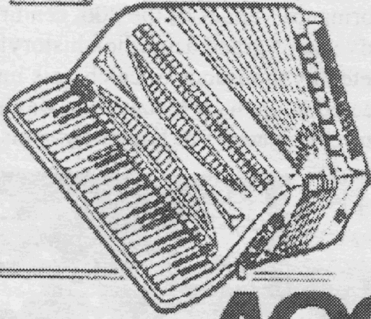


Newsletter of the

SAN FRANCISCO



ACCORDION CLUB

November 2004

The Accordion: San Francisco's Official Instrument

President's Message
November 2004

There is a little unfinished business left over from the last newsletter, and it's not just a little business, it's big business. In last month's article I completely neglected to mention the performance at our September meeting of the Club's absolute favorite duet.



Ed Massolo and **Frank Panacci** are, without exception, the hands-down favorites of the San Francisco Accordion Club. I, thanks to my youthful (NOT) memory, didn't mention them in my article last month. Ed and Frank ended the first half of the program, and sent us into the midway break with huge grins on our faces. Playing the traditional accordion favorites that everyone loves, they wowed us with *Jolly Caballero*, *Canadian Capers*, and *Pietro Deiro's Beautiful Days*. As I said in an earlier article, "if these two guys don't put a smile on your face, then it's time for an oil change, maybe an overhaul." Ed and Frank I hope will forgive my huge oversight and come back soon.

The October meet was a little skinny from the attendance viewpoint, but that's because of the huge attraction of the Fleet Week activities, and The Columbus Day Parade. Val Kieser was leading our parade float, and I'm sure she will give us a full report elsewhere in the newsletter.

We may have been a smaller-than-usual gathering, but spirits remained high. **Vince Cirelli** started off the musical day featuring his Petosa Reedless accordion, and a wonderfully orchestral arrangement of *Ebb Tide*. Vince explained that Joe Petosa Jr. handed him a reedless at an accordion event a few years ago, and Vince was so taken by it that he bought it on the spot. Seventeen pounds and containing every possible musical tone, this powerhouse accordion is capable of some tremendous music. Vince played some of his favorites, *Once In A While*, *Until The Real Things Comes Along*, which was dedicated to **George Alves**; a great medley of Callabrese

Don't Miss the Next Meeting
Sunday, November 14
Featuring
Stas Venglevski and
John Simkus
Famed Virtuosi From the Midwest
They wowed us before — wait till you
hear their new program!
See page 2 for brief background
of Stas and John

And, from the South Bay . . .
The precision accordion ensemble
AbsolutAccord
Directed by Richard Yaus
Every one of these players is a member
of our club

tunes, *Oh Marie*, *Torna A Sorriento*, and *Viva La Giga*. Vince slid seamlessly from one tune to another, and finished his performance with *These Foolish Things*, including the verse. He dedicated the rendition to Rosemary Ar-
(Continued on next page)

NEXT MEETING: Sunday, November 14, 2004 2:00 p.m.

Moose Lodge Daly City

NEXT WORKSHOP: Saturday, November 27 10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

Moose Lodge Daly City . INSTRUCTOR: Peter Di Bono (more Workshop info on page 3)

President's Message (Continued)

manino. Vince, what happens to the accordion tuners when everyone starts playing reedless accordions?

Next up was **Ed Burgle**, who came from the Napa Valley to dazzle us with some pretty fast fingering: *Marianna Waltz, More, Warm and Willing*, and Frosini's *Bel Viso*. Ed is the former superintendent of grounds for the prison at Atascadero, and has now retired to Napa, where he keeps busy playing parties all over The Napa Valley.

During the break everyone snacked on a beautiful buffet put out by **Dominic and Frances Benedetto**. **Vince Cirelli** sold raffle tickets, and people mingled in the lounge. **Ken Nimmo** won the drawing (his second time winning), and just like the first time, he donated the winnings back to the Scholarship Fund. Thank you Ken. Always nice to see **Father Joe Bacellieri** at the Club. Father Joe, when can we plan on hearing you one of these Sundays?

After the break **Don Nurisso** and I played a few duets; *La Pianola, Sharpshooters March*, a medley of jazz tunes, and we finished up with Django Reinhardt's *Swing 42*. We even played a bunch of requests.

