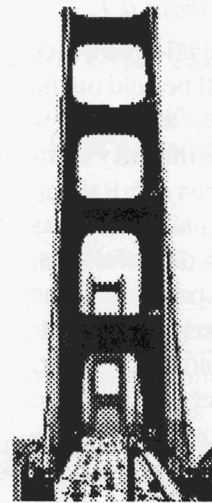


NEWSLETTER OF THE
SAN FRANCISCO
**BAY AREA
ACCORDION CLUB**

EDITORS: Marian Kelly
Dominic Palmisano



July, 1993

Maestro Galla-Rini's Night

Please plan to attend our *August* general meeting. We have planned a gala evening to honor Maestro Anthony Galla-Rini, the long-time mentor, standard setter, performer, teacher, arranger, and composer for accordionists worldwide. Mr. Galla-Rini will attend our meeting, and we encourage all who love the accordion to come to thank him, congratulate him, or to extend your own sentiments to him.

Several guests will also be in attendance, the foremost of whom is Galla-Rini's protégé, Jorgen Sundeqvist of Sweden (see a little bio on Jorgen on p. 2). We have invited Jorgen to entertain us for the second half of our meeting. During the first half, other guests and a few BAAC members will entertain. Light refresh-

ments will be served. We are not identifying the other guests or activities, preferring to keep them as a surprise for Mr. G.R., but, believe us, you'll be delighted!

Please note well that this meeting will *not* be held at the House of Parties. We have located a larger facility with plenty

to p. 2 



Our Honored Guest

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

July 22, Thursday, 7:30 P.M. BAAC Board Meeting at Frank Montoro's.

July 25th -30th. Galla-Rini Accordion Camp, Silver Falls State Park, Oregon. See April BAAC Page for details.

August 2, Monday. BAAC General Meeting. Gala evening with several guests honoring Anthony Galla-Rini. Location is the impressive new Belmont Senior and Community Center. Meeting starts at 7:30.

August 8, Sunday. Jorgen Sundeqvist in concert at the San Diego Citadel Community Hall, 4170 Balboa Ave., Clairemont. Admission \$8.00. Sponsored by Reed Block. 2 PM.

August 28, 29, Cotati Accordion Festival, 11 to 6 each day. Bring accordions! Call Marian, 415-854-1896, if you can help staff our booth.

August 30, Monday. BAAC September meeting, House of Parties.. Date changed to avoid Labor Day holiday. Featuring Sev Garcia of Porterville with a midi demonstration and concert.

September, third week. Button Box Accordion Camp. Lake Tahoe. Call Joe Smiell, 510-832-6938.

September 17-19. Northeast Squeeze-In, Washington, MA. Workshops, jam sessions, concert and contra dance. Call Accordion Connection, 603-224-5227.

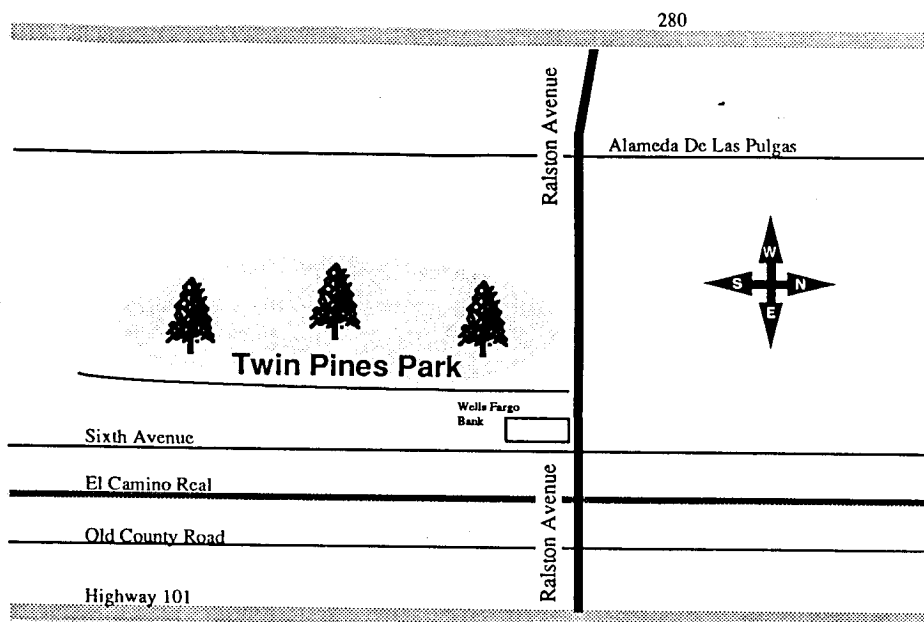
Aug. meeting, cont from p.1.

