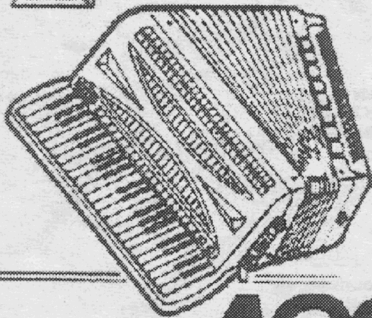


Newsletter of the

**SAN FRANCISCO**



# ACCORDION CLUB

**February 2005**

*The Accordion: San Francisco's Official Instrument*



### *President's Message*

More than a dozen possible meeting sites have been checked out, and we have selected our new home – it's very nice. The South San Francisco Senior Center, in the Municipal Services Building,

Arroyo Drive near El Camino, has everything we need, and is conveniently located central to the entire Bay Area. Take the Westborough exit from Highway 280, and head east to El Camino. Arroyo is one block north of Westborough. There are easy-to-follow directions elsewhere in the newsletter.

This first meeting in our new home will be a special one, so I hope everyone is planning to attend. Please remember, the meeting date is henceforth on the **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month**, so this first meeting will be on Sunday, February 20 at 2:00pm.

I want to officially welcome our new Secretary, **Rosemary Armanino** to the Board. She will take over the position for Val Kieser who has earned a well-deserved rest from Club duties. Val will stay on as Editor of the newsletter, and will have a little more free time for the other 10,000 activities she does. Thank you Val for all of your help these many years, we all appreciate you.

I want to wish a speedy recovery to **Ed Massolo** and **Vince Cukar**. Vince underwent some hand surgery and is recuperating. I don't know the nature of Ed's operation, but I hope they're both back in action soon. Neither is happy about not being able to play the accordion for a

## **NOTE NEW MEETING PLACE AND DATE!!!!**

*The next meeting will take place  
at 2:00 p.m. on*

***Sunday, February 20***

*At our new location*

***The South San Francisco Senior  
Center (Municipal Building)***

***33 Arroyo Drive, South San Francisco  
(See directions and map on pages 2 & 3  
In this Newsletter)***

***The meeting will feature Bob Smith,  
Michael Sanossian, our own SFAC Fun  
Band, the ACE Ensemble  
and more!!!***

while.

Our new rent is \$300 higher than what we had been paying previously, and we have to **increase the monthly meeting admission charge to \$5.00** to cover the rent. I hope our new location and meeting day will increase the number of people who attend our meetings, and perhaps we will be able to lower

*(Continued on next page)*

***NEXT MEETING: Sunday, February 20, 2005 at 1:00 p.m. at  
the South San Francisco Senior Center***

*President's Message (Continued)*

the admission charge in the future.

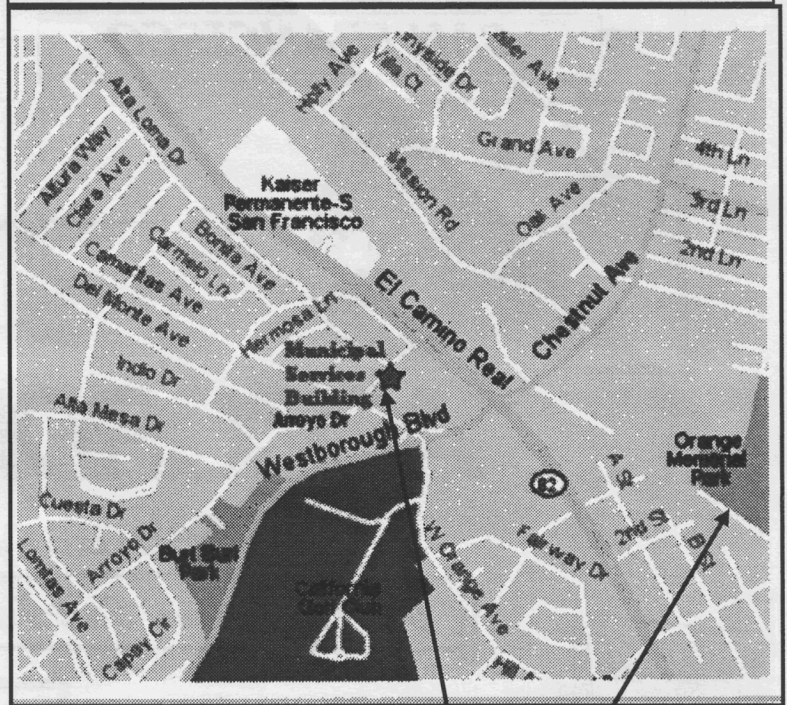
There is no provision for beverages at the new location, and **I need a volunteer to operate a refreshment stand** at our meetings. Please give me a call, (415) 753-1502. Maybe you can help out for a few months. We also **need someone who can store our sound system**, and bring it to the monthly meetings. Please get involved in your club, and don't leave these jobs to someone else.