The last performers are a duet on the stage and off. **Sarah Kozar** and fiancé **Don Turner** came to us from Wisconsin, and they really got the group's attention. Don's playing was the perfect backup to Sarah's lyrical singing style; together they have a style that is so easy. Sarah, operatically trained, has a relaxed delivery, and one of the nicest singing voices I've heard in a long while. They did a wide variety of music. *Sentimental Journey* started the musical excursion, followed by *Mambo Italiano, Cow Cow Boogie* (this one really swung), and the Enrique Iglesias hit, *Quizás* (Perhaps). Sarah and Don, come back anytime you want!

The November meeting features **Stas Venglevski** and **John Simkus** from the Midwest, and also the South Bay's **AbsolutAccord**, two performances you won't want to miss.

Val Kieser served the Club so tirelessly for many years, and now would like a little free time to herself. She is resigning her post as Club Secretary, but will stay on managing the newsletter. Val will remain as Secretary through the end of the year so we can get someone to take over for her. Thank you Val, you've been such a big part of making the Club the success that it is. Anyone interested in taking over, give me a call (415) 753-1502.

Please let me know if you have any suggestions or ideas we can implement to improve our club. In the meanwhile, I look forward to seeing you on November 14th at 2:00 pm.

Play your accordion every day, and remember:

REAL MUSIC IS LIVE!!!

Peter Di Bono

ACE Ensemble News

Having put on a very successful concert in Piedmont on November 7, ACE will be performing again at the **Silicon Valley Accordion Society** meeting on Sunday, December 5. The meeting starts at 2:30 p.m. at Harry's Hofbrau in San Jose.

About Stas and John . . .

Stas Venglevski, originally from the Republic of Moldova, studied under the master Russian bayanist Friedrich Lips. Now living in Wisconsin, Stas is President of the Accordionists and Teachers Guild (ATG). He has made countless prestigious performances all over the world and is also a prolific composer. **John Simkus** was a founder and long-time president of the Chicago Accordion Club and is a good friend of Tony Galla-Rini as well as many of us from the Galla-Rini camps, where he has been both a participant and a teacher over the years. John is renowned for his smooth, mellow jazz style.

San Francisco Loves Accordions.....Boy Do they!

Our San Francisco Accordion Club, originally organized 'way back in 1913 as the world's first, revisited the North Beach area of San Francisco as part of the annual **Italian Heritage Day Parade**. Our presence was so very apropos, as North Beach was the fabled home of the great accordion factories and performance venues of the 20th century--and certainly the center of the universe of grand accordion history!

Our float was warmly greeted by thousands of celebrants lining the parade route, standing and seated at open air restaurants, waving and cheering us on. Led by our intrepid leader Val Kieser (who else?), our contingent enthused the throng with a variety of musical crowd pleasers: *San Francisco, Open Your Golden Gate; California Here We Come; Piemontesina, That's Amore; Tarentella*; and the lively *Tic Toc Polka* which we performed for the reviewing stand judges. (We received the 5th place award in our category).



Decorating Party (How do you like our new Banner?)

The response from the audience was very gratifying. Many sang and danced to our offerings, and even offered us wine along the way! And



Barbara Corsiglia kept us on the beat

no wonder, with the talent we had aboard. **Vic Corsiglia** gave us the wonderful Italian flavor with his romantic mandolin sound and his beautiful vocal renditions. Thanks also for the great sound system, **Vic! Barbara Corsiglia** was there

giving us a great lift with her strong rhythmic bass playing, pushing us to our best effort.



Vic Corsiglia did us proud with his fine Italian singing voice and his mandolin

A grand time was had by all of us, participating in the resurgence in popularity of our beautiful instrument. Our float also caught the eye (and lens) of *Chronicle* photographer

Katy Raddatz, who not only published our picture (see p. 4), but also exclaimed, "I love the accordion!" Wow, thank you Katy. *Chronicle* columnist **Phil Matier** (of Matier & Ross) also covered our performance from a different angle, and we are most appreciative of his sup-

See Columbus Day Parade, page 6

Don't forget . . .
If you haven't already sent in your
membership renewal, please do so right
away —
Your club needs
your support!
(Membership info on page 6)
!!!

