

Editor's Message by Marian Kelly

As your newly-elected President, I thank you very much for your vote of confidence. Not surprisingly, it's a bigger job than I had anticipated. I want to use this column to tell you just a little of what we (the Board and I) have been doing since October 1, to alert you to our upcoming schedule, and to encourage you to talk to us. The Board and Officers very much want what we are doing to reflect your wishes.

We have a newly formed Membership Committee, whose main mission is to recruit and welcome new members and see that they become acquainted quickly. Other duties include maintenance of the mailing list and printing mailing labels for the newsletter. Frank Montoro is chairman and committee members include Lynn Ewing, Boaz Rubin, Glenn McClelland, Jean O'Malley, and Nora Mazzara. If you would like to help give Frank a call.

Our Treasurer Peter Adler, has stepped down. We are in need of not only a Treasurer, but also members of a Finance Committee. Committee members will collect and document monies received, make deposits, and generally assist the Treasurer. If you would be willing to help with our Finances in any way, please phone me (650) 854-1896.

Our Program Committee which consists of Ed Massolo, Mary-Alice Eldon, Val Kieser, Sharon Walters and Dick Schiller are planning on having more theme nights (i.e. Irish, Ladies, Family, Student's nights). The idea is that the theme would be carried through at least half of the meeting but performers may elect to not conform with the theme if they don't wish to.

My final reminder is that there is a time limit when performing at our meetings. We ask individuals and duos to limit their performance to 15 minutes or less. This is necessary to be sure that we can include everyone scheduled without cutting anyone short. Larger groups will, on occasion, be given extra time, depending on the schedule for the evening.

Mark Your Calendars

BAAC Ensemble practice first and third Wednesday of each month at Moose Lodge in Daly City from 7:00pm-9:00pm. Contact Frank Montoro (650)574-4757 for additional information.

BAAC Fun Band 4th Wednesday of each month at Moose Lodge in Daly City from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. Contact Domenic Saso at (415)587-7557 for more information.

Dec. 1. BAAC General Meeting. Donsworth Hall, 22nd Ave. and Eucalyptus, S.F. just north of the Stonestown Shopping Center. 7:00pm-9:30pm. Bring your accordion and the music in this newsletter to join in on the Holiday Jam If you play at the meeting you get in free.

Dec. 4. KQED Pledge Night. Please help BAAC man KQED's phones. See details page 6.

Dec. 9. Golden State Accordion Aires Holiday Party. Pietro's #2 in Vacaville. Call 707-864-2359 for more info.

Dec. 10. BAAC Board Meeting 7:30pm at Ed Massolo's, 612 Lassen. So. San Francisco. Guests welcome. Call Ed at (650)589-8409 for directions.

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Jan. 5, 1998 BAAC General Meeting. Student night. Teachers encouraged to bring a couple of their students. Note that accordionists under 18 become honorary members. Call Ed Massolo 650-589-8409 to schedule your students.

Feb. 2, 1998. BAAC General Meeting. Family Night. If you have other family members who play along with you or by themselves we want to hear you. Family can include cousins, in-laws, nephews, etc. Bring your grand kids! Call Ed Massolo to get on the program 650-589-8409 Also on the program is a demonstration of a new reedless accordion played by Jean-Louis Noton. This is not a MIDI accordion but an accordion that has many accordion sounds produced electronically yet has full bellows dynamics and is very light weight.

March 20-22, 1998. Texas Accordion Association Convention, Plano, Texas. Call Norman Seaton, (972)-270-3791

June 19-21, 1998. CAPA (Closet Accordion Players of America) convention in Denver. Organizer Cheri Thurston is encouraging early registration of \$30. Send to CAPA, 305 W. Magnolia, S. 398, Fort Collins. Co 80525.

Please send Calendar Information to your Editor, using the address on the last page.
Thank you.

Coming up at the December Meeting

YOU!!

Due to popular demand we will repeat the XMAS jam that we had last year. Elsewhere in this issue you will find some simple holiday tunes. Bring your accordion and these tunes and we will have a giant holiday jam session. If you bring your accordion AND play it at the December meeting you won't have to pay the entry fee! Other artists include the BAAC Fun Band, Frank Montoro, Jana Maas, Bart Beninco and Willoughby Walshe.

If you would be interested in performing at a future meeting please contact Ed Massolo 650-589-8409.

November Meeting by Bob Berta

Our November meeting was called to order by newly elected President Marian Kelly. During the early business part of the meeting I noticed her picking up an accordion and I wondered if she was going to be a last minute addition to the program. My curiosity was answered as she led the audience in a spirited round of Happy Birthday to our fearless MC, Domenic Saso.