Let me know your ideas and suggestions, to better our club; in the meanwhile, I look forward to seeing you February 20 at our new location.

We have reserved **Sunday, July 17 at Orange Park** in South San Francisco for our **annual picnic**. It is a gorgeous park very close to our new meeting place. **Save the date!**

Play your accordion every day, and remember:  
**REAL MUSIC IS LIVE!!!** *Peter Di Bono*

Map showing our new "digs" and also Orange Park (picnic)

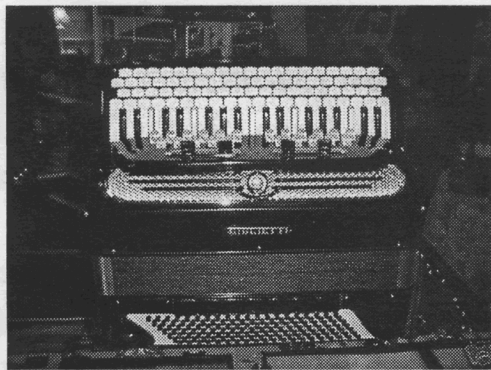


Meetings Picnic July 17

*A Memory of Leon Sash*

On Ebay, the online auction site, an accordion up for auction caught my attention recently and brought back a very nice memory. The accordion especially built for Leon Sash, the great chromatic jazz accordionist out of Chicago, was a Giuletto that had a very distinctive look to it in that it had a piano-looking keyboard with 4 rows of "piano" keys

on the treble side instead of the usual buttons associated with the chromatic instruments of today. I'm not sure if the black "piano" keys had a function or were just there



to complete the impression of a piano keyboard. As I understand it, this type of chromatic accordion was also used by Frosini in the early days, since the likes of chromatic accordions with buttons was not accepted, and so a likeness to the piano accordion keyboard was necessary in order to get work in those days.

Leon Sash was a very creative blind accordionist who rose to prominence in 1957 with his performance at the Newport Jazz Festival, where for the first time an accordion was used.

In my early 20's I came across his wonderful album, *Sash'n' Jazz*, a compilation of standards and original compositions that Leon performed with his quartet.

What caught my ear was the full rich chords that I had not heard coming from any piano accordion. The reason he could get this deep rich sound was that his hand could reach more notes to form his chords than possible on a piano keyboard, and his use of open chords which gave a wonderful distinctive harmony to the pieces he played.

Upon hearing his record, I wrote to Leon telling him how much I loved the sound of his music, and indicating that I wanted to switch over to the chromatic accordion so that I, too, could in some way produce that exquisite harmony. To my surprise, I received a very nice reply from him thanking me for my letter and compliment, and encouraging me to continue on with my piano accordion studies. "The piano accordion is a fine instrument," he wrote. "You have a number of years invested, and I suggest that you keep at it and strive to be the best you can be." I wish I still had that note as those words were special to me coming from such a great artist and gentleman.