of easy parking, in anticipation of a nice crowd that evening. It will be held on the Peninsula, in Belmont, at the new **Belmont Senior and Community Center** in Twin Pines Park just off Ralston Avenue and El Camino Real. Address is 1223 Ralston Ave. It's a wonderful spot; we promise you'll be impressed. The building features both indoor and outdoor areas, which flow into one another, so it is used on Sunday afternoons for free concerts. We will hold our meeting inside, but we will use the outdoor patio for conversation and overflow.

The meeting will begin 1/2 hour later than usual, at 7:30 rather than 7:00.

We have increased the usual door fee which we charge from \$1.00 to \$5.00 for *this meeting only*.

Please bring along this map directing



you to Twin Pines Park, within which is the Senior Center. The route from 101 is straightforward, but note that from 280,

you must turn East on 92 towards Hayward; then Ralston Ave is the first exit off 92.

Jorgen Sundeqvist

Jorgen Sundeqvist was born in Nykoping, Sweden in 1962 into a family of musicians. His grandparents and other relatives played the accordion, and his uncle played the cello, string bass, and guitar.

Jorgen began playing the accordion at the age of seven and shortly thereafter began to study under the tutelage of Hans-Erik Naas, one of Sweden's outstanding accordionists and teachers. He made a number of records and played on many TV and radio programs while under the tutelage of Mr. Naas. During the course of his studies, he also took instructions on string bass, harmony, musical form, and ear training at Framnas Music School.

Jorgen recognized that his career aspirations centered on his becoming a concert accordionist, composer, arranger, and

teacher, so he decided he must expand his concert repertory on the accordion and increase his knowledge of music theory. He chose as his mentor the famous concert accordionist and teacher Anthony Gallarini, and spent two years in America studying with the Maestro.

His outstanding talents prompted Gallarini to go on a concert tour with him as a concert accordion duo in 1981. They toured Western Canada, the US., and Continental Europe.

On his own, Jorgen has given solo concerts in all the Scandinavian countries, most of the European countries, in Hungary, the Soviet Union, and New Zealand as well as in the US. and Canada. He has also toured and given concerts with the leading Russian accordionists Yuri Kazakov and Oleg Sharov. He has been a soloist with several Swedish symphony orchestras. At the ripe age of 31, Jorgen is teaching at Ornskoldsvik and Harnosand Music Schools, and at Kapellsberg Folkhogskola in Harnosand, where he specializes in accordion music from all over the world.



Jorgen Sundeqvist

Bay Area Accordion Club

Statement of Income and Expenses

1 July, 1992 - 30 June, 1993

REVENUE

Memberships	\$4,058
Door Fees	1,094
Advertising	440
Interest Earned	65
Donations, Raffles	234
Picnic	3,440
Cotati Booth	4,853
Concerts	3,617
TOTAL REVENUE	\$17,801

Cost of our Projects

Picnic	1,747
Cotati Booth	4,217
Concerts	3,768
TOTAL COST of Fund Raisers	\$9,732

Gross Profit (revenue less cost of projects) **\$8,069**

EXPENSES

President, mostly Phone	\$1,202
Other Executive Board	83
Newsletter Preparation	2,066
Newsletter Mailing	1,011
Rent at House Parties + Bar Fee	784
Cotati Donation, Banner + Booth Purchase	1,703
Insurance	652
General Publicity	140
Administrative	94
Donations	54
Bank Charges	28
Miscell.	18
Total Expense	\$7,835

Net Profit **\$234**

Kudos and Brickbats

(remember the line for "comments" on the renew-your-membership form? Here's a sampling of the responses.)