After the obligatory business the meeting commenced with our first artist, Eldo Bianchi. Before he played he gave a short history of his accordion

playing. Turns out that like many of our members he played in his youth, gave it up and much later decided to pick it up again. In the some 50 years between when he started and now he had seen a lot of changes in music. To illustrate those differences he played a couple of medleys of tunes that were familiar in his youth and than later in his life. Eldo is



Happy B'day to Domenic Saso

the type of person I admire...someone who is never too old to tackle new challenges. I am sure his selection of tunes brought back a lot of good memories for his audience.

Next on stage was Bob Smith. We are used to hearing Bob on his Petosa

accordion. On this occasion he opted to play the clubs 12 bass accordion. He used it to illustrate how you can create your own minor keys on the 12 bass by combining single bass notes with another major chord. Often we think that a 12 bass accordion is limited but Bob showed us that it is capable of a lot more than is apparent at first glance..



Eldo Bianchi

Joe Smiell and the Accordion
Chamber Ensemble next performed. The members of the Ensemble got the

last laugh on Joe by hitting a dissonant chord and than breaking into a spirited rendition of Happy Birthday rather than the first tune in their planned repertoire. Seems that there are several of our members who are November babies! After Joe regained his composure the Ensemble moved through a varied selection of music. It seems that every time we hear this group they show dramatic improvement. Se-

lections included Holiday In Paris, a Mozart Memuetto, Plaisir d'Amour arranged by Gala-Rini, Rose de

Vienne, a neat polka composed by Joe himself and ended with a Musette Potpourri arranged by Joe. The Ensemble has become a show case for the talented members

During the intermission I had the opportunity to meet a couple of the newer members and check out the neat dissasembled accordion demo that Kimric Smythe has. It was a neat way to see what is under the "hood" of your own accordion.

Mike Sanossian was first up after the break with a selection of neat tunes. Michael appeared to be quite relaxed and played smoothly on his various selections which included a waltz medley of Boys from Armagh, After the Ball and Merry Widow. Next he performed very nice arrangements of Tango of the Roses and La Cumparsita.

Recent repeat winner of the San Francisco Main Squeeze Contest, Steve Albini, brought his trio on stage for a rousing selection of tunes. Issac Kwong on Drums was only 16 years old but really impressed the audience with his fine technique as did Glenn Sullivan on Trumpet. Steve is a board member of the Accordion Club of the Red-



Bob Smith "Hey who shrunk my accordion!"



Accordion Chamber Ensemble

woods and the AAA (American Accordionist Association). Steve also plays trumpet, guitar and sings. The trio went through a selection of tunes which included Quando Quando, La Mer (Beyond The Sea), Brazil, Love and Kansas City.

Last to perform was our new member, Richard Yaus. Richard's beautiful technique and fine arrangements are truly a delight to hear. He played Andante Gracioso, Gavotte, a tune from his previous

homeland in Munich, Germany, Fleck Flack, Musette and for an encore, Czardas by Grok which is truly a magnificent composition for accordion.

> Next month is the annual Christmas meeting. Last year we encouraged all members to bring their accordions to join in playing a selection of simple holiday tunes. Due to the positive feedback from last years event we will be doing it again this year. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will see the simple tunes we will be playing. Practice them and bring them and your accordion to the

> > December meeting and you will be rewarded by not having to pay the customary door fee (but you must play your accordion to qualify for free admission).



Michael Sanossian

Steve Albini, Isaac Kwong and Glenn Sullivan



Richard Yaus



BAAC on Television!

We've volunteered to handle phones at KQED the evening of Thurrsday, Dec. 4th, 6-11 pm. They expect 45+ BAAC members & friends, so, obviously, we need you!Dinner will be provided and there will be lots of raffle prizes. They expect a busy evening as their guest that night is to be Jonathan Pond, of the Nightly Business Report.

You will be expected to answer phones following their suggested script, and compiling for each caller the information which they request. The address is 2601 Mariposa (at Bryant). Parking will be available under the building.

We'll make ourselves very visible that night with small accordions for decoration, your BAAC T-shirts, our stage sign made by Renzo Latone, and accordion music in the background.

Please join us for a wonderful opportunity to promote B AAC and to have a great time! To join us call BAAC's phone number (415) 974-9210.

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CALLING ALL BEGINNERS AND CLOSET ACCORDIONISTS

Now there are TWO beginning accordionist support groups!

Last months newsletter had an article from new member, Jane the Cat who was starting a Bay Area Beginners Accordion Support Group. At the last general meeting another beginners group was announced. It is called the Beginners Accordion Group and is based in the East Bay. It will meet the 2nd Thursday of each month starting Dec. 11th at 8:00pm. For directions and info call 510-843-9958.

Contact Phone #s for Officers:

 Pres. Marian Kelly
 (650)854-1896

 Vice Pres. Joe Smiell
 (510)832-6938

 Treasurer Vacant
 (510)845-4936

 Record. Sect. Val Kieser
 (510)531-4836

To join BAAC send a check for \$25 to: BAAC

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Send all newsletter-related communications to:

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