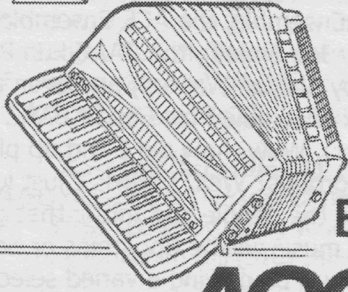


Newsletter of the

SAN FRANCISCO CALIFORNIA USA.



BAY AREA
ACCORDION CLUB

November 2002



*Italian Heritage Day Parade in San Francisco
Featuring the BAAC Fun Band and some welcome volunteers
Did we have fun or what??
Photo courtesy of Scott Williamson*

NEXT MEETING 7 PM THURSDAY NOV. 14 MOOSE LODGE DALY CITY



President's Message

BAAC surely had a major float in the **Italian Heritage Day parade** in San Francisco! We were very well received by the public lining the streets,, with many people dancing and clapping and singing along. It was a better reception than I ever dreamed of! The only unfortunate aspect of our par-

ticipation is that Channel 7 opted to take a station break in their coverage at the precise moment when our float would have appeared! And the accordion is the official instrument of San Francisco! For shame! Well, the fun we had was worth all the work and effort. Special thanks to **Bob Berta** for providing and driving the truck, picking up the bales of straw and myriad other jobs, and to **Ron Borelli** who arranged our entire participation in the parade, and **Bob Pisani**, our Treasurer, who jumped through hoops to get us special insurance coverage for the event. Our thanks also to all those who helped with the decorating, which means all those who participated plus some more, including Peter Di Bono's young student Julia Farrugia and her mother Lynn. If I start naming names I'll surely inadvertently leave someone out. So, to all those who helped and all the band members, a great big **THANKS!**

But wait, that's not all! Our Fun Band also played in the **San Anselmo Community Parade** the week before the SF parade. Not only did we participate, also riding on a truck, but we took First Prize in the music division! Again, our special thanks to all the band members and helpers, and most especially **Gwyn Lister** who made all the arrangements and also found us some more players from among the ACR members.

We are all missing our wonderful band leader, **Sharon Walters** who has been quite ill and in the hospital. Although she made the San Anselmo parade, she sadly had to miss the San Francisco parade. **Please get well quickly, Sharon! We need you!**

For our **November meeting** we will award the scholarship certificates to at least two of our three scholarship winners and will ask them to play for us. (We are going to ask them to play again after they complete their scholarship lessons, anything they choose to play.) Then we will have Vince Ci-relli giving us one of his fascinating talks and demos, and after that we'll have jamming or some Open Mic.

For **December**, as you know, we have our Holi-

day party, and all of our groups will be playing: The BAAC Ensemble, the ACE Ensemble (both directed by Joe Smiell), the BAAC Fun Band (directed by Sharon Walters) and even a small button box ensemble made up of BAAC members (no director). Wow, how did I end up playing in ALL these groups? Well, I guess I just love group playing and the people and music that go with it! Not all the music will be Christmas or holiday music—we will be playing a varied selection of numbers. It will be a full program!

Val

Please help solve a mystery: We have received two "mystery" membership renewals (in our pre-addressed envelope) that we don't recognize! One was an empty envelope from the **East Bay** with no check and no note, and the other, containing \$30 for a family membership, is from a company at 364 Bush Street in **San Francisco**, showing only a company name consisting of 3 names. The check was deposited right away and I didn't get to see it.—nor can I find in our list a Bush Street address! **Please tell us who you are!**

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**October Meeting:
Old Time Good Music Night**

By George Chavez

The meeting began with the **BAAC Fun Band** playing some of their songs for us at the end of their early evening practice. This was a nice way to begin the evening of music, and I hope to hear more of the Fun Band in future meetings. Before the announcements began, two guests from Pacifica were introduced: **Mary Mezzanotti** and her father **Eddie Kochevar**. Mary said her father was a friend of **Domenic Saso** and they both enjoyed accordion music.

The Fun Band received an award for their October 6 performance in the San Anselmo Community Parade (see photo of trophy, obviously not made by a musical person but a delight to have nonetheless)! **Tom Cordoni** spoke on behalf of his effort to get the accordion declared the official instrument of Petaluma. BAAC enthusiastically endorses his effort.