Our Next Workshop !!!!!

Saturday, November 27 10:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.

Moose Lodge Daly City

Peter Di Bono will pick up where he left us off at his last workshop. No charge for SFAC members; nominal charge for non-members. Light lunch will be provided. BRING YOUR ACCORDION!

News from Bob Berta in Michigan . . .

The Michigan Accordion Club is having a big recognition banquet for **Stas Wisniach**, a renowned polka legend. There will also be other big name polka performers as well as jazz and more. The **Michigan Accordion Pops Orchestra**, directed by Lana Gore, will be performing, plus three younger local virtuosos: **Sarah Caruso, Georgiana Leonard and Adam Bell**. Bob strongly suggests that we should not pass up the opportunity to hear them if they come to the SF area. He calls them "future Peter Soaves in the making." Of the "older" players Bob is especially impressed by **John Shollack**, one of the most "musical" players he has ever heard—superb dynamics and phrasing—plus Shollack is at home playing any genre of music.

Bob has hooked up with two MIDI accordionists, one a younger and the other an older person. They have shared a lot of music, and Bob is looking forward to spending more time with them.

A bit of trivia Bob shares with us: Bob's 10-year-old daughter is working on a special project for school, about the song *America the Beautiful*. Looking in a bunch of books from the library, Bob discovered that the fellow who composed the music for that tune—**Samuel Ward**—was primarily an accordionist! This was before the days of the piano accordion. The composer started playing button accordion at age 6 in the mid-1800's and later took up a career in music, playing church organ, composing religious music, etc. (Editor's note: Looking on the Internet, I found that the lyrics, written by Katharine Lee Bates in 1893 while taking in the view from Pike's Peak, Colorado, were published in time for the fourth of July 1895 and became an instant hit. Soon after that, the lyrics were set to Samuel Ward's music, and later revised to a new version in 1904. The current version, which came along a few years after that, was highly recommended by many as our national anthem—but *The Star Spangled Banner* won out in 1931.)

Otherwise, Bob reports that he and the family are all well and happy, and two of his kids, Andrew (age 9) and Kathleen (age 10) have taken up cello!

Val 3

Word Has It . . .

. . . that **Frank Schlotter** had a successful hip replacement and is recovering nicely. The Fun Band misses him and hopes he'll be back playing with us soon.

. . . that **Jim Firpo** had another unwelcome stay at the hospital, got two new stents, and is on his way to being good-as-new again.

. . . that **Jim Hillman** also is back to his old self after another heart episode.

. . . that **Bruce Metras**, due to a mishap up in Oregon last summer, made extensive repairs to **Frank Marocco's** accordion, fixed it good as new and hand-delivered it to a very relieved Frank down in LA. Nice job, Bruce!

. . . that **Val Kieser** and **Dick Schiller** paid a visit to **Maestro Tony Galla-Rini**. See article elsewhere in this newsletter.

. . . that the accordion—and our club—got some unexpected favorable publicity from the **Columbus Day Parade** in San Francisco when **Phil Matier** of the Matier & Ross report (*SF Chronicle*) took up our cause in protest of the music from the SF Fire Department's float at times overpowering our own music! As a result, we have been invited to join up with the SFFD in both the Veterans' Day Parade and the St. Patrick's Day Parade! (Because of weather concerns we probably will not be able to accept the invitation, but we do appreciate their conciliatory offer!)

On a Sad—but Hopeful—Note . . .

Our Webmaster **John Seckman's** young son **Vincent** has been diagnosed with leukemia and is under treatment. So far, so good. Let's all pull for this beautiful little boy.



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Corky Bennett, Dick Contino's long-time musical director, proudly announces the release of his own accordion CD! 12 great songs from around the globe. With liner notes by Dick Contino. Order online at CorkyBennett.com or call 775.287.2050. \$19.95 including S & H.

A Visit with a Very Special Centenarian

On October 28, Val Kieser and Dick Schiller had a wonderful hour-long visit with the **Maestro Anthony Galla-Rini** in Corona, CA. Tony would LOVE to hear from any of you—cards, notes, photos. His address: *Maestro Anthony Galla-Rini; Garden Retreat; 853 W. Crestview St.; Corona, CA 92882. Phone (909) 738-9536.* If you're down in Southern California and would like to visit the Maestro, call Val (510) 531-4836 for the very simple directions. Or, you can call Garden Retreat directly and they will give you directions (phone number above).