And so over the years, in trying to emulate the grand sound of Leon's chords, I came up with my own version that I like to use in place of the 6th chords that are heard commonly today. As an example, a chord with the notes of G-A-C-E, could be replaced by an open chord of, C-G-B-E. Try it, and see what you think!



Leon Sash Quartet

D.S.

***Our New Location Starting Feb. 20, 2005***  
***The South San Francisco Municipal Building***  
***33 Arroyo Drive, just southwest of Westborough and El Camino***

Come join us at our new meeting facility, the **South San Francisco Municipal Services Building** located at 33 Arroyo Drive in South San Francisco.

It has an **auditorium-style community room, seating for 125, elevated stage for full audience viewing, speaker's podium and sound-proof, glass-enclosed walls overlooking the Atrium.** The unique garden-style Atrium offers an attractive and festive atmosphere with natural lighting provided by ceiling skylights, to compliment any event that we'll have in the coming months, and there's a future concert already in the works.

Also, there's a **separate food services space with a full kitchen** (perfect for future dinner plans). All of this will be a significant step up from our previous meeting place. Just imagine, two excellent rooms to hold our meetings, one as good as the other!

Oh, did we mention there are **three parking lots surrounding the building, well illuminated, with free parking for guests attending our meetings, and one is an underground parking lot?** We even have elevator service available. **BART and SamTrans** transportation is just a block or two away.

So, come join us and don't forget to bring your

accordion! Yes, you'll feel comfortable playing in this superb acoustic setting. And, there'll be ample time to do so. Hope to see you there!

*Rosemary Armanino*

***Directions (MAP ON PAGE 2)***

***FROM THE NORTH:*** Take Highway 280 South, exit Westborough Blvd. Stay in left lane and turn left at the stop light (Westborough Blvd.). Proceed approx. 1 mile to Camaritas Ave., which is the second signal, and turn left (the Camaritas sign is difficult to see; if it's Orange Ave. to your right, then that's Camaritas on the left). In next block, turn right on Arroyo Drive. Municipal Services Building is on the right side of the street.

***FROM THE SOUTH:*** Take Highway 280 North, exit Avalon Dr./Westborough Blvd. and continue parallel to freeway to stop light at Westborough Blvd. Turn right onto Westborough Blvd. and proceed as above.

***FROM HIGHWAY 101 take 380 from San Bruno, west to 280 and proceed north; continue as shown above.***

***DO YOU NEED A RIDE FROM THE BART STATION?*** Please call in advance Dominic (415) 587-4423.



*South San Francisco Municipal Building Exterior*



*The Atrium*

**2005 Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival  
to Feature Accordion**

We hear from a press release submitted by SFAC Member **Henry Doktorski** that Henry has been invited to join the music faculty as Instructor of Accordion at the Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival at the University of Alaska campus for two weeks during July 2005 (see ad below). He will teach accordion classes, and expose his students to a broad range of repertoire, including classical, ethnic and popular styles, which they may perform during recitals and concerts both as soloists and as an accordion orchestra.

Henry will also be a featured performer at faculty concerts and plans to present an eclectic mix of music including works from the Baroque and Classical ages, the Age of Vaudeville, classics by Piazzolla and various styles of ethnic and folk music.

Said Jo Ryman Scott, who was responsible for lining up students for accordion classes, and who found Henry: "Next summer we'll be offering classical and folk accordion taught by Henry Doktorski from Oakdale, PA. Henry is also an accomplished organist and classical pianist. He will be teaching beginning as well as intermediate-to-advanced piano accordion, and he will also teach beginning button box accordion. I have fond memories of folk accordion music as a child in the Midwest.... I think Henry's talents will be a wonderful addition to our Festival next summer."

The Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival begins on Sunday, July 17 and ends on Sunday, July 31, 2005, and will be an excellent boost for the accordion.

