **next BAAC meeting**, as previously announced, will take place on **Wednesday, August 7 at Moose Lodge Daly City**. After that, beginning in September, we will have a **new schedule** which will be the **second Thursday of each month at Moose Lodge**. Band and ensemble rehearsals will remain on Wednesdays at Moose. **Remember: See me for Cotati tickets!** See you all August 7 at Moose!
Val

NEXT MEETING 7 PM WED. AUG. 7 MOOSE LODGE DALY CITY

Your Executive Board Met ...

... on Tuesday, July 2. As of July 1 we had \$7,991 in all our accounts. With some bills yet outstanding, we are on sound footing.

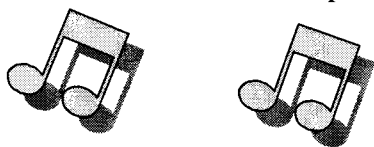
The insurance matters pending from the previous board meeting have been clarified. Performances by the Fun Band, the BAAC Ensemble or the ACE ensemble are covered since they are sponsored by the club. For the Columbus Day parade we will be covered as well, once we let the insurance company know the parade route, traffic control, etc.

135 people had registered for the picnic as of July 2. Although we will not be using our booth at Cotati this year, the board decided to let Lou Soper find out what it would cost to replace the fabric canopy of our booth. If the cost is reasonable we will go ahead with replacing it. Tom Orzechowsky, who stores our possessions, will not be able to deliver the sound system to our meetings for the foreseeable future so we need someone—who can come to all the meetings—to store it. (Any volunteers?)

We will put on a gala party in the second half of the October meeting and honor those people who have shown exceptional service to the club.

BAAC meetings will be held at Moose Lodge Daly City on the second Thursday of each month, beginning in September. (The August meeting will be on Wednesday, Aug. 7.) The **annual general meeting** of BAAC, and the **annual membership photo**, will take place at the September meeting. Normally we would have elections at this time, but everyone is in mid-term of two-year terms. One director, Ron Borelli, regrettably resigned at the July 2 board meeting, and the board voted to accept the appointment of **Ed Massolo** (with his permission) to fill out the rest of Ron's term as Director-at-large. See you Aug. 7! Bring your accordion—it will be "Open Mic." night!

Val



Another Great Musical Picnic!

It was a beautiful sunny day, with 140 or so folks making the trek to Nature Friends Park in the Oakland hills to enjoy great food and accordion playing. It was a party for young and older alike, and it was especially nice to see the younger families with energetic children in tow. Let's put accordions in

their hands and sign 'em up!

The entire food part of the picnic was overseen by none other than Frances and Dominic Benedetto who, along with their very dedicated team of volunteers, prepared and served us an outstanding meal.

And then there was music ... on the dance floor, under the trees, in the picnic area and up on the hill. The hills were certainly alive with the music of our souls, making for a very pleasant day. Music on the stage was initiated by our own BAAC Fun Band, replete with their natty vests! They got our musical day off to a rousing start. Others included: Lou Soper and Dick Van Rooyen, Mark Zhagel, Val Kieser, the Harry Gay & Bob Foppiano Trio with Harry Cannata on guitar, Herb Meier, Ed Massolo & Frank Panacci, Vince Cirelli, Dennis Stocher and many more.

With dancing, listening, raffles, good conversation and perfect weather, we couldn't have asked for a better event. R.S.

(See picnic photos elsewhere in this issue)

For Sale

Red *Weltmeister* accordion, 120 bass, 11 registers on treble, 5 on bass; full size. \$1500 o.b.o. Call Mark (415) 731-7834.

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www.accordions.com/garydahl

Watch for ...

... a special ongoing column "If My Accordion Could Talk" by **Vince Cirelli**, a look back through Vince's eyes at the rich history of the accordion in San Francisco and elsewhere.