A Few Random Notes from our Visit: The Maestro (a member of the *original* San Francisco Accordion Club!) was eager to talk about his life experiences with the accordion. The first accordion he ever played was a *Galleazzi* three-row chromatic with 32 buttons on the left hand and a lever for minor and 7th chords. Diminished was easy because there are only 4 diminished chords covering all 12 tones (and only 3 augmented chords).

Over the years he experimented with different bass configurations for the accordion. One had 8 rows of buttons in the left hand: the usual 6 plus two more for other octaves. Galla-Rini set up a bass arrangement that, using switches, covers 4 octaves of bass notes, an improvement on the old 8-row system. I have seen him perform the chromatic scale and also arpeggios seamlessly using this method. The finer Petosa accordions have this bass setup. Tony has played only Petosa since 1960.

When asked what makes for the most beautiful sound in an accordion, he said it is *how reeds are laid inside the accordion.*

Tony feels that the accordion had seen many advances over the years, resulting in some modern instruments of very high quality.

Tony went into accordion full time following his Vaudeville days very early in the (20th) century. He played many instruments and got rid of all but the accordion.

Among peers whom Tony respected was Charles Magnante, whose right-hand technique was his strong point. Most of his peers didn't do much with the bass. After years of being written in



Maestro Galla-Rini at 100 1/2 reading our newsletter and announcement of Upcoming ACE concert

OUR SINCERE THANKS

... to those who have generously donated to the Club or the Scholarship Fund in 2004. To date, your Editor has learned of the following:

- Ed Zaro (Twice)
- Janet Landauer
- Clyde Forsman
- Johan and Sheila Gullmes
- Joe Smiell
- Lynn Ewing
- Mark Zhagel
- George Chavez
- Val Kieser
- Marlene G. Fullmer

(In honor of Joe Lombardi's 75th Birthday)

- Bob Smith
- Sundi O'Mara
- Bruce Kirschner
- Carl Fortina
- Ken Nimmo

[This list will be cumulative throughout the year. If your name slipped by and did not reach the Editor, please contact Val Kieser (510) 531-4836]

the treble clef, eventually the bass in accordion music came to be written in bass clef.

In the late 40's Tony played a *Dallapé*. He ordered his specifications at Dallapé but they couldn't make what he wanted and didn't follow his chart, so Tony had to make a new chart—but the bass manufacturers still could make the bass only one way.

One time, following a concert, Melba Yale congratulated Tony for "switching to free bass"—but what she heard was Tony just covering his 4 octaves in the regular Stradella bass using his bass setup and switches!

In 1936 Tony designed a free-bass system with Italo-American Accordion Co. in Chicago.

On a visit to Venice many years ago with Dina, Tony's first wife, when they arrived, one man carried 8 suitcases (of varying sizes) up the hotel stairs—all at once! Tony calls Venice "Dog Heaven."

We were happy to see the Maestro looking well. Again, he would really appreciate hearing from any of you. VK and DS



The lovely Sunday weather helped make the Italian Heritage Parade in North Beach a good time for all, including members of the San Francisco Accordion Club, above, making their way along Columbus Avenue. Above right, 1-year-old Jonathan Lau of San Francisco gets an eyeful as he watches the parade with his mother. And what parade would be complete without a dog doing cute tricks? Fair, a dalmatian, an trainer, Kelly Jones, performs to the delight of onlookers. Inset is the youngest organization that celebrates Italian contributions to the fire department. Below: Joseph Cervetto Jr. impersonates Italian explorer Christopher Columbus.

SF Chronicle Photo of Columbus Day Parade: Telmo Echeverria & Mel Schwing

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Welcome New Member . . .

Clarence W. Harrison of Mill Valley, a member of the Redwood Club and student of Joe Smiell's Button Box Camp.

COTATI ACCORDION FESTIVAL

We are sad to learn that **Clifton Buck-Kauffman** and **Rebecca Browne** are retiring from managing the **Cotati Accordion Festival**. Clifton is currently in the process of lining up another group to put on the highly successful Festival.