**Fun Band Trophy from
San Anselmo Parade**

Then the board members were introduced and honored for their service: **Bob Pisani** (Treasurer), **Joe Smiell** (board member), **Vince Cirelli** (board member), **Dick Schiller** (board member), **Frank**

Schlotter (VP) and **Jim Firpo** and **Ed Massolo** (board members). Special thanks also went to **Lou Soper** and to **Mike Trevino** of the Moose Club for making it possible to have our meetings there.

Several BAAC members were specially honored for their service to the club: **Rosemary Armanino** for helping at the front table, **Lou Soper** for his help on many fronts, **Dominic and Frances Benedetto** for the outstanding food at each meeting, **Frank Schlotter** for his help on many fronts, **Ed Zaro** for his ongoing service as videographer of the meetings, **Tom Orzechowski and Lois Buhalis** for storing a lot of our belongings. Special certificates went to **Jim Firpo** and **Bob Berta** for their outstanding service and willingness to help without being asked.

The musical portion of the program began with some good old-time music that was both entertaining and different. There were three groups before intermission and three groups after. First on were two BAAC and Accordion Club

of the Redwoods (ACR) members, **Tom Cordoni** on Accordion with **Kris Nelson** singing. Tom played and Kris sang "Do You Know What It Means to Miss New Orleans," "Hey Good Lookin'" and "That's Amore." The latter was an entertaining rendition of this favorite with Tom helping out with the singing. Next was Tom playing "Lena Mazurka," "Lulu Polka" and "Fisarmonica Impazzita" (Crazy Accordion Polka).

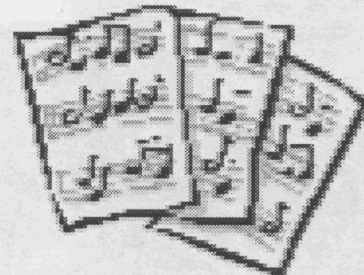
Next up was the great **Godfather Trio** with **Michele (Mike) Corino** on accordion, **Joe Meseli** on Mandolin and **Ed Turdici** on clarinet. They played and sang *Tarantella*, the *Godfather Theme*, *Que Sera, Sera*, *Santa Lucia*, *New York New York*, *O Marie* and *Finiculi, Finicula*. The group also strolled around the room as they played and sang. Mike Corino has written a lot of great accordion music. When I was taking accordion lessons in the mid-1950's I learned to play the *Crazy Accordion Polka*, one of the many pieces written by Mike Corino. I took time to meet and talk with Mike during the intermission, and he is a friendly and entertaining person. But then, aren't all accordion players like that?

There was a great selection of food, including hot food, during the intermission and barely enough time to talk to other club members and guests.

After intermission Ron Borelli played a tribute to and some songs written by Mike Corino: *American Tango*, *Frisco Tango* and *Tango Delle Stelle*. Then Mike and Tom Cordoni played two pieces together. The last scheduled players were **Lou Soper** and **Ron Borelli** playing a medley of Latin songs. During the Open Mic. segment **Bruce Metras** and **Harry Gay** played. Harry also told two jokes. The one about the penguins was especially funny.

This was a very entertaining club meeting, and we thank all who participated in making it a memorable musical evening. G.C.

Photos on following page . . .





Michele Corino & Vince Cirelli



The Godfather Trio



Michele and Tom Cordoni



Tom and Michele



Bill and Naomi Drude



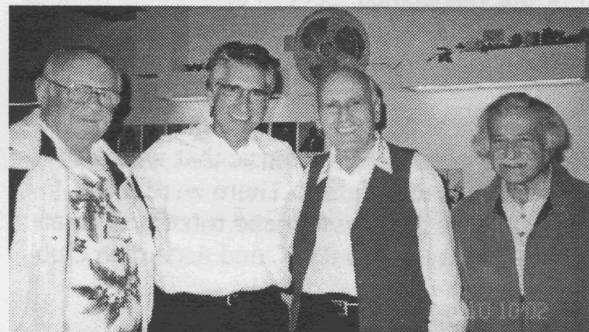
Kris Nelson & Com



Michele



Harry Gay



Ken Judnick, Ron Borelli, Mike, Vince

BAAC Membership ...
Dues are \$25 per year, \$30 for a family
Send check to BAAC
P.O. Box 318175
San Francisco, CA 94131-8175