I'm sorry I can't get to many meetings because of the distance and traffic. I do make some, though, and never miss the picnic or the Cotati Festival. In the House of Parties, the smoke and the noise emanating from the bar area do tend to detract from the overall atmosphere of the evening.

I'd love to see some system adopted for the picnic so that we might be able to reserve tables for groups. I arrived at 11:00 and could find NOWHERE to sit to include my friends and myself. Luckily one of my friends knew some other people who let us join them at their table. That is the only real frustration about the picnic, which otherwise is great, first-class fun.

Someone once mentioned the idea of starting a mini-BAAC for the East Bay but I didn't realize it until too much time had gone by. I'd be interested in being a member of such a small group if one gets started. We are out of town so much that I might have missed the announcement when it was timely.

How about a membership card for members—maybe a special charter member one also. I'm one of the charter members. I'd even be willing to help design them. Also how about working out a way to get to know one another better at the meetings—not just after at the bar which is not possible for some of us.

Make July and August two no meeting months. Many people are away for the summer anyway, and would look forward to a two month respite. (You're welcome.)

I'll try the club one more year. If you want to improve on the accordion, update the music, like Frank Marocco, Art Van Damme, Louie Fanucchi, & Jim Boggio. Forget playing all classical & Italian songs. 95% is too much.

To all you hard working BAAC Committee members, present & past, you have done a fantastic job. Without your hard work, BAAC would not be as strong as it is today. Many Bellow Squeezes to all of you.

The meetings have been pleasant and filled with excellent players!

Send Letters to the Editor, news of where you are playing, or any other message, picture, or news item to:

Marian Kelly
31 Aliso Way
Portola Valley, CA 94028

Deadline for each issue is the *second* Monday of the month. We welcome your ideas!!!

Conductor's Column

We're BAAC..... The original logo states our organization's intent for the future of the accordion. Our purpose is to make sure that the accordion continues to advance positively. Everything we do is directed toward this goal. In three years our group has grown very quickly from 5 to 235 members. Our efforts have been to bring people together who really love the accordion. We've been very successful by all standards. *So what's next?*

We are now at the stage where we need to examine our organization. Behind the scenes we've had a superb cast of players overseeing all of our functions. This cast has produced a tremendous format of events with Lou Soper and Peter DiBono as directors. In the coming 1993/94 year, I intend to fine tune what we've accomplished so far. Here are some examples of my ideas:

First, our monthly meeting program should be planned in advance by a group of entertainment managers so that meetings are of a consistently high quality. It's important to involve anyone who has an eye for putting the program together in this, our monthly showcase event.

Second, a policy should be established whereby our Club sponsors one winter and one spring concert annually. Such concerts will enable us to

involve the non-accordion playing general public in our events and will contribute greatly to the goal of advancing the accordion positively. Peter DiBono has agreed to be the chairperson for the coming year.

Third, we will continue to search for an improved facility for our monthly meeting place. Because of our expanding membership throughout the Bay Area, location is the overriding consideration. Our move to a new home will be a very careful decision.

Fourth, we should actively look for ways to increase our membership. Our newsletter has been the key to developing our growing base, so we will pursue an aggressive approach to expanding circulation.

Fifth, I will ask the Board to OK a plan whereby we increase our exposure to the public by encouraging our members to perform at special events which will bring a donation to our Performance Fund. This source

of revenue would be used to guarantee that our concerts would be produced at the highest level.

Sixth, we are developing an operating guide for the club called BOS (BAAC Operating System). The purpose of BOS is to establish a well-documented procedural guide for all activities. This will ensure that we will be able to execute activities without reliance on any one person.

There are also many intriguing ideas in the wind of activities which could be sponsored by BAAC. The list includes:

- * Creating a San Francisco International Accordion Convention/Festival event in 1994.

- * Creating a scholarship program to help individuals pursue the study of the accordion

- * Creating a new line of T shirts and accessories including a cap with a logo that would include a San Francisco identity, an accordion and our insignia

- * Establishing an annual dinner meeting

- * Establishing a South Bay Night at a monthly meeting

- * Establishing a 2 Players Or More Only Night at a monthly meeting.