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Featuring Castiglione, Beltuna, Scandalli, Guerrini, Excelsior, Dallapé, Tyrolean and more  
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**Keep Your Accordion Looking Like New**  
Superb quality hand-made dust covers for your accordion with upholstery grade velour and lint-free silk lining.

Also: Hand-made 9-by-12-inch black velvet leg pads.  
Contact Evelyn Baulch at the February meeting  
Or call her at (650) 348-5332; e-mail [ebaul@csus.com](mailto:ebaul@csus.com).

**WANTED !!!**

Some new and interesting acts for the  
**San Francisco Accordion Festival** Sunday, June 5  
At The Cannery, Fisherman's Wharf

If you know of an act that people might enjoy,  
contact Tom Torriglia (see below)

Also seeking contestants for the  
**San Francisco's Main Squeeze Pageant!**

The Pageant is open to both men and women,  
pros and amateurs alike. There are lots of great prizes  
and lots of fun to be had!

Contact All Things Accordion (415) 440-0800 or e-mail [tom@ladyofspain.com](mailto:tom@ladyofspain.com); Website [www.ladyofspain.com](http://www.ladyofspain.com).

**Dr. Bob's**

Accordion Tuning and Repair

R<sub>x</sub> for sick accordions

Tel: (925) 294-9659  
Livermore, CA

**Welcome New Members**

**Ed R. Romanowski** and daughter Mary Ann from Half Moon Bay, who enjoy all kinds of accordion music

**Don Thompson** of El Granada

**Vito and Shirley Riggio** of Walnut Creek

I hope each of you will tell me (Val Kieser) more about yourself and your involvement with the accordion, and I'll be glad to print it! Meanwhile, a **hearty welcome to the club!**

BRUCE KIRSCHNER, M.D.  
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## ACE Ensemble News

By Lynn Ewing

The ACE Ensemble has had the very rewarding experience of performing at two elementary schools recently, one at St. Andrews in Redwood City in December and one at St. Joseph's in Atherton in January. During these performances, we try to engage the children in the music and with the accordion. At St. Andrews, the children loved identifying the familiar carols in our "Christmas Potpourris," and at St. Joseph's they enjoyed making tick-tock noises to "Syncopated Clock." At both schools, we explained how music can tell a story, and introduced the character with their particular themes as we played and pretended to be "In a Persian Market."

They were excited to hear songs they recognized from the movie "Snow White" and the theme from "The Muppet Show." We told them to put on their listening ears when they are watching movies and television, because there is a lot of music to that helps tell the story and create mood. For a bit of multi-cultural exposure, they enjoyed clapping to "Mexican Hat Dance," and marched out in time to "The Spanish March." We told them what themes to listen for in "American Folk Rhapsody" ("Billy Boy," "Skip to My Lou," and "Shenandoah"), and we told them that Joe loves "Billy Boy" because of the girl who can bake a cherry pie!

We explained how you can tell whether a song is over or whether it is continuing by watching the conductor's arms (many symphony audiences are still confused about this). We asked them to listen to the dynamics in the music, and to notice that not everyone is playing the same thing at the same time—we play different parts just as though we were violins, oboes and trumpets.

It is always an exciting part of the performance for the children to see how the accordion itself works. They guess why it is called "piano" accordion, and we explain that its sound is created somewhat like a clarinet, from wind blowing through reeds. We show how the various reed switches can make a single note sound 8 different ways, and show the inside of the keyboard by popping off the grille cover, which always stimulates gasps of awe.

The ACE Ensemble is committed to bringing live music to the children of our community, and to promoting our wonderful instrument, so if you have grandchildren or children in elementary schools, or have contacts with elementary schools, please let them know that we are available to provide a free concert at an assembly during school hours. Val Kieser (510) 531-4836; [vtkacc@value.net](mailto:vtkacc@value.net) and Frank Montoro (650) 574-4757; [akordn@earthlink.net](mailto:akordn@earthlink.net) are the contact people to set up these concerts.

