



NEWSLETTER OF THE
SAN FRANCISCO

BAY AREA ACCORDION CLUB

Editors: Marian Kelly
Dominic Palmisano

MARCH MEETING

Lou Soper opened the meeting by greeting the members and asking guests to stand and be recognized. We then observed a moment of silence for one of our members, **Anthony Guardino**, who passed away recently.

Our very capable Entertainment Chairman, **Domenic Saso**, came forward a little more slowly than usual because of a very recent experience with the medical profession, but with the same great grin and wonderful commentary. He introduced **Bob Smith** as our first entertainer. **Bob** played "Pietro's Return," a waltz, and, to much applause, finished up with "Can't You Hear Me Calling, Caroline?"

Next came **John Schellenberg**, a nine year old accordion student of **Clyde Forsman**. We all settled back expectantly, because we are so delighted with the opportunity to hear young players. We weren't disappointed. He played a **Joe Schmiel** arrangement of a schottische and then "Julida Polka", both with excellent technique. We all settled in for a delightful evening.

Reno Pucci was our next entertainer. He had an old 1917 accordion. He played a Galla-Rini arrangement of "La Sorella" and two operatic arias, "Musetta's Waltz" from La Boheme, and "The Drinking Song", then followed with "Funiculi, Funicula". Well done, Reno!

Val Ballerini played and his wife sang the theme from Godfather I and "Sunny Side of the Street". Val then did

a solo and also sang "Eh Compari".

At this point, **Lou Soper** introduced **Jim Holliday**, a member of the By-Laws Revision Committee. **Jim** familiarized the group with the recommended changes (which were detailed in the February edition of this newsletter), then turned the meeting back to **Lou**, who requested and received a vote from the membership approving of the changes.

The three members who volunteered to serve on our Nominating Committee are **Jim Holliday, Rusty Bartoli, and Algis Ratnikas**. They, with board members **Dominic Palmisano and Walter Traverso**, will consider who of us is best suited and able to fill each of the five officer and five board positions as defined in our Bylaws and will present their suggested slate at our next general meeting, on

April 6th.

Lastly, we were royally entertained by the Lou Casalnuova Quartet consisting of **Lou** on accordion, **Vince Cattolica** on clarinet, **Bobby Dominguez** on drums, and **Pierre Josephs** on bass. They thrilled us all with their renditions of "Crazy Rhythm," " 'S Wonderful," "It's a Blue World," and "I Wish I Knew" the last number sounding suspiciously like Ernie Felice. They also played the Eastman Trio (our own **Ted Noga** was an original member) version of "Stumbling," then "Take the A Train," and last, but not least, "Idaho." The ovation was long, hearty, and well deserved.

The meeting then moved down the road to Lyons, for coffee, conversation, comraderie and a little more music.

CAROL BENETTI, Secretary



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

April 6 — General Meeting. Nominating Committee presents slate of proposed officers.

May 4 — General Meeting. Election of new officers and board of directors.

June 7 — BAAC Picnic at Elks Club in Palo Alto. Walter needs donations of white elephants for picnic raffle as soon as possible.

August 29, 30 — Cotati Accordion Festival. Bigger and better! More later.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

At our April 6 General Meeting, the Nominating Committee will present its proposed slate of officers and directors for the coming year. After much discussion among themselves and conversation with potential candidates, the Committee has selected those among us who, they believe, will be best able to fulfill the officers' and directors' functions as defined in our bylaws. During that meeting, additional nominations will be accepted. The entire slate of proposed officers and directors will be published in the April BAAC Page.

Please make such nominations carefully. No further nominations will be accepted during the elections; therefore, the loser in a contested race will be unable to hold *any* elected office for the upcoming year. Also, remember that your nominee must be present at that April meeting to accept the nomination.

The election will be held at our May General Meeting using a written ballot.

We are using a Nominating Committee to simplify the selection process, to choose the best available candidates, and to keep competition among members to a minimum. We appreciate your understanding and support of the process and your cooperation in helping us conduct a smooth election at our May general meeting.

RANDOM MUSINGS

An interview with our own WALTER TRAVERSO has magically appeared in the infamous South of Market Journal (the official organ of the South of Market Boys). When asked how he would compare the accordion with other musical instruments, Walter replied "There's no comparison. You can hook up modern accordions to a synthesizer and two speakers and get all kinds of stereo effects with the push of a button. Some think I have a tape playing along with the accordion, but it's just me. They say "Where's the band?" and I say "I are it!"