Looking at the coming year, the job will require committed and engaged people to accomplish these specific outcomes. This will absolutely require more membership participation. The new Board of Directors will be responsible for implementing our objectives. We look forward to making 1993/1994 even more successful than our first three years.

Dominic Palmisano

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Alice Hall, FOTA's president and editor, writes: "Please mention **Nick Ariondo's solo video** in your newsletter....Without a doubt, he's the best I have ever heard." Consider it done, Alice.

"**The Artistry of Nick Ariondo** has just been released by Acco-Music Publishing, P O Box 11120, Glendale, CA 91206. We hope to have it available for purchase at our BAAC booth at the Cotati Festival.

Alice adds "We also have a **FOTA CONCERT VIDEO** that is out." It features Nick but includes several other performers, including Alice. Order from Acco-Music. Each video costs \$30.65; \$53.63 for two, including tax and shipping.

July General Meeting

Our new President, **Dominic Palmisano**, was taking a well-deserved rest on several beaches, but VP **Marian Kelly** was in town, for a change, and led the meeting. She announced that several Club accordionists are joining **Reno Pucci** to play for the Lions Club of Pacifica next Sunday, July 11th in exchange for a \$250 donation to our Club.

The locale for the **Galla-Rini** tribute which will take place at our August meeting has not yet been determined, but will be prominently announced in the newsletter.

Frank Montoro, in his Treasurer's Report, gave bank account balances and announced that the picnic was a huge financial success. About half of the profit, or \$800 came from the raffle, thanks to **Walter Traverso**. Frank has supplied the Club with an Income/Expense Statement which covers the past year and which is reproduced elsewhere in this newsletter.

Walter asked all willing players to appear on San Mateo's B Street on July 25th for the benefit of the Peninsula Aid for Retarded Children and Adults. (See little article on p. 6)

Then everybody stepped aside so that **Domenic Saso** could start the music.

Leo Troitzky played "All of Me" and "Non Dimenticar" on his Colombo Orion accordion. He followed with his rendition of "Chatanooga Choo Choo", sound effects and all.

The crowd really appreciated hearing **John Gullmes** play "La Spagnola" and "Carnival of Venice" on his chromatic accordion. **John** ended with a rousing "Hava Nagila".

Sal Cavallero, usually a trumpet and drums man, made his debut as an accordionist. He traced his musical history by demonstrating how he played the tune, "Over the Waves" at various stages of development from the age of 8 on. His comedy routine also included a touching rendition of "I'm Your Mailman", then "La Campagnola" and "Dark Eyes". His message to us was simple – so what if you make mistakes; it's fun to play an accordion, so just do it!

After the break, players just kept shifting around. First, **Bill Demichelis** and **Ed Sciarini** teamed up to play "Quando Mi Bacia Teresa" and "La Campagnola". **Bill** continued on his own the "Summer Polka" and "Julietta Polka". He was joined on the

stage by **Reno Pucci** for a repeat chorus of "Julietta"; then they followed with the old standard "Whispering".

Bob Delgado played "Lonely Lane" then got everyone into a polka mood by inviting **Renzo** and **Sherri Latone** to dance to the "Beer Barrel Polka". Wow!!! **Sherri** spent enough time upside down to convince most of us that we didn't care to request lessons from them, after all.

Bob and **Bart Beninco** teamed up for "Tango of the Roses" and then **Bart** continued with a fine arrangement of "Peanut Vendor" and "Clarinet Polka". We just couldn't get enough polkas that night. He also thanked **Clyde Forsman** for loaning his accordion to anyone who asked to borrow it.

Bill Tinics also made his debut ended the evening's program with two fine arrangements, "España Cani" and "Tranquillo Overture". Say, **Bill**, that was terrific! Where have you been all our lives???

Marian closed the meeting by thanking all of the performers and reminding us to come to the Galla-Rini tribute on August 2nd.