The Festival makes it possible for us to meet and socialize with accordion friends from all over the world.

Clifton and the **Cotati Festival Committee** have done a splendid job of organizing the Festival for the last 14 years. Clifton, it has been fun working with you, and we wish you a well-deserved rest and hope we will see you more often now!
Val

A Concert....Par Excellence!

All of us know the kind of challenge that **Joe Smiell** can thrust upon his charges in the ACE Ensemble and the ensuing struggle of the players to perform such involved works at the superior level needed for a symphonic orchestra. At Zion Lutheran Church in Piedmont in the Oakland hills, the Ensemble played a varied program of marches, classical, ethnic and Broadway musical music, that at times reminded me of being in a concert hall listening to an excellently performing symphonic orchestra. Add to that the artistry of **Sharon Walters Greyhosky/Lynn Ewing** duo, **Peter Di Bono's** virtuosity in soloing, and the Smiell Family: **Joe, Joseph, and Sally Ann** (clarinet and button box), and we have an afternoon of music approaching world class quality.

It would behoove us all in the future to attend a performance of this very fine group and enjoy music as we love to hear it from our world renowned conductor/arranger Joe Smiell and our talented group of musicians known as the San Francisco Accordion Chamber Ensemble—a group that has indeed "arrived."
DS

HELP!!

Imagine a heritage Galleazzi accordion, manufactured May 10, 1919, 3/3 reeds, 39 keys, 108 bass, hundreds of inlaid rhinestones in off-white celluloid, with double eagle and lyre abalone treble grille.

Beautiful; but unplayable. It needs TLC.

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Note from Val re Recording Secretary's Job . . .

As you read in the President's Message, I have decided to resign my position as Recording Secretary of the club, so that I can (hopefully) do a better job producing the newsletter. I've been Secretary for 9 years, not including the two years I was president—although even then, I took the notes at board meetings.

Please consider helping the club by taking over the Recording Secretary position. It is not a big job. You take simple notes at the board meetings (computer not necessary) and type up simple Minutes indicating what board actions were taken. And you will have a direct say in the running of the club by being a voting member of the Board. Then you have a month to type up the Minutes and make copies for the other board members. The President may ask you to prepare an Agenda for the board meetings. You will keep the Minute Books at your home.

The job in itself is not difficult, and it is fun to enjoy dinner while attending the meeting. I will help you get started and answer any questions.

If you are interested, please contact either me or Peter. Val: (510) 531-4836 or vtkacc@value.net; Peter (415) 753-1502 or pdibono@hotmail.com.

Thanks!

Val

port (see *Word Has It*, p. 3,)...thanks, Phil.

Our parade performance was dedicated to our **Jim Firpo** who was supposed to be with us, but was taken to the hospital the morning of the parade with a heart problem. Jim's is OK now, but we sure missed his playing and his help and support. So, the rest of our fantastic supporting staff who played and decorated our float included **Gwyn Lister, Scott Williamson, Mel Schwing, Telmo Echeverría, and Dick Schiller**. Our thanks to **Cherie Schwing** for videotaping, and to **Lon and Cherida Gruenfeld**, our intrepid drivers of Val's Explorer, who came to our rescue at the last minute and fought the crowds to get to our float area. Thanks also to **Walter Griffin** in El Sobrante, of "Lions for Sight," who provided the trailer for our adventure. Lions For Sight collects, grades, and distributes

hundreds of thousands (that's right!) of donated eyeglasses to Mexico and South American countries, giving the gift of sight to many who would not otherwise be able to see. Walter told us some dramatic stories of people



The Decorating Crew (How do you like our new banner?)

who could not function because of their poor eyesight, who were given a brand new lease on life because of the efforts of Lions for Sight. Thank you, Walter.

With the parade, the San Francisco Accordion Club basked in its accomplishment of presenting San Francisco's official instrument in grand style, reminding San Franciscans of the role of our beloved accordion in The City's rich musical heritage. RS



Passing in Front of the Reviewing Stand, Playing "Tick-Tock Polka"

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Lou Jacklich
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 Arranging & Chords (510) 317-9510
Henri Ducharme
 (Oakland) (510) 763-1179

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Scott Williamson (408) 553-7519
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 (510) 531-4836 vtacc@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: Members \$3, Guests \$5

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.