In introducing the special issue in which Walter's interview appeared, the Editor opined:

"Some of you may bellow that it is necessary to reed between the lines or to squeeze out some sense from this special Accordion Issue of the South of Market Journal. Let me assure you the key to this question is black and white and in tune with the times. It may sound funny but the history of the City and the Accordion are harmoniously intertwined and for this reason I ask you to play along accordioningly".

Q: What's the difference between a trampoline and an accordion???

A: People remove their shoes when they jump on a trampoline!!

Red Wing Technical College, in Red Wing, Minnesota, offers the only accordion and concertina repair course in the U.S. according to a notice in the March, 1992 BELLOWS. "Presently in the second semester of study, members of the course find themselves facing wide-ranging demands: hearing and perception development (for increasingly complex refinements of tuning), touch sensitivity (for subtle mechanical adjustments), judgement criteria (for condition-assessments), and related skills like business management. Further, they are contributing to historical and academic research on accordion-family instruments. The resulting manuals will represent a major development in the status of English-language information.

As a secondary benefit of the course work, competence of performance on the instruments studied is required. People of all ages and circumstances are drawn to the accordion, but few realize how many individual types are included in the genre: piano keyboards, chromatic "B" and "C" systems, Anglo and English hex concertinas, 102-key concertinas, bandoneons, one-row through four-row diatonic button accordions in a great variety of pitch orderings, concert instruments of the convertor or free-bass type, ethnic styles and tunings such as German, Boehemian, Slovenian, Musette, and more.

Prior to receiving certification, each student will build his own instrument. Most are already dreaming of the innovations and improvements his designs may bring to the industry."

CONDUCTOR'S COLUMN

Spring is just around the corner, and our beloved accordion is reaching many more people in 1992. I have just returned from a trip to Dallas, Fort Worth, and New Orleans, where the Mardi Gras was in full swing.

Whenever I fly to different cities in the United States, my accordion always accompanies me. However, since I don't approve of the manner in which luggage is handled by all airlines, I pack all my cloth-

ing and personal items in my accordion case, which is checked in with baggage, and I strap my accordion to my chest and wear it into the airport and on the plane. Every person who passes me and sees the accordion immediately smiles and it never fails — somebody always wants to hear the accordion played. From baggage checker to airline crews, pilots, security, and passengers — everybody loves to hear the accordion played. The songs requested range from "Dixie" to "Fly Me To The Moon."

Every effort is concluded with a great round of applause.

So you can see why I always encourage all of our members to play your accordion whenever you can to the general public. **THEY LOVE IT!**

Our March 2nd meeting resulted in a packed house. Hope to see all of you at our April 6th meeting.

Lou Soper

BAAC Classified

TITANO...120 bass with Sano Stereo
beautiful black...181/2 keyboard...\$850
Six..12 bass accordions...\$85 to \$125

SACRAMENTO MUSIC

CONSERVATORY

3301 Bluegrass Rd.

Sacramento Ca. 95821

916-489-6638 after 6PM..

Thur or Friday...



COLOMBO & SONS

ACCORDION

1201 ANDERSEN DR. SUITE O

SAN RAFAEL, CA 94901

(415-457-2222)

TUESDAY - FRIDAY

8:30AM - 4:30PM

SATURDAY

9:00AM - 2:00PM

SALES & REPAIRS



Accordions / Buttonboxes

George Meier

Wholesale / Retail
Service & Repairs
Buy-Sell-Trade

3865 Clover Valley Rd.

ROCKLIN, CA 95677

(916) 624-2900



petosa accordions

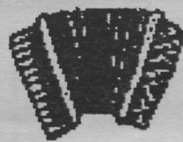
CUSTOMCRAFTED - Since 1922

313 N.E. 45th St. Seattle, WA 98105 (206) 632-2700

AD POLICY: MEMBERS PAY \$5/ISSUE
FOR SMALL ADS. \$10 FOR LARGE.
NON-MEMBERS PAY TWICE THE
MEMBER'S RATE. SEND COPY AND
CHECK TO 321 ALISO, PORTOLA VALLEY, 94028

WE'RE

BAAC



48 Pope St.

San Francisco, CA

94112



NEXT MEETING: MONDAY
APRIL 6, 1992
7:00PM

HOUSE OF PARTIES
22 HILLCREST DR.
DALY CITY

CALL DOMENIC SASO IF YOU
WOULD LIKE TO PLAY AT THE
NEXT MEETING..415-587-7557

Conductor
Lou Soper

Co-Conductor
Peter DiBono

Public Relations
Walter Traverso

Banker
Marian Kelly

Teller & Scribe
Carol Benetti