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

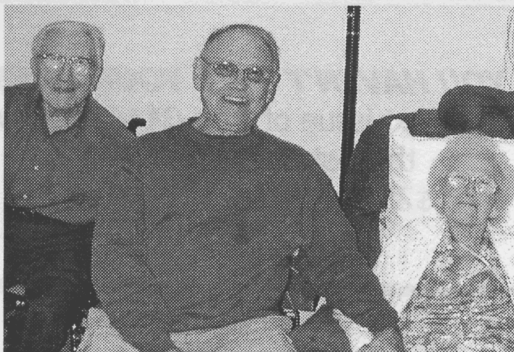
Directors
Ed Massolo (650) 589-8409
Vince Cirelli (415) 467-2208
James Firpo (415) 648-3674
Joe Smiell (510) 832-6938

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.

Sad News

Tony Galla-Rini's beloved wife Dolly passed away Tuesday morning Oct. 29 at age 100. She was a great lady and I had the pleasure and privilege of visiting both Tony and Dolly, and Dolly's son Bud, on Wednesday, Oct. 23. Dolly asked me to play button box for her since she once owned and played a button box. All three seemed to enjoy the music, which was extremely gratifying for me. We all send our most heartfelt condolences to Maestro Galla-Rini and to Dolly's family. As of now, as far as I know, the 99th birthday party for the Maestro is still on. Val
 (See obituary on Dolly Galla-Rini on page 7.)



Anthony and Dolly Galla-Rini and Dolly's son Bud
Wednesday, Oct. 23, 2002

Coming Events

Saturday, November 16, 10:00-2:00

Workshop with Peter Di Bono

Details on page 7

Sunday, December 8, 2002 noon-5:00

Boaz Accordions Holiday Open House

Featuring Eastern European and Klezmer music from accordion duo Max & Minka and Celtic music from Mitch and Roz Gordon, and more

1041 Folger Ave., Berkeley

(510) 845-1429

January 17-18, 2003

Galla-Rini 99th Birthday Bash

San Diego, CA

Info: Joan Sommers sommersJ@umkc.edu

(913) 722-5625

(See Flyer in this newsletter)

March 6-9, 2003

National Accordion Convention

Plano, Texas

11240 Drummond Drive, Dallas, TX 75228-1950

www.accordions.com/taa

E-mail: nns5522@dccd.edu

June 1-5, 2003

Silver Falls Accordion Camp

Sublimity, Oregon

Call Geoff Levear (503) 452-4517

Email glevear@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; e-mail info@leavenworth.org

June 22-25, 2003

Las Vegas International Accordion Convention

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

or visit www.accordionstars.com

E-mail Vegas@accordioninfo.com

June 25-29, 2003

ATG Competition & Festival

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

Prairie Village, KS (913) 722-5625

E-mail: sommersJ@umkc.edu

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Joe Domitrowich (408) 255-1259

Who Is Playing Where ...

Reno Di Bono and the Blue Moon Trio

Play for dancing
every second Friday of each month
At Montavalle in Scotts Valley, CA
8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Call Reno (408) 252-3808 for more info

Joe Domitrowich and the Alpiners USA

e-mail alpinersusa@juno.com

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

The Internationals

(www.theinternationals.com)

Nov. 15 Schroeder's Café

240 Front Street, San Francisco (415) 421-4778

Nov. 16 Teske's Germania

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

Joe Domitrowich and the Alpiners USA

Nov. 16 Santa Cruz German Club, 7-10 p.m.

Nov. 17: Tyrolean Inn 5-9 p.m.

Dec. 15: Tyrolean Inn 5-9 p.m.

(Tyrolean Inn is at 9600 Highway 9 in Ben Lomond; for reservations call [831] 336-5188)

Dec. 31—New Year's Eve—

reservations required:

Germania Club, 261 N. Second St., San Jose

(408) 448-5084

Word Has It ...

... that **Sharon Walters** is on the sick list, but hopefully not for long. Sharon, we of ACE and the Fun Band—as well as everyone else—love you and miss you and want to see you back A.S.A.P.!!

... that the **BAAC Fun Band** is bursting with pride over how well they played in the recent San Anselmo community parade and the Italian Heritage Day parade! Speaking of which, for the second half of the **March meeting** the Fun Band is planning to host an informal dance party, with the Fun Band providing the music of course, and featuring some of your favorite dance music.

... that **Lucy and Sally Ann Smiell** were among the stellar cast of **the Distaff Singers** that put on a fabulous, choreographed show on Oct. 20 at the Mormon Temple auditorium in Oakland. They do this every year, and the show

keeps getting better—and funnier—each year!

... that a group of 5 to 8 **Button Boxers** who are also BAAC members, gets together once a month to practice ensemble work, music provided by Joe Smiell, of course. The group will perform two pieces at our December meeting. You'll be surprised at how good a button box ensemble sounds! This is something unique—no one has heard of a button box ensemble outside of Joe's button box camps.

... that **Boaz Accordions** regularly holds classes, including beginning drop-in classes, on playing all types of accordions, including piano, concertina, Irish button box, Cajun button box and more, featuring some top-notch teachers and various music styles. They recently sponsored **Nosferatu**, a silent film (in Berkeley) with live accordion played by local artist **Rich Kuhns**.

Start planning now ..

June 22-25, 2003

**Las Vegas International
Accordion Convention!**

The earlier you register, the better seating you will get, as seating sections are assigned in the order in which deposits are received.

Val will have **registration forms** at the coming meetings, or you can call her and ask for one (510) 531-4836; or go to the website

www.AccordionStars.com

or e-mail vegas@accordioninfo.com

Your Executive Board Met ...

...on Tuesday, October 9. Our Treasurer, Bob Pisani, reported that we have a total of \$6,606.51 in our bank accounts, a little more than \$600 ahead of last year at the same time.

The board voted to hold 4 workshops per year, at nominal cost to members, a bit more for non-members, and we will publicize them to other clubs as well. Last-minute plans for the Italian Heritage Day parade were discussed.

IF YOU HAVEN'T PAID YOUR DUES YET

... The next issue of *The BAAC Page* will be the last one you receive!
\$25 per person, \$30 family

OBITUARY FOR DOLLY GALLA-RINI

Submitted by Anthony Galla-Rini

Dolly Galla-Rini, beloved wife of Anthony Galla-Rini, passed away on Tuesday, October 29 at 9:07 a.m. Born in Salt Lake City, Utah, on November 20, 1901, Dolly celebrated her 100th birthday on November 20, 2001. Her maiden name was Borzage, and she had a sister, Sue (deceased), and five brothers: Frank, Lew, Henry, Dan and Bill (all deceased). Frank left Salt Lake City and went to Hollywood to become an actor. It wasn't long before he became a director. In 1928 he directed *Seventh Heaven*, featuring Janet Gaynor and Charles Farrell, and consequently won the first Academy Award (later known as the "Oscar") for best serious picture. Brothers Dan and Bill played the accordion and were seen and heard in Western movies.

Dolly had two children by her first husband, Joseph Cortella Sr.; namely, Joseph Franklyn, Jr. and Rena. The latter passed away in 1975. Joseph Sr. passed away in 1970. Anthony's first wife, Dina, passed away in 1968. Therefore, having a lot in common, Dolly and Anthony decided to get married, which then happened on June 27, 1971. They have been blessed with 31 years of happiness!



Gathering at Fifth & Mission



Thanks again, Bob!

WORKSHOP

Don't miss this one!!

"Elements of Making Music"

Saturday, Nov. 16

From 10:00—2:00

At Moose Lodge

7535 Mission Street, Daly City

(Where we have our monthly meetings)

Peter Di Bono will discuss many aspects of accordion playing that few people are even aware of, that will improve the sound of your playing in unexpected ways. In other words, he will show how to make ordinary playing in to beautiful music.

Peter will also include elements of basic musicianship: time signatures, sight reading, counting, articulation, fingering techniques, proper fit of the instrument, and more. Any level of player will benefit, from beginning to advanced. Be prepared to be surprised!