Frank Montoro and MK

Synopsis, June Board Meeting

- Treasurer Frank Montoro presented the financial summary for the preceding fiscal year, which is shown on Page 3 of this newsletter.
- The current amount in our checking account is \$4831; in our savings account or "performance fund" is \$1214.
- Treasurer Montoro presented a proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year showing increased expenditures for the newsletter of \$3,400 and total expenses of \$10,050. Revenue is also projected at \$10,050, including \$4600 in membership fees and small profits on our picnic, our concerts, and the Cotati booth.
- The location for the Galla-Rini festivities at the August General Meeting was still in doubt. There was general agreement that a location other than our present one was greatly desirable. Dennis Stoscher and Frank Montoro agreed to investigate five locations (which we discussed at the meeting) and report to individual board members within a week so the decision could be made before the July general meeting.
- Other details of the August meeting were discussed. It was decided that we would serve light refreshments after the August General Meeting to give attendees time and a place to greet Maestro Galla-Rini.
- President Peter Di Bono announced that Tom Torriglia has resigned his position on the Board of Directors for the upcoming year. The by-laws stipulate that the Board locate and approve of a replacement; incoming President Dominic Palmisano asked for an additional two month period before choosing Tom's replacement. The Board approved of his request.

MK

FESTA ITALIANA

Come on down to Festa Italiana on Sunday, July 25th from 11 to 4! And bring your accordion!

The Festa features food, games, raffle prizes, an open-air market, and entertainment. It is a benefit for PARCA (Peninsula Association for Retarded Children and Adults) and the San Mateo County Special Olympics.

Walter says that PARCA is giving BAAC booth space, and the opportunity to promote our club by selling whatever we want and playing for the crowd.

Please join us! The Festa is located at the Peninsula Social Club, 100 No. B St., in San Mateo. It's a wonderful cause, and these are our people! The red, white, and green flag is prominently displayed on all their promotional material.

THERE WAS DANCIN' IN THE STREET

Palmetto Ave. in Sharp Park, Pacifica, was the site of the Collectible Fair on Sunday, July 11th. Rudy Pickell of the Lions Club invited members of BAAC to perform for the affair. The Lions donated \$250 to the Club.

Seven members turned out and put on a great show. They were: accordionists Bob Delgado, Clude Forsman, Dominic Palmisano, Reno Pucci, Bob Smith, Cindy Tuculet, and Walter Traverso on the tuba.

Dominic and Cindy took us to the rain forest with their moving rendition of "Brazil". Clyde Forsman added vocals and color to a lot of the songs while "never-to-be-stumped-by-a-song" Reno Pucci played any and everything written. The two Bobs nicely rounded out the group.

Not your ordinary playing job, many "variables" enjoyed the playing, including Vincent, the pot-bellied pig and his owner who were serenaded with "Old MacDonald Had a Farm", and the passing police persons who received a rendition of "Prisoners' Song". "Let Me Call You Sweetheart" had lovers dancing in the street and everyone around had nothing but compliments for the versatile group of serenaders.

Lending support were BAAC's own Roy and Ann Lagomarsino, John and Sheila Gullmes, and Laverne Traverso.

Last word from the Lion's Club was "See you next year".

Joyce Pucci

Across the Editor's Desk.....

Dear Bay Area Accordion Club,

My husband plays accordion and would like to meet people who do the same and who would like to get together.

We have 6 1/2 acres in the mountains 17 miles out of Chico and have room to park any players caring to come for a few days in R.V.'s. Dry camp. We have a 8 x 32 deck overlooking the valley below - a great music area.

We have a 23' Motor Home, an accordion, a banjo, and can travel too.

Please put us in touch with anyone who might enjoy this and also sign us up for BAAC membership.

Sincerely,

Jim and Ann Taylor
607 Vilas Rd. Cohasset
Chico, CA 95926
916-342-1675

Dear Bay Area Accordion Club:

I've spent lots of time studying the photo of the 1916 S.F. Accordion Club in The Golden Age of the Accordion. I think it would be "real neat" if we did something similar, perhaps on an annual or bi-annual basis.

Members could submit individual photos, perhaps meeting some kind of "specifications" (e.g., color, 3x5, matte finish, whatever) and then the individual photos could be "collaged" into one larger photo in the same spirit as the 1916 photo, and made available to the membership at or near cost.

We could perhaps make it a requirement that in order to be included in the photo, one had to make a "contribution" to the club; such "contribution" could be performing at a meeting, helping at an event, or just about anything beyond merely attending a meeting or event (which, admittedly, has been the extent of my own contribution). Perhaps this might even inspire some enthusiasm in the membership ("Gosh, if I get up and play 2 Palmer-Hughes numbers, I get to be in the same picture as all the B.A.A.C. hot-shots/maestros, wow, what a deal!")

