

The BAAC Page



February 2003



President's Message

The surprise at the January meeting was not what we had hoped for: our Cajun band never got there! We still don't know what happened; perhaps some day we'll find out and maybe get them for a later date. That left the meeting pretty well wide open to have a party with ongoing playing in different parts of the room. Our intrepid members, instead of leaving, stayed and enjoyed the party!

The next several meetings are pretty well booked, so I doubt we will have another unfortunate situation like the one we had in January! For **February** we have **Lou Jacklich** and some of his students who will put on a show to remember! And another treat: The **Smiell Family (Joe, Sally Ann, and Joseph)** are planning a very special presentation for us! In addition, our **Scholarship recipients** will play and show us what they have learned.

For **March** we have scheduled another special treat: **Don Nurisso** with his group that he calls "Accordion & Friends." Don, as you know, is one of our most gifted players and is always a guaranteed hit. We are also hoping for an authentic Irish segment if we can line it up, and in the *second half* we have *The One ... The Only ... BAAC Fun Band Dance Party!* The Fun band, under **Sharon Walters**, is working hard on a program of great dance music, so, wear your dancing shoes if you're so inclined, or else just enjoy listening and watching!

I just returned from the **Galla-Rini 99th Birthday Bash** in San Diego, and wow, what a party it

was! I don't know how many hundreds of people were there, but the crowd included many wonderful friends from various accordion camps and conventions, and the huge accordion orchestra, conducted by **Maestro Galla-Rini** himself, of which I and many other BAAC members were a part. BAAC members among the party-goers included **Vic and Barbara Corsiglia, Bart Benino, Bob Smith, Marian Kelly, Sharon Walters, Sundi O'Mara, Stella Allison, Bonnie Birch, Michele Scheffler, Joe Greco, Lou Soper** (whose birthday it also was), and myself. Sorry if I left anybody out—I just can't think of everyone at once! It was a privilege to see and visit with **Myron Floren** and **Frank Marocco**, as well as **Arlene Boddicker, Betty Jo Simon, Amy Jo Sawyer, Mary Tokarski** and **Julie Cardona** of the "K" Trio, and of course **Joan Cochran Sommers**, President of the **Accordion Teachers Guild**, who organized the whole celebration. **Joan** is to be congratulated on an exceptionally well-organized event. I know it was a tremendous amount of work and involved a lot of help and coordination. I'll include some photos elsewhere in this newsletter.

I hope someone of our history-oriented members might identify the accordionist in some photos I received by e-mail from a very nice gentleman in the North Bay. *Val*

ACCORDION SERENADE: Legendary performer gets a very special present for his 99th birthday - KQED

currents



SUNDAY
January 26, 2003



Photo from San Diego Union Tribune, Re Galla-Rini Birthday Party

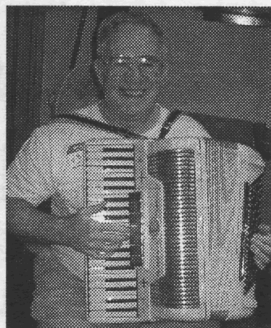
**February BAAC Meeting
Featuring the Lou Jacklich Show
And our Scholarship recipients**

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 13, 7 pm Moose Lodge Daly City

“Jumpin’” Off Into the New Year

It was pretty stormy on our meeting night, and while our featured Cajun performance group didn't show up, our club members stayed and took up the slack with an impromptu music party to celebrate the start of the new year!

We had **Ron Borelli's** modern jazz magic *Poinciana*, *Skylark*, *Sophisticated Lady*, *'S Wonderful*, using chords that I didn't know had been invented yet, and **Jim** (smooth as silk) **Hillman** with his swingin' squeezebox belting out *The Days of Wine and Roses* with **Lou Soper** pitching in. Swinging accordions were the order of the night! By the way, Jim and Ron Borelli together have performed on a big band sound CD that is spectacular. Do you like to dance and tap your feet? Then get a load of this CD! Jim promises to bring some to the club's next meeting.



Bob Smith with "Contino special"

Next, **George Alves**, responding to the chant of, "We want George!," teamed up with jazzman **John Marquette**, both all the way from the South Bay Accordion Jam, to mellow out some golden oldies, *You'll Never Know*, *Dear Heart*, *Tea for Two*, *Talk of the Town*. How nice...clear the dance floor! And **Don Nurriso**, in addition to his classy jazz stylings, showed



Marian, Aml, Dennis & Helen

his classic accordion expertise executing a flawless *La Piagnola*.

Along the way, **Lupita Angst** won the cash drawing (hey! Her hubby Ernst drew the

winning ticket!). After that, many more musicians grabbed accordions and serenaded a more-than-willing audience, including **Reno Pucci**, **Bob Berta** (also offering for auction a classy Scandalli, Dick Contino model accordion), **Rusty Bartoli** and **Jim Firpo** (who also provided us with a sumptuous feast), **Ray Abinanti**, and **Dennis Stoscher's** comedic relief



Jim Firpo & Ray Abinanti

which included a telephone call from none other than the famed Dick Contino! The night was jumpin' with



Joe Smiell, Bill & Naomi Drude

jammin', mix and matchin', singles, duos and groups, great food and conversation. And even **Steve Canata**, overcome by the

spirit of the evening, grabbed an accordion for a nice interpretation of *Stardust*. Val's Pigni accordion sure got a workout (as you can see from the pictures), as it was available to many who just needed to express themselves on the ivories. And the thread through it all that lets us feel so comfortable with our club is our effervescent Prez Val who kept things humming. Can't wait till February....Lou Jacklich, Joe Smiell and family...better not miss it! D.S.

Ron Borelli Workshop!!

Saturday, Feb. 22 10 a.m.

Moose Lodge Daly City

This is a "Performance Workshop."

Requirements for attendance:

- Bring your accordion!
- All attendees will be required to play one solo song (bring sheet music)
- Bring note pad and music paper

Subjects to be covered:

- * Stage Fright
- * Practicing for Performance
- * Choosing repertoire
- * Music theory

See you there!

(Spelling and other errors in the following are exactly as found in the original)

Sign in front of a tailor shop in Jordan: "Order now your summers suit. Because a big rush we will execute customers in strict rotation."

Street Sign in Tokyo: "When a passenger of the foot heave into sight, tottle the horn. Trumpet at them melodiously at first but if they shall obstacles you passage tottle them with vigor."

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

Vince Cirelli (415) 467-2208

James Firpo (415) 648-3674

Ed Massolo (650) 589-8409

Joe Smiell (510) 832-6938

BAAC MEMBERSHIP

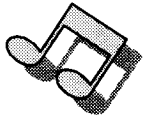
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\$30 per year for a family

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THE INEXPRESSIBLE IS MUSIC.*

Aldous Huxley

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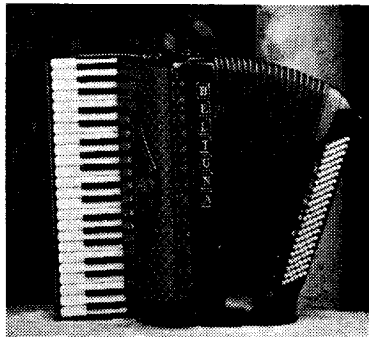
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Who Is Playing Where

Reno Di Bono and the Blue Moon Trio

play for dancing every second Friday of the month
at Montavalle in Scotts Valley, CA

8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

For info call Reno (408) 252-3808

Joe Domitrowich and the Alpiners USA

Sunday, February 23 and Sunday, March 16 5:00-9:00 p.m.

At Tyrolean Inn, 9600 Highway 9 in Ben Lomond
Phone (831) 336-5188

Friday, March 7 from 7:00 p.m.

Sokol Club, Basque Cultural Center in South SF

For info call Joe (408) 255-1259

Thursday, March 27 2-6 p.m., "Café Vienna" theme
The Villages Retirement Center

Tables can be reserved for friends of the band

For info call Joe (408) 255-1259

Mike Zampiceni plays

on Friday and Saturday nights

At Di Cicco's Italian Restaurant

2509 Bascom Ave., San Jose

For reservations call (408) 377-5850

William DeMichelis plays on

Friday and Saturday nights

At the Elbe German and European restaurant

117 University Avenue, Palo Alto

Call (650) 321-3319

or visit www.elbe-restaurant.com

The Internationals

February 8 and March 15

Teske's Germania, 255 N. First St., San Jose

For Sale

Full-size Giulietti 4FT (free-bass transformer) in excellent condition, with

built-in Sennheiser condenser micro-

phones. 5 yrs. old, second owner. \$4,000

or best offer. Contact Dan Ziagos

(707) 763-7401 or email

danziagos@hotmail.com

Letter from William DeMichelis

Dear BAAC,

Once each month we share the accordion with wonderful people at eight locations in the following cities: Cupertino, Gilroy, Los Gatos, Morgan Hill, San Jose and Watsonville.

Our entertainment, vocal and instrumental, averages ninety minutes, with special emphasis on assisting our audiences to feel comfortable, willing to participate, and laughter. It is their special day and we are there for them.

We do our best to promote our love for people, especially Seniors, and our love for our favorite instrument, the accordion.

Our group is called "**William and Friends.**" It includes **Dick Cruickshank, Vic Corsiglia (and sometimes Barbara Corsiglia too!), Lynne Bonino, and William DeMichelis.**

Music is a powerful force. One man, who is a patient in one of the hospitals where we play, had not spoken for 3 years. This past summer he amazed not only us but his wife and the hospital staff when he clapped his hands and twice said, "Very good, very good!". He has also spoken occasionally since that time. What a great reward!! Thanks be to God!

We have been doing this special mission for five years. Previously William did this *solo* beginning in 1991. The rewards are wonderful! Several members of "William and Friends" are also members of BAAC, and therefore we would like other BAAC members to know what they and others are doing with the accordion.

Sincerely,

William and Friends (Five accordionists promoting their favorite instrument!!)



Ad Policy

A member may place one four-line ad for one month free of charge; after that the charge is \$5.00 per issue; a business-card-size ad will cost \$5.00 per issue or \$50.00 per year; a quarter-page ad will cost \$10.00; a half-page ad will cost \$20.00; and a full-page ad will cost \$35.00. A flyer advertising an event may be included in one issue for \$10. The cost for ads placed by non-members will be twice the above-quoted prices

BAAC's Rich History On Display — and a call for Help

Our Vice President and Club Historian, **Frank Schlotter**, will have the first photographic volume of BAAC's history on display at the February 13 meeting. Come and see how it was at the House of Parties in Daly City in the early 90's. See the famous gaudy backdrop to the intimate playing platform. The atmosphere was like an intimate night club with convivial friends and music—oh! The Music—a fascinating mélange of styles, instruments, tempos, high-brow, low-brow and in between. I had been diddling with the piano accordion for a half century but I had never heard music like this! Thrilling, and all for one buck, drinks extra. Everyone welcome. Heaven!

Of course, I don't know everyone in those photos, so *I need your help!* I'll have small "Post-its" and pencils and pens on hand for the BAAC family—that's you—to fill in the names, personalities and anecdotes of our heritage.

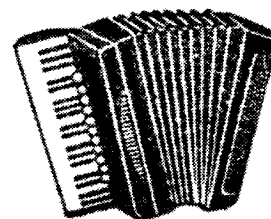
Bring some later photos, articles, anecdotes, etc. to use for future albums. Also, I would welcome and use an assistant or two. Work at home, Fun work, no pay. Meet lots of new people, and *nobody* has too many friends!

Frank Schlotter

(510) 339-1163; FAX (510) 339-8657.

Your Executive Board Met ...

... on Tuesday, January 7. BAAC received a small payment from the Italian Heritage Day Parade committee, with the result that we just about broke even for the event. The \$5,000 donated for the benefit of the ACE Ensemble is earning interest in our business money-market account. The donation, although earmarked for the benefit of the ACE ensemble, is nevertheless reflected in the Account Balances report, which shows an updated balance (all accounts) of \$15,035 total. The board adopted a **revised Workshop policy**: that we will offer a minimum of two workshops *at no charge to BAAC members* for the current year. Our **picnic date** is arranged with Nature Friends Park in Oakland for Saturday, July 12.



Word Has It ...

... That **Michael Sanossian** is back in circulation following his heart surgery. Welcome back, Michael!

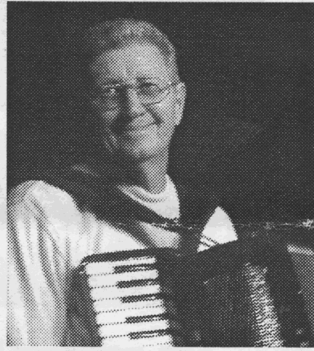
... That **Boaz Accordions** is hosting numerous accordion events, both entertaining and educational, from Norteño workshops/beginning button box/French Musette workshops to a concert by the Pickpocket Ensemble (Feb. 20) and more. For info call Boaz (510) 845-1429.

... That a brand-new accordion club has formed in Salt Lake City, the **Salt Lake Area Accordion Club**, It boasted 91 accordion enthusiasts attending their January 14 meeting, which made front-page news in the *Deseret Times*. Visit their Website and learn more about it at www.saltlakeareaaccordionclub.com.

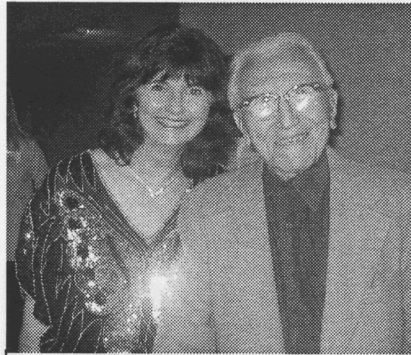
... That **Steve Cannata**, a great player and loyal BAAC member, has been under the weather. We wish him a speedy recovery.

... That **Dick Schiller** attended the **Art Van Damme** concert in Lodi on January 17, featuring the Art Van Damme Quintet—a fantastic, sold-out performance to a crowd of 350 fans. Dick promises us a more complete report next month.

**Art Van Damme, Lodi,
17 January 2003**



Some Photos from the Galla-Rini Birthday Party



**Lynn Ewing
With the
Maestro**

(More photos on page 6)



Frank Marocco, Val K., Lou Soper



MUSIC, WHEN HEALTHY, IS THE TEACHER OF PERFECT ORDER; AND ALSO WHEN DEPRAVED, THE TEACHER OF PERFECT DISORDER.

John Ruskin

From the Web, from the Los Angeles Times, Article by Don Heckman, re Frank Marocco

A jazz accordion? No kidding! Frank Marocco delivers creative improvisation and first-rate music on an unlikely instrument. Place the word "jazz" next to the word "accordion" and you have what most jazz fans would agree is an oxymoron. The sound, the style—even the look—of the instrument are far more commonly associated with polka music, "Lady of Spain" and almost anything other than jazz.

Don't tell that to Frank Marocco, however, who has been one of the accordion's rare jazz pioneers. (The

(Continued in column opposite)



MUSIC, OF ALL THE ARTS, HAS THE GREATEST INFLUENCE OVER THE PASSIONS, AND THE LEGISLATOR OUGHT TO GIVE IT THE GREATEST ENCOURAGEMENT.

Napoleon

short list also includes Art Van Damme, Mat Mathews, Joe Mooney, Richard Galliano and, on occasion, George Shearing and Pete Jolly.) On Sunday at Spazio, Marocco, a veteran of hundreds of recording dates, made a convincing case for the instrument's capacity to effectively deliver all the core elements of first-class jazz. ... In many of the numbers, Marocco's rich chording was combined with the Paul Desmond-influenced saxophone of (John) Whinnery, producing lush, appealing harmonic textures. ... By the time the set was concluded, thoughts of polkas and squeezeboxes had long disappeared, as Marocco's fascinating performance thoroughly affirmed the fact that it's not the instrument that makes the music, it's the imagination and creativity of the person who is playing it.

(Photo of Frank Marocco, taken at Galla-Rini party, on next page)



Coming Events

February 9-10-11

Southwest Polka Party

The Orleans, Las Vegas
(800) 675-3267

Sunday, February 9 at 1 PM

***BAAC's ACE Ensemble giving a Concert
For A.L.S.I in La Mesa (San Diego), CA***

Info: Call Lynn Ewing (650) 365-1700

Saturday, February 15, 2003

Austrian Winterfest 2003

St. Ignatius Loyola church Hall, Sacramento
Dinner catered by Café Vienna of West Sacramento

Featuring authentic Austrian cuisine

Admission \$27.50 per person (includes dinner)

Info: (916) 965-1136 or (916) 988-6266

or (530) 676-9416

March 6-9, 2003

National Accordion Convention

Plano, Texas

Norman Seaton nns5522-@dcccd.edu

11240 Drummond Drive, Dallas, TX 75228-1950

www.accordions.com/taa

June 1-5, 2003

Silver Falls Accordion Camp, Sublimity, Oregon

Call Geoff Levear (503) 452-4517

gleavear@aol.com

June 17-21, 2003

***Leavenworth International
Accordion Celebration***

Leavenworth, WA

Info: Leavenworth Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 327, Leavenworth, WA 98826

(509) 548-5807; email info@leavenworth.org

June 22-25, 2003

Las Vegas International Accordion Convention

***Starring Myron Floren, Dick Contino, Art Van
Damme, and Anthony Galla-Rini appearing for the
first time together on one stage!***

And featuring Frank Marocco, Peter and Mady Soave,
Tony Lovello, Gina & Romany Rye, Julien Labro, Les
Accordionistes de Grenoble (France), Steve Albini,

Ron Borelli, Gordon Kohl and more!

Call (800) 472-1695 or (801) 486-1695

Or visit www.accordionstars.com

E-mail Vegas@accordioninfo.com

See flyer enclosed

June 25-29, 2003

ATG Competition and Festival

Info: Joan C. Sommers, 2312 W. 71 Terrace

Prairie Village, KS (913) 722-5625

E-mail: sommersJ@umkc.edu

July 9-13, 2003

***American Accordionists' Association
AAA Festival***

Marriott Hotel, Philadelphia International Airport

Info: AAA, 580 Kearny Ave., Kearny, NJ 07032

(201) 991-2233; FAX (201) 991-1944;

e-mail isoleyreed@aol.com

Or see Val who has the form

July 7-13, 2003

***Kimberley International Old Time Accordion
Championships (KIOTAC), Kimberley, B.C.***

Info: KIOTAC, Box 473, Kimberley, B.C., VIA 3B9,

Canada (250) 427-4547 or (800) 4-KIOTAC

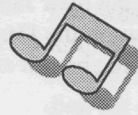
KIOTAC@monarch.net

July 27-Aug. 1, 2003

14th Annual Galla-Rini Accordion Camp

Held at the University of San Diego campus

Info: see Val, or call Kjell Holmes (858) 453-5486



*NEVER FORGET THAT MUSIC IS
MUCH TOO IMPORTANT TO BE
LEFT ENTIRELY IN THE HANDS OF
PROFESSIONALS*

Robert Fulghum



**More Photos from
Galla-Rini Party**

← **Bonnie Birch**

**Bart Beninco, Stella Allison,
Sharon Walters**

Bart and Myron Floren



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 Val (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*
And 7 PM the fourth Wednesday
at Shepherders Inn, 11275 Folsom Blvd.
in *Rancho Cordova*
For information call (707) 864-2359

Northern California Accordion Society

Meets 7 PM the first Thursday of the month
Polish American Community Hall
327 Main Street, Roseville
Info: Call Vince Cukar (916) 791-3041

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

First and Third Wednesday 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

Mike Zampiceni
Beginner to Advanced
BA and MA in music
(408) 734-1565
(Newly returned to the South Bay)



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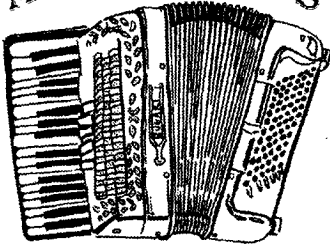
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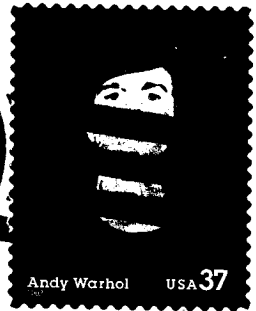


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FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