Your Executive Board Met . . .

. . . on Tuesday 5 October. The Board decided to go ahead with the Columbus Day Parade even though missing most of the Fun Band. Programs are all set through December. The board felt the newsletter should be shorter and more concise, with more efficient use of space. The Treasurer, Dominic Palmisano, passed out the financial papers and proposed preliminary budget. Much discussion about what our logo should be. We are OK financially and membership renewals are coming in. Total in all bank accounts: \$16,469.73.

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Irving Cardoza (408) 264-9755

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

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

SFAC Ensemble Practice *New Days!*

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

Moose Lodge, 7535 Mission St., Colma/Daly City

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

SFAC Band Practice *New Days!*

Second and Fourth Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.

Moose Lodge, 7535 Mission St., Colma/Daly City

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

Regarding Our SFAC Musical Groups

All our club groups continue to do well! The **ACE Ensemble** is working on its fall concert repertoire and will be performing at the **Silicon Valley Accordion Society** meeting December 5, and will present a concert at the Zion Lutheran Church in Piedmont on Nov. 7. The **ACE Ensemble**, the **SFAC Ensemble** and the **SFAC Fun Band** (a.k.a. San Francisco Accordion Band) will all perform at the December 12 meeting.

Announcement from Joe Zajac, SFAC Member and President of the Medford (Oregon) Accordion Club

Joe asked me to announce that their club also is experimenting with Sunday meetings and will meet the **First Sunday of the Month** from 1:00 to 4:00 at the Central Point Senior Center, Central Point, Oregon (I-5 exit 31), 123 N. 2nd St. beginning Nov. 7. Info: *Joe Zajac (541) 779-3420*

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

For info call Joe (408) 255-1259

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

And on Friday nights at Bellagio,

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

For reservations call (408) 377-5850

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

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

Steve Albini at NBICF "Festa Italiana"

Steve Albini regularly appears at Piccolino's Italian Café,

1385 Napa Town Center (First Street). Info (707) 251-0100 or

www.piccolinoscafe.com

Tom Torriglia's Bella Ciao band ..

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

Big Lou's Polka Casserole

Rick Corrigan and the Pickpocket Ensemble will perform Friday, Dec. 3 at 8:00 p.m. at Epic Arts Center, 1923 Ashby (near MLK) in Berkeley, and on Sat., Dec. 11 at The Albatross Pub, 1822 San Pablo Ave. (near University), Berkeley. Info: rickcorrigan@earthlink.net

NOTE: Please keep your editor informed of where you are playing, dates, times, contact information. Val Kieser (510) 531-4836; vtkacc@value.net

Quote Submitted by Ron Pivovar

Happiness "I asked professors who teach the meaning of life to tell me what is happiness. And I went to famous executives who boss the work of thousands of men and women. They all shook their heads and gave me a smile as though I was trying to fool with them.

And then one Sunday afternoon I wandered out along the Des Plaines River. And I saw a crowd of Hungarians under the trees with their women and children and a keg of beer and an accordion."

Don't go around saying the world owes you a living. The world owes you nothing. It was here first. *Mark Twain*
What's the use of happiness? It can't buy you money.

Henny Youngman
Youth would be an ideal state if it came a little later in life.
Herbert Henry Asquith

Quote submitted by Robert L. Smith

By Carl Philippe Emanuel Bach in his book, "Essay on the True Art of Playing Keyboard Instruments," first published in 1753: "More is lost by incorrect fingering than can be compensated for by all the art and good taste in the world."

Regarding Our SFAC Musical Groups

All our club groups continue to do well! The **ACE Ensemble** is working on its fall concert repertoire and will be performing at the **Silicon Valley Accordion Society** meeting December 5, and will present a concert at the Zion Lutheran Church in Piedmont on Nov. 7. The **ACE Ensemble**, the **SFAC Ensemble** and the **SFAC Fun Band** (a.k.a. San Francisco Accordion Band) will perform at the December 12 meeting.

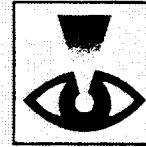
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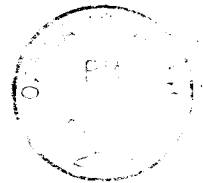
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