Ensemble members are: Peter Di Bono, Reno Di Bono, Mary-Alice Eldon, Lynn Ewing, Valerie Kieser, Nora Mazza, Anne Métais, Frank Montoro, Robert Smith, Ron Harris and Sharon Walters Greyhosky. Our conductor, arranger and composer is the fabulous Joe Smiell, and our tireless Librarian is Chris Arild.

Lynn Ewing

## Sad News

We are so very sorry to hear that **Gary Seibert** passed away suddenly on January 5, one week after being diagnosed with leukemia. Gary founded the Northern California Polka Boosters Club over 30 years ago and was well known for his Cleveland style Slovenian polka band. He played

## Word Has It . . .

. . . that SFAC members **Helen Johnson** and **Frank Schlotter** have had very successful surgeries: Helen got a new knee and Frank got a new hip (like me, he now has two "bionic hips"! ). They both thank us for our card and good wishes. We wish them both a speedy recovery.

. . . that **Ed Massolo** very recently had successful hernia surgery. We look forward to having Ed back playing for us again soon! . . . that SFAC member **Joe Domitrowich** has had shoulder surgery and should be good as new by now. Joe will be playing for us sometime this spring.

. . . that **Tom Torriglia** has started a musician booking service called ATA Entertainment (ATA standing for "All Things Accordion") that includes other instruments as well as the accordion. He has already gotten prominent free publicity in the *Oakland Tribune* in the form of a short article on the second page of the first section. If you need a musician or want to be one of the musicians, contact Tom at [www.ladyofspain.com](http://www.ladyofspain.com) or (415) 440-0800.

. . . that **Rick Corrigan** and the **PickPocket Ensemble** have a new CD out called "Fingerpainting in Red Wine" @ \$15 plus \$1.60 for S&H, Rick Corrigan, 881 Arguello Blvd., SF 94118.

. . . that **The Center for the Study of Free-Reed Instruments** is having a concert "From Frosini to Foss: A Half-Century of Music for the Accordion" on Friday, March 11 in New York. Lots of "big names" will be there, including Carmen Carozza, Henry Doktorski, Kevin Friedrich and many, many more. For details call Val (510) 531-4836 or [vtkacc@value.net](mailto:vtkacc@value.net).

. . . that **Bob Smith's** mom suffered a stroke but is on the mend. She has been a regular (yearly) visitor to our club meetings, and we wish her a complete and rapid recovery.

## ACCORDIONS FOR SALE

*These two accordions belonged to an 85-year-old gentleman who can no longer enjoy them*

*Bugari Armando of Castelfidardo*

*Bugarivox electronic and acoustic*

*41 full size black and white keys*

*120 bass with 5 bass switches*

*8 treble switches with 6 slides 0-8 at each end*

*33 instrument control buttons with red lights*

*Blue velvet case*

*\$1,700 o.b.o.*

*Iorio Accorgan Symphonic Electronic and Acoustic*

*U.S. Patent #N25278e3084584; Italy 803335*

*Made in Italy, Etched E2041 (Serial #?)*

*41 black and white keys*

*9 switches, 4 dial knobs at each end*

*12 Treble switches*

*120 bass, 6 bass switches*

*Best offer*

*Call Diana (707) 578-3492 (H) or (707) 526-5723 (W)*

*email [drangaves@longs.com](mailto:drangaves@longs.com)*

both piano accordion and button box. His band played all over the world at festivals and on polka cruises that Gary led. The polka loving community and all his many friends will surely miss him.