To go even a step further, maybe an annual "yearbook" could be produced, although I am definitely out of my field of expertise here. Maybe production costs for something like this would be too expensive.

Anyways, just an idea I've had for a few months now which I haven't rejected, so maybe it's time to share it.

Very best regards
Bill Dickey



Chef
Glenn Petrucci

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BRING YOUR ACCORDIONS!

COTATI, 1992 "'Lady of Spain' Was Their Main Squeeze"

from the **San Francisco Chronicle**, September, 1992

Lady of Spain, we adore you, said the accordion players of the world. Some meant it sincerely.

They said it 150 strong, in the town plaza of Cotati. They pledged their love to the lady in greater numbers than accordion players have ever pledged before. It was the biggest group performance of "Lady of Spain" in history, and it happened this week at the annual Cotati Accordion Festival.

"Attention, all accordion players!" hollered the man at the mike. "Come immediately to the stage for the Lady-of-Spain-a-Ring!"

"Lady of Spain" has been the accordionists' much-detested anthem since the 1950s, when an accordion player won top prize on a TV amateur hour with it. Today, when accordionists are not performing the song for people who know no better than to ask for it, they are making up indelicate verses among themselves.

"Adore you," as any player knows, rhymes with "implore you."

"It's a lousy song," said a player named Bill. "But we and the lady are stuck with each other."

It was a glorious day to make history. The afternoon sun glistened on the mother of pearl. Not all the mother of pearl was on the accordions; there was plenty of jewelry, much of it worn by accordionists' wives, who keep telling each other what good sports they are.

All over the plaza, serious accordionists were jamming, oozing out blues and Cajun and anything else that didn't sound like the Lawrence Welk show, which Grandpa watched on Sunday afternoons in the 1950s before his nap.

"I do not want to throw rocks at Lawrence," said festival co-producer Jim Boggio, a big fellow and a big name in accordions, a man who is built along the lines of the beer barrel in the polka.

"I'm truly sorry Lawrence died. But he placed a stigma on this instrument that has taken us 20 years to overcome."

One reason many of today's kids like accordions, he said, is that their middle-age parents hate them, because their parents forced them to watch Welk. So perhaps the Welk era was not in vain.

An Accordionist knows he must smile at himself to get by. There were many

"Use an Accordion, Go To Prison" T-shirts for sale, along with use-an-accordion buttons and stickers, and Lady of Spain momentos. Hundreds of accordion fans browsed the boutiques. A candidate for state assembly showed up, hunting votes, lending slight legitimacy to the proceedings.

Jim Martini, an accordionist who has performed at hundreds of weddings, owned up to playing "Lady of Spain" at a wedding a few weeks ago.

"A drunk gave me \$5 to do it," he explained.

But he played it for free at the Spain-a-Ring when, shortly after 3 p.m., Boggio grabbed the mike and said the moment had come.

"In the key of C," he hollered. "One, two, three...."

Cotati shuddered and shook to the sound of 150 accordions in unison. Someone opened the cages to release a dozen white doves into the heavens. The doves beat their wings in time to the music, rose skyward and fled the accordion festival.

"One more time!" said Boggio, and the assembled sets of bellows breathed, in and out, like respirators giving life to the great Spanish lady for yet another tour of the dance floor. The one more time went on for four verses and then the Spain-a-Ring collapsed of its own weight.

"I'm coming back next year," said an accordionist, as he reluctantly unstrapped himself from his beast. "I bet we have 500 people playing it."

Steve Rubenstein

TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

To continue to receive our Newsletter, please send us your \$20.00 membership fee.
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7:30 PM

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1223 RALSTON AVE, TWIN PINES PARK
BELMONT

<u>Conductor</u>	<u>Co-Conductor</u>	<u>Banker</u>	<u>Teller</u>	<u>Scribe</u>	<u>Membership</u>
Dominic Palmisano	Marian Kelly	Frank Montoro	Rusti Bartoli	Barb Hartley	Walter Traverso