Two Views of the Las Vegas Accordion Convention by Two BAAC Members

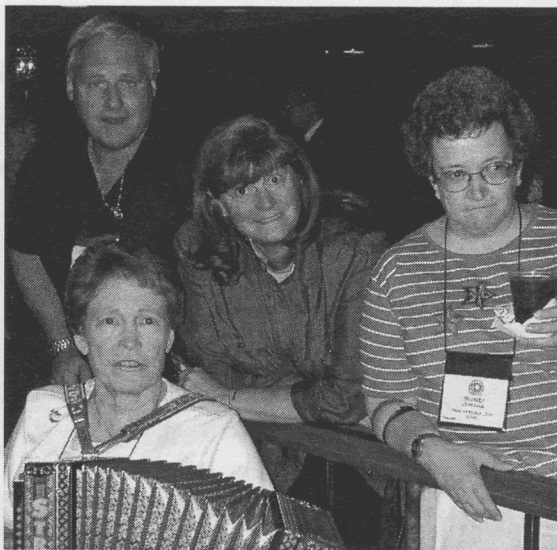
George Chavez:

This year's convention, with more than 500 participants, was in my opinion a great success. It was due in part to the enthusiasm and diversity of the guest instructors. There were three days of 40 scheduled lectures and demonstrations that ranged from minor accordion repair and dance rhythm styles to developing a brighter style by Peter Soave and methods of memorization by Ron Borelli.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner buffet were part of the convention package. We sat at large round tables at mealtimes, which gave us an opportunity to meet different people from around the country and the world. What I noticed was that this accordion group was very friendly and eager to learn more about each other, especially about whether I played the accordion. Most people I met were beginning to intermediate-level players. One person I met the first night in the hotel registration line said he could not play worth a damn but he had been playing over 60 years and he loved the accordion. His name is Mario, he is a very youthful 80 years old, and this was his second time at the convention. There was also a 93-year-old lady who began playing when she was 78 years old.

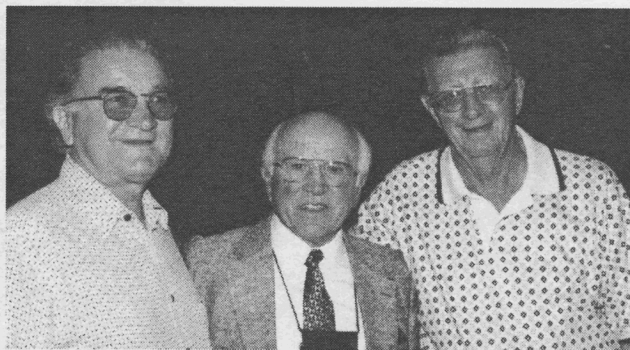
My big disappointment was that Myron Floren was unable to attend at the last moment because of doctor's orders. However, I was able to talk with Dick Contino whom I had wanted to meet since I was in the 8th grade.

There was some excellent accordion entertainment during lunch, dinner and after dinner. Some of those excellent accordion players were Dick Contino, Peter Soave, Gina Brannelli and her husband Norman ("Gina & Romany Rye"), Gordon



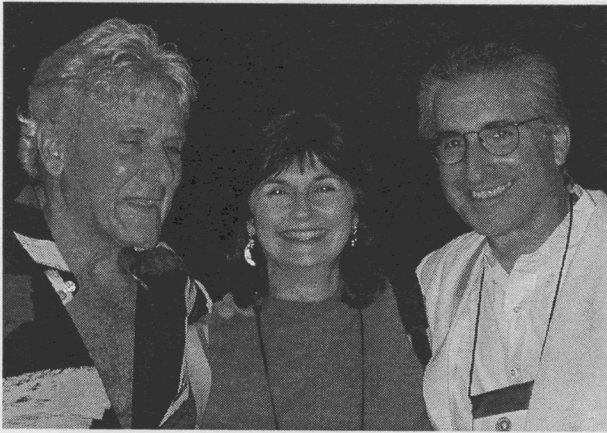
John & Ellen Bonica, Sundi O'Mara and Val

Kohl, Tony Lovello, the Art Van Damme Quintet, Ron Borelli, and an accordionist/comedian who did a very funny segment on an accordion student and why the student needed a newer accordion. There is not room enough to list all the very great accordion players who gave performances after hours. Also at the convention were the vendors with accordions, sheet music, music books and CD's for sale.



Frank Marocco, Ed Massolo, Art Van Damme

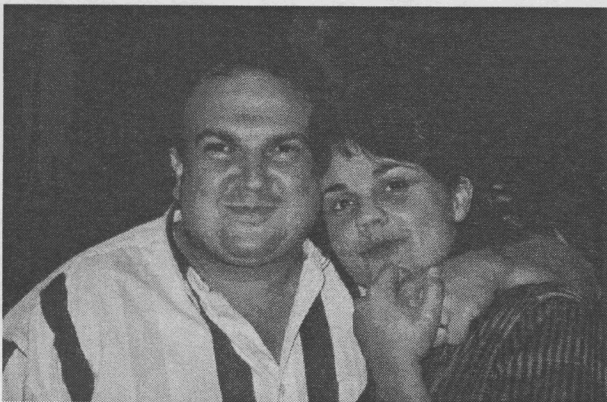
Although I would have liked to attend all the workshops and lectures, some were scheduled only once. Even with that, we all had the opportunity to attend no less than 12 of the 40 lectures, and all in 3 days. In attendance were many BAAC and South Bay Accordion Jam members and our very own president, Val Kieser.



Dick Contino, Lynn Ewing, Ron Borelli



Jim, Val, Evelyn



*The honeymooners
Peter and Mady Soave*

***Our thanks to Mel Schwing for many of these
great photos***

Sundi O'Mara

I arrived on Sunday, June 23 at the International Accordion Convention in Las Vegas and was greeted by the music of Gina Brannelli and her husband Norman ("Gina & Romany Rye") along with refreshments as we registered. The Sunday night concert featured my long-time idol, Dick Contino—a great way to start the convention. There was also a surprise wedding cake for Peter and Mady Soave, who were married in France a couple of months ago.

In the next three days there were classes and exhibitors selling everything from accordions to music to recordings. I bought a Weltmeister accordion—a big spender!

I went to most of Peter Soave's workshop with Frank Marocco about doing recording-studio work, and a class with John Bonica about how to prevent being injured involving accordion playing.

I played in Peter Soave's Master Class to hear his opinions, and he said that I have a lot of enthusiasm in my playing and other things. In the same class we heard a 12-year-old player named Brian Wong playing Charles Magnante's arrangement of "Tic Toc Polka" with bellow shakes. He was also at the AAA Festival 2001 in Cleveland, Ohio.

There were lunchtime concerts and dinner concerts each day where we heard great accordionists like Peter Soave and his wife Mady, Ron Borelli, Gordon Kohl, Bonnie Birch, Art Van Damme, Frank Marocco (whom I met at the London Accordion Festival—we talked about the event), Joe Vento and others.

"After hours," which took place each evening in a special room behind the bar, one could enjoy all kinds of music and all kinds of talent. I played once there. There was music being played in the foyer, including some talented players playing classical, jazz, Italian and so on.

There were concertinas, bayans, button boxes and piano accordions.

Myron Floren and Anthony Galla-Rini were unable to be there because of their health. Myron's sisters Genevieve, Virginia and Valborg accepted the Honorary Director award for Myron. I had a chance to meet Myron's sisters. They are very nice ladies.

Frank Marocco had the honor to accept the Lifetime Achievement Award for Tony Galla-Rini. Myron Floren and Tony Galla-Rini, like Dick Contino, are down to earth and make me forget they're famous.

I saw friends from the 2001 convention and other accordion events and camps and met new people. I was in my glory.

Hats off to Paul Pasquali and his convention staff for a well-done job. I signed up for the 2003 convention. There is nothing like live music. *(You said it, Sundi—and thanks for the article!)*

Need Tickets for Cotati?

Get them from your club! \$10 single day, \$18 both days. BAAC gets a cut if you buy them from us! See Val or call her at (510) 531-4836.

CALLING ALL PLAYERS!!!

**August 7 Meeting Program
BRING YOUR ACCORDION!**
We are having "Open Mic." night
Singles, Duos, Trios—all are welcome
Each person limited to 2 pieces maximum
Sign up at the door.

Another Opportunity for Group Playing!

Valarie Morris is starting another band class on August 5 at her home in El Sobrante (East Bay). The group meets on the first and third Monday for two hours, 7-9 p.m.
Call Valarie Morris (510) 222-8442


Picnic Photos . . .

M A P
Major Accordion Performers


**Henry Doktorski
PLAYS**


**ACCORDION MUSIC OF THE GOLDEN AGE
ONLY FOUR RECITALS IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA**

July 26th 7:30-9:30 PM
Herman Sons Hall
860 Western Avenue, Petaluma



July 27th 8:00-10:00 PM
Moose Lodge
7535 Mission St. Daly City/Colma



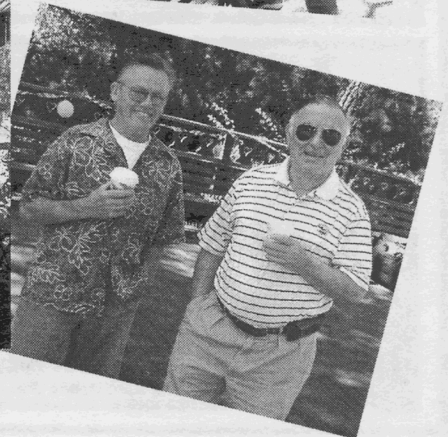
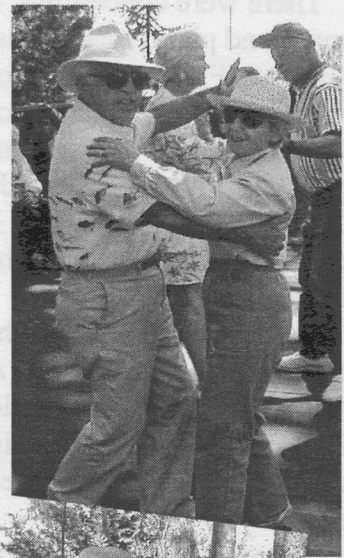
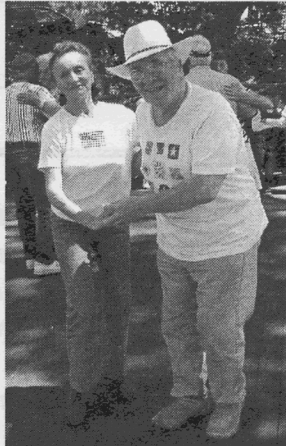
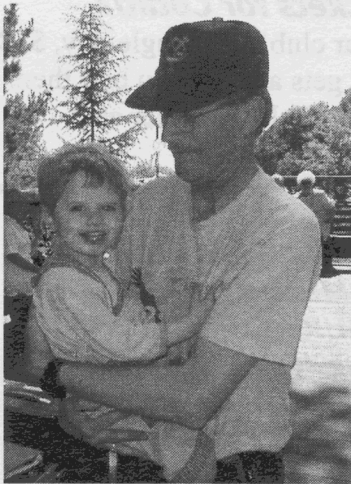


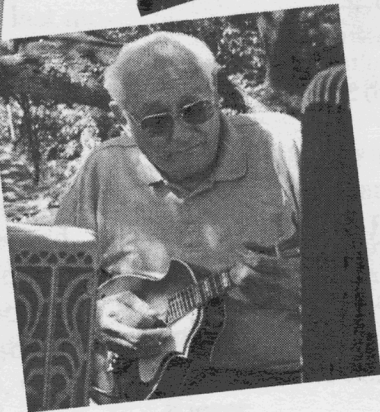
July 28th 2:00-5:00 PM
7th Day Adventist Church
5265 Carter, San Jose, CA.

July 29th 6:00-10:00 PM
Community Center
1052 Escalon Av., Escalon, CA.



More Picnic Photos . . .
With thanks to Kris Nelson and D.S.





Come and join in ...

Bay Area Accordion Club

Meets 7 p.m. the second Thursday of the month
Moose Lodge, 7535 Mission St. Daly City/Colma
For information call (510) 531-4836
Website: www.baaccordionclub.org

East Bay Accordion Circle

Meets the second Thursday of the month
1517 – 5th St., Berkeley. Bring your accordion!
For information call (510) 548-2822

Accordion Club of the Redwoods

Meets 7:30 p.m. the third Monday of the month
Hermann Sons Hall, 860 Western, Petaluma
For information call Harry (707) 838-2859

Golden State Accordion Club

Meets 7 PM the second Tuesday of the month
At Pietro's #2, 679 Merchant St. in Vacaville
For information call (707) 864-2359

Good Time Accordion Club

Meets 7 p.m. the second Wednesday
of the month
Community Center
1055 Escalon Avenue, Escalon
For information call (209) 545-3603

South Bay Accordion Jam

Meets 2:00 p.m. on the first Sunday of the month
Seventh Day Adventist Church
5265 Carter Ave., near Camden & Kooser

BAAC Ensemble Practice

Second and Fourth Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.
Moose Lodge, 7535 Mission St., Colma/Daly City
For information call Frank (650) 574-4757

BAAC "Fun Band" Practice

Third Wednesday of the Month at 7:00 p.m.
Moose Lodge, 7535 Mission St., Colma/Daly City
For information call Frank (510) 339-1163

* * * * *

Accordion Teacher Listings
San Francisco/North Peninsula

Peter Di Bono
Theory/Technique/Performance
(415) 753-1502

Lou Soper
Every Tuesday 3:00-6:30 p.m.
Moose Club, Colma/Daly City
(510) 841-6745

Sharon Walters
All levels (415) 621-8284

North Bay

Steve Albini
Marin/Sonoma
Private (415) 897-4131

Bart Beninco

Accordion and Piano
Petaluma (707) 769-8744

Marjorie Konrad

Button Box, Piano Accordion
& Chromatic
Santa Rosa (707) 539-5308

East Bay

Valarie Morris
Group & Private; Theory, Technique,
Composition; all levels/ages
(510) 222-8442

Lou Jacklich

Private Lessons; Technique,
Arranging & Chords
(510) 317-9510

Peninsula & South Bay

Lynn Ewing
All levels/ages
(650) 365-1700

Marian Kelly

Lessons structured to your
Individual need
(650) 854-1896

Ron Borelli

Theory, Technique, and Performance
(650) 574-5707

Sacramento

Mike Zampiceni
Beginner to advanced
BA and MA in Music
(916) 966-8384

Correspondence

Gary Dahl
Technique/Musicianship
Mel Bay Arranger/Author
Phone/FAX (253) 770-9492
www.accordions.com/garydahl

Coming Events

Sunday, August 4
The BAAC Fun Band will play
1:00 p.m. Fairfax Park, Fairfax

August 24 and 25
Cotati Accordion Festival
For info call (707) 664-8444

September 7-14
Joe Smiell's intermediate/advanced
Button Box Camp
Heidelmann Lodge at Norden/Soda Springs
For info call Joe (510) 832-6938
or Val (510) 531-4836

BAAC Officers

President: Valerie T. Kieser
(510) 531-4836 vtkacc@value.net

Vice President:
Frank Schlotter
(510) 339-1163

Treasurer: Bob Pisani
(650) 347-2559 grnduster@aol.com

Secretary: Richard Schiller
(510) 832-3002 richards38@aol.com

Directors

Ron Borelli (650) 574-5707
Vince Cirelli (415) 467-2208
James Firpo (415) 648-3674
Joe Smiell (510) 832-6938

BAAC Advertising Policy

A member may place one four-line ad for one month free of charge; after that the charge is \$5.00 per issue.

The charge for a business-card-size ad is \$5.00 per issue or \$50.00 per year; for a quarter-page ad, \$10.00 per issue; for a half-page ad, \$20.00 per issue; and for a full-page ad, \$35.00 per issue. The cost for ads placed by non-members is twice the above quoted prices.

Don't miss ...

...2nd annual "Smythe's Accordion Festival"
Saturday, Aug. 3. Doors open at 7:30, show is at 8:00 till late. Price \$5—\$10. In the new, BIGGER space at 449B—23rd St., Oakland.
Lots of parking and lots of far-out entertainment!

Who Is Playing Where ...

Reno Di Bono and the Blue Moon Trio
Play for dancing every second Friday of each month
At Montavalle in Scotts Valley, CA
8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.
Call Reno (408) 252-3808 for more info

Joe Domitrowich and the Alpiners USA
Will be playing June 16, July 21 and Aug. 18 (all Sundays)
at Tyrolean Inn on highway 9 in Ben Lomond.
For reservations call (831) 336-5188

Mike Zampiceni
Plays on Saturday nights at Di Cicco's Italian Restaurant
2509 Bascom Ave., San Jose
For reservations call (408) 377-5850

Word has it ...

... that longtime BAAC member **Clyde Forsman** has been in the hospital. We wish him a speedy and complete recovery.

... that **Walter Woodall** is improving every day. It was good to have Lee back at band practice!

... **Anne and Bernard Métais** have returned from six weeks in France. It is great to have them back!

... **Henry Doktorski**, under the MAP organization, will put on a great concert at Moose Lodge Daly City 7 pm Friday, July 26. See ad elsewhere

BAAC Membership ...

Dues are \$25 per year, \$30 for a family
Send check to BAAC
P.O. Box 318175
San Francisco, CA 94131-8175

IMPORTANT — OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS!!

When we are accustomed to a routine, we don't like to make changes... But, after much research and agonizing, the board decided that we will stay with Moose Lodge and accept the only day they have open every month: The ***second Thursday of the month!*** As of the last newsletter (July) you will recall that we thought we had the second Tuesday. Well after that, Moose informed us that their Ladies division wanted all the Tuesdays — so, there was nothing we could do about it. The NEW SCHEDULE OF THE SECOND THURSDAY BEGINS SEPTEMBER 12 and thereafter! ***PLEASE NOTE that the AUGUST MEETING REMAINS ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7!***

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M A P

Major Accordion Performers

Henry Doktorski



July 27th 8:00-10:00 PM
Moose Lodge
7233 Mission St. Daly City/Calma

Henry Doktorski is a performer of your acquaintance
Real musical depth—The Washington Post • Nothing short of unbelievable—Montreal Star • A real find—Detroit Free-Press • Doktorski will make a listener out of all who are fortunate enough to listen—Pittsburgh Courier • A fresh surprise—CBC Radio, Canada • Imaginative and original—Public Radio Music Source • An absolute delight—Quartermass Music, London • An outstanding performer—New Music Connoisseurs, New York • One of America's top-call concert accordionists—Paul Johnston, WQED-FM • Truly a master musician in the traditional sense of the term—Jim Cunningham, WQED-FM • A magnificent player—David Del Tredici, composer.

and demonstrates incredible range & control in both directions.

Admission \$10 at the door

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(Submissions to BAAC PAGE are due 2 weeks after the 1st Wednesday of the month)

BAAC PAGE

San Francisco Bay Area
Accordion Club
PO Box 318175
San Francisco, CA 94131-8175
www.BAACcordionclub.org



FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