Free to BAAC members (\$15 for non-members). **Bring your accordion!**



A Happy Crew



Barbara & Vic came all the way from Santa Clara

More about our Workshops . . .

At our October board meeting we voted to try holding four really great workshops per year, offering the opportunity to improve performance and listening skills. We circulated a questionnaire at the October general meeting and got only a few responses, but the ones we got were enthusiastic.

Up to now, in recent years we have offered two workshops per year, free to members. Peter Di Bono's workshop on Nov. 16 is the last of that series. In 2003 we will begin, on a trial basis, the new system of four workshops per year and will charge a nominal fee for members, somewhat more for non-members. One of the workshops for 2003 will be "How to Memorize" with Sev Garcia, scheduled for Saturday, April 12 from 10:00 to 2:00.

As always, we welcome your input about the workshop idea and the subject matter that would interest you. We will have the questionnaire available again at the November meeting.

About Sev Garcia's Workshop Saturday, April 12, 2003 from 10:00 to 2:00 Moose Lodge Daly City

Sev will give a talk and demonstration of the various memory systems useful in memorizing music, and how to apply them. You will be invited to bring your accordion but won't be asked to play unless you volunteer.

A Note about Our Programs

If you want to be sure of a playing slot in a program, please call Val (510) 531-4836 e-mail vtkacc@value.net, or Bob Berta (650) 756-8309.

Solos, duets, trios, groups—all are invited to play! We will also continue "Open Mic." for any time left over after the pre-planned program.

Ladies: We are planning a grand **Ladies' Night** for May 2003. You have plenty of time to prepare, so we hope you will volunteer to perform for us!

Castiglione Accordions . . .

...was recently written up by writer Jenny King in a special to the *Detroit News*. Here's a small excerpt from the article:

"Don't look for the typical musical instruments showroom.... John Castiglione's business is carefully packed into a 5,200-square-foot section of one of the two tasteful brick buildings the accordion specialist owns between Hoover and Schoenherr.

"Although it houses a few instruments and some vintage sheet music, what passes for a showroom is not the focal point of this 70-year-old business.

"Behind Castiglione's office and Debbie Rush's administrative quarters is the heart of the operation: a huge area filled with new and used accordions and concertinas, instrument cases, plain and embroidered shoulder straps, reeds and cables and components."

The article goes on to tell about the team that cleans, repairs and tests instruments for Castiglione. John Castiglione was quoted thus:

"Accordions are used for folk music. Tex-Mex is big and growing. There is classical accordion and there's jazz to name a few." He distributes new and used accordions from all over the world. So, when you're in the Midwest and want to look at over 500 accordions on the shelves, you know whom to visit! (See Castiglione ad elsewhere in this newsletter.)

vtk



John F. Martin

**John Castiglione (right) helps Dietrich Jones
replace a strap**

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
For information call (707) 864-2359

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

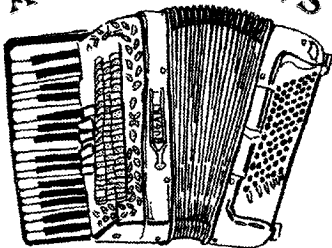
Mike Zampiceni

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

Correspondence

Gary Dahl
Technique/Musicianship
Mel Bay Arranger/Author
Phone/FAX (253) 770-9492
www.accordions.com/garydahl

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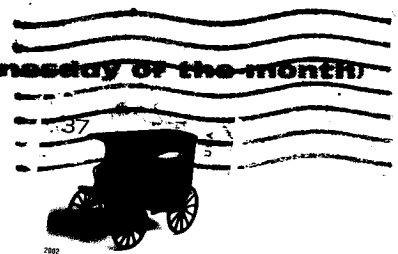
313 N.E. 45th Street Seattle, WA 98105 (206) 632-2700

Wanted

Used DA-100 sound module and foot pedals for Concerto Digital Accordion

Are you upgrading your Concerto to the new DA-100 sound module? I will buy your used DA-100 module and pedals.

(Submissions to BAAC PAGE are due 2 weeks after the 1st Wednesday of the month)



BAAC PAGE
San Francisco Bay Area
Accordion Club
PO Box 318175
San Francisco, CA 94131-8175
www.BAACaccordionclub.org

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