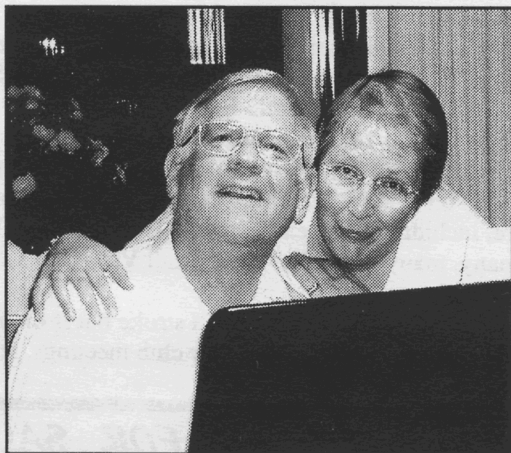
## NOTE ABOUT FUN BAND REHEARSALS

NOTE: This month (Feb.) only: the FUN BAND will practice every Wednesday. The Evening Ensemble with Joe Smiell will start up again in March, on the regular posted schedule of first and third Wednesday.

YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED when the Evening Ensemble starts up again.

If you have any questions, call Val (510) 531-4836 or Sharon (415) 622-8284.

FOR DIRECTIONS TO OUR NEW REHEARSAL LOCATION: SEE PAGE 7



*SFAC Member Herb Meier and his bride, Sabine who live in Germany  
We're hoping to see them here in the Bay Area in March*

## SFAC Officers

**President: Peter Di Bono**  
(415) 753-1502 pdibono@hotmail.com  
**Vice President: Don Nurisso**  
(650) 359-3549 nurisso@sirius.com  
**Treasurer: Dominic Palmisano**  
(415) 587-4423 accordion@comcast.net  
**Secretary: Rosemary Armanino**  
(650) 589-9088 GARmanino@aol.com

## Directors for 2004-20045

**Vince Cirelli (415) 467-2208**  
**James Firpo (415) 648-3674**  
**Joe Smiell (510) 832-6938**

**Scott Williamson (408) 553-7519**

**Newsletter Editor: Valerie T. Kieser**  
(510) 531-4836 vtkacc@value.net

## SFAC MEMBERSHIP

\$25 per year for individual; \$30 per year for a family  
Mail check to S.F.A.C.  
P.O. Box 318175  
San Francisco, CA 94131-8175  
Admission to Meetings: \$5.00

## 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 \$20. The cost for ads placed by non-members will be twice the above-quoted prices.

## Some "Senior Personal Ads" posted in Florida and Arizona newspapers (Who says Seniors don't have a sense of humor?)

- **Foxy Lady:** Sexy, fashion-conscious blue-haired beauty, 80's, slim, 5'4" (used to be 5'6"), searching for sharp-looking, sharp-dressing companion. Matching white shoes and belt a plus.
- **Serenity Now:** I am into solitude, long walks, sunrises, the ocean, yoga and meditation. If you are the silent type, let's get together, take our hearing aids out and enjoy quiet times.
- **Beatles or Stones:** I still like to rock, still like to cruise in my Camaro on Saturday nights, and still like to play the guitar. If you were a groovy chick, or are now a groovy hen, let's get together and listen to my eight-track tapes.

## San Francisco/North Peninsula

### Peter Di Bono

Theory/Technique/Performance  
(415) 753-1502

### Dominic Palmisano

(415) 587-4423 accordion@comcast.net

### Lou Soper

See East Bay teacher listing  
(No longer teaching at Moose Club)  
Sharon Walters All levels (415) 621-8284

### Richard Yaus (650) 872-2518

ryaus@earthlink.net

Build a solid musical foundation

### North Bay

#### Steve Albini

Marin/Sonoma  
Private (415) 897-4131

#### Bart Beninco

Accordion and Piano

## Accordion Teachers in the Bay Area

### Domenic Saso

Accordion or Piano, Jazz or Classical  
Petaluma (707) 773-1384

### 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

#### Henri Ducharme

(Oakland) (510) 763-1179

#### Lou Soper

For lessons call Lou (510) 797-2529

## Peninsula & South Bay

### Lynn Ewing

All levels/ages  
(650) 365-1700

### Marian Kelly

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

### Ron Borelli

Jazz chords and  
improvisation training  
Group or individual instruction  
(650) 574-5707

### Mike Zampiceni

Beginner to Advanced  
BA and MA in music  
(408) 734-1565

### Norma Zonay-Parsons

(408) 246-3073

**Irving Cardoza (408) 264-9755**

## Your Executive Board Met ...

... on Tuesday, January 27.  
**New Meeting Date and Place!** Every third Sunday, at the **South San Francisco Senior Center** in the SSF Municipal Services Building. See details on page 2. The cost is quite a bit higher than what we've been used to, so there was much discussion of ideas on how to make up the difference. Door fee will be \$5 for all, and we plan to hold one or two **concerts** this year, spring and/or fall. **Fun Band and Evening Ensemble rehearsals** will take place at Hope Lutheran Church in Daly City, on the same schedule as before (see page 7). We desperately need **storage space** for our sound system and other items that were previously stored at Moose.

**Come and join in ...**

**San Francisco Accordion Club**

***Beginning August 2004, on a trial basis***

***The SFAC will meet on the***

***Second Sunday of the Month 1:30 p.m.***

Moose Lodge, 7535 Mission St. Daly City/Colma

For information call Val (510) 531-4836

Website: [www.sfaccordionclub.org](http://www.sfaccordionclub.org)

**East Bay Accordion Circle**

Meets the THIRD TUESDAY of the month 7:30 p.m.

1540 Scenic Ave., 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**

**Vacaville Chapter** Meets 7 PM

the second Tuesday of the month

Moose Hall, 6585 Gibson Canyon Road

**Sacramento Chapter** meets 7 PM

the fourth Wednesday

at Dante Club, 2330 Fair Oaks Blvd.

in Sacramento

For information call (707) 864-2359

**Northern California Accordion Society**

Meets 7 PM the third Thursday of the month

Venita Rhea's Restaurant, 4415 Granite Dr., #1500,

Rocklin, CA

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

**Medford Accordion Club**

*(See announcement below, right)*

Contact: Joe Zajac, 424 Girard Dr., Medford, OR

97504; (541) 779-3420 or zajac@aol.com

**South Bay Accordion Jam**

Third Sunday of the month 2:00 p.m.

Location of meeting varies; for info call

Victor Corsiglia (408) 554-6275 or

Bill Tapogna (408) 984-5290.

**Silicon Valley Accordion Society**

Meets on the first Sunday of the Month

2:00 p.m. at Harry's Hofbrau Restaurant

390 Saratoga Ave., San Jose

(between 280 and Stevens Creek Blvd.)

For Info Phone (408) 270-5003

Website: [www.SVASociety.com](http://www.SVASociety.com)

**SFAC Evening Ensemble Practice** *New Days!*

First and third Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

Hope Lutheran Church, 55 San Fernando Way,

Daly City

***Call first!*** Frank Montoro (650) 574-4757

**SFAC Band Practice** *New Days!*

Second and Fourth Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.

Hope Lutheran Church, 55 San Fernando Way,

Daly City

***Call first!*** Frank Schlotter (510) 339-1163

**DIRECTIONS AND NEWS ABOUT**

**OUR MUSICAL GROUP**

**REHEARSALS!!!**

Our new rehearsal location is the Hope Lutheran Church, 55 San Fernando Way in Daly City. It is very near to the Moose Club.

**Coming from the South on 280:** Take the exit for Highway 1 South/Pacifica/Mission Street. Follow signs toward Mission Street and make a slight left onto Junipero Serra Blvd. Very shortly you make a sharp left onto ~~San Pedro Road~~. West Road Cross over the freeway and turn left onto Sullivan Ave. and right away turn right onto San Fernando Way. Look for the sign very soon on your left. Drive to the back of the parking lot. The rehearsal classroom is to the left at the back of the parking lot.

**Coming from the North on 280:** Take Eastmoor Avenue exit; go straight on the exit road (do not bend around to the right); turn left on Sullivan and very soon turn right onto San Fernando Way as noted above.

**Hearty Thanks to Janet Stechholz for making it possible for us to rehearse at Hope church!**

**Who Is Playing Where ...**

**Reno Di Bono and the Blue Moon Trio**

For info call Reno (408) 252-3808

**Joe Domitrowich and the Alpiners USA**

**The Internationals** Teske's Germania,

255 N. First St., San Jose; call (408) 292-0291

**Mike Zampiceni** plays on Saturday nights

at Di Cicco's Italian Restaurant

2509 Bascom Ave., San Jose (408) 377-5850

And on Friday nights at Bellagio,

33 S. Central Ave. in Campbell (408) 370-7705.

**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](http://www.elbe-restaurant.com)

**Steve Balich, Sr. Band** info: Call Steve (707) 874-3494

**Steve Albini** regularly appears at Piccolino's Italian Café,

1385 Napa Town Center (First Street), including a special

Valentine's Day appearance on Feb. 14 at 6:30 p.m.. Info (707)

251-0100 or

[www.piccolinoscafe.com](http://www.piccolinoscafe.com). Steve will be appearing solo and acoustic

at La Gondola Cucina Italiana in downtown Napa at 5:30 on

Saturday Feb. 5, 29, 26 and March 5, 29, 26; and with his band at

the Club Italia Valentine's Dinner Dance Feb. 12 at the San Rafael

Rec. Center on B Street in San Rafael; event starts at 7:00 p.m.

Info/Tickets: call Dave Albini at (415) 898-7490.

Steve has many other appearances booked in the North Bay;

for info call Steve (707) 874-3494.

**Tom Torriglia's Bella Ciao** band ..

Info: (415) 440-0800 or [www.ladyofspain.com/bellacioa.html](http://www.ladyofspain.com/bellacioa.html)

**Rick Corrigan and the Pickpocket Ensemble** will perform at the

Albatross Pub in Berkeley on Saturday, Feb. 12 from 9:30 p.m.

***NOTE: Please keep your editor informed of where you are playing, dates, times, contact information. I would also like to know of any special playing jobs you've had that are noteworthy. Val Kieser***

**Upcoming Events**

**March 10-13:** Texas Accordion Association's Annual **Accordion Homecoming Convention**, Richardson Hotel,

Richardson, TX. Info: (972) 270-3791. Website:

[www.accordions.com/taa](http://www.accordions.com/taa).

**Friday, March 18, 2005: Accordion Club of the Redwoods Spring Fling Dinner-Dance**, Hermann Sons Hall, Petaluma. Call John Pordon (707) 935-7334.

**Sunday, May 8, 2005: Petosa Accordion Extravaganza 2005** celebrating Joe Petosa's 80th birthday (see page 4).

**Sunday, June 5: 15th Annual San Francisco Accordion**

**Festival at The Cannery**, noon-6:00 p.m., celebrating National Accordion Awareness Month as well as highlighting

San Francisco's official musical instrument. Event is free.

For info call Tom Torriglia (415) 771-3112 or e-mail

[tom@ladyofspain.com](mailto:tom@ladyofspain.com).

**July 4-9, 2005: 31st Annual Kimberley International Old Time Accordion Championships (KIOTAC) festival,**

**Kimberley, B.C., Canada.** Reservation deadline May 31.

See Val for registration form, or call (888)454-6822. E-mail

[info@kiotac.ca](mailto:info@kiotac.ca); Website [www.kiotac.ca](http://www.kiotac.ca). In addition to the

competitions and great fun events, they will attempt to break

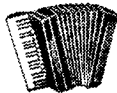
the Guinness World Record for most accordions played for

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for 22 minutes